

Coimisiún na Scrúduithe Stáit State Examinations Commission

Leaving Certificate 2018

Marking Scheme

Agricultural Science

Ordinary Level

Note to teachers and students on the use of published marking schemes

Marking schemes published by the State Examinations Commission are not intended to be standalone documents. They are an essential resource for examiners who receive training in the correct interpretation and application of the scheme. This training involves, among other things, marking samples of student work and discussing the marks awarded, so as to clarify the correct application of the scheme. The work of examiners is subsequently monitored by Advising Examiners to ensure consistent and accurate application of the marking scheme. This process is overseen by the Chief Examiner, usually assisted by a Chief Advising Examiner. The Chief Examiner is the final authority regarding whether or not the marking scheme has been correctly applied to any piece of candidate work.

Marking schemes are working documents. While a draft marking scheme is prepared in advance of the examination, the scheme is not finalised until examiners have applied it to candidates' work and the feedback from all examiners has been collated and considered in light of the full range of responses of candidates, the overall level of difficulty of the examination and the need to maintain consistency in standards from year to year. This published document contains the finalised scheme, as it was applied to all candidates' work.

In the case of marking schemes that include model solutions or answers, it should be noted that these are not intended to be exhaustive. Variations and alternatives may also be acceptable. Examiners must consider all answers on their merits, and will have consulted with their Advising Examiners when in doubt.

Future Marking Schemes

Assumptions about future marking schemes on the basis of past schemes should be avoided. While the underlying assessment principles remain the same, the details of the marking of a particular type of question may change in the context of the contribution of that question to the overall examination in a given year. The Chief Examiner in any given year has the responsibility to determine how best to ensure the fair and accurate assessment of candidates' work and to ensure consistency in the standard of the assessment from year to year. Accordingly, aspects of the structure, detail and application of the marking scheme for a particular examination are subject to change from one year to the next without notice.

Introduction

General points

- The marking scheme is a guide to awarding marks.
- Examiners must conform to this scheme, and may not allow marks for answers outside the scheme.
- In many cases only key phrases are given in the marking scheme. These points contain the information and ideas that must appear in a candidate's answer in order to merit the assigned marks.
- The descriptions, methods and definitions given in the marking scheme are not exhaustive and alternative valid answers are acceptable.
- If an examiner determines that a candidate has presented a valid answer, and where
 there is no provision in the scheme for accepting that answer, then the examiner
 must first consult with his/ her advising examiner before awarding marks. In general,
 if an examiner is in any doubt whether a particular answer is correct he/ she should
 consult their advising examiner before awarding marks.
- The detail required in any answer is determined by the context, the phrasing of the question, and by the number of marks assigned to the answer in the examination paper. This may vary from year to year.
- Words, expressions or statements separated by a solidus (/) are alternatives which
 are equally acceptable for a particular point. A word or phrase given in brackets is an
 acceptable alternative to the preceding word or phrase. Note, however, that words,
 expressions or phrases must be correctly used in context and not contradicted and
 where there is evidence of incorrect use or contradiction, the marks may not be
 awarded.
- In general, names and symbols/ formulae of elements/ compounds are equally
 acceptable. However in some cases where a name is specifically asked for, the
 symbol/ formula may be accepted as an alternative. This will be clarified within the
 scheme.

Cancelled answers

- If the only answer offered is cancelled ignore the cancelling and mark as usual.
- If an answer is cancelled and a second version of the answer is given, you should accept the cancellation and award marks, where merited, for the un-cancelled version only.
- If two un-cancelled versions of an answer are given to the same question or part of a
 question, mark both and accept the answer that yields the greater number of marks.
 You may not, however, combine points from both versions to arrive at a
 manufactured total.

Surplus answers

• In Section One, a surplus wrong answer cancels the marks awarded for a correct answer.

e.g. Question: Choose two dairy breeds from the following list of cattle breeds:

List: Charolais Friesian Simmental Jersey Hereford

Marking scheme: Friesian/ Jersey/ Simmental Any two 2(1)

Answer: Friesian, Jersey, and Hereford.

The surplus answer (Hereford) is incorrect, Therefore the candidate scores 2-1=1 mark.

