"Investing in Africa's Future"

COLLEGE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, THEOLOGY HUMANITIES AND EDUCATION
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

HES 225 AGRICULTURE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

END OF FIRST SEMESTER EXAMINATIONS

JANUARY 2018

LECTURER: G. R. CHIMONYO

DURATION: THREE HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Do NOT write your name on the answer sheet**
2. Use answer sheets provided
3. Answer any **THREE (3)** questions
4. Read and understand all questions and instructions before your answer
5. Where necessary, illustrate your answers with sketches, figures and diagrams
6. **Each question is marked out of 20 marks**
7. **Take note of mark distribution in each question**
8. Begin your answer for each question on a new page
9. Credit is given to neat presentation of answers

Question One

"Indeed, this 'cradle of civilisation' idea is so entrenched a part of historical orthodoxy that its axiomatic status has served to discredit those pieces of evidence that seem to challenge it." (Steve Gagné, 2004:1). Discuss in relation to the claim that agriculture originated in the Near East's 'Fertile Crescent.'

Question Two

Give reasons for and reasons against the environmental change hypothesis to explain the origins of agriculture.

Question Three

Examine the causes and consequences of fluctuations in food supply in Europe up to the 18th Century.

Question Four

Discuss the environmental consequences of the invention of agriculture giving specific examples.

Question Five

"Any attempts to realise assured continuous agricultural production from environments that are often constrained climatically must recognise the limitations of widespread monoculture and favour systems of diversified production." (Brown and Thomas, 1992:374). Comment in relation to the problem of food security in sub-Saharan African.

Question Six

Explain the causes of the decline in and eventual abandonment of traditional farming systems, citing specific examples.

Question Seven

Examine the arguments for and the arguments against biotechnology as the answer to Africa's food crisis.

END OF QUESTION PAPER