



"Investing in Africa's future"

COLLEGE OF HEALTH AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL SCIENCES

NACP 306: SEED SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

END OF SECOND SEMESTER EXAMINATION

APRIL 2026

LECTURER: MR. J. TABARIRA

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 from this section.

Question 1

- a. Explain the key objectives of seed treatment and discuss the common seed treatment methods. [10]
- b. Justify why female seed parents in maize seed production fields are detaselled. [5]
- c. Discuss the key seed quality attributes. [10]
- d. Outline the key aspects that seed inspectors check during seed field inspections. [10]
- e. Discuss the importance of holding seed fairs among farmers. [5]

SECTION B: Answer any **three** (3) questions from this section.

Question Two

Discuss the role played by Private Seed companies and Non-Governmental Organizations in the development and maintenance of a viable seed system for the smallholder farmers. [20]

Question Three

- a. Demonstrate your understanding of the term, distinguishable off-type. [5]
- b. Define isolation distance and discuss mechanisms used to isolate seed production fields. [15]

Question Four

- a. Discuss the possible reasons that led to the liberalization of the Zimbabwe seed industry. [10]
- b. Explain the different classes of seed. [10]

Question Five

Discuss the importance of an organized seed trade association in maintaining seed standards in a country. [15]

Question Six

- a. Outline the key functions of the variety release committee [5]
- b. Demonstrate your understanding of the importance of seed as a key input in the Agriculture sector. [15]

END OF QUESTION PAPER!!!