



# MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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## University Examinations 2024/2025

### FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE CERTIFICATE IN AGRICULTURE

#### AAC 1203: BOTANY

DATE: DECEMBER 2024

TIME: 1½ HOURS

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

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#### QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- a) Highlight two types of roots in plants (2 marks)
- b) Outline four types of specialized stems in plants (4 marks)
- c) Give four functions of leaves in plants (4 marks)
- d) Describe DNA Replication (2 marks)
- e) Highlight two principles of binomial nomenclature (2 marks)
- f) State the role of m-RNA? (2 marks)
- g) Define cell division and give two examples of cell division cycles (4 marks)
- h) Using examples differentiate between somatic cells and germs cell (4 marks)
- i) Distinguish between;
  - a) Prokaryotes and eukaryotes (2 marks)
  - b) Haploid and diploid (2 marks)

c) Plant anatomy and plant morphology (2 marks)

**QUESTION TWO (15 MARKS)**

a) Describe meiosis in plants (6 marks)

b) Discuss the significance of mitosis in plants (3 marks)

c) Highlight the three similarities and three differences between mitosis and meiosis (6 marks)

**QUESTION THREE (15 MARKS)**

a) Write short notes on the following.

i. Lamarck's theory (1809) (5 marks)

ii. Darwin's theory of natural selection (1859) (8 marks)

b) Give two main functions of a stem in plants (2 marks)

**QUESTION FOUR (15 MARKS)**

a) Describe the internal structure of a plant leaf (4 marks)

b) Discuss using a diagram where applicable;

i. Two specialized stems in plants (4 marks)

ii. Anatomy of a monocot and a dicot root (4 marks)

c) Describe three leaf modifications in plants (3 marks)