Conventions

- The mark awarded for an answer appears in the marking scheme next to the answer on the right hand side.
- Where there are several parts in the answer to a question, the mark awarded for Each part appears as e.g. **3(4)** marks. This means there are three parts to the answer, each part allocated 4 marks.
- Award unit marks separately;

e.g. if an answer merits three 3-mark units, write: 3

3

3 in the first column in the right-

hand margin of the answer book.

- The answers to subsections of a question may not necessarily be tied to a specific mark e.g. there may be three parts to a question (i), (ii), (iii) and a total of 12 marks allocated to the question. The marking scheme might be as follows: 6 + 3 + 3. This means that any first correct answer is awarded 6 marks and each subsequent correct answer is awarded 3 marks.
- Square brackets and/ or *italics* are used where the examiner's attention is being drawn to an instruction relating to the answer or to some qualification of the answer.
- The total mark for each question should be written beside the question number, and circled.
- The cumulative total should be written in the bottom right-hand corner of each page on which a question total appears.
- All blank pages should be marked to indicate they have been inspected.

Section One

Question 1. 10 + 6 + 4(1)

(a)	 (i) Soil component at A: Humus or organic matter or living organisms (or named example e.g. earthworm) (ii) Principal soil particle type in B: Clay (iii) 1. Type of drainage: Good 2. Explanation: Large amount of sand
(b)	Reasons for poor drainage: High clay content or low sand content/ impervious parent material/ iron pan (or hard pan or plough pan)/ soil compaction/ poor soil structure/ poaching damage Any two

Question 2. 10 + 6 + 4(1)

	Pig	Sheep
Length of gestation	3 months, 3weeks, 3days (or 110 – 120 days)	5 months (or 145 – 155 days)
Mass of offspring at birth (kg)	1 – 1.5 kg	3 – 5 kg
Slaughter mass (kg)	75 – 90 kg	35 – 50 kg

Question 3. 8 + 7 + 5(1)

(a)	Liver fluke's primary host: Sheep	
(b)	Secondary host: Mud snail (or freshwater snail or Limnaea truncatula) [allow snail]	
(c)	Practices to reduce liver fluke incidence: Drainage/ fencing off wet areas/ remove livestock from risky areas/ apply lime/ ducks and-or geese/ molluscicides/ dosing/ injection or vaccination or pour on Any three	
(d)	Endoparasite: A parasite that feeds on the inside of the host (or named host) or an organism that harms another living organism	
(e)	Another example of endoparasite: Roundworm or stomach worm or lungworm or Babesia or tapeworm or potato bight	

Question 4. 12 + 8(1)

(a)	Parts of stomach:
	A: Rumen
	B: Reticulum
	c: Omasum
	D: Abomasum
(b)	Role of A:
	To digest cellulose or to digest roughage (or named roughage) or to store food or
	contains bacteria or makes vitamins or makes protein or mixes food
	Role of D:
	Produces gastric juice or produces enzymes (or named enzyme e.g. pepsin) or digests protein or produces (hydrochloric) acid or lowers pH of food or chemical digestion (of food) or digestion similar to true stomach
(c)	Farm animals with ruminant stomach: Sheep/ cattle/ goats/ deer Any two
(d)	Advantage of ruminant stomach:
	Animal can digest bulky foods (or named bulky food) or animal can digest roughage
	(or named roughage) or animal can digest cellulose or animal can make (essential)
	amino acids or animal can make protein

Question 5. 5(3) + 5(1)

(a)	Cotyledons store food in seeds	Т
(b)	Grasses in family Compositae	F
(c)	Earthworms are parasites	F
(d)	Resazurin solution used to test hygienic quality of milk	Т
(e)	Vena cava takes blood away from heart	F
(f)	Granite is an igneous rock	Т
(g)	Aphids (greenfly) spread viral diseases	T
(h)	Respiration is loss of water vapour from stomata of leaves	F
(i)	Footrot is a notifiable disease	F
(j)	Hereford is a dairy breed of cattle	F

Question 6. 8 + 6 + 3(2)

