



SOUTH EAST EDUCATION DIVISION

2024 MALAWI SCHOOL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION MOCK EXAMINATIONS

AGRICULTURE

Monday, 18 March

Subject paper: M012/I

Time allowed: 2 hours

8:00 – 10:00 am

PAPER I

(100 marks)

Theory

Instructions

1. This paper contains 12 printed pages. Please check.
2. This paper has **two** sections, **A** and **B**. Section **A** has **ten** questions; and section **B** has **three** questions.
3. Answer all questions in the spaces provided.
4. Write your **Examination number** on top of each page.
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		

Section A (70 marks)

Answer **all** the questions in the spaces provided.

1. a. State any **two** characteristics of a good sheep house.

(2 marks)

- b. Outline any **two** economic importance of trading at national level.

(2 marks)

- c. Describe any **two** factors that influence the quality of hay.

(4 marks)

2. a. Mention **two** examples of dairy breeds of cattle that are raised in Malawi.

(2 marks)

- b. State any **two** physical characteristics of dairy cows.

(2 marks)

- c. Explain **one** way in which application of wood ash helps in modifying soil pH.

(2 marks)

3. a. Mention any **two** factors to consider when harvesting mushroom.

(2 marks)

- b. Give any **two** ways of controlling rodents in a mushroom house.

(2 marks)

- c. **Figure 1** shows a method of land drainage. Use it to answer the questions that follow.

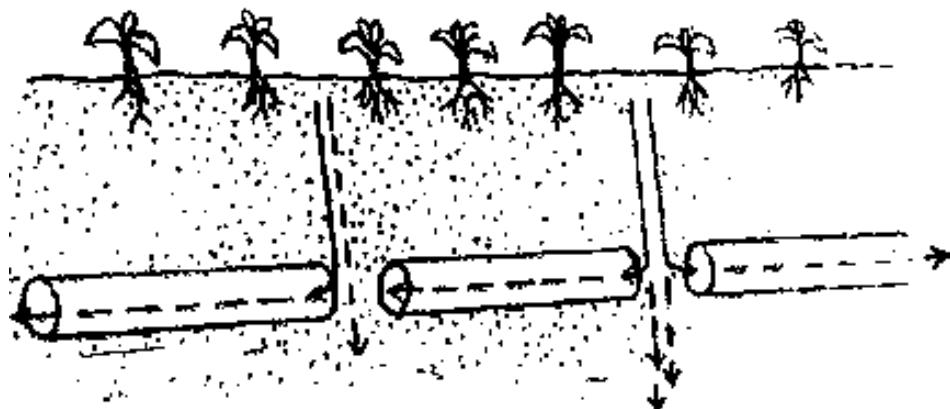


Figure 1

- i. Name the method of land drainage shown in **Figure 1**.

(1 mark)

- ii. State any **two** advantages of this method of land drainage.

(2 marks)

4. a. Mention any **two** sources of water as a nutrient used in the animal's body.

(2 marks)

(Continued)

- b. Describe any **one** factor to consider when feeding livestock.

(2 marks)

- c. Give any **two** importance of feeding of livestock.

(2 marks)

- d. Identify the type of agricultural cooperatives that performs the following functions:

- i. Buying farm inputs in bulks and selling them to its members at subsidized prices.

(1 mark)

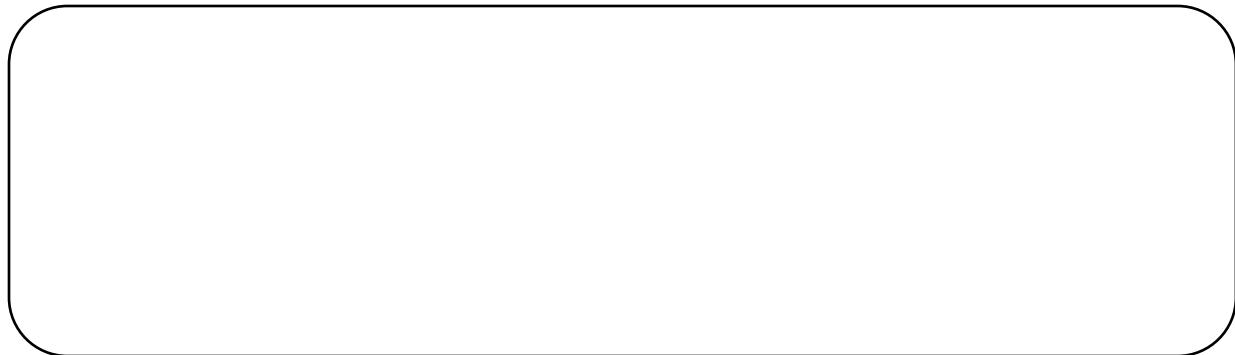
- ii. Keeping farmers' money and lending out to its members.

(1 mark)

5. a. State any **two** effects of gender biases in agricultural technology.

(2 marks)

- b. To produce 2000kg of beans, a farmer had to spend K125,000.00 on fixed costs and K175,000.00 on variable costs. Calculate the break-even price for the beans.

