



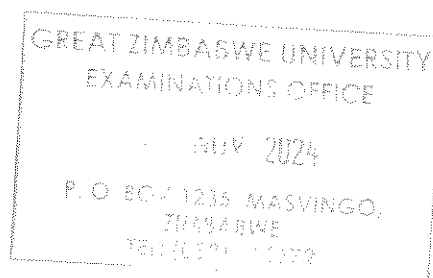
GARY MAGADZIRE SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURE AND ENGINEERING
DEPARTMENT OF SOIL AND PLANT SCIENCE
DIPLOMA IN SUGARCANE AGRICULTURE
LEVEL 2 SEMESTER 1
EXAMINATION QUESTION PAPER

MODULE CODE: DSA 204
MODULE TITLE: Harvesting and Ratoon Management
DATE
DURATION 2 HOURS

INSTRUCTIONS TO CANDIDATES

ANSWER ANY 4 QUESTIONS

Each question carries 15 marks



1a) RSD is a major sugarcane disease. Write notes on the following

- i. Economic importance [3]
- ii. Symptoms [3]
- iii. Transmission [3]
- iv. Management/control (3)

b) What is the importance of dry off period before harvesting sugarcane. [3]

2) Outline the importance of the following processes in ratoon management and harvesting:

- a) 30 days dry off [3]
- b) Tillage [3]
- c) Gap filling [3]
- d) Trash parting [3]
- e) Ripping [3]

3a) What causes gradual yield decline in ratoon sugarcane over years resulting in ploughouts [8]

b) Discuss the fate of a soil applied herbicide to ratoon sugarcane [7]

4a) Mature cane is harvested by both manual and mechanical means. Discuss [10]

b) Write the importance of burn to crush period when harvesting [5]

5a) What are the advantages and disadvantages of ratooning the sugarcane? [8]

b) Explain why it is important to harvest sugarcane early or mid-season. [7]