CHUKA   **UNIVERSITY**

INSTRUCTIONS:

Answer all questions in section A and any 2 questions in section B

Section A

1.   Describe the following as applied in beef production:

   (a)   Finishing   (2 marks)

   (b)   Stocking rate   (2 marks)

   (c)   Beef management calendar   (2 marks)

   (d)   Dairy ranching   (2 marks)

   (e)   Backgrounding   (2 marks)

   (f)   Rigor mortis   (2 marks)

   (g)   Pedigree   (2 marks)

2.   Give short description of the following:

   (a)   Four factors that influence beef production in Kenya.   (4 marks)

   (b)   Cattle finishing production system.   (6 marks)

(c)   A good beef cattle breed.   (6 marks)

(d)   Best time to castrate male animals in a commercial beef herd.   (6 marks)

(e)   Inbreeding in beef production.   (4 marks)

SECTION B

3.   Breeding   herd is the foundation of the beef industry

(a)   Explain the above statement   (2 marks)

(b)   Compare and contrast the suitability of artificial insemination and pasture mating
        systems in beef cattle breeding.   (5 marks)

(c)   How would you improve reproductive efficiency in the pasture mating system?
                                                                     (8 marks)

4.   Feeding is a significant production cost in all livestock production systems

(a)   Discuss the feeding management of beef growing animals.   (5 marks)

(b)   Outline management practices that guarantees high returns from the feedlot
        system.   (5 marks)

(c)   Describe a dry season policy to manage the shortage feed supply in the dry
        season.   (5 marks)

5.   Meeting the consumer requirements is one of the goals in beef production.

(a)   Discuss the factors that contribute to the production of high quality meat in beef
        production.   (5 marks)

(b)   Discuss texture as a meat quality attribute.   (5 marks)

(c)   Describe the contribution of marbling to the quality of meat.   (5 marks)