**(4 marks)**

6. a. Explain any **one** way in which minimum soil disturbance helps mitigate climate change.

(2 marks)

- b. A farmer noticed that his goat had difficulty in breathing, was salivating profusely and its abdomen was distended on the left side.

- i. Name the disease that affected the cow.

(1 mark)

- ii. Mention **one** possible cause of the disease.

(1 mark)

- iii. Give any **two** ways of helping the sick cow.

(2 marks)

7. **Figure 2** shows a farm machine equipment. Use it to answer the questions that follow.

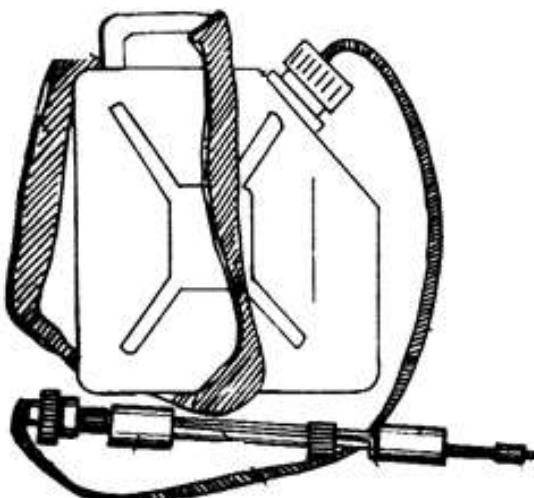


Figure 2

(Continued)

- a. Name the farm equipment shown in **Figure 2**.

(1 mark)

- b. State any **two** safety measures to be followed when using the equipment.

(2 marks)

- c. Mention the source of power used to operate the equipment.

(1 mark)

- d. State any **two** limitations of the source of power mentioned in 7c above.

(2 marks)

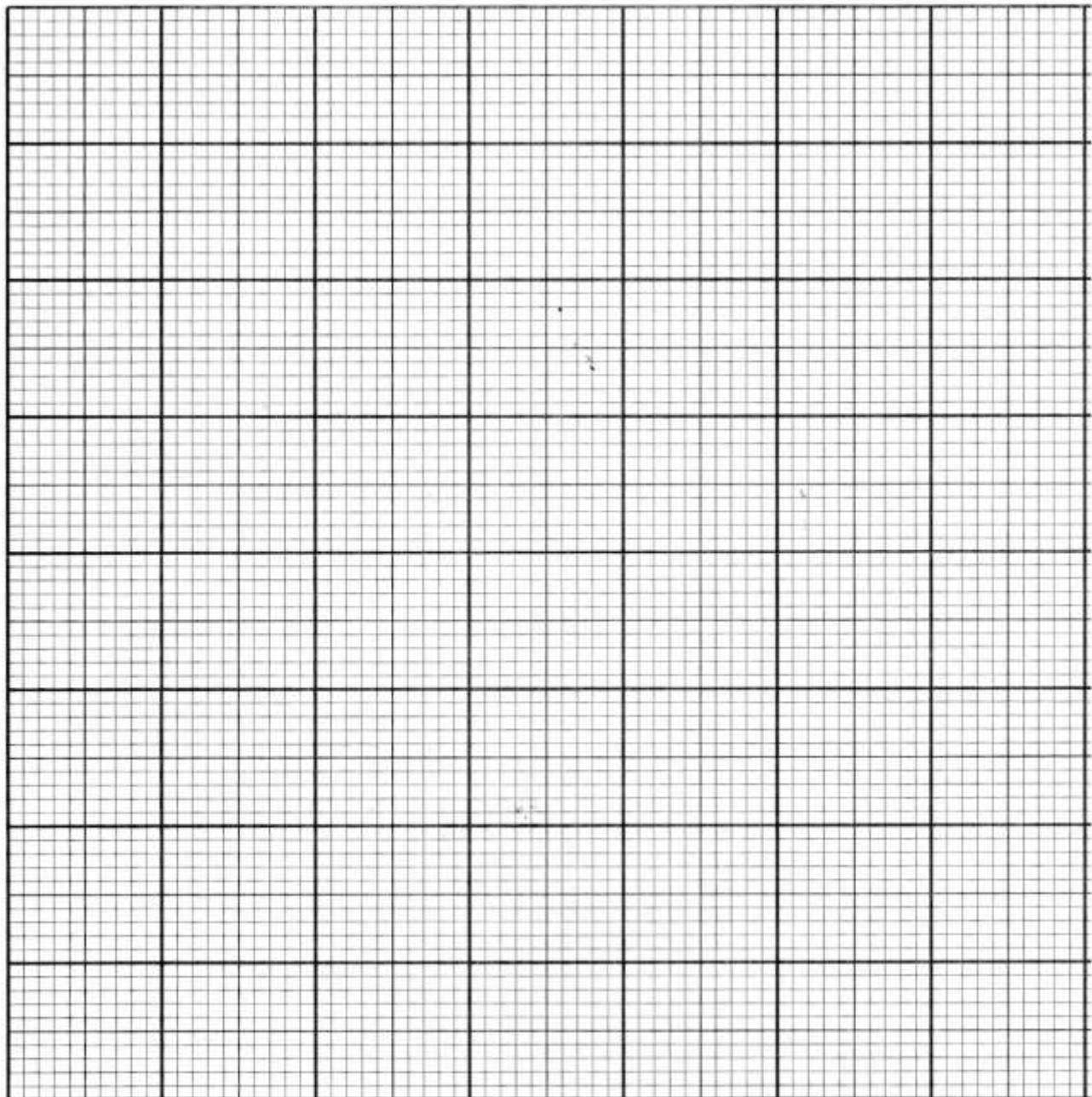
8. **Table 1** is a supply schedule for eggs at Balaka Market. Use it to answer the questions that follow

