



CENTRAL EAST EDUCATION DIVISION

2023 MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION MOCK EXAMINATION

AGRICULTURE

Subject number: M012/I

Monday, 20 March

Time allowed: 2 hours

8:00 – 10:00 am

PAPER I

(100 marks)

Theory

Instructions

1. This paper contains 14 printed pages.
Please check
2. This paper has two sections **A** and **B**.
Section **A** has **ten** questions and Section **B**, **three** questions
3. Answer **all** questions in the spaces provided
4. Write your **Name** on **all** pages
5. In the table provided on this page **tick** against the question number you have answered
6. At the end of the examination, hand in your paper to the invigilator

Question number	Tick if answered	Do not write in these columns	
1			
2			
3			
4			
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
Total			

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Section A (70 marks)

Answer all questions in this section in the spaces provided

1. a. State any **one** form of soil degradation

(1 mark)

- b. Explain any **two** ways in which rapid population growth contributes to soil degradation

(4 marks)

- c. Name **one** animal drawn implement used for tilling the land.

(1 mark)

- d. State any **two** limitations of using animal power

(2 marks)

2. a. Figure 1 is a diagram of a farm machinery being used in land preparation.

Use it to answer questions (i), (ii) and (iii)



Figure 1

i. Name the source of power that the machinery uses.

(1 mark)

ii. Give any **one** farm implement that can be attached to the machinery to carry out various operations

(1 mark)

iii. Explain **any** one way of maintaining the machinery

(2 marks)

3. b. Give any **two** ways in which soil salinity affects maize production.

(2 marks)

c. Explain any **two** ways of maintaining soil structure

(4 marks)

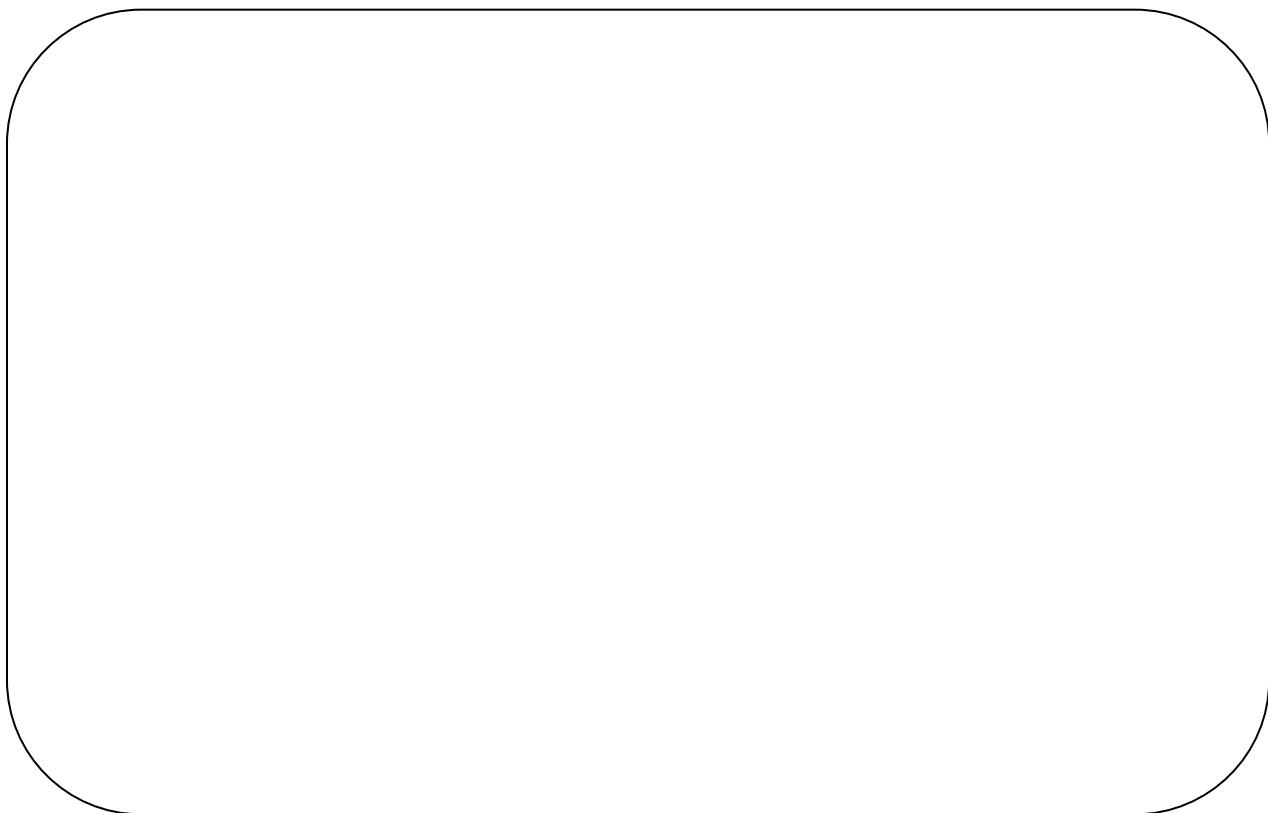
4. A certain farmer had the following items on his farm at the end of September 2010.

- 2 hectares of land valued at K800 000
- 15 goats valued at K300 000
- An ox-cart valued at K400 000
- 8 cattle valued at K750 000
- 12 orange trees valued at K500 000

(i) State the **three** steps which are involved in preparing an inventory record.

