

MANICALAND STATE UNIVERSITY OF APPLIED SCIENCES

FACULTY OF AGRIBUSINESS AND COMMENCE

Department of Agriculture Economics and Development

Principles of Animal Production

CODE: AEDT 124/ HACE 127

SESSIONAL EXAMINATIONS

OCTOBER 2021

DURATION: 3 HOURS

EXAMINER: Ms. P. Dube

INSTRUCTIONS

- 1. Answer any four questions.*
 - 2. Each question carries 25 marks*
 - 3. Total marks 100*
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Question 1

- a) Chicks succumb to high mortalities during the early stages of life which demands the brooding practices to be implemented. Briefly discuss the relevance of brooding in broiler production. [5]
- b) Discuss the importance of vaccination and state three diseases commonly vaccinated against in broiler during the first three weeks of life [8]
- c) Outline the optimal temperature for following brooder conditions:
 - i. Environment
 - ii. Floor temperature
 - iii. Directly underneath brooders
 - iv. Brooder temperature from 1 week to four weeks [12]

Question 2

- a) Outline the factors that affect feed consumption in layers. [6]
- b) Define the term forced moulting and state four reason for performing forced moulting on layer birds. [8]
- c) Briefly outline the vaccination schedule of layer birds. [5]
- d) State the advantage of the battery cage over the dip litter system in layer production. [6]

Question 3

- i) From the farm economic perspective, why is it important to remove unproductive animals from the whole herd. [6]
- ii) Outline two methods that can be used by a farmer to achieve genetic improvement in his herd. [2]
- iii) State and explain four types of breeding used in pig production [10]
- iv) A farmer recently sourced 5 gilts from a non-reputable source and included the animals into the breeding program as soon as they were detected on heat. What problems is the farmer likely to encounter from such a move? Discuss ways in which he could have avoided the occurrence of such problems. [7]

Question 4

- a) Discuss the management of piglet from the following heading:
- i. Teeth trimming
 - ii. Iron supplementation
 - iii. Creep feeding
 - iv. Tail cutting
 - v. Weaning
 - vi. Colostrum feeding [12]
- b) Discuss the strategies implemented by the Zimbabwean government to promote the pig industry. [8]
- c) Explain the importance of keeping records. [3]
- d) State the type of records that can be kept for a sow unit. [2]

Question 5

- a) Outline two reasons of performing the following procedures on beef cattle
- i) Castration [4]
 - ii) Dehorning [3]
 - iii) Branding [3]
- b) Briefly outline factors to consider when selecting a breed bull in a farm. [10]
- c) Outline the objectives behind selecting replacement females for breeding? [5]

Question 6

- a) Outline the recommended breeding and calving season for beef cattle in the low and high veld regions of Zimbabwe. [4]
- b) Identify and describe two production systems used in beef sector. [4]
- c) State four advantages of a controlled breeding season. [4]
- d) State five reasons for performing pregnancy diagnosis in cows. [4]
- e) Describe the ideal characteristics of a good stockman. [4]
- f) Discuss the factors that affect the demand of beef meat in Zimbabwe. [5]

END OF EXAMINATION