



FACULTY OF NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT AND AGRICULTURE  
DEPARTMENT OF ANIMAL PRODUCTION AND HEALTH

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BACHELOR OF SCIENCE HONOURS DEGREE IN ANIMAL SCIENCE

Beef Cattle, Goat and Sheep Production (LAS 4102) Main

SEMESTER 1 EXAMINATION

September 2024

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

**Instructions to Candidates:**

1. The paper consists of six questions, answer **ALL** questions in **Section A** and **ANY TWO** in **Section B**.
2. Marks for each question are shown in brackets. Where a question has subdivisions, the marks for each subdivision are given.
3. Illustrate your answer, where applicable, with large clearly labelled diagrams.

**MARK ALLOCATION**

QUESTION	MARKS
SECTION A	60
SECTION B	40
<b>TOTAL ATTAINABLE MARKS</b>	<b>100</b>

*This paper consists of three printed pages including this one.*

**SECTION A: ANSWER ALL QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION**

**Question 1**

- a. With reference to sheep and goats, list five signs of:
- i. estrus, **[5 marks]**
  - ii. closeness to birthing. **[5 marks]**
- b. Explain the major causes of kid and lamb mortality. **[10 marks]**

**Question 2**

- i. Discuss the various constraints faced in beef production within the communal and smallholding farming areas of Zimbabwe. **[10 marks]**
- ii. Propose potential solutions for addressing these constraints identified in 2(i) above to improve beef production in these areas. **[10 marks]**

**Question 3**

- a. Discuss the major performance traits influencing the productive efficiency of a beef/sheep/goat animal. **[10 marks]**
- b. Discuss key strategies that sheep, goat, and beef farmers in developing countries can use to improve their market access and profitability. **[10 marks]**

**SECTION B. ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS IN THIS SECTION**

**Question 4**

Discuss the strategies that can be implemented to enhance forage management practices and extend the grazing season with existing forages. **[20 marks]**

**Question 5**

Discuss sheep/goat/beef disease control under the following headings:

- i. Vaccination, **[4 marks]**
- ii. Selecting of resistant breeds, and **[6 marks]**
- iii. Biosecurity measures. **[10 marks]**

**Question 6**

Explain the special characteristics of sheep and goats that allow them to be adapted to semi-arid to arid regions of Zimbabwe. **[20 marks]**

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**END OF QUESTION PAPER**

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