



**JARAMOGI OGINGA ODINGA UNIVERSITY OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY**

SCHOOL OF AGRICULTURAL AND FOOD SCIENCES

**FOURTH YEAR SEMESTER ONE EXAMINATION FOR THE DEGREE OF
BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN ANIMAL SCIENCE**

2023/2024 ACADEMIC YEAR

SIAYA

COURSE CODE: AAB 1313

COURSE TITLE: Quantitative genetics

DATE:

TIME:

TIME: 2 HOURS

Instructions:

- 1. Answer ALL questions in Section A and TWO questions in Section B.**
- 2. Candidates are advised NOT to write anything on this question paper.**
- 3. Candidates must hand in their answer booklets to the invigilator while in the examination room.**

SECTION A [30 MARKS]

Answer ALL questions from this Section.

Questions 1

- a) Define the term quantitative genetics. (1 mark)
- b) Explain the importance of quantitative genetics to animal breeding. (2 marks)
- c) Present a schematic model of phenotypic variance of a trait and explain its components. (3 marks)
- d) From the model in 1(c) above, derive the following parameters:
 - i. Heritability in the narrow sense. (1 mark)
 - ii. Heritability in the broad sense. (1 marks)
 - iii. Repeatability. (2 marks)

Question 2

Differentiate between the following:

- a) Selection differential and selection intensity. (2 marks)
- b) Single trait selection and multiple trait selection. (2 marks)
- c) Heterosis and inbreeding coefficient. (2 marks)
- d) Within family selection and between family selection. (2 marks)
- e) Collateral relative and progeny. (2 marks)

Question 3

Given the following data on daily gain of beef cattle:

	<u>Daily gain (kg)</u>
Overall mean	0.25
Mean of selected males	2.00
Mean of selected females	0.75

Calculate the following:

- a) Selection differential among males. (1 mark)
- b) Selection differential among females. (3 mark)
- c) Average selection differential for the herd. (3 mark)
- d) Average selection differential if there was no selection (3 marks)
- e) Among females, i.e. if selection differential among females was 0. (3 marks)

SECTION B [40 MARKS]

Answer ANY two questions from this Section

Question 4

Write short note on the following:

- a) Correlated traits. (4 marks)
- b) Repeatability. (4 marks)
- c) Tandem selection. (4 marks)
- d) Backcrossing. (4 marks)
- e) Indirect selection. (4 marks)

Question 5

Discuss the principle of family selection as applied animal breeding. (20 marks)

Question 6

Discuss the three methods of multiple trait selection. (20 marks)

Question 7

Discuss the importance of crossbreeding as a tool for the genetic improvement of livestock. (20 marks)