



(University of Choice)

**MASINDE MULIRO UNIVERISTY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY
(MMUST)**

**MAIN CAMPUS
UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS**

**2021/2022 ACADEMIC YEAR (REGULAR)
SECOND YEAR SECOND SEMESTER MAIN EXAMINATIONS FOR
DIPLOMA IN GENERAL AGRICULTURE**

COURSE CODE: DAG 078

COURSE TITLE: PERENNIAL CROPS

DATE: 25TH APRIL, 2022

TIME: 8-10AM

INSTRUCTIONS TO STUDENTS

Answer all questions in section A

Answer any TWO questions in section B

Total marks=70

MMUST observes ZERO tolerance to examination cheating

SECTION A: Answer All Questions (30marks)

1. a) What are perennial crops (1mk)
 - b) State the importance of perennial crops (6mks)
 - c) List any four disadvantages of perennial crops to a farmer (4mks)
2. a) Outline the uses of cashew nuts (5mks)
 - b) State and explain the advantages and disadvantages of raising cashew seedlings in polybags in the nursery. (4mks)
3. a) State Factors affecting the pyrethrin contents (5mks)
 - b) Nematodes are economical important pests that attack pyrethrum. Identify and explain how they occur and their control (5mks)

SECTION B Answer any two questions (40mks)

4. a) Define the following terms as used in coffee production (5mks)
 - (i) Fly picking
 - (ii) Stripping
 - (iii) Hulling
 - (iv) Clean or green coffee
 - (v) Naked coffee

(b) State and explain the ecological requirements of coffee farming. (5mks)

(c) You are an extension officer and while at the farmers field you notice the coffee crop attacked by coffee berry disease(CBD).Outline the symptoms of CBD and advice the ways of control it. (10mks)
5. The coconut palm, *Cocos nucifera*, is a member of the family Arecaceae (palm family). Discuss its characteristics and uses. (10mks)
 - b) Identify any one (1) of the pest/insect that attack the coconut plant. Briefly discuss the symptoms and control of the identified pest/insect. (10mks)
6. a) Giving an example, briefly discuss the Challenges that have impacted on overall performance of the sugar industry in Kenya (10mks)
 - b) Assume you have visited a farmers\ farm and identified the crop is attacked by Ratoon Stunting Disease. Identify the causal agent of RSD in sugarcane and its mode of spread and discuss the symptoms and control of this disease. (10mks)

7. Discuss the process of propagation and field establishment in oil palm farming under the following; **(20mks)**

- a) Nursery establishment
- b) Planting
- c) Maintenance
- d) Harvesting
- e) processing

