PRINCIPAL EXAMINER'S REPORT

BOTSWANA
EXAMINATIONS
COUNCIL

BGCSE ANIMAL PRODUCTION

2024

PAPER 1: WRITTEN THEORY

General Comments

The performance for the 2024 cohort was somewhat better as demonstrated by the quality of work presented. In 2024 most candidates did not have any gaps where questions were left not attempted, they were able to solve problems of a quantitative and qualitative nature fairly, they were able to present reasoned explanations for a relationship and pattern, they were able to demonstrate the correct reference of facts, concepts, laws, and principles of agricultural knowledge and understanding and lastly they were able to correctly use terms, symbols, quantities, and units of measurement. Their presentation of responses was logical, and they observed rubrics.

Most of the candidates' work was neat, especially for example, Question 3(c)(iii) on drawing of the bar chart on the graph pad provided. Furthermore, most candidates work on the ability to do mathematical computations was fairly done, for example, Question 2(c)(iii) on determining total number of Livestock Unit (i.e. LSU) stocked on a 400-hectare ranch and proceeded to correctly calculate stocking rate of a 400-hectare ranch. Their ability to translate information from one form to another was also commendable, for example, Question 1(a)(iii) where they were expected to identify the region in Botswana where egg production should be highly encouraged with a correct reason for their choice from the bar chart and 5(a)(iii) where they were expected to clearly describe what happened to farmed ostrich population between 2000 & 2003 and 2003 & 2006 from a tabulated data.

Comments on Individual Questions

1 (a) (i) Most candidates were able to state one example of ruminant livestock such as cattle, goat, sheep etc. hence the question was well done.

(ii) The question was poorly done. Most candidates failed to clearly spell out the significance of good nutrition and good animal health in improving livestock production in Botswana. The expected responses from candidates were good nutrition helps to boost or increase the animal's immune systems, helps animals to produce more milk or meat, increases life span of animal whereas good animal health helps livestock/animal to produce more; allows animals to live better or free from injury, diseases, parasites; improves animal fertility etc.

(iii) Well done. Most candidates correctly identified the region in Botswana where egg production should be highly encouraged as Kweneng with a correct reason for their choice as low supply of eggs.

(b) (i) Most candidates were able to state one feature of a proper livestock record that would ensure a successful and profitable farm. The records should be accurate/ correct/ valid, up to date/ complete, authentic/ original. There were a few candidates who gave responses such as financial record, expenditure, income more than expenditure etc. hence the question was fairly done.

(ii) The question was poorly done. Most candidates failed to spell out which component of the financial records will be suitable to a farmer to use when estimating the cost of production and cash inflow of the business. The candidates were expected to explain estimating the cost of

production by using/referring to total expenses records of a business and determining the cash inflow by using/referring to total sales of the farm.

(iii) Most candidates were able to correctly complete the given farm account by entering expenditure, income and grand totals hence the question was well done. And the expected response from candidates was as follows.

Income		**Expenditure**	
Description of entry	**Total (in pula)**	**Description of entry**	**Total (in pula)**
275 dressed chickens at P19 250.00	P19 250.00		
11 bags of chicken manure at P550.00	P550.00	2 labourers at P3 000.00	P3 000.00
		300-day old chicks at P2 100.00.	P2 100.00
		Sawdust at P350.00	P350.00
Total	**P19 800.00**	**Total**	**P5 450.00**

(c) **(i)** The question was fairly done. Most candidates were able to state one factor to consider when setting a price for livestock such as cost of production, demand of the product, competitors pricing, supply of the product, but the majority failed to come up with the second factor.

(ii) The question was fairly done. Most candidates were able to correctly state at least one reason that usually require the organising of several small-scale livestock farmers into associations before contacting buyers as to share marketing costs; reduce marketing risks/uncertainty, to speed up the buying, to speed up selling process.