Table 1

Price (MK/tray)	Quantity supplied(trays)
320	500
280	450
240	400
200	350
160	300

(Continued)

- a. Draw a supply curve using the information provided in **Table 1**.



(4 marks)

(Continued)

- b. Calculate the price elasticity of supply when quantity changes from 400kg to 350kg.

(4 marks)

- c. What degree of price elasticity of supply is being displayed in **8b** above?

(1 mark)

9. a. State any **two** advantages of artificial insemination.

(2 marks)

- b. Explain any **one** way in which each of the following practices can improve soil structure:
i. fallowing

(2 marks)

- ii. controlled grazing

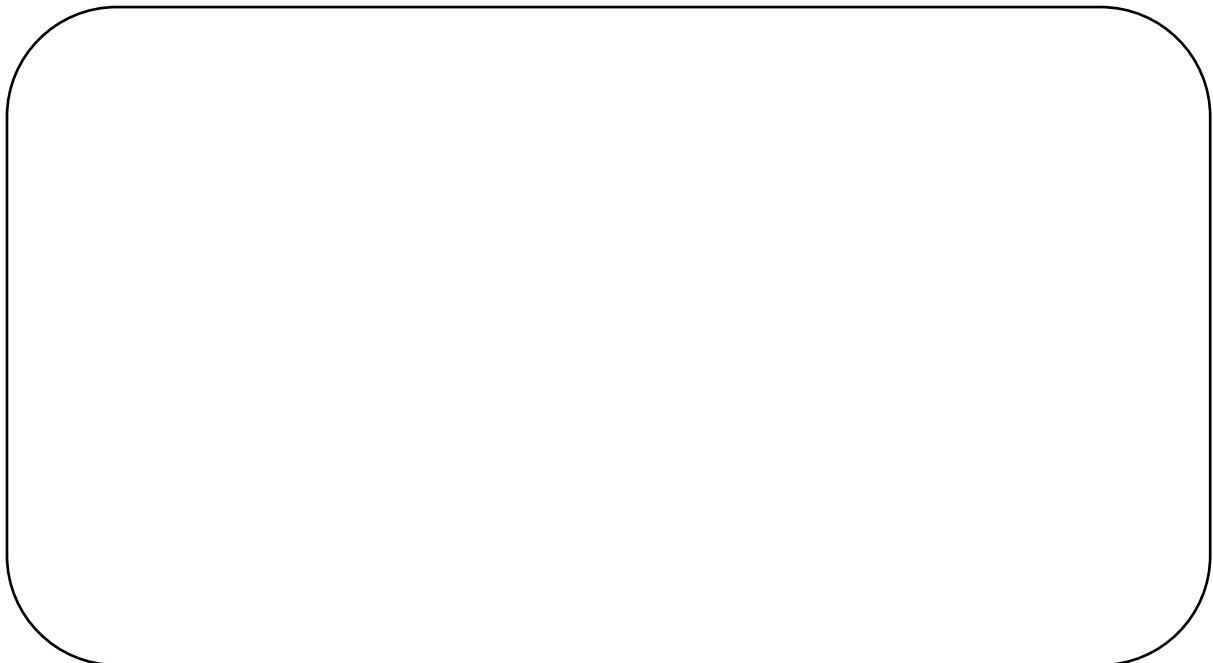
(2 marks)

10. a. When 200,000 seeds of a pasture species were planted, only 180,000 germinated.
i. Work out the germination percentage.



(3 marks)

- ii. Given that the species had an expected plant population of 2 000 000 per hectare, purity percentage of 85% and seed size of 600,000/kg, calculate its seed rate.



(3 marks)

- c. State the importance of each of the following activities in crop hybridization:

- i. selfing parental lines

(1 mark)

- ### ii. crossing pure lines

(1 mark)

Section B (30 marks)

Answer all the **three** questions in this section. Your answers should be in an essay form.

11. Describe any **five** ways in which rapid population growth is linked to soil degradation.

(10 marks)

- 12.** Describe any **five** ways in which improved farming technology enhances food security.

(10 marks)

- 13.** Explain any five ways in which crop improvement is important.

(10 marks)

END OF QUESTION PAPER

NB: This paper contains 12 pages