



“Investing in Africa’s future”
**COLLEGE OF HEALTH, AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL
SCIENCES**

NAHC 303: HARVESTING AND POST- HARVEST TECHNIQUES

END OF SECOND SEMESTER FINAL EXAMINATIONS

APRIL 2022

LECTURER: MR. MTAITA T. A.

DURATION: 3 HOURS

INSTRUCTION

Choose and answer Four Questions

Question One

- a) How can horticulturists ensure uniformity of inspection in post-harvest handling? **[5]**
- b) Reducing post-harvest losses [PHL] is a key pathway to food and nutrition security in sub-Saharan Africa. Unpack the causes of PHL, and the kinds of interventions that can be attempted to mitigate the losses. **[20]**

Question Two

- a) Discuss the characteristics of a good maturity index and examine how these maturity indices are established. **[10]**
- b) Summarize the quality components and analyse the factors affecting quality. **[15]**

Question Three

With the aid of the sub-headings listed below [i to v], write about post-harvest extension link: 'Getting the message across'.

- i. Objectives **[3]**
- ii. Client analysis **[3]**
- iii. Planning a post-harvest extension program, and **[4]**
- iv. Post-harvest extension methods **[15]**

Question Four

- a) Justify why farmers should be encouraged to invest in storage facilities. **[5]**
- b) Examine how small resource poor fruit and vegetable producers can prolong shelf life of their produce in the absence of high technology cooling and storage structures. **[20]**

Question Five

- a) Discuss why horticulturists prefer hand harvesting over mechanical harvesting. **[10]**
- b) Analyze what you envisage as the future trends in post-harvest technology. **[15]**

Question Six

- a) Examine the harvesting and post-harvest handling system of bananas. **[10]**
- b) Analyze the causes and prevention of poor quality in cut flowers. **[15]**

End of Examination Paper