(iii) The responses given by most candidates were not correct hence the question was poorly done. The reasons provided should be applicable to the role provided an expectation which most candidates failed to meet. Some of the expected responses from candidates were:

role	reason
to identify best time to sell / when demand is high / products are scarce;	to make more money per animal/ to fetch a better price
to ensure best quality livestock supply to buyers /ensure that livestock brought for sale meet the buying standard	to make livestock attractive to buyers/ to empower individual members of the association to meet the selling standards
to find out the current prices per kilogram being paid	so as to calculate/ estimate how much to get for each of the animals
to organize how/ when farmers are paid	to create certainty in payment system
to keep sales records	to ease payments/ avoid conflicts over payment
track the current and future market prices	so as to advise members accordingly
to arrange for the buyers to attend planned sale days	to prepare for the sales day
to discuss commission payments with buyers	to cover marketing costs

2 (a) (i) Most candidates were able to state one example of supplementary feed given to livestock such as lablab/lucerne, hay, silage, mineral licks etc. hence the question was well done.

(ii) The responses given by most candidates were partially complete hence were worth half of the marks available for the question. Most candidates managed to only correctly identify that it has a high fibre content. The expected response was high fibre content improves digestion / bowel / food movements/ prevent constipation / prevents diarrhoea / aids excretion of faecal matter. Therefore, overall, the question was fairly done.

(iii) The responses given by most candidates were not correct hence the question was poorly done. Most candidates used the provided data to calculate the amount of feed in kg needed to feed 100 broilers for 6 weeks instead of average amount of feed consumed each week by 100 broilers in 6 weeks and the expected response from candidates were as follows.

Answer: 66.67 kg

(b) (i) Most candidates were able to correctly name a grazing system where grass is harvested and fed fresh to housed livestock as zero grazing hence the question was well done.

(ii) The question was poorly done. Most candidates failed to show what is unique with rotational grazing system that enables extension of grazing period. The expected responses were allows the farmer to reserve forage in times of plenty to use in times of dry periods or allows regrowth of grazed areas therefore higher grass / forage yield.

(iii) The question was poorly done. Most candidates failed to show what is unique with strip grazing system that makes it more suitable to effectively address identified problems that were quickly developing in the grazing system. The expected responses were selective grazing – livestock are forced to eat what is before them / have no choice; contamination by dunging – dung is evenly spread across the pasture area; parasite infestation – the quick rotation of the animals in the pasture will help break parasite life cycle; reduces wastage by trampling – because of short period spent on an area.

(c) (i) Most candidates were able to state at least one characteristic of range plants classified as decreasers such as its population decreases on a range when exposed to heavy grazing pressures; plants that found mostly in the original climax vegetation stand/ undisturbed area; highly productive/nutritious; they are highly palatable/desirable to livestock etc. hence the question was fairly done.

(ii) The question was poorly done. Most candidates failed to clearly show how zero grazing and destocking are effective in reducing the spread of overgrazing on the ranch. The expected responses from candidates were as follows; zero grazing – reduces the grazing pressure on the range/ranch; destocking – helps to bring the number of livestock down to the carrying capacity of the area/ranch.

(iii) The responses given by most candidates were partially complete hence the question was fairly done. Most candidates managed to correctly determine total number of Livestock Unit (i.e. LSU) stocked on a 400 hectare ranch and proceeded to correctly calculate stocking rate

of a 400-hectare ranch but failed to recommend appropriate action, which is increasing the stocking rate, to be taken.

Answer: 5.19 ha per LSU

3 (a) (i) The question was poorly done. Most candidates gave responses like ovary, magnum, oviduct instead of infundibulum / funnel as correct response.

(ii) The question was poorly done. Some of the candidates gave responses such as temporary storage of eggs, allows for the formation of egg yolk, allows the egg pass through during egg formation. The major role of the uterus is for addition of substances that includes water to the egg, pigments of the eggshell, eggshell material and mineral salts. Centres are advised to describe the role of the uterus in detail for better comprehension by the candidates.

(iii) The question was fairly done. Most candidates were able to suggest at least one solution that could prevent hens from laying eggs with soft shells such as feeding the birds with calcium rich feeds; supplying a pre-laying diet containing 2% calcium for the two weeks prior to the start of egg production; switching the flock immediately to a laying diet which has 3.5% or more calcium; giving vitamin D/ vitamin D3; keeping the birds calm.

(b) (i) The question was poorly done. Some of the candidates gave responses such as incubation, hatching, brooding units instead of natural incubation.

