

Name: _____ School: _____



CENTRAL EAST EDUCATION DIVISION
2024 MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE MOCK EXAMINATION



AGRICULTURE

Friday, 15 March

Subject Number: M012/I

Time allowed: 2 hours
08:00 – 10:00 am

PAPER I
(100 Marks)

Instructions

- 1. This paper contains 11 printed pages. Please check.**
- 2. This paper has two sections; A and B.**
Section A has 10 (ten) questions and section B has 3 (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 | | | |
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| 11 | | | |
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| 13 | | | |

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Section A: (70 Marks)

Answer all questions in this section

1. a. State any **two** ways in which controlling stocking rates in pastures is important

(2 marks)

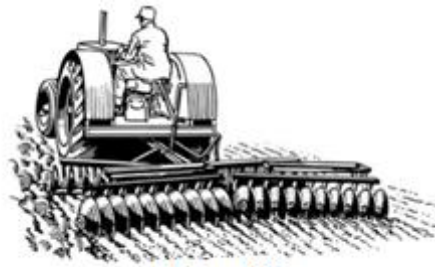
- b. Explain any **two** disadvantages of broadcasting method for sowing pasture seed

(4 marks)

2. Figures below is a diagram showing sources of power used on different farms



Farm J



Farm K

- a. Identify the source of power used on

(i) Farm J

(1 mark)

(ii) Farm K

(1 mark)

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- b. State any **two** limitations of using the source of power on farm **K** by smallholder farmers

(2 marks)

- c. Explain any **two** ways of improving output for the source of power used on farm **J**

(4 marks)

3. a. Name any **one** sucking insect pest of mangoes

(1 mark)

- b. State **two** ways of controlling insect pests in mangoes

(2 marks)

- c. Give the procedure for processing unripe mangoes into chutney

(5 marks)

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4. a. Describe any **two** bad farming practices which destroy soil structure

(4 marks)

- b. Describe the procedure for determining soil pH using pH meter

(3 marks)

- c. Explain any **two** ways in which leaching of cations can affect nutrient status of the soil

(4 marks)

5. A farmer observed that the cow had a swollen and an inflamed udder

- a. Name the disease that the cow was suffering from

(1 mark)

- b. State any **one** way in of controlling the disease mentioned in a

(1 mark)

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c. Explain any **two** characteristics of cattle breeds to be selected for beef production

(4 marks)

6. Mr Banda bought Irish potatoes from Mr Chitsulo's farm and sold them all to Thope trading company. The Irish potato were later bought by vendors who in turn sold them to different households in the city.

a. Produce a marketing channel for the Irish potato. Include all agencies involved in the marketing channel.

(5 marks)

b. Name the type of marketing channel

(1 mark)

c. State any **two** roles of Thope trading company in the marketing of irish potatoes

(2 marks)

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7. a. Explain the steps involved in ‘scarification’ as a method of pasture seed treatment

(3 marks)

- b. Describe any **two** factors that affect quality of conserved pasture

(4 marks)

8. a. State the age of puberty for each of the following animals

- (i) Nannies

(1 mark)

- (ii) Bulls

(1 mark)

- b. What is the difference between ‘crossbreeding’ and ‘outbreeding’

(1 mark)

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- c. A farmer wishes that one of his cows gives birth on 31 January 2025. When should the farmer carry out artificial insemination on the cows? Show the working in days



(3 marks)

- b. State any **two** advantages of artificial insemination

(2 marks)

9. Explain any **one** way for considering each of the following factors when mechanising a farm

- a. Size of the farm holding

(2 marks)

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b. Value of the crop

(2 marks)

10. Outline the phases in the oestrus cycle of a cow

(4 marks)

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Section B (30 Marks)

Answer all the three questions in this section

11. Explain any **five** effects of soil degradation on maize production

[illegible]

(10 marks)

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12. Explain any **five** characteristics of a good goat house

[illegible]

(10 marks)

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13. A farmer has leased a piece of land whose soil is degraded. The land is on sloppy area with terraces already constructed. The farmer has the following resources at her disposal

- Maize seed
- Beans
- Dam
- Cattle

Explain any **five** ways in which the farmer can use the available resources to increase crop production

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(10 marks)

END OF QUESTION PAPER

NB: This paper contains 11 pages