

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

**MAIN EXAMINATION PAPER: MAY, 2015**

**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.**

**Question 1 (Compulsory)**

- (a) What is meant by rural development? [5 marks]
- (b) Discuss any four factors that limit the success of rural development initiatives in Swaziland. [20 marks]

**Question 2**

- (a) Justify the need for government intervention in the agricultural sector of the economy. [10 marks]
- (b) Discuss the three fundamental objectives of policy in agriculture? [10marks]
- (c) What are the main aims of an agricultural food policy? [5 marks]

**Question 3**

- (a) Discuss the concept of rural poverty in the context of the characteristics of the rural people. [15 marks]
- (b) What factors are responsible for the worsening poverty situation in Swaziland? [10 marks]

**Question 4**

- a) What is the major role of the World Trade organization (WTO) in the world trading system? [5 marks]
- b) Explain the three pillars through which the WTO seeks to discipline Agricultural Trade.

**Question 5**

- (a) What is the role of institutions in accelerating agricultural growth? [10 marks]
- (b) Discuss initiatives that are being implemented to enhance agricultural production on Swazi Nation Land (SNL) . [10 marks]