(ii) The question was poorly done. Some candidates gave responses such as it helps air spaces not to be filled with an egg yolk, egg yolk not to attach itself to eggshell instead of it moves nutrients or facilitates absorption of nutrients; ensures good embryonic development; prevents embryo from sticking to the shell membrane; prevents death of embryo; allows the movement / diffusion of air inside the eggs; allow diffusion / movement of air between the eggs and the external environment.

(iii) The question was fairly done. Most candidates managed to correctly suggest at least one possible cause of few eggs hatching from the total number of eggs placed in a hatchery for 21 days even though there were turned several times a day. The candidates should be made aware that for this type of questions, each solution should be relevant to the named cause. Some of the expected responses from candidates were.

cause	solution
insufficient nutrients in the egg	provide balanced /adequate diet to the hen
longer egg storage duration before incubation	eggs should not be stored for more than 10 to 14 day
wrong position of the egg during storage	eggs should be stored with sharp point facing down
high/low temperature	provide suitable/optimum incubation temperature/37.8°C
low humidity	provide suitable/optimum incubation humidity/RH of 60 – 70 percent
insufficient ventilation in the incubator	provide enough /adequate ventilation in the incubator

(c) **(i)** Most candidates were able to correctly suggest at least one example of how inbreeding in livestock can occur such as parent and offspring/dam and offspring/ sire and offspring; full brother and sister/ full siblings; half brother and sister/half siblings hence the question was fairly done.

(ii) Most candidates were able to correctly suggest at least one reason why hybridisation as a breeding technique is not accepted for use by farmers hence the question was fairly done. The expected responses were produce hybrids with lower fitness; hybrids produced are rarely fertile/mostly sterile/ often fail to reproduce; often fail to survive; poorly adapted to their environment.

(iii) Most candidates were able to correctly illustrate the bar chart on the graph pad provided. Those candidates who failed the question had problems in selecting a correct scale to use when drawing a bar chart. The bar chart should have generation on the horizontal axis and weekly average yield on the vertical axis.

4 **(a)** **(i)** Most candidates were able to correctly name one livestock disease such as Foot and Mouth; Anthrax; Mastitis; Brucellosis; Contagious Bovine Pleuro Pneumonia (CBPP) etc. hence the question was well done.

(ii) Most candidates were able to correctly explain the appearance of the animal coat and movement of farm livestock in a sick farm animal hence the question was fairly done. The expected response was animal coat looks dull / rough / have patches/ wounds/ hairs fall out / lumpy/bumpy/ uneven coat; for movement animal has difficulty in walking/limping.

(iii) Most candidates were able to correctly suggest at least one preventative measure that could be taken before placing livestock that has been away for an agricultural show back with the rest of the herd hence the question was fairly done. The expected response was quarantine livestock that have been away from the farm; livestock identified as ill should be isolated from the rest of herd immediately; adhere to the pre-determined time for quarantine/isolation; test/examine for key diseases/diseases before placing them with rest of herd.

(b) **(i)** Most candidates were able to correctly name a season in Botswana that is highly prevalent to livestock external parasites as spring/ March – May; summer/ November – February hence the question was well done.

(ii) Most candidates were able to describe how regular dipping and burning of pasture reduces ticks in a pasture hence the question was well done. The expected responses from candidates were as follows; regular dipping – kills ticks/breaks life cycle of ticks; burning of pasture – kills larvae/eggs on the grass / break's life cycle of ticks.

(iii) Most candidates were able to correctly classify the identified parasites as either internal or external parasites hence the question was well done. The internal parasites were tapeworm and roundworms while ticks and mites were external parasites.

(c) **(i)** The question was fairly done. Most candidates were able to correctly state at least one reason why periodic assessment of faecal samples of livestock is important when trying to maintain

a healthy herd against internal parasites. The expected response was to establish likely worm burden/ infestation; to ascertain if animals are disease free /identify the type of worm infections; for proper treatment / control/prevention/management.

(ii) The question was poorly done. Most candidates failed to show why deworming calves only and simultaneous treatment with at least two drugs from different classes are widely regarded as some of the best deworming practices in cattle farming. The expected response from candidates were deworming calves only helps to boost the calf's immune system/ since they are born with less resistance to worms; simultaneous treatment with at least two drugs from different classes any parasite resistant to one drug/ drug class will likely to be killed/ prone/ susceptible to the other drug/ drug class.

