



*(University of Choice)*

**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERSITY OF  
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
(MMUST)  
MAIN CAMPUS**

**UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS  
2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**SECOND YEAR SEMESTER TWO MAIN EXAMINATIONS  
FOR THE  
DIPLOMA IN GENERAL AGRICULTURE**

**COURSE CODE: DAG 065**

**COURSE TITLE: PRINCIPLES OF CROP PRODUCTION**

**DATE: 26<sup>TH</sup> /4/2022**

**TIME: 3-5pm**

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**INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES**

Answer ALL questions in this paper

SECTION A (30 MARKS)

1. What is plant propagation (1 mk)
2. Give three economic importance of plant diseases (3 mks)
3. Name 4 planting methods (4mks)
4. Differentiate between physiological and horticultural maturity (4 mks)
5. State three advantages of minimum tillage (3 mks)
6. Define crop ecology (1 mk)
7. Giving two examples each, differentiate between macronutrients and micronutrients (4mks)
8. Name three ways through which nutrients are lost from the soil (3 mks)
9. Identify 4 advantages of using vegetative materials over seeds (4 mks)
10. State any 3 factors affecting spacing in crop production (3 mks)

SECTION B (ANSWER ANY TWO QUESTIONS)

11. a) What is seed dormancy (1 mk)
- b) Explain three types of seed dormancy (9 mks)
- c) Describe how you can overcome the three types of seed dormancy named above (10 mks)
12. Giving suitable examples, discuss the following methods of disease control (20 mks)
  - a. Cultural methods
  - b. Mechanical methods
  - c. Biological methods
  - d. Chemical methods
  - e. Integrated methods
13. describe nursery practices under the following subheadings (20 mks)
  - a. Types of nurseries
  - b. Site selection
  - c. Establishment
  - d. Management
  - e. Media sterilization
14. a) List 3 types of manure and three types of fertilizers (6 mks)
- b) Discuss why organic farming is mostly preferred (14 mks)