



Sir Arthur Lewis Community College
Division of Agriculture



2003/2003 Associate Degree Programme
End of Semester I Examination

Course: **Horticultural Crops Agronomy – HCA204**
Duration: 2 ½ hours

Date: **December, 2003**

Answer Any Four (4) Questions

1. (a) You have elected to grow vegetables on your farm in a rotational sequence. What agronomic and economic principles will inform your choice of crops and cultivars? **(15 marks)**

(b) Select one crop and concisely detail its cultivation. **(10 marks)**

2. (a) Discuss the main ecological factors which affect the growth of Brassica crops **(10 marks)**

(b) Give the main reasons for the practice of transplanting Brassicas rather than sowing directly in seed-bed. **(10 marks)**

(c) Discuss two reasons why St. Lucia is not self-sufficient in either cabbage or broccoli. **(5marks)**

3. Discuss:-
(a) The importance of weed control in vegetable production. **(6 marks)**

(b) Three factors to consider with respect as to when to harvest. **(9 marks)**

(c) The major objectives of post-harvest technology. **(10 marks)**

4. a) Explain what is meant by the term Integrated Pest Management (I.P.M.). **(5 marks)**

(b) Discuss the benefits and limitations of this method of pest control. **(10 marks)**

(c) Pest and disease appear to be less of a problem to root crops compare to other crops. Explain why this may be so. **(10 marks)**

5. Prepare a production schedule for a named root crop. Provide specifics on cultivars; propagation and preparation of planting materials, field preparation, spacing, weed control, pest and disease control and yield. **(25 marks)**

6. (a) Identify systems of vegetable production and explain how they differ from each other. **(10 marks)**

(b) Management of vegetable soils is critical to a successful harvest. Discuss. **(10 marks)**

(c) Explain briefly how labour may impact of the production of a particular crop. **(5 marks)**

~~~~~End of Exam~~~~~