(iii) The question was poorly done. Most candidates who managed to correctly suggest preventive measures that are effective in eliminating losses caused by internal parasites also being environmentally friendly failed to show why the named preventive measures is thought to be suitable for the work at hand. Centres are advised to cover the reasons for preventive measures.

5 (a) (i) Most candidates failed to come up with a name for one game animal that can be found in the Central zone in Botswana hence the question was poorly done. The expected response from candidates were ostriches; waterbuck; wildebeest.

(ii) Most candidates failed to clearly explain the importance of location and access when locating a game ranch. The expected responses were location - natural /ecological constraints/ government regulations/ named regulations may not allow certain animal/ game species to be moved certain areas; access - ease of access ensures low cost of deliveries of animals/ labour/ services/ other named inputs; ease of access may also lead to compromised safety of animals/ increased poaching/ vandalism; ease of access ensures low marketing costs/ easy delivering of products to markets.

(iii) Most candidates were able to interpret the graph and describe what happened to farmed ostrich population between 2000 & 2003 and 2003 & 2006 hence the question was well done. The expected response was 2000 and 2003 - increased; 2003 and 2006 – decreased.

(b) (i) Most candidates were able to clearly name one method suitable for capturing aggressive game animals hence the question was well done. The expected response was cages; dart guns/ crossbows with capture drugs. Note that the use of dart guns/ crossbows only is different from the use of dart guns/ crossbows with capture drugs hence candidates should be encouraged to refer to the method as the use of dart guns/ crossbows with capture drugs.

(ii) The responses given by most candidates were partially complete hence being awarded half of the marks available for the question. Most candidates managed to give a reason for one of the two operations correctly for why it is necessary to avoid excessive movements and noise by capturers when handling game animals. The candidates failed to cover all aspects that included to remove mature male animals before loading to avoid fighting during transportation;

avoid excessive movements and noise by capturers to calm stressed animals / avoid stressing animals.

(iii) Most candidates were able to correctly suggest a suitable method to capture 100 zebras to stock a game farm and gave at least one appropriate reason for the choice hence the question was fairly done. The expected method was capture corrals mainly because it is suitable when a large number of animals are to be captured/ transported; financially viable if large numbers of animals are to be captured/ transported/ keep - the costs per animal as low as possible; suitable for highly stress-susceptible/prone species/ it allows animals to be successfully captured/ transported with minimal trauma; the use of immobilising drugs is not a necessary; it allows for minimal human–animal contact.

(c) (i) The question was poorly done. Most candidates failed to show what is unique with game rearing records kept using ICT skills that can end up being of benefit to farmers. The candidates were to state that it allows farmers easy access to market; enable farmers to easily negotiate prices; allows farmers to easily seek/ act on market intelligence reports; avail timely/ adequate credit; easy access/ retrieval stored data/ records; reduces amount of paper used/ reduces costs; disseminate information on time/ save time; safe keeping of important information; allows large storage of files; allows for a longer storage of information.

(ii) The question was poorly done. Most candidates failed to clearly show how availability of space and water controls the carrying capacity of a game farm. The candidates were to show that space increases survival rate of animals/ increases number of animals an area can sustain while water when scarce/ less water reduces number of animals an area can sustain, and more water increases the number of animals an area can sustain.

(iii) The responses given by most candidates were partially complete hence the question was fairly done. Most candidates managed to only correctly determine the total number of guinea fowls that can be kept in a poultry room of 12 m^2 instead six poultry rooms of 12 m^2 each.

Answer: 936 fowls

PAPER 2: PRACTICAL TEST

General Comments

The paper targets practical skills which are covered mainly under Assessment Objective 2 and Assessment Objective 3. Through this paper candidates are expected to identify and make observations from specimen provided and to draw some logical conclusions that relate to the specimens. The paper also allows candidates to demonstrate their ability to manipulate data and to arrive at critical decisions based on the data provided. The paper evaluates the readiness of the candidates to apply the knowledge they have acquired in the syllabus. The paper consists of two questions, the first one focused on the specimens while the second one focused on data manipulation.

