MATIGO EXAMINATIONS BOARD



527/1

PRINCIPLES AND PRACTICES OF AGRICULTURE

(THEORY)

MARKING GUIDE 2023

PAPER 1

Qn	Answers	Marks
1(a)	В	
(b)	A	
(c)	D	
(d)	${f C}$	
2(a)	In January 2023, Mr. Kisodde Kito bought a fertile piece of land near Ssezzibwa river swamp. He cleared, ploughed, harrowed and raked it thoroughly well. He made 20 nursery beds, each measuring 1m wide and 20m long. He bought NPK fertilizer and measured it in the ratio of 2:3:1 at the rate of 200g per square metre. (a) Total amount of NPK fertilizer (in kgs) which Mr. Kisodde Kito used in the nursery beds. Area of each nursery bed = $1 \times 20m$ = $20m^2$ Total area of 20 nursery beds = $20 \times 20m^2$ = $400m^2$ If $200gms$ of NPK fertilizer were applied per m^2 Then total amount of NPK fertilizers added $200 \times 400 = 80,000gms$ Since $1kg = 1000gms$ $X = 80,000$	

	1000x 80,000	
	$\frac{1000x}{1000} = \frac{30,000}{1000}$	
	x = 80	
	Therefore the total amount of NPK used in the nursery beds $= 80 kgs$.	
(b)	Total amount of N(in kgs) used in the nursery beds.	
. ,	NPK fertilizer has N in the ratio of 2 out of 6 parts	
	Therefore, total N used	
	$= \frac{2}{6} \times 80kgs$	
	ů –	
	= 26.7kgs	
(c)	Total amount of P (in kgs) used in the nursery.	
	NPK fertilizer has P in the ratio of 3 out of 6 parts	
	Therefore, total P used	
	$=\frac{3}{6} \times 80 kgs$	
	$-\frac{1}{6}x \cos ys$	
	=40kgs	
(d)	Total amount of K (in kgs) used in the nursery beds.	
	NPK fertilizer has K in the ratio of 1 out of 6 parts.	
	Therefore, total K used	
	1 × 00kgs	
	$=\frac{1}{6} \times 80kgs$	
	= 13.3kgs	
(e)	Phosphorus	
(f)	To encourage rapid root establishment and development	
	Phosphowes is not your mobile in the soil house about five times the required amount has to be applied	
(%)	 Phosphorus is not very mobile in the soil hence about five times the required amount has to be applied 	
(g)		
3	Suggest four ways by which a farmer can increase his or her profit margin.	
	Choosing correct enterprises which are paying	
	 Selling off crop produced or animal products at high prices. 	any four ways
	 Following correct or good husbandry practices, e.g. application of fertilizers, proper spacing 	= 4 marks

	Reducing costs by eliminating worthless operations	
	Use of better farming techniques that lead to increased agricultural production	
	Identifying proper value of crops to avoid selling at low prices.	
	Advertising the product before selling to be known by consumers or buyers	
	Grading of agricultural products to make their distribution more efficient.	
	Production of high quality products that attract market demand.	
4	Give four causes of poultry vices.	
	 Overcrowding birds in the poultry house leading to inadequate food and water space. 	
	Prolapse of oviduct common in pullets that are given layers mash too early	
	 Irritation caused by external parasites leading to pecking of the bruised area. 	
	Insufficient egg laying nests in the poultry house	
	• Too much light in the laying boxes	
	Presence of broody hens in the laying boxes	
	Boredom or lack of exercise among birds.	
	Feeding the birds on pelleted feeds that are consumed quickly	
	Feeding birds on poor quality feeds that may be deficient in proteins and minerals	Any
	Presence of wet litter in the poultry house	4 vice
	Poor ventilation	Causes Given
	Too much heat in the poultry house making birds uncomfortable.	= 4marks
5	Give five advantages of using water as a coolant in the engine.	
	Water is everywhere in the world	
	Water circulates freely at any temperature	
	Water is not corrosive	
	Water has a high boiling point	
	Water has a high specific heat capacity i.e. it absorbs heat very readily	Amy
	Water has a very low freezing point	Any 5 Adv
	Water is cheap to buy	Given = 5marks

