



# **MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

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## **University Examinations 2013/2014**

SECOND YEAR, SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR DIPLOMA IN AGRICULTURE

### **AGR 0223 – PERENNIAL CROPS**

**DATE: DECEMBER 2013**

**TIME: 1  $\frac{1}{2}$  HOURS**

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**INSTRUCTIONS:** *Answer question **one** and any other **two** questions*

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#### **QUESTION ONE – 30 MARKS**

- (a) (i) Given any three visible characteristics which can help a person to differentiate China tea from Asian tea. (6Marks)
- (ii) State any four traits which tea breeders aim at improving in order to improve tea leaf yields during breeding. (4Marks)
- (b) (i) Name the two types of cracks commonly found in sugarcane. (2Marks)
- (ii) Ripening and maturation phase is one of the important phases in sugarcane growth. Give a detailed explanation of this stage. (5Marks)
- (iii) State any three advantages of detrashing sugarcane. (3Marks)
- (c) (i) Give the scientific names of the four types of coffee produced in the world. (8Marks)
- (ii) What is decaffeination? (2Marks)

#### **QUESTION TWO – 15 MARKS**

Give the procedure of setting up a vegetative propagation unit and the management practices undertaken. (15Marks)

**QUESTION THREE – 15 MARKS**

- (a) Briefly explain all the ecological requirements of sugarcane. (10Marks)
- (b) (i) What is propping. (2Marks)
- (ii) State any three reasons why sugarcane farmers need to practice propping. (3Marks)

**QUESTION FOUR – 15 MARKS**

- (a) State and explain any five field management practice which affects the quality of coffee beans. (10Marks)
- (b) Explain the procedure of dry processing of coffee. (5Marks)

**QUESTION FIVE – 15 MARKS**

- (a) Armillaria root rot is a serious tea disease.
  - (i) State any two symptoms. (2Marks)
  - (ii) State any two methods of controlling this disease. (2Marks)
- (b) (i) What is withering as done in tea? (1Mark)
- (ii) State any four factors which determine the quality of tea leaves produced. (4Marks)
- (c) Briefly explain the procedures of raising tea seedlings using the seed method. (6Marks)