Comments on Individual Questions

1 The candidates were provided with specimens and were required to identify the specimens, to record observations and make logical deductions about their relevance and use in Animal Production. Candidates exposed to the syllabus are expected to identify and describe the given specimens with ease. Most of the candidates reflected a significant understanding of the specimen presented to them. As a result, most of the candidates responded to this item correctly.

(a) **(i)** The question was answered well by stronger candidates who identified the specimens as either legumes or greases or sedges or woody or forms. However, most of the candidates failed to identify the specimen by their scientific names. Some candidates even left blank spaces. Candidates who got correct scientific names had difficulty in getting the correct spelling and the scientific names were not correctly formatted i.e. there were not underlined. For specimen B almost all candidates identified as umbrella thorn instead of sweet thorn

(ii) Most candidates could not classify the specimens according to those dominant in severely overgrazed and well managed pasture stand. Only the stronger candidates were able to classify two of the specimens correctly.

(b) The stronger candidates managed to classify specimens of livestock feeds as either roughage, concentrates and supplements. Candidates failed to state the best time to feed each of the specimens to livestock.

2 The question required candidates to translate information from one form to another. The candidates were provided with farm records and were expected to manipulate them to produce other important records that are useful for making decisions in the farm.

(a) Most of the candidates were able to deduce activities involved in cleaning poultry house but some candidates were not describing the cleaning process but rather continued to say the broom was used to clean the house rather than the broom was used to sweep the floor. Most candidates were able to describe activities needed for preparing the brooding unit, but a few candidates were describing management of chicks in a brooding unit rather than preparation of the brooding unit.

(b) Most candidates were able to prepare a profit and loss account and calculated the profit well but instead of writing the profit made they only said the business made profit.

PAPER 3: PROVIDER BASED ASSESSMENT

General Comments

Generally, the candidates showed improved performances across all the four areas namely: Farm Diary, Field Observation Reports, Field Practical Training and Practical Tasks.

Farm Diary contributes 15% of the total score for Provider Based Assessment (PBA). The candidates performed better than the previous year with improvements noted in both the lowest mark and highest marks achieved. All the ten (10) contents for Farm Diary were addressed by all candidates just like in 2023.

Field Observation Reports contributes 25% of the total score for the PBA. There were noticeable improvements in performance by the candidates as compared to the 2023 cohort. The drastic increase in 2024 performance was attributed to candidate's having addressed **all** the fourteen (14) contents of the Field Observation unlike the 2023 candidature who failed to address all the contents of Field Observation.

Field Practical Training (FPT) contributes 35% of the total score. There was an increase in performance across all the categories of candidates. The drastic increase in 2024 performance was attributed to candidate's having addressed **all** the fourteen (14) contents of the FPT unlike the 2023 candidature.

Practical Tasks contributed 25% of the total PBA score. The Centre assessed candidates on 4 modules (1, 2, 4 and 5) instead of 5. Candidates were not assessed on Module 3, Breed Livestock. Candidates were not marked down due to lack of resources; hence the Centre marks were maintained.

Summary Mark Sheet: The Centre submitted a completed summary mark sheet with columns indicating name of candidate and mark columns for Farm Diary, Field Observation Report, Field Practical Training, Practical Task, total mark and weighted mark. The marks for each component were presented to 1 decimal place and rounding off was shown on total mark and weighted mark. This was a good practice as it was able to discrete the weighted marks for candidates.

Organising, Packaging and Binding of Scripts: Quotation files were used for binding Practical Tasks, Farm Diary, FPT and Field Observation Reports which were then arranged according to candidate's numbers in ascending order. The scripts were properly packaged in boxes.

Comments on Individual Tasks

1.0 Farm Diary

1.1 Cover Page

It was well done since all most all the candidates scored all the 3 marks. The candidates were specific in naming the production enterprise as "Dairy Production Enterprise", indicated candidate name, candidate number, Centre name, start and completion date of enterprise. However, some candidate gave wrong dates on starting and completion of enterprise resulting in loss of 1 mark.

1.2 Enterprise Details

All candidates addressed this content well hence scored all the 3 marks.

1.3 Sequence of Activities

Most candidates scored 2 marks as their activities were carried out in correct order. There were dates reflected for every activity by almost all candidates.

1.4 Activities/Operations

This part was well done since the candidates managed to address a minimum of ten (10) relevant activities hence getting all the 3 marks.

