

2000 HSC Notes from the Examination Centre Rural Technology

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Rural Technology

This is the last year that this subject was taught and will be examined. 29 Candidates presented for the Rural Technology examination paper from 6 centres.

Section I – Farm Machinery

Question 1

- (a)
 - (i) Most candidates answered all sections correctly.
 - (ii) Most candidates answered all sections correctly.
 - (iii) This was poorly answered. A large portion of the candidates did not know the difference between the two systems.
 - (iv) This was well answered by the majority of candidates.
 - (v) There was a wide and varied set of correct responses.
 - (vi) Many candidates did not know this answer.
- (b) Parts (i), (ii), (iii) and (iv) were well answered by most candidates.
- (c)
 - (i) Most candidates knew there is a difference.
 - (ii) The majority of candidates could not explain the difference satisfactorily.
- (d)
 - (i) This part was well answered.
 - (ii) This part was not well understood or answered by the majority of candidates.
- (e)
 - (i) This part was well answered.
 - (ii) and (iii) This part was poorly understood. Those that did answer were incorrect in their response.
- (f)
 - (i) The majority of candidates were able to complete the diagram correctly.
 - (ii) Candidates responses indicated no understanding of parallel circuits.

Section II – Farm Structures

Question 2

- (a)
 - (i) A majority of candidates gave a good set of responses.
 - (ii) Most candidates answered this well, but some candidates failed to include the energiser.
 - (iii) This part was poorly answered by the majority of candidates.
 - (iv) This part was well answered by the majority of candidates.
- (b) The majority of candidates understood topographic maps and their interpretation.
- (c) Most candidates correctly stated the contour interval.

- (d) The majority of candidates did a correct calculation.
- (e) This part was well done by all candidates.
- (f) (i) and (ii) Candidates showed a good understanding of land classifications.
- (g) This part was well answered by the majority of candidates, with a varied set of features.
- (h) (i) and (ii) The majority of candidates gave a good set of responses mentioning land care and commercial considerations.

Section III – Farm Graphics

The quality of line work was generally well done in this section.

Question 3

- Many candidates did not draw the nut correctly in either view.
- Most candidates assembled the bolt correctly and completed the parts list.
- A few candidates did not draw at the scale required.

Question 4

This question was well done by many candidates but many did not attempt the question.

Question 5

All candidates who attempted the question did the drawing the correct way around. Some could not do the isometric circle.

Section IV – Related Material Science

Question 6

Overall the question was well done by most candidates.

Part (d) (i) and question (g) required the application of knowledge on applied mechanics and was difficult for most candidates.

Question (f) (i) required the application of mathematics, which most candidates found difficult.

Section V – Farm Water Supplies

Question 7

This question was generally well done by the majority of candidates.

- (a) Most candidates had little difficulty reading the diagram.
- (b) This part was not well understood.
- (c) Many candidates indicated that they did not understand the difference between concrete and cement for tank material.
- (d)
 - (i) This part was well done.
 - (ii) Not many candidates understood that the tank was to maintain water pressure even when the pump was full and to keep the pump from cutting in and out.
- (e)
 - (i) Candidates confused the strainer on the foot valve with the purpose of the foot valve.
 - (ii) This part was well done.
- (f) Most of the candidates did not understand that the centrifugal pump was not positive displacement.
- (g) Most candidates did not understand the term multi stage, when applied to pumps.
- (h) This part was well done.
- (i) Many candidates showed that they were confused with the operation of a micro-irrigation system.
- (j) Candidates had a poor understanding of the purpose of a settling tank.

Section VI – Topical Study Riparian Management

Question 8

Most parts of this question were well done by most candidates.

Regional Farm Project

The majority of candidates did well in this section. Most projects were word-processed and the standard of presentation was excellent. Not many candidates mentioned recent innovations and most bibliographies were very brief, if done at all. Some candidates only attempted either the crop or animal part, not both as was required. It seemed that many candidates did not check with the syllabus booklet to see if they had included all parts of all questions.