

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND**

**FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER 2007**

**TITLE OF PAPER : AGRICULTURAL ECONOMICS**

**COURSE CODE : ECON 411**

**TIME ALLOWED : THREE (3) HOURS**

**INSTRUCTIONS : 1. ANSWER FOUR QUESTIONS:**

**TWO QUESTIONS FROM  
SECTION A AND TWO FROM  
SECTION B.**

**2. ALL QUESTIONS CARRY  
EQUAL MARKS OF 25 (TWENTY  
FIVE) EACH.**

**DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL THE INVIGILATOR HAS GRANTED  
PERMISSION.**

## SECTION A

### Question 1

- a) What does agricultural marketing involve? (18 Marks)
- b) What is the role of agricultural marketing in development?(7 Marks)

### Question 2

- a) 'What is a good year for crop yields can turn out to be a poor year for farm incomes' Discuss (10 Marks)
- b) Discuss the factors that you think account for the wide fluctuations in agricultural commodity prices. (15 Marks)

### Question 3

Discuss major objectives of government intervention within the agricultural sector of African countries. (25 Marks)

### Question 4

Discuss socio-economic factors affecting land use and agriculture development today. (25 Marks each)

## SECTION B

### **Question 5**

- a) Distinguish between 'risk' and 'uncertainty' in agricultural production. (7 Marks)
- b) Discuss traditional views on how to solve 'Risk Aversion' in agricultural production. (18 marks)

### **Question 6**

- a) Discuss the factors that determine a farm size. (18 Marks)
- b) Explain four (4) types of farm size. (7 Marks)

### **Question 7**

- a) Define the term 'Land reform'. (5 Marks)
- b) Discuss economic effects of Land Reform. (20 Marks)

### **Question 8**

- a) Discuss major constraints facing livestock production today.(20 Marks)
- b) Discuss technical changes required in preventing soil erosion.(5 marks)