

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS.

EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF MASTER OF SCIENCE DEGREE IN  
AGRONOMY (SSP)

AGRI 861: PERENNIAL CROPS

STREAMS: M.Sc (AGRONOMY)

TIME: 3 HOURS

DAY/DATE: WEDNESDAY 5/12/2018

2.30 P.M - 5.30 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS:

- ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN SECTION I AND ANY TWO QUESTIONS IN SECTION II

SECTION I: ANSWER ALL QUESTION [20 MARKS]

- (a) Briefly explain why you would advise pyrethrum farmers to establish the crop using clonal material. [3 Marks]
  - (b) Explain why sugarcane growers should embrace green harvest compared to harvesting and burning off. [4 Marks]
  - (c) In your own opinion, do you think the Kenya Government has played any role in promoting coffee farming? [3 Marks]
- (a) Describe the ways through which a permanent frame can be obtained in tea production. [6 Marks]
  - (b) Why do you think farmers should use grafted macadamia seedlings during crop establishment? [4 Marks]

SECTION II: [40 MARKS]

- (a) Discuss why as an agronomist you would advice your County Government to promote perennial crops production systems. [12 Marks]
- (b) In your opinion, is it advisable for pyrethrum farmers to dry the flowers using the solar dryers? [4 Marks]

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(c) Briefly explain to Ruguti Coffee producers why pruning is essential in coffee production.

[4 Marks]

4. (a) Give an account of the basic stages of Orthodox tea processing after plucking. [8 Marks]

(b) Briefly advice farmers on the factors to consider while selecting perennial crops to grow in any locality.

[7 Marks]

(c) The rate of perennial plant growth and development is dependent upon the surrounding temperature. Explain.

[5 Marks]

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