	PART B: (80 MARKS) SECTION I	
	MECHANISATION AND FARM MANAGEMENT	
6(a)	State the qualities of a good roofing material. • It must be leak proof	
	It should have good thermal insulator or be high in thermal capacity	
	It must be durable and able to withstand different weather conditions	
	It must be easily obtainable in the area and cost effective	
	It should be pest, vermin and rodent proof, especially for crop stores	
	• It should be easy to clean and hygienic particularly where rain water is to be collected.	Any
	It should be light in weight to prevent damaging of the walls due to over loading	6
	• It must be fire resistant	Qualities Each
	• It should not require specialized skills to apply on the building.	1 mark
6(b)	 Explain the precautions taken when storing maize grain produce. Ensure proper drying of crop produce before storage The produce should be dressed with recommended pesticides before storage to avoid pest attack Ensure that the crop store is cleaned thoroughly before crop produce storage to avoid contamination. Ensure that the store is well ventilated to allow free air circulation The grain produce should be placed on a raised platform to avoid absorption of moisture or capillary water. The store should be leak proof to avoid rain water entry that would cause rotting of the maize grain produce Different types of produce should be stored separately to avoid cross infection. Do not mix maize grain produce with other crop produce to avoid cross infection. Do not mix old maize grain with new stock to avoid contamination The maize grain store should be vermin proof or have rat guards to avoid rodent and rotting The area should be clean and kept free from any vegetation or bush to avoid theft and maintain maize grain quality 	
	 The maize grain store should be raised 50cm high from the ground to avoid entry of runoff water that would lead to rotting of the produce. 	1×8 $= 8 marks$

	 Ensure that the maize grain storage containers are clean and dry before storing the maize grain produce to avoid wetting of the produce The store should be secure to avoid theft of produce. Ensure that cracks or crevices in the maize grain store walls are sealed off to avoid harbouring, maize grain storage pests. Do not place maize grain produce storage near the store walls to avoid humid conditions in the produce. 	
7(a) (i)	Outline an action that is needed to correct each of the following engine faults; Engine jerking.	
	 Replace old spark plugs Clean the spark plugs Select the right gear Change the fuel filters Clean the carburetor Bleed the fuel supply system Replace fuel injectors if they are worn out Readjust the carburetor Add more fuel in the fuel tank Gradual release of the clutch pedal Replace or repair the fuel injector pump 	Any 5 points each 1 mark
(ii)	Engine producing black smoke. Services the air cleaner Replace old engine oil Replace fuel injectors with new ones Replace piston compression rings Put the required amount of oil in the engine sump Replace old spark plugs Replace carburetor if it is over used Correct setting of the carburetor.	1 × 5
	Replace old oil filters.	= 5 marks

(b) What are the safety rules for tractor operation? Do not get on or off a tractor when it is moving Do not clean or grease an tractor part when a tractor engine is in motion or running Do not other persons to ride in the tractor during operation Do not remove or fit belt to the pulley when the pulley is in operation Avoid removing the radiator cap when water is still hot Never use a clutch pedal as a foot rest Do not run the engine when oil pressure gauge does not show any reading Do not refuel a tractor when the engine is running Do not operate a tractor that has faulty brakes, tyre pressure and clutch Do not check the level of oil when the engine is running Do not drive the tractor when under the influence of alcohol Do not drive when wipers are not in proper working condition Ensure that the battery is firmly fixed to avoid vibrations of engine detaching the terminals Ensure correct level of fuel in the fuel tank Ensure that there is adequate clean water in the radiator Employ a skilled person to operate the tractor Do not drive a tractor with faulty lights, discharged battery, loose terminals or broken bulbs Avoid over speeding Hydraulic system should be in proper working condition. Ensure that the radiator is not leaking and thermostat functions well, the radiator fins should be clean *Never wear loose attire when you are going to operate or when operating the tractor.* Do not start the engine in full gear, shift lever but in neutral gears. *Never dismount the power take off supply before stopping the engine.* Avoid sharp turns with trailed or mounted implements. Any 10 points When using mounted implements, never reverse tractor unless implements are lifted.

each 1 mark. 1×10 = 10 marks

If plough is stuck, do not force the tractor to be propelled or driven forward.

• Do not use a rotary mower or rotavator without a safe guard.

