



"Investing in Africa's future"

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL SCIENCES

NAAS310: BEEF AND SMALL RUMINANTS PRODUCTION

END OF SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION

APRIL 2026

LECTURER: DR. S. CHAKEREDZA

DURATION: 3 HRS

INSTRUCTIONS

Answer all questions in Section A and any **three** from Section B

Section A carries **40 marks** and each question in section B carries **20 marks**.

SECTION A: Answer ALL questions.

Question 1

For the following:

1. Define beef cattle production. [3]
2. Identify one advantage of crossbreeding beef cattle. [4]
3. State the average gestation period in cattle. [3]
4. What is the average gestation period in sheep? [2]
5. State one difference between sheep and goats. [3]
6. State any two goat breeds. [4]
7. What is the main purpose of castration in small ruminants? [4]
8. Mention any two signs of heat in goats. [4]
9. List two major breeds of beef cattle found in Sub-Saharan Africa. [5]
10. Name two advantages of keeping goats in Sub-Saharan Africa. [4]
11. What is the main difference between sheep and goats in terms of feeding behavior? [4]

12. SECTION B: Answer any three questions

Question 1

Discuss the role of beef cattle production in the livelihoods of rural communities in Sub-Saharan Africa. [20]

Question 2

Explain the challenges facing small ruminant production in Sub-Saharan Africa and suggest possible solutions. [20]

Question 3

Evaluate the importance of indigenous breeds of cattle, sheep, and goats in Sub-Saharan Africa compared to exotic breeds. [20]

Question 4

Describe the production systems of beef cattle and small ruminants in Sub-Saharan Africa. [20]

Question 5

Compare and contrast intensive and extensive management systems for small ruminants. [20]

Question 6

Discuss the impact of climate change on beef and small ruminant production.

END OF QUESTION PAPER!!!