



# MERU UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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## University Examinations 2023/2024

FIRST YEAR SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURAL EDUCATION AND EXTENSION AND BACHELOR OF AGRICULTURE

### SBA 3300: TAXONOMY OF HIGHER PLANTS

DATE: APRIL 2024

TIME: 2 HOURS

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

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#### QUESTION ONE (30 MARKS)

- Outline how publication of name is effected under plant nomenclature code (5 marks)
- Explain importance of using scientific names over use of common names (4 marks)
- Distinguish the characteristics of capsule, caryopsis and achene types of fruits (6 marks)
- Describe the characteristic of sequential taxonomic keys (3 marks)
- Explain the principles that govern phonetic approach of taxonomy (7 marks)
- Explain the rationale of collecting and preserving plant specimen (5 marks)

#### QUESTION TWO (20 MARKS)

Discuss the types of indeterminate inflorescence in plants

**QUESTION THREE (20 MARKS)**

Discuss the procedure for making a herbarium specimen

**QUESTION FOUR (20 MARKS)**

Discuss the distinguishing characteristics of the subfamilies of Fabaceae