

# MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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# **University Examinations 2024/2025**

# THIRD YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE

#### **AND**

FOURTH YEAR, FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATION OF DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND EXTENSION

**AAB 3426: AGRICULTURAL MARKETING** 

DATE: JANUARY 2025 TIME: 2 HOURS

#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Answer Question ONE, and any other TWO

# **QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

- a) Discuss the role of value addition in enhancing agricultural profitability. (5 Marks)
- b) Identify and explain five key challenges faced by smallholder farmers in accessing agricultural markets. (5 Marks)
- c) Identify three types of market Intermediaries in the agriculture sector and explain their roles. (6 Marks)
- d) A tech startup develops a mobile app that allows farmers to sell their produce directly to urban consumers, by passing traditional markets. What are the potential benefits and drawbacks of using technology-based platforms in agricultural marketing? (10 Marks)
- e) Outline four elements of a market (4 Marks)





# **QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

A smallholder farmer grows maize, and the price fluctuates widely during the year, leading to unstable income. During harvest, prices drop drastically, but a few months later, prices are much higher.

- a) Explain the causes of price fluctuations in agricultural markets. (4 Marks)
- b) What market Interventions can stabilize prices for both farmers and consumers? (4 Marks)
- c) Suggest a risk management strategy for the farmer to deal with fluctuating prices. (2 Marks)
- d) Discuss five strategies used in price determination (10 Marks)

# **QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Discuss five factors that determine the quality of commodities in a market (10 Marks)
- b) Explain the role of trade agreements in expanding market opportunities for agricultural products (10 Marks)

# **QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) Explain five marketing orientations that can be adopted by an organization (10 Marks)
- b) Identify and briefly explain five marketing functions of agricultural commodity market (10 Marks)



