



The Open University of Sri Lanka
 Faculty of Engineering Technology
 Industrial Studies (Agriculture) & Technology (Agriculture Engineering)
 Programme of Study
 Final Examination 2013/2014
 AEX3232 – Plant & Soil Science

Date : 13/08/2014
 Time : 09.30 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.
 Duration : Three (03) hours

Registration Number:.....

Section 02 – Answer any four (04) out of the six (06) questions. You may use answer books and/or sheets to answer this section.

- 1) a) Define the term “Rock Weathering”.
 b) Describe the process of soil development.
- 2) a) What are humic substances and how are they formed?
 b) Discuss why soil organisms are important in plant growth and/or soil improvement. Use examples when necessary.
- 3) Compost is a very commonly used organic fertilizer. a) List five (05) objectives in using compost as a fertilizer. b) Describe the effects of organic fertilizers on the properties of soil.
- 4) Discuss the causes that affect formation of acidic soils. Using examples, explain what you practise in order to correct soil acidity.
- 5) Using a diagram, describe the Nitrogen cycle.
- 6) a) Draw a cross section of the rice grain. Label all the parts.
 b) Discuss the three (03) development phases in a rice plant.

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