



2ND SEM. 2015/2016

PAGE 1 OF 2

UNIVERSITY OF SWAZILAND

FINAL EXAMINATION PAPER

PROGRAMME: BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN HORTICULTURE
YEAR 4

COURSE CODE: HORT 409

TITLE OF PAPER: POST-HARVEST PHYSIOLOGY OF
HORTICULTURAL CROPS

TIME ALLOWED: TWO (2) HOURS

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS

**DO NOT OPEN THIS PAPER UNTIL PERMISSION HAS BEEN GRANTED
BY THE CHIEF INVIGILATOR**

INSTRUCTION: ANSWER ANY FOUR (4) QUESTIONS

QUESTION 1

- a) Discuss the advantages and disadvantages of mechanical harvesting of horticultural crops. [10 marks]
 - b) Discuss with the aid of examples five destructive maturity indices used to harvest horticultural crops. [15 marks]
- [25 marks]**

QUESTION 2

- a) Discuss any five factors affecting post-harvest quality of ornamentals. [25 marks]

QUESTION 3

- a) Outline the ethylene (C₂H₄) biosynthetic pathway. [10 marks]
 - b) Describe desirable effects and undesirable effects of C₂H₄. [15 marks]
- [25 marks]**

QUESTION 4

Discuss five biological factors that influence deterioration of harvested horticultural crops. [25 marks]

QUESTION 5

Describe the processing and preservation methods used for fruit, vegetable and root crops. [25 marks]