(a)	Parts of grass flower:
	A: Filament [allow stamen]
	B: Stigma [allow carpel]
	Role of C:
	To make pollen or to make male gamete (or sperm) or pollination
(b)	Features of grass flowers suitable for wind pollination:
, ,	Anther (or stamen) hangs outside flower/ stigma (or carpel) hangs outside flower/
	stigma feathery/ large anther/ pollen light/ pollen smooth/ large amount of pollen/
	large stigma Any two

Question 7. Scientific reasons 8 + 6 + 3(2)

(a)	Finding soil pH before sowing: Determines if pH at optimum level for crop or determines if lime required or determines amount of lime required
(b)	Adding white clover to seed mixture: Nitrogen fixation or rich in protein or rich in minerals (or named mineral) or ground cover or weed control or increases palatability or increases productivity (of sward) or high digestibility
(c)	Topping pastures: Increases tillering or promotes leafy growth or removes stemmy growth or weed control or increases grass growth or increases yield of grass
(d)	Using mineral licks: Provides mineral (or named mineral) or prevents mineral deficiency (or named mineral deficiency disease) or to supplement poor diet
(e)	Isolating sick animals: Prevents spread of disease or facilitates treatment of sick animal or ease of access to sick animal or can check sick animal easily

Section Two

Question 8.

(a)	(i) Differences between composition of slu	-		
	Slurry	FYM		
	More water No straw	Less water Contains straw		
	More N	Less N		
	Less P	More P		
	Liquid	Solid		
	Low in organic matter	Rich in organic matt	or Any two	2/4)
	(ii) Steps to reduce water pollution by slu	_	ei Any two	2(4)
	Correct application rate/ do not sp	-	not spread on	
	frozen ground/ do not spread close	_	•	
	slurry in leak-proof tanks/ use injection	• •	Any two	2(4)
		ation system of application	,, tc	2(4)
(b)	(i) Elements in 18-6-12:			
	Nitrogen			
	Phosphorus	w.3		2/4)
	Potassium [allow symbols i.e. N P	-		3(4)
	(ii) Advantage and disadvantage of artific			
	Advantage: Specially formulated for	•		
	nutrient(s) that has been applied to			
	combination of fast and slow acting	,	ea by crop	
	or less bulky or easy to transport or easy to apply or less odour Disadvantage: Expensive or may burn crop if too much applied or may cause			4
	pollution or easily washed out of so		nay cause	4
	_ [·	ווכ		4
	(iii) Role of one element in 18-6-12:			4
	Nitrogen: Formation of chlorophyll (or green colour) or prevents chlorosis or increases yield or protein formation or promotes leafy growth			
	OR			
	Phosphorus: Necessary for cell division or for energy transfer in cells or seed			
	germination or promotes root growth or enhances seed formation			4
	OR		•	
	Potassium: Necessary for protein formation or helps in disease prevention or			
	promotes healthy growth or promotes early ripening or enhances fruit quality			
	. , , , .	, , ,	are quarrey	
(c)	Experiment to measure % water content in		acin1/	
	Mass of empty (evaporating) basin (or dish) [allow place soil in basin]/			
	find mass of dish + (fresh) soil/ subtract to find mass of soil/ place basin + soil			
	in oven at 80 – 100 °C (or place basin in oven for 24 hours)/ re-weigh to find mass dry soil/ repeat until constant mass/ subtract to find loss in mass/			
	calculate % water content using:	i massy subtract to milu 1055 m	111033/	
		to obtain average	Any five	E(4)
	mass of (fresh) soil 1	. to obtain average	Ally Jive	5(4)
	Some or all marks may be obtaine	nd from labelled diagram/s)]		
	[Some of all marks may be obtained	a from labelled diagram(s)]		

Question 9.