	Make sure all systems as	re working properly b	efore tractor is put to use.		
8(a)	The following information is abo December 2017.	ut Bugembe mixed far	m. Use it to make a profit	and loss account as at 3	B1 st
	Milk sales	30	,000		
	Maize sales		0,000		
	Pesticide purchas		0,000		
	Other receipts		0,000		
	Income tax		0,000		
			0,000		
	Closing stock Rent		0,000		
	Cash at bank		0,000		
	Bank overdraft		0,000		
	Poultry receipts		0,000		
	Opening valuation		0,000		
	Transport expense		0,000		
	Interest on loan	10	0,000		
	DUCEMBE MIVED EA			1ST DECEMBER 2017	
	BUGEMBE MIXED FAR Purchases and	Amount shs.	Sales and receipts	Amount (shs)	
	expenses	Timowitt Sits.	Suics and receipts	Timount (sus)	
	ITEM	COST	ITEM	COST	
	Opening valuation e	230,000	Milk	300,000e	
	Pesticide e	200,00	Maize	400,000e	
	Income tax e	120,000	Cash at bank	500,000e	
	Rent e	200,000	Poultry	500,000e	
	Bank over draft e	100,000	Other receipts	100,000e	
	Transport e	150,000	Closing stock	150,000e	
	Interest on loan e	100,000			
	Total purchases and	1,100,000			
	expenses				09 marks
	Net profit	850,000			$e = \frac{1}{2}$
	TOTAL	1,950,000	TOTAL	1,950,000	

(b)	How do such records improve farm performance?	
(0)	 They enable a farmer to know whether he or she is making a profit or not They assist a farmer to plan or budget for the farm. They stipulate the physical performance of different enterprises on the farm like poultry, piggery, diary etc. They enable a farmer to make sound decisions about the future farm enterprises to undertake They show whether farm plans are being operated properly They help to show the history of the farm and its development Some farm records like healthy records help in effective control of pests and diseases They facilitate research work on the farm. They help to determine the value of the farm in case of sale Records can be used as reference when a farmer wants to get loans from financial institutions. They can help in drawing up plans in terms of organizing crop rotations, formulating policies and selecting farm enterprises. Tax assessment can be done basing on the farm records which leads to accurate assessment They act as incentives to the farmer by revealing those areas that require improvement They help to settle disputes in case of death of the farm which lead to steady progress of farm activities. They assist a farmer in carrying out management practices on the farm for example, breeding and culling to improve animal production. Farm records are useful in comparing the efficiency of the farm with other similar farms in the same area or elsewhere. They are useful in compiling national agricultural statistics, a tool that can be used to improve agricultural production by policy makers. 	
	 They provide labour information which can be used to improve agricultural production by policy makers. They provide labour information which can be used to calculate the terminal benefits of the worker. They remind the farmer to pay his or her debts in time 	Any 6 points each 1 mark

	They help the farmers to launch the claims to the insurance companies incase of losses.	
	They help farmers to share profits and losses at the end of a financial season, incase of cooperatives.	
(c)	State the advantages of mixed farming.	
	 A farmer gets double income i.e. from crops and animals or their products sold. Labour is efficiently utilized throughout the year. It ensures income to the farmer throughout the year. Animals kept can provide labour used in ploughing and transportation of plant produce The practice guards against total loss to the farmer since failure in crops can be compensated by animals Crop residues and products can be fed to animals therefore reducing feed costs. Animals can provide manure or farm yard manure that can be used to improve soil fertility for proper crop growth. A farmer, his or her family and customers get a balanced diet by eating crop and livestock products. It ensures proper land utilization It improves the skills of farmers in the business of growing of crops and the rearing of livestock. 	Any 5 points
	SECTION II CROP PRODUCTION	each 1 mark
9	Outline the advantages and disadvantages of broad casting as a method of planting. Advantages It is a quick method as it saves time. It requires less labour It is an ideal method for very small seeded crops like amaranthus, millet and grass. Crop established provide a good vegetation cover rapidly to control soil erosion Broad casted crops tend to smother weeds / suppress weed growth It can easily be used to obtain a high plant population per unit area. This is desirable when growing green manure crops or crops to be used as fodder. More yield can be obtained per unit area.	Any points each 1 mark. 1 × 5 = 5 marks

