

CHUKA



UNIVERSITY

UNIVERSITY EXAMINATIONS

EXAMINATION FOR THE AWARD OF DEGREE
OF BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HORTICULTURE

HORT 424: PLANT NURSERY MANAGEMENT

STREAMS: BSC (HORT)

TIME: 2 HOURS

DAY/DATE: FRIDAY 07/12/2018

2.30 P.M. – 4.30 P.M.

INSTRUCTIONS: Answer all questions in Section I and any two in Section II

SECTION I (30 MARKS)

Q1. Explain how a nursery can develop a nursery stocklist [8 marks]

Q2. (a) Explain briefly the factors that may affect the quality standards of nursery plants [4 marks]

(b) Briefly explain why nursery operators should be encouraged to raise seedling in trays [4 marks]

Q3. (a) In your opinion, why would participatory nursery development be promoted as a strategy for productive field nurseries [6 marks]

(b) In your opinion, why is it advisable to maintain books of accounts in a nursery enterprise. [2 marks]

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Q4. Describe important consideration for converting a nursery enterprise into a profitable venture [6 marks]

SECTION II (40 MARKS)

Q5. (a) A retail nursery needs to keep plants in peak condition at all times. Describe the routine practices that should be carried out to keep the plants looking good

[10 marks]
(b) Describe how a nursery operator can develop a compact root system for rootstocks to be used for grafting purposes [10 marks]

Q6. (a) Suggest the criteria that nursery investors can adopt to decide which plants and plant varieties to grow or stock for a profitable enterprise [10 marks]

(b) Nursery plants may be ready for sale before the market is ready to buy them. Describe the options available for the nursery operator to keep them in peak condition [5 marks]

(c) Water recycling should be practiced wherever possible in a nursery enterprise to minimize water costs. Suggest treatments that can be used in a nursery to purify water for recycling [5 marks]

Q7. (a) Discuss the factors nursery operators should put into consideration when selecting nursery plants for exhibition [12 marks]

(b) Discuss common possible errors in nursery activities that can derail the success of the nursery enterprise [8 marks]
