



“Investing in Africa’s future”

**COLLEGE OF HEALTH, AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL
SCIENCES**

NAAS407/AAS407: BEEF PRODUCTION

END OF SECOND SEMESTER FINAL EXAMINATIONS

MAY/JUNE 2020

LECTURER: MR. P. B. MUVHURINGI

DURATION: 48 HRS

INSTRUCTION

Choose and Answer **ONE** question Only

All Questions Carry Equal Marks (100)

Question 1

- a) Pen fattening in beef cattle production improves profit margins. Advise using the headings below, a group of farmers who intend to venture into beef cattle fattening.
- i) Pre-fattening management activities. [25]
 - ii) Factors to consider when selecting animals for fattening. [30]
 - iii) Fattening diets. [20]
- b) Discuss the metabolic disorders which are associated with suddenly changing the feed from a roughage diet to a cereal grain diet or a legume. [25]

Question 2

- a) Non Protein Nitrogen is an important source for microbial protein synthesis. What is the role of Non Protein Nitrogen (NPN) compounds in ruminants, and What happens when NPN is consumed in excess by ruminants? [25]
- b) Giving examples, discuss the various classes of feeds which are fed to beef animals. [25]
- c) A farmer has just received a batch of steers for fattening from another farmer. Suggest what the farmer should do before fattening the animals. [25]
- d) What are the merits and demerits of pure breeding in beef production? [25]

Question 3

- a) Name and explain the reasons for low offtake of beef cattle from communal areas. [25]
- b) Discuss the role of crossbreeding in beef cattle production. [25]
- c) Which breed of beef cattle will you recommend for a small holder farmer in Mutasa District?. Highlight the merits and demerits of the breed. [25]
- d) Identify and explain beef cattle routine management operations. [25]

END OF EXAMINATION PAPER