	Disadvantages	
	• It is a wasteful method, as a high seed rate is used per unit area.	
	It is hard to regulate plant populations	
	• Uneven distribution of seeds may lead to overcrowding and plants will compete for space, light, water and nutrients.	
	Overcrowding may lead to poor quality produce for example; root crops like carrots may not expand well thus remain small.	
	• It is difficult to move through the garden to carry out agronomic practices like weeding, spraying, harvesting.	
	• It is difficult to mechanize farm operations / makes mechanization of farm operations like weeding difficult	
	 Overcrowding creates a micro comate that favours rapid breeding of pests and disease causing organisms. 	1 × 5 =
	• It encourages rapid spread of pests and diseases in crop fields as crops are very close to each other.	05 marks
	It is not easy to regulate the planting depth	
	It is difficult to ensure that all seeds are covered after planting.	
	It is difficult to estimate crop yield per unit area.	
(b)	Why is it advisable to plant crops in rows?	
	• It is advisable to plant crops in rows due to the following: -	
	Optimum plant population can easily be achieved leading to high yields	
	It is easy to achieve correct spacing which can help to control certain plant diseases such as damping off	Any 5 points
	It encourages effective use of machines like tractors on the farm	Each
	It encourages effective use of machines like tractors on the farm	1 mark
	It is easy to carry out agronomic practices like weeding and spraying without stepping on the crops	
	• Lower seed rates are used in row planting than in broad casting method which makes it an economical method.	1×5 $= 05 marks$
(c)	Outline the benefits of using proper spacing in crop production.	Any 5 points
	The benefits of using proper spacing in crop production.	Each

	It controls weed growth so that weed gr	owth is not large enough to affect crops	1 mark
	• It results in optimum plant population p	er unit area and maximum utilization of soil nutrients	
	• Each crop gets adequate nutrients, water yields.	er and sunshine and there is no competition. This results in high	1×5 $= 05 marks$
	• It reduces incidence of pests and diseas disease.	es. For example, close spacing reduces ground nut rosette	00 11101 115
	Agronomic practices like weeding, spra	ying and harvesting can easily be carried out	
	Correct seed rate or planting material of	can be used.	
	It is easy to use machinery when desired	d.	
	• It checks soil erosion.		
10(a)	Give the characteristics of a fertile soil.		
	A table showing the soil components as	nd their percentages in which they occur in the soil	
	SOIL COMPONENT	PERCENTAGE IN SOIL	
	Mineral matter	45%	
	Soil water	25%	
	Soil air	25%	
	Organic matter	05%	
	Living organisms	Varying percentage e	
	Award 5 marks for a well-drawn table v	with soil components and percentages.	
(b)	How do soil living organisms contribute	es to soil fertility in an area?	
	They die and decay to form humus that is.		Any 5 points
	Burrowing organisms improve on soil as	eration and water infiltration	Each
	They are direct decomposers of organic improves on soil structure	matter to produce humus that releases plant nutrients and	1 mark
	• They produce various organic and inorg are taken up by plants.	anic acids that act as solvents for mineral nutrients before they	1×5 $= 05 marks$

	Macro organism mix organic and inorganic components and help develop the soil profile	
	• Special purpose bacteria like nitrogen fixing bacterial fix nitrogen from the atmosphere into the soil and converts it into forms usable by plants.	
	Earth worms produce a cast rich in nutrients like calcium and cements together soil particles	
(c)	Explain the various ways how the fertility of the soil is lost.	
	 Burning crop residues and vegetation cover leads to loss of nutrient especially nitrogen, phosphorus and Sulphur and destruction of soil structure Continuous cropping without resting land leads to loss of plant nutrients continuously and destruction 	
	 of soil structure Monocropping or monoculture leads to loss of particular nutrients from almost the same level in the soil and destruction of soil structure 	
	• Clearing all vegetation expose the soil to leaching and erosion. It also interferes with proper water infiltration into the soil.	
	 Over grazing leads to bare compact patches that encourage erosion and loss of organic matter. Excessive use of agricultural chemicals alters soil Ph, Interferes with soil organism activities and 	
	makes some nutrients fixed, therefore plant roots can not absorb them	
	 Irrigating crops with salty water. The salts which accumulate in soil layers, damage roots and cause water deficiency in plants. 	
	Over cultivation that leads to destruction of soil structure.	
	• Excessive drainage; nutrients dissolved in the water are carried away from the field and lost	
	 Some methods of drainage especially underground dranage compacts the soil leading to poor aeration. 	
	• Development of hand pan under soil surface due to ploughing at the same depth season after season.	
	• Immobilization; used up of some nutrients like nitrogen in the soil by microorganisms.	
	 Volatilization; loss of nutrients to the atmosphere in gaseous state 	2 × 5
	Award 1 mark for each point given and 1 mark for explanation	= 10 marks
11(a)	State the characteristics of a grass suitable for use as a pasture plant.	
	It should be highly vegetative, able to yield a lot of herbage	

