Examination Period 3: 2017/18

Module Title Strategic Farm Management
Level Six
Time Allowed Two hours

No. of Pages 2
No. of Questions 5
Section A

Question one is compulsory.

1. A farm’s business profitability and financial performance is provided on Document one. Compare the given performance measures to those of the industry, provided on Document two. Critically analyse and evaluate farm’s performance based on specific performance measure indicators. Suggest ways that performance could be improved.

(40 marks)

Section B

Answer two out of four questions.

2. Moulton College have recently sold off the dairy unit, releasing land for other enterprises including a beef enterprise. Critically evaluate alternative diversification enterprises that could be introduced to add value to the farm business. Consider suggested options in terms of practicality, regulatory, management and financial considerations. Evidence your answer using a Porte’s Five Forces analysis approach.

(30 marks)

3. Agricultural cooperatives are well supported in other European countries, yet they have failed to gain the same support within the UK. Critically appraise the strengths and weaknesses of agricultural cooperatives within the UK to outline their future in a post-BREXIT content.

(30 marks)

4. Since last year, butter price has been increasing, which lately have exceeded historical records¹. Explain the reasons causing this trend and examine how this could affect dairy farmers.

(30 marks)

5. Critically evaluate the advantages and disadvantages of growing crops as biofuels for anaerobic digester (AD) plants in EU farming systems as part of an integrated farm business approach. You are recommended to incorporate a referenced SWOT analysis approach.

(30 marks)

End of Paper