1.5 Tools Used

This part was well done. The majority of the candidates managed to give a minimum of ten (10) tools used in various operations. All candidates accessed the 4 marks as they were able to state the appropriate tool used for particular activities.

1.6 Importance of Activity

The part was well done. Majority of the candidates got 6 or more marks as they were able to indicate significance of at least 6 to 10 activities.

1.7 Relevance of Comments

Most candidates scored all the 3 marks since they came up with a minimum of ten (10) comments or observations on relevant activities while some had half to more than half hence getting 2 marks.

1.8 Precautions Observed

Majority of candidates accessed 3 marks on safety precautions when carrying out activities. Cleaning of tools used and safe storage of equipment after use was not addressed by majority of the candidates hence they lost 2 marks.

1.9 Project Termination

This content was fairly done as candidates managed to score 6 or more out 10. Description of how the project was ended, how the products and residues were disposed of were addressed by more than half of the candidates. Observations about project viability were addressed by most candidates. However, for some candidates the description on viability contradicted the project termination appendices provided resulting in loss of 4 marks.

1.10 Neatness of Work

All candidates scored all the 3 marks on neatness of entire work due to absence of soiling, torn pages or writing with pen/pencil.

2.0 Field Observation Reports

2.1 Title of Investigation

Most candidates managed to score all the 2 marks while some lost a mark due to the title missing the comparison part.

2.2 List of Equipment / Materials Used for Observations

The majority of the candidates managed list more than half of the sixteen (16) materials/equipment used for observation, resulting in those candidates getting 2 marks out of 3. There were a few candidates who scored all the 3 marks as they were able to list all materials /equipment.

2.3 Objectives/ Aims of Observation

All candidates scored all the 3 marks in this section. The candidates had their objectives meeting all the requirements.

2.4 Statement of Factor to be Observed

Statement of factor and possible cause of problem was well done by most candidates. Almost all candidates did not address “how proposed solution will be of benefit to the user”.

2.5 Factor to Compare and Contrast in the Observation / Factor Manipulated

Most candidates scored all the 3 marks in this section. However, some candidates failed to mention how factors to be manipulated were introduced for conduct of treatment. For instance, age of broilers, type and amount of feeds given were missing.

2.6 Number of Units per Observation / Manipulation

Almost all candidates stated the number of replication for their treatments hence awarded the 1 mark. A few candidates did not justify the number of replications or why there was no replication hence lost 1 mark for that part.

2.7 Layout / Sketch Plan of Observation

Fairly done. An average number of candidates scored 1 mark out of 3 for this part. This was due to title not addressing the layout or title missing the comparison part and dimensions for some cages were incomplete. The mark scored by majority of candidates was for stating the key.

2.8 Approach / Procedure

Most candidates scored 3 or more out of 4 marks in this section. Most of candidates lost a mark on “ease of following procedure” as they lacked adequate details on conduct of treatment which missed how it was introduced and quantity of feeds.

2.9 Information Collected from Observation / Data

Most candidates scored all the 4 marks for this section. Candidates presented their data in a table form, stated instrument used for weighing broilers and units of measure.

2.10 Analysis of Findings / Implications of Findings

Most candidates scored all the 5 marks for this section. All candidates presented their findings in a table form hence accessed the 1 mark for relevance of presentation method. Few candidates lost marks on overview of findings and title as it was not bolded, italicised or underlined.

2.11 Conclusion

Most candidates did not address re-stated purpose of investigation hence not accessing 1 mark.

2.12 Recommendations

Most candidates 3 and above marks out 4. Most candidates lost marks on suggesting modification to procedure to ensure accurate results by not addressing it.

2.13 Precautions / SHE during observation

A few candidates managed to score all the 5 marks for this section. Most candidates were unable to address health and environment threats. Most candidates did not address the part on suggesting intelligible mitigations to SHE threats.

2.14 Alignment of Observation to Existing Literature

A few candidates scored a mark while the rest got a zero on this content. The 1 mark was scored on formatting. All candidates did not address how the observation relates to existing literature.

3.0 Field Practical Training (FPT)

3.1 Cover Page

It was well done since most candidates managed to score all the 2 marks for this section. Candidates managed to indicate their candidate's name and number, Centre name and number, period when FPT was carried out. However, the name of the farm where FPT was conducted was incorrect resulting in loss of a mark. It was different from the one written under appendices being the "BUAN Incuhive Enterprise farm" not just BUAN farm.