(3 marks)

(ii) Prepare an inventory record for this farmer.



(5 marks)

5. a. Give any **two** breeds of beef cattle

(2 marks)

b. State **one** advantage of each of the following operation in livestock production

(i) Docking in female lambs

(1 mark)

(ii) Dehorning in cattle

(1 mark)

b. Figure 2 is a diagram showing a livestock parasite. Use it to answer questions a, b and c.

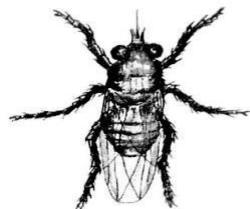


Figure 2

a. Name the parasite.

(1 mark)

b. Describe any **one** effect of the parasite on livestock production.

(2 marks)

c. Give any **two** ways of controlling the parasite named in 2a.

(2 marks)

6. a. State any **two** vegetative planting materials

(2 marks)

b. Explain any **two** advantages of vegetative planting materials

(4 marks)

c. Give **two** examples of legume pasture

(2 marks)

7. Figure 3 is a diagram showing a method of land drainage. Use it to answer questions (i) and (ii)

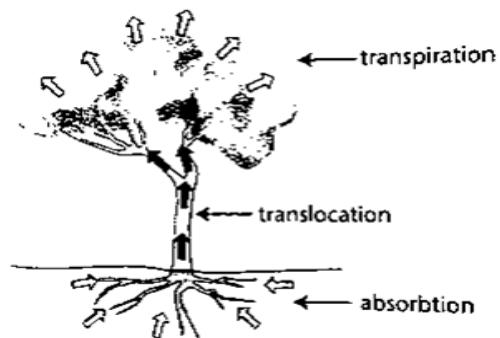


Figure 3

(i). Identify the method of land drainage

(1 mark)

(ii). Give any **two** advantages of the method of land drainage in (i)

(2 marks)

8. a. Calculate the seed rate for grass pasture which has the following characteristics

- Seed size 400 000seeds/kg
- Purity 50%
- Expected plant population 1, 000, 000
- Germination percentage 60%



(3 marks)

b. State any **two** exotic varieties of mangoes that are found in Malawi

(2 mark)

c. Describe any **two** factors when selecting a site for mango production

(4 marks)

9. a. Explain any **two** ways in which mulching seedlings in a mango orchard is important.

(4 marks)

b. Explain any **one** way in which livestock breeding can ensure food security

(2 marks)

c. Explain any **two** ways in which research agencies are important to a growing population

(4 marks)

10. Figure 4 shows management practices in cattle production. Use the diagram to answer questions (i), (ii) and (iii)

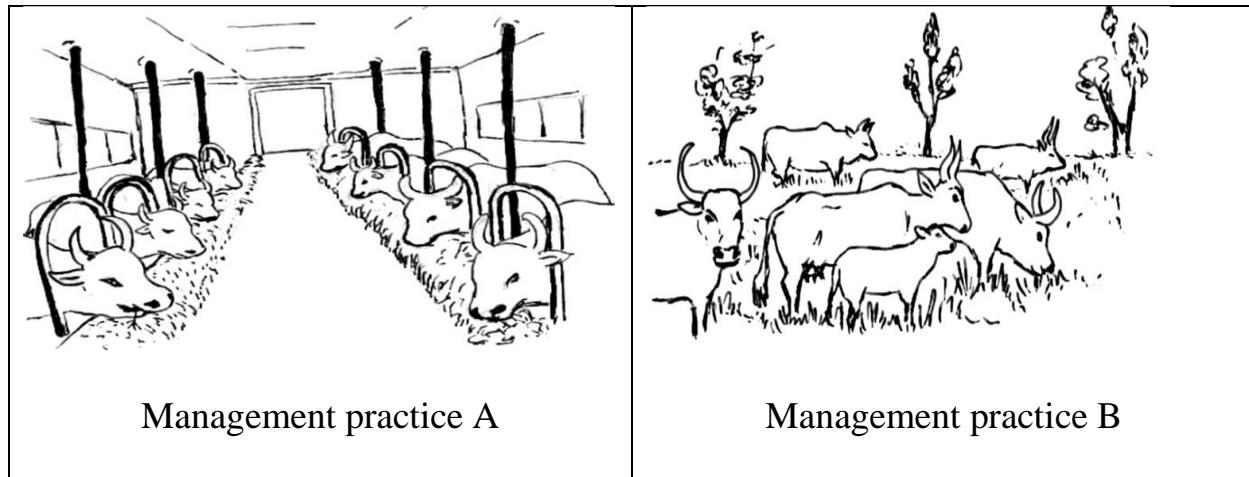


Figure 4

(i) Identify management practice A

(1 mark)

(ii) Give any **two** disadvantages of management practice B

(2 marks)

b. Explain any **one** way in which management practice A ensures food supply

(2 marks)

Section C (30 marks)*Answer all the three questions in this section*

11. Explain any **five** advantages of mixed cropping

(10 marks)

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12. Explain any **five** aims of livestock improvement

(10 marks)

13. A farmer has a piece of land on which she has the following enterprises:

- poultry
- beans
- fish pond
- maize

Explain any **five** ways how would the farmer use these enterprises in order to maximize profits and reduce costs.

(10 marks)

END OF QUESTION PAPER

NB: This paper contains 14 printed pages