

2004

HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION

Agriculture Paper 2

General Instructions

- Paper 2 should be attempted only by students who have studied Electives
- Reading time 5 minutes
- Working time 1 hour
- Write using black or blue pen
- Board-approved calculators may be used

Total marks - 30

- Attempt TWO questions from Questions 1–6
- Allow about 30 minutes for each question

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Answer each question in a SEPARATE writing booklet. Extra writing booklets are available.

Question 1 — Agribusiness (15 marks)			
(a)	Describe THREE different options that farmers have when selling a particular agricultural product.	3	
(b)	Explain TWO ways a farmer may use farm advisory services to assist farm decision making.	4	
(c)	For a specific agricultural product, evaluate the impacts of large organisations or companies on the production AND marketing of this product.	8	
Question 2 — Animal Management (15 marks)			
(a)	Describe THREE strategies that a farmer may use to keep livestock in good health.	3	
(b)	Explain how objective measurement can improve a specific trait in an animal industry.	4	
(c)	Evaluate THREE management techniques that farmers may use to manipulate reproduction in farm animals.	8	
Question 3 — Horticulture (15 marks)			
(a)	Describe THREE impacts that quarantine practices may have on horticultural industries.	3	
(b)	Explain how the level of inputs relates to the outputs for a horticultural system you have studied.	4	
(c)	Evaluate the role of the manager in the manipulation of a horticultural system in terms of supplying new or developing markets AND maintaining environmental sustainability.	8	

Question 4 — Innovation and Diversification (15 marks)			
(a)	Describe THREE new agricultural enterprises or technologies.	3	
(b)	Explain the importance of marketing in determining the success of an innovation in the marketplace.	4	
(c)	For an alternative agricultural production system OR technological innovation you have studied, evaluate the economic implications AND environmental impact.	8	
Question 5 — Plant Management (15 marks)			
(a)	Describe THREE ways plant hormones are used to manipulate plant production.	3	
(b)	Explain the process of photosynthesis in plant growth.	4	
(c)	For a cropping system you have studied, evaluate how management may affect nutrient cycling AND plant reproduction.	8	
Question 6 — Sustainable Land and Resource Management (15 marks)			
(a)	Describe THREE innovative strategies that have been implemented to address environmental sustainability in agriculture.	3	
(b)	Explain the farming practices that have led to ONE form of soil degradation.	4	
(c)	In terms of agricultural production, evaluate the effectiveness of government regulations on the supply AND quality of water.	8	

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