(a)	(i) Maincrop potato varieties:	
	Rooster/ Kerr Pink/ Golden Wonder/ Record/ Cara/ Maris Piper/ Pentland Dell	2(4)
	(ii) Growing potatoes	2(4)
	1. Soil preparation:	
	Plough/ rotavate or soil cultivator named/ harrow/ remove stones/ create	
	beds/ create drills or ridges Any two	2(4)
	2. Fertiliser use:	
	Soil test or FYM or 10-10-20 (or 7-6-17) or 7-6-17 produces more floury potato	
	or broadcast fertiliser or fertiliser applied beside seed using potato planter or amount fertiliser depends on soil test results or avoid over-application of N	4
	3. Weed control:	7
	Spraying or herbicide or mechanical (or explained e.g. hoeing) or remove by	
	hand or burning or shading action or rotation or earthing-up or use of plastic	4
	4. Blight control:	
	Spraying or fungicide or certified seed or rotation or avoid groundkeepers or	
	harvest all tubers or isolate potato dumps or resistant varieties or use dessicant before harvest or earthing up or remove infected tubers	4
	dessicant before narvest of earthing up of remove infected tubers	4
(b)	Why use certified seed potatoes:	
	True-to-type/ free from viruses/ free from diseases or named disease/ graded	
	to uniform tuber size/ higher yields Any three	3(4)
(c)	Experiment to estimate yield of potato crop:	
	Measure out area of field (in m²) or calculate area of potato ridge (in m²)/	
	harvest potatoes inside plot (or from ridge)/ remove soil from potatoes (or wash and dry potatoes)/ weigh/ calculate mass of potatoes per m²/ repeat for	
	same size plot/ find average/ calculate yield of potatoes using:	
	(average) mass of potatoes per m ² X 10,000 Any five	5(4)
	[Some or all marks may be obtained from labelled diagram(s)]	

Question 10.

(a)	(i) Parts of cell during mitosis:	
	A: Chromatid (or chromosome)	3
	B: Spindle (fibre)	3
	(ii) Stage of mitosis shown: Metaphase	3
	(iii) Stage before metaphase: Prophase	
(b)	(i) Clone:	
	A group of genetically identical organisms [allow a single organism genetically	3
	identical to original organism]	
	(ii) Crop that may be produced by cloning: e.g. Potatoes or strawberries	3
(c)	Cross 1:	
	Genotypes of parents: $(RR) \times (rr)$	2(3)
	Gametes: $(R) \times (r)$	2(3)
	Genotype of offspring: (Rr)	3
	Phenotype of offspring: Round	3
(4)	Cross 2:	
(d)	Genotype of parents: $(Rr) \times (Rr)$	2/2\
	Genotype of parents.	2(3)
	Gametes: (R) (r) \times (R) (r)	4(2)
		7(2)
	Genotypes of offspring: (RR) (Rr) (rr)	3(2)
	Phenotypes of offspring: Round Wrinkled	2(2)

Question 11.

(a)	Spring barley v. Winter barley	/		
		Spring barley	Winter barley	
	Month of sowing	Feb. – May	Sept. – Nov.	2(4)
	Month of harvest	Aug. – Oct.	July – Aug.	+ 4(2)
	Yield (tonnes/ ha.)	5 – 7	6 – 9	
(b)	Differences between cultivation and harvesting of feeding and malting barley: More care (or avoid damage to grain) at harvesting for malting barley/ less nitrogen in fertiliser for malting barley/ different varieties/ winter barley not suitable for malting/ malting barley requires well drained soil (or more suited to sandy loam soils) (or different soil types) Any two			2(2)
(c)	Features that show barley is ready for harvest: Grain (or seed) becomes hard/ moisture content drops to 16 – 18% (or grain becomes dry)/ ear (or seed-head) and-or straw turns a golden (or yellow or bleached) colour/ seed-head bends over (and lies parallel to stem)/ flag leaf withers/ grain starts to fall off stem Any two			2(2)
(d)		cket <i>tion:</i> o r (powdery) mildew or <i>Rl</i>	nyncosporium or) or leaf stripe or Fusarium	4 4
	or take-all or eyespot Prevention: Spraying or fund	gicide or crop rotation or (certified seeds or resistant	4
	· · ·	gicide or crop rotation or (certified seeds or resistant	4
(e)	Prevention: Spraying or fung varieties or aphid control Experiment to find % germinate 100 seeds (or count seeds	ion of barley seeds: s)/ soak seeds (for 24 hour or suitable growing mediu lle time/ count number of	rs)/ seed tray (or suitable m)/ warm place or regular	

Question 12.

