

# 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.

#### **AAA 3301: PERENNIAL CROPS PRODUCTION**

DATE: DECEMBER 2024 TIME: 2 HOURS

#### **INSTRUCTIONS:**

1. Answer Question ONE, and any other TWO

## **QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)**

- a) Differentiate maintenance pruning from rehabilitation pruning as applied in tea production (6marks)
- b) Tillering is a very important stage in sugar cane farming. Explain the various management practices that farmers need to put in place in order to encourage tillering. (6 marks)
- c) Discuss the various management practices that farmers can employ to control Armillaria root rot disease in organic tea farms. (3 marks)
- d) Explain the procedure of preparing coffee planting holes. (5 marks)
- e) Outline any four maturity indices used in avocado pear production. (4 marks)
- f) Nursery management determines the number of seedlings obtained for transplanting. Explain the various management practices that tea farmers can embrace to increase the number of transplant tea seedlings. (6 marks)

#### **QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)**

- a) Explain the various farm management practices that should be employed to improve the quality of made tea. (16 marks)
- b) Explain the reasons that make weeds a major challenge in tea farms. (4 marks)





## **QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

- a) Putting quality in mind, explain all the factory operations for tea production. (18 marks)
- b) Explain the various management practices employed for controlling coffee berry disease.

(2 marks)

### **QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

- a) Tea farmers are advised to control weeds effectively in their farms. Explain the various tea weed management practices recommended at various stages. (10 marks)
- b) What is seed treatment as applied in sugarcane farming? (7 marks)
- c) Fruit flies are a major threat in avocado pear farming. Explain the various management practices farmers can employ to control them (3 marks)