3.2 Title Page

Almost all the candidates managed to score all the 2 marks. The expected details were candidate name and number, Centre name and number, date of report submission and candidate signature. One candidate had an incorrect date of submission hence lost 1 mark.

3.3 Contents Page

The section was well done since the majority of the candidates obtained all the 2 marks. A few candidates lost a mark due to page numbering in the write-up not corresponding with what was on contents page and that affected neatness.

3.4 Declaration of Originality

Most candidates scored all 2 marks in this section. The expected details were candidate name and number, Centre name and number, period when FPT was carried out, name of farm where FPT was conducted and declaration that report was true reflection of work done by candidate. For few candidates, name of farm where FPT was conducted was incorrect resulting in loss of 1 mark for "all required information". It was different from the one written under appendices being the "BUAN Incuhive Enterprise farm" not just BUAN farm.

3.5 Acknowledgement

Candidates were to acknowledge a minimum of 4 individuals or organisations, and the type of service rendered to get 2 marks. However, a few candidates acknowledged less than the required number of individuals leading to zero (0) mark.

3.6 Introduction

Candidates did well on the justification of selection of place of attachment. However, name of farm where FPT was conducted was incorrect for some candidates resulting in loss of a mark. Clarity of learner expectations prior to attachment and benefits from attachment was well done by most candidates.

3.7 Description of Farm Routine Schedule

There was contradiction on staff complement leading to loss of a mark. The information on number of employees in the write-up was different from what was shown on the organogram. The organogram presented in this section assisted candidates in getting the mark for staff compliment qualification and a mark for workplace interaction. However, for "staff compliment of the farm" candidates could only assess a mark if the number of staff was included in the organogram. For how farm records are kept, candidates addressed type of records kept such as financial and production records instead of manual or computerised hence lost all the 2 marks. For technology leverages, candidates were to name the technology to get a mark and a reason for another mark. Most candidates did not address the reason part. Candidates presented

their daily work schedule for the employees, hence obtained the 2 marks. Preparation of products for market and profitability statement was well done by most candidates.

3.8 Description of Activities Carried Out

It was well done as the majority of candidates scored 12 marks or more out of 15. Candidates managed to describe a minimum of 4 activities together with reasons and tools / materials / equipment / machinery / implement used. Few candidates lost some marks on importance of farm operations carried out as they failed to state their importance. Most candidates did not address duration of each activity and number of employees engaged, hence lost 2 marks.

3.9 Findings / Observations

The performance for this content was pleasing since most candidates scored between 6 and 10 marks. Most candidates lost marks on how the expectations were met, how to close gap on learning experiences not met and how learning experience will be useful to candidates.

3.10 Conclusion

It was well done. Most candidates scored between 4 and 5 marks. Most candidates lost a mark on how learning experience can be made better.

3.11 Recommendations

It was fairly done. An average number of candidates scored between 4 and 5 marks.

3.12 Rating by Training Officer in the Industry (TOI)

The Supervisor's appraisal form was used for rating candidates. It was well done. Most candidates scored 10 and the lowest mark awarded was 7 out of 10 marks.

3.13 Overall Report Quality

Majority of candidates showed creativity in presentation of information by having tables, borders lines, pictures and organograms. The ICT skills were also demonstrated in compilation of report by most candidates. These included justification, spacing, symmetry, bolding and punctuations. Majority of candidates lost 2 marks on sequencing due to sequencing in the write-up not corresponding with contents page. Quality of report binding was well done by **all** candidates as they used the quotation files hence resulted in report being easy to flip, durable and secure.

3.14 Appendices

It was well done. Most candidates scored all the 10 marks. All candidates managed to attach all the required forms. However, all candidates did not have picture of farm as well as that of equipment hence loss of marks.

4.0 Practical Tasks

The Centre assessed candidates on 4 modules (1, 2, 4 and 5) instead of 5. Candidates were not assessed on Module 3 due to lack of resources at the Centre. Candidates were not marked down due to lack of resources; hence the Centre marks were maintained. The marking at the Centre was carried out according to the BEC practical task marking rubric.