(a)	(i) Paddock grazing system Drawing to show:		
	Means of access to paddocks (e.g. roadway or pathway) and at least 10 paddocks Labels:		
	(Permanent) roadway/ water (supply) re-growth or recovery/ indication of conumber of paddocks labelled (e.g. 20	lirection of movement of livestock/	3(2)
	to recover or reduced incidence of pa fertilised when animals move or more less trampling of grass) or less time sp	e efficient use of grass (or less wastage or bent walking or (highly) palatable grass	
	input	sed off for silage (or hay) or low labour	3
		must have a permanent water supply or fficult to cut silage (or hay) if paddocks	3
(b)	Making good quality hay	inte (in certain weather conditions)	
(6)	Making good quality hay		
	Step taken	Reason	
	Use good quality grass variety (or	Hay of better quality or more	
	named grass variety e.g. PRG)	digestible or higher yield	
	Cut grass at correct growth stage	Hay of better quality or more digestible or easier to dry	
	Control weeds	Hay of better quality or prevents poisoning (of livestock)	3(3)
	Cut or mow grass in dry weather	Easier drying (or allows grass to dry) or lowers risk of weather damage	Steps +
	Allow grass to wilt or dry	Lowers moisture content	3(3)
	Ted (or turn or shake) grass	Faster drying or lets air through grass	Reasons
	Rake (or gather) into rows	Easier to bale	
	Bale hay	Easier to handle or to transport or to store	
	Store hay in (leak-proof) shed or under cover	Keeps hay dry or prevents rotting	

Question 12, continued.

(c)	Good quality silage: Use good quality grass variety or named grass (e.g. PRG)/ close off field 6 – 8 weeks before cutting (or close off early)/ apply fertiliser/ control weeds/ cut at leafy stage/ cut grass in sunny weather (or cut at midday)/allow grass to wilt/ avoid contamination/ fill pit quickly/ roll grass (or exclude air from grass	
	in pit)/ use additive if necessary/ cover pit with black plastic (or bale silage)/ seal tightly (or weigh down plastic)/ tighten plastic again after 2 – 3 weeks Any three	3(3)

(d)	Tests to determine silage quality, and t	their purpose:	
	Test	Purpose	
	Leaf-to-stem ratio	Too much stem indicates poor quality (or more leaf indicates high quality)	
	Squeeze silage (or dry matter or DM test)	A large amount of water produced indicates low quality (or little water produced indicates high quality)	
	pH of silage	pH > 5 indicates poor quality (or pH < 5 indicates high quality)	3(3) Tests + 3(2) Purposes
	Colour of silage	Dark green (or brown) colour indicates poor quality (or yellow-green colour indicates high quality)	
	Smell of silage	Putrid smell indicates poor quality (or sharp (acidic) smell indicates high quality)	
	Taste of silage	No sharp (or acidic taste) indicates poor quality (or sharp acidic taste indicates high quality)	
	Feel of silage	A slimy feel indicates poor quality (or a soft but firm texture indicates good quality)	
		Any three	

Question 13. Any two from (a), (b), (c), (d)

(ii) Terms used in she	eep production:		
Term	Explanation	Reason for procedure	
1. Flushing	Moving ewes from a low plane of nutrition to a high plane of nutrition	Increases fertility or increases number of eggs released (from ovary) or more twins or	
	(or to better grazing) before mating	more regular heat periods or safer implantation or fewer returns to service or higher	
		conception rates or increase in BCS	2(2)
2. Scanning	Using ultrasound (or scanner) to find if ewe is in lamb	To determine if ewe is pregnant or to determine how many lambs the ewe is carrying or to determine how	
		much meal to feed pregnant ewe or to see if ewe is barren	2(2)
3. Steaming up	Practice of feeding (increasing amounts of) concentrates in late pregnancy	To prevent twin-lamb disease or to get stronger lamb(s) or reduces mortality or to increase milk production in ewe or to help ewe produce	
	Initiation would be	high-quality colostrum	2(2)
4. Vaccination	Injection used to prevent diseases (or named disease) or to stimulate antibody production or for immunity	To reduce mortality or (if none of the following has already earned marks for explanation) to prevent diseases (or named disease) or to boost antibody production or for immunity	2(2)
5. Creep feeding	Using a creep feeder to allow lambs, but not ewes, access to concentrates or use of creep gates to allow lambs, but not ewes,	Improved growth rates in lambs or earlier weaning of lambs or lambs have choice of best grass or better parasite control	2(2)
6. Shearing	access to grazing Clipping off wool (or	To prevent animal over-	_(_,
	removal of wool)	heating or to prevent flystrike or to sell the wool or prevents sheep "going on their back"	2(2)

