

# The University of Melbourne

Semester Two Assessment 2004

School of Agriculture and Food Systems  
208 271 ANIMAL MANAGEMENT

Number of Pages: 4 pages

This examination paper can be archived in the library.

**Exam Duration:** Two and a half (2.5) hours

**Reading Time:** Fifteen (15) minutes

**This paper has four (4) pages**

## Authorised Materials:

No materials are authorised.

## Instructions to Invigilators:

Six script books are required.

The examination paper is to remain in the examination room.

## Instructions to Students:

The exam is worth 120 marks, making up 40% of your final mark for this subject.

Each question is worth 20 marks.

You should aim to spend 25 minutes on each question.

There are two sections, each with three parts. Each part in section A has two questions.

Answer SIX questions.

- at least ONE question from EACH part of section A (3 questions)
- at least ONE question from ANY part of section B (1 question)
- plus a further TWO questions from EITHER section A or B (2 questions)

Answer each question in a **SEPARATE** script book.

## SECTION A

Answer at least ONE (1) question from EACH of the THREE (3) parts in this section.

### Part 1 - Beef

1. Answer BOTH a) and b)

a) Give specifications for carcasses entering the Japanese Ox trade and the supermarket trade.  
(5 marks)

b) Discuss the impact on beef production systems of changes in the market place due the Japanese Ox trade. . In your answer consider:

- the target market and the product description – carcass weight range, fatness, any other important characteristics
- the change in demand due to this market
- effects on calendar of events, types of animals turned off, use of different genotypes etc.

(15 marks)

2. Answer BOTH a) and b)

a) Explain “Estimated Breeding Values” and give two examples of EBVs that are used in describing sale bulls in the Australian beef industry. Outline the reasons why these breeding values might be important in a beef breeding program.  
(5 marks)

b) Outline the calendar of events for a typical, spring calving yearling production system in Victoria. Compare the supplementary feeding and health programs of autumn calving and spring calving enterprises in typical herds in this region.  
(15 marks)

### Part 2 - Sheep

3. Discuss wool quality. Include in your answer

- what is meant by “a quality product”, when referring to wool
- a list and explanation of the various parameters used to describe wool quality
- the relative importance of these various quality parameters in affecting the price paid for wool

4. Explain how a knowledge of sheep behaviour can be used to improve the efficiency of either prime lamb or wool sheep production? Consider in your answer:

- different aspects of your specified sheep production system, such as (but not only) breeding and nutrition
- how sheep behaviour affects the efficiency of different areas of management
- specific examples to explain how understanding sheep behaviour can improve efficiency

### **Part 3 – Dairy**

5. Discuss, giving examples, the ways in which geographical location affects the nature of dairy systems. Your answer should include:

- examples of the characteristics of different geographical locations (both within Australia and world-wide)
- examples of different dairy systems, including infrastructure, economics and management decisions, etc.
- a discussion of how location affects the system of dairying used

6. Discuss the importance of fibre in dairy cow diets. Include in your answer:

- a guide to the optimum amount of fibre in a dairy cow's diet
- a discussion of ways in which this amount of fibre can be fed, taking into account seasonal differences in pasture
- the consequences for production and health of feeding too much or too little fibre in the diet

## **SECTION B**

**Answer at least ONE (1) question from this section.**

### **Part 4 – Poultry**

7. Under the terms of the broiler growing contract, which services and products is the grower expected to supply? Discuss the benefits of such a contract with regard to the long-term viability of a chicken meat farm.

### **Part 5 – Pigs**

8. Discuss the importance of disease control for individual pig farms and the pig industry. What are some disease risks on farm and compare the different methods of eliminating disease.

### **Part 6 - Other Animal Industries**

9. “Alpacas give you time to have plenty of leisure.” Discuss this statement with reference to the management requirements of alpacas.