 It should be leafy that is, a high leaf to stem ratio. It should be easy to establish It should be drought resistant 	
It should be drought resistant	
It should be able to recover quickly from grazing	
It should be an aggressive feeder and have a fast growth rate.	
It should be palatable or easily acceptable by animals.	
It should be highly adaptable to a wide range of soil conditions	
It should be of suitable height.	1 0
■ It should be resistant to pasts and diseases	1×8 = $08 marks$
It should be able to produce leafy material for a long time.	- 00 marks
(b) Outline the advantages and disadvantages of zero grazing.	
Advantages	
The system eliminates selective grazing because all forage is cut and mixed before it is fed.	
• It permits keeping animals even where pressure on land is high.	
Production per unit area of pasture is increased.	
Grass is cut and fed to animals when it is more nutritious and this can lead to high production in	
animals.	
Wastage of pasture due to dung ad urine tainting and trampling is eliminated	
Animals' energy is conserved because there is no waling and it is converted into production	
Bloat is reduced because grass is first wilted before it is given to animals	
It eliminates animals eating poisonous plants and dangerous materials such as polythene	
It allows the farmer to observe animals closely as they are kept indoors all the time.	
It allows utilization of pasture obtained from distant land / places	
Disadvantages	
It may lead to accumulation of disease causing organisms as animals are kept in one place.	
It may require machinery to chop the fodder which is expensive	
There are high labour costs involved	$1 \times 6 = 6$
It is tiresome as manure has to be carried back to pastures to increase their productivity	marks

	Continuous harvesting of grass lowers soil fertility	
	Animals do not get enough exercise	
	It is expensive to construct the shed, the feed troughs and water troughs	
	• The system limits the number of animals to keep.	
	Supplementary feeding will be necessary in the dry season when there is shortage of grass.	
	Any 6 points each $1 \times 6 = 6 \text{ marks}$	
	SECTION III ANIMAL PRODUCTION	
12(a)	Explain the factors that may lead to disease outbreak on a poultry farm.	
	• Introduction of diseased birds on the farm, where quarantine is not practiced	
	 Introduction of birds that have recovered from a disease but are still careers 	
	Mixing old stock with new stock	
	Feeding the birds on contaminated food and water	
	Use of drinkers and feeders contaminated with disease germs	
	Failure to burn or bury dead birds	
	Rodents and wild birds may carry in disease when they come near bird's houses or feeds	
	Use of old litter for new stock of birds.	
	• Workers moving into the poultry house without stepping in a disinfectant therefore carrying in disease causing organism.	
	Poor hygienic conditions in and around the poultry house that lead to breeding of germs	
	Poor ventilation in poultry houses that lead to respiratory diseases.	
	Use of contaminated debeaker or vaccinating equipment	
	Failure to follow a vaccination routine or failure to vaccinate at all.	
	Award any 5, well explained factors each 2 marks	
	$2 \times 5 = 10 \text{ marks}$	
		10marks
(b)	Explain the ways through which the spread of diseases in poultry can be controlled.	
		10 marks