(b)	(i) Gas produced in photosynthesis:	3	
	Oxygen (or O ₂)[allow O]		
	(ii) Factors necessary for photosynthesis:		
	Carbon dioxide (or CO ₂)/ water/ chlorophyll/ light Any two	2(3)	
	(iii) How photosynthesis helps reduce climate change:		
	CO ₂ is absorbed during photosynthesis	3	
	(iv) Testing a leaf for starch:		
	Boil leaf (for 1 minute)/ place in hot alcohol (for 10 minutes)/ removes		
	chlorophyll (or green colour)/ rinse leaf in water/ place on white tile/ cover leaf with iodine/ blue-black (or black) indicates presence of starch Any six	6(3)	
	leaf with iodine/ blue-black (or black) indicates presence of starch [Some or all marks may be obtained from labelled diagram(s)] Any six	0(3)	
	2 112		
(c)	Management of dairy calves		
	(i) Care at birth: Have experienced person at hand/ close supervision/ remove		
	mucus from nasal area (or ensure calf breathing)/ dry calf (or ensure cow licks calf)/ iodine on navel/ clean bedding/ colostrum (or ensure cow suckles calf)/		
	keep calf warm/ tag calf/ vaccinate Any two	2/2)	
	(ii) Housing: Straw (or dry) bedding/ good ventilation/ draught free/ walls and	2(3)	
	floor disinfected (or good hygiene)/ feeding area available/ fresh water/		
	adequate space/ adequate lighting Any two	2(3)	
	(iii) Disease prevention:	_(5)	
	Isolate cow prior to calving (or cow in calving box)/ house is disinfected (or		
	maintain good hygiene)/ navel is disinfected/ calves are vaccinated/		
	colostrum/ equipment is disinfected/ disposable gloves if assisting calving		
	process/ call vet if necessary/ correct feeding techniques/ disinfect boots		
	Any two	2(3)	
	(iv) Introducing hay into their diet:		
	Introduce hay in first 7 – 10 days/ hay contains fibre/ scratch factor/ helps		
	rumen to develop/ introduces microbes into rumen/ earlier weaning/ more	2(2)	
	suitable roughage (than silage)for young calves (v) Use of milk replacer: Any two	2(3)	
	Calves weaned off cow's milk/ milk replacer cheaper than cow's milk/ powder		
	is mixed with either cold or warm water/ fed in buckets or ad lib/ feed at		
	correct temperature/ mix powder thoroughly Any two	2(3)	
		_(0)	

(d)	` '	(i) Molar tooth labelled diagram				
	Diagram to show: Tooth with broad top surface and two roots Labels: Enamel/ dentine/ pulp (cavity)/ crown/ root/ jaw bone/ cement/ blood				4, 2, 0	
		dentine/ pulp (cavity)/ crown/ ro	ot/ jaw bone/ o		
	vessel/ nerve				Any three	3(2)
	(ii) Function of inci					
	To cut (or bite o	r slice) food				3
	Function of molar:	1	1			
	To chew (or grir		d			3
	(iii) Two other teet	rh:				
	1. Canines					3
	2. Pre-molars					3
	(iv) Dental formula	1				
	Pig:					
	Incisor	Canine	Pre-molar	Molar		
	3	1	4	3		
	3	1	4	3		
	OR					
	Sheep:					
					_	
	Incisor	Canine	Pre-molar	Molar		4(2)
	0	0	3	3		4(2)
	3	1	3	3		
	OR					
	Incisor	Canine	Pre-molar	Molar	_	
	0	0	3	3	_	
	4	0	3	3		

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