



National Open University of Nigeria
Plot 91, Cadastral Zone, Nnamdi Azikiwe Expressway, Jabi, Abuja
Faculty of Agricultural Sciences
October/November, 2016

Course code: AEM 722

Course Title: RUMINANT ANIMALS

Credit Units: 2 UNITS

TIME: 2 ½ hours.

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer any 4 (four) questions. ALL Questions carry equal Marks

1a. Discuss fully the economic importance of ruminant animals in Nigerian agriculture (14 Mks)

1b. Describe fully the Uda and Balami breeds of sheep found in Nigeria

2a. Write a short note on digestion in the young ruminant animal (10 Marks)

2b. Discuss in details the advantages and disadvantages of ruminant digestion (15 Marks)

3. Fill in the missing spaces

Term	Meaning
Bull	
	A matured female bovine that has given birth
Calf	
	A young female cattle that is yet to give birth
Steer	
	A male cattle that is castrated after maturity
Veal	
	Meat from cattle
Parturition	
	Female sheep which has lambed
Ram	
	Young sheep usually before weaning
Cull	
	Female sheep from weaning to first lambing
Weather	
	A matured male goat
Chevon	

Each correct answer = 1 ½ marks each total 25 marks

- 4a. Name and describe an important dairy goat found in the tropics (15 marks)
- 4b. What do you understand by Steaming up. Highlight its relevance as an important management practice in a livestock farm (10 Marks)
- 5a. List the signs of estrus in sheep and goats (5 Marks)
- 5b. What are the signs you can observe in a doe/ewe that will help you know that she is close to kidding/lambing (5 Marks)
- 5c. Discuss fully the significance of providing adequate housing for small ruminants (15 marks)
- 6. Discuss the importance of a sheep and goat handling unit indicating the important facilities that should be there (25 marks)