

Question 5

- (a) - "Women being an important stakeholder in agricultural development need to be equipped to enable them to contribute effectively". Do you agree? Explain. [13 marks]
- (b) Describe and comment on the factors influencing women's lack of recognition in the agriculture sector in the context of Swaziland. [12 marks]

Question 1 (Compulsory)

- (a) Mention and explain the three pillars of food security? [15 marks]
- (b) Discuss how the government of Swaziland could actually improve food security situation in Swaziland. [15 marks]
- (c) What factors have contributed to the serious food security problems in Sub Saharan Africa? [20 marks]

Question 2

- (a) Discuss any three outcomes that governments aim to achieve by implementing agricultural policies. [10 marks]
- (b) Even though the agricultural sector is the most important sector in developing countries, evidence on the ground suggest the contrary. Critically discuss the meaning of the statement with specific reference to the Swaziland economy. [15 marks]

Question 3

Some of the issues prompting government's intervention in the economy include

- (a) Monopoly power
- (b) Asymmetric information
- (c) Infant industry argument
- (d) Undefined property rights
- (e) Distributional inequalities

Explain how each of these can hinder the development of an economy, and the agricultural sector in particular? [25 marks]

Question 4

- a) Explain the importance of agricultural subsidies in promoting rural agriculture. [5 marks]
- b) The Agreement on Agriculture (AOA) is centred around three pillars. Discuss these three pillars and express your view on whether these pillars are capable of bringing increased growth in the agricultural sector. [20 marks]

**UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND
FACULTY OF SOCIAL SCIENCE
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMICS**

MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER: MAY, 2014

**TITLE OF PAPER: AGRICULTURAL POLICIES AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT
COURSE CODE: ECON 412
TIME ALLOWED: THREE (3) HOURS**

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Answer Question **ONE** and any other **TWO** questions.
2. Show all relevant workings to your answer
3. All Questions carry a total of 25 marks

SPECIAL REQUIREMENTS: SCIENTIFIC CALCULATOR

**DO NOT OPEN THIS QUESTION PAPER UNTIL INSTRUCTED TO DO SO BY
THE INVIGILATOR.**