EMBU UNIVERSITY COLLEGE
(A Constituent College of the University of Nairobi)

2015/2016 ACADEMIC YEAR

FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION

SECOND YEAR EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE
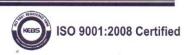
ACS 301: FIELD CROPS

DATE: 1st DECEMBER, 2015   **TIME: 14:00-16:00**

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer Question ONE and ANY Other TWO Questions.

QUESTION ONE

a) Discuss the uses of maize   (4 marks)

b) Understanding the development of any given crop is important for successful crop management. Explain.   (1 mark)

c)
   i)   Using cereals as an example give three important agronomic practices stating the correct stage(s) of implementation   (3 marks)

   ii) Why would you encourage a farmer to plant wheat   (4 marks)

d)   State reasons why it is important to understand the origin of a crop   (2 marks)

e) Using examples explain why ridging is a good practice in crops   (2 marks)

f) Explain four major causes of food insecurity in Kenya and their solutions   (4 marks)

g)
   i)   Explain why sorghum and cassava production should be encouraged in semi- arid parts of Kenya   (4 marks)
   ii) Explain why cassava should not be planted after a legume   (2 marks)

h) Explain the effect of temperature in pigeon pea production   (2 marks)

i) You have been employed as a technician in a pulse production farm. Explain why you need to know the soil pH. (2 marks)

QUESTION TWO

a) Discuss the roles the following practices in crop production (12 marks)

    i) Crop rotation

    ii) Mulching

    iii) Fertilization

    iv) Intercropping

b) Describe four methods of planting yams (8 marks)

QUESTION THREE

a) Outline the procedure used in beans production (10 marks)

b) Describe six measures used in pulse disease control (6 marks)

c) Discuss the uses of linseed (4 marks)

QUESTION FOUR

a) Describe methods of planting rice (12 marks)

b) Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of each method in (a) above (8 marks)

QUESTION FIVE

A farmer intends to venture into crop production as a business. Discuss the major constraints he/she is likely to face and the possible solutions (20 marks)

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