	By following a regular vaccination routine, at the recommended age and administering them correctly	
	By passing introduced birds under quarantine for 30 days in a faraway house.	
	By adding feeding additives in feeds and water to alleviate stress.	
	By keeping the right number of birds in a house to prevent over crowding	
	By ensuring adequate ventilation in the poultry house	
	By placing birds of different age groups in separate house.	
	By ensuring hygiene in and around the poultry house.	
	By making sure that litter is always fresh and dry to control breeding of disease causing organisms.	
	By restricting range birds and wild birds from getting to the farm	
	By making sure that the poultry house is vermin proof	
	By burying dead birds deep and far from the poultry house or by burning them	
	By burning litter from houses where disease breaks out	
	By maintaining a foot bath with a disinfectant at the entrance of the poultry house	
	By providing clean drinking water to avoid spread of diseases like fowl typhoid	
	By carrying out regular deworming to avoid anaemia	
	By raking through litter regularly to avoid damp conditions that encourage causing organisms.	
	By isolating or culling the sick to avoid disease spreading	
	By buying uncontaminated feeds from a reliable source	
	By dusting the birds and the house with recommended chemicals to control eco-parasites.	
	By raising drinkers and feeders off the ground to avoid contamination that would lead to disease.	
	By providing balanced rations to reduce nutrient deficiency diseases.	
	Award any 10 points each 1 mark	
	$1 \times 10 = 10 \text{ marks}$	
13(a)	Why do heifers or cows sometimes fail to conceive after being served?	
	Failure to serve the animal at the right time / right stage of the heat period	
	It may be due to improper feeding of animals that affect their physiological and reproduction	
	processes.	
	It may be due to breeding or venereal diseases	

	Cystic ovaries and due to this, they cannot ovulate	
	Hormonal imbalance especially in free martins	
	• It may be due to white heifer disease, where a persistent hymen impends semen flow.	
	Poor placement of semen during insemination	
	Use of semen with low sperm count, defective or weak sperms	
	• It may be due to unfavourble pH in the reproductive system of the female that kills the sperms	
	Abnormal embryo that fails to implant	
	It may be genetic, where lethal genes lead to death of the embryo.	
	• It may be due to a weak uterine wall that cannot hold pregnancy or allow implantation to take place.	
	Female animals may be frightened during mating	
	Award 1 mark for each point given	
	$1 \times 10 = 10 \text{ marks}$	
(b)	Describe how you would manage a pregnant cow up to calving time.	
		10 marks
	Carry out pregnancy diagnosis two months after service to confirm pregnancy	10 marks
	Deworm the pregnant cow early to control the internal parasites	
	Spray or dip animals regularly to control external parasites	
	Provide balanced rations through pregnancy	
	Provide clean water to cows	
	Provide adequate feeds throughout gestation period	
	Carryout proper disease control to reduce economic loss	
	• Dry off the cow at the 7 th month to prepare for the next lactation	
	After drying the cow, carry out dry cow therapy to control mastitis on the teats	
	Steam up the animal the last three months of pregnancy to prepare for the next lactation	
	Provide shade for the cow so that it does not suffer from heat stree.	
	Isolate the pregnant cow in a nurse paddock for close monitoring	
	Do not tie the pregnant cow	
	Provide clean straw in the calving area; cows should not calve in paddocks	

14(a)	 The animal that has calved should be given warm water to drink to ease contraction in the uterus and milled a little to relive pressure on the udder. If the after birth is retained, call in a veterinary doctor for assistance.	
	 They have a higher stocking rate since they are small animals Goats are resistant to may tropical diseases such as tick borne diseases and tsetse flies 	
	They are cheaper to feed, they can tolerate feeds deficient in crude protein They are cheaper to feed, they can tolerate feeds deficient in crude protein	
	 Goats are prolific, their gestation period is only 5 months and can produce 2, 3 and 4 kids at a go. Goats are early maturing, they are ready for breeding at 9 months 	
	Goat skin makes the best quality leather	
	Goats milk is more nutritious and its proteins are more digestible	
	Goat's skin can be put to a wide range of uses.	
	Award a mark for each point given. $(1 \times 10 = 10 \text{ marks})$	10 marks
(b)	How can the goat industry in Uganda be improved?	
	 By introducing more productive goat breeds By improving existing goat breeds through cross breeding By improving feeding and nutrition of goats By ensuring adequate grazing and fodder preservation 	
	By improving goat veterinary services.	05 marks

	Award a mark for each 5 correct was given.	
	$(1 \times 5 = 05 \text{ marks})$	
(c)	Outline the features of a healthy goat.	
	Eyes are alert and bright	
	Walks, runs, lies and gets up with ease	
	It should have no kidding difficulties	
	Produces pale and straw coloured urine with a distinct smell	
	A healthy goat should have a fairly hard stool or dung, no scours	
	Responds well to the environment	
	Should be eager to eat its food with great appetite	
	Award a mark for each correct response given.	
	$1 \times 5 = 5 \text{ marks}$	

END

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