



GWANDA STATE UNIVERSITY
FACULTY OF LIFE SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF CROP SCIENCES
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS DEGREE IN CROP SCIENCE
LCS 2210 AGRONOMY OF PLANTATION CROPS

Second Semester Final main Examination Paper

June-July 2019

This examination paper consists of 2 pages

Time Allowed: 3 hours
Total Marks: 100
Special Requirements: None
Examiner's Name: A. Banda

INSTRUCTIONS

1. Answer **all** questions in Section A
2. Answer **only two** questions in Section B

MARK ALLOCATION

QUESTION	MARKS
SECTION A	60
SECTION B	40
TOTAL ATTAINABLE MARKS	100

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SECTION A: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION

1. Discuss the agronomy of lemon trees under the following sub-headings:
 - a) Cultivar choice (4)
 - b) Planting methods, planting patterns and populations (4)
 - c) Weed management (4)
 - d) Pests and diseases management (4)
 - e) Climatic requirements (4)

2. a) Give reasons why Tobacco is mostly studied under plantation crops although it is also categorized as a field crop (10)
b) Describe the pathway (production steps) of the crop from harvesting up to the market floor. (10)

3. a) Define the following terms related to fruit production, give/example for each.
 - i. Stone fruit [2]
 - ii. Pome fruits [2]
 - ii. Deciduous fruits [2]
 - iii. Chilling Requirement [2]b) Describe the importance of light and temperature in fruit production [4]
c) Name any five (5) plant growth regulators used to improve fruit set and appearance and their functions. [5]
d) List the 3 types of dormancy found in deciduous fruit crops [3]

SECTION B ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS

4. Using relevant examples discuss the challenges faced by Growers of plantation crops in Zimbabwe. Placing emphasis on:
 - a) Diseases and pests (4)
 - b) Un-availability of working capital (4)
 - c) In-accessible road network (4)
 - d) Failure to penetrate export markets (4)
 - e) Lack of expertise to manage the crops (4)

5. a) Using specific citrus examples, describe how you would choose a variety for a specific location. (10)
b) Describe pollination and fruit set in citrus. (10)

6. Discuss the economic importance of plantation crops. (20)

7. Plantation crops usually use a vast/large area of land, which may have an impact on the ecosystem. Discuss. (20)