



## **Agricultural Science Past Exam Questions**

### **Animal Diseases**

#### **Higher Level**

**2010 – Question 3 – Option 1**

(a) The calving records on a dairy farm in one year show:

30% purebred Friesian calves born, 55% Continental X Friesian and  
15% Aberdeen Angus X Friesian.

The farmer relies on A.I. and has no stock bull. He breeds his own replacements.

(i) Why was the Friesian breed used and on which of his cows?

(ii) Why are continental sires used for most inseminations?

(iii) Why are Aberdeen Angus bulls used?

(iv) What is his replacement rate for culled cows?

(b) Describe the physiological processes involved in the let-down of milk in farm animals.

(c) Suggest four reasons why dairies will not accept milk from cows that have been recently treated for mastitis.

(48 marks)

**2009 – Question 3 – Option 2**

(a) Describe the desirable signs of health in a farm animal.

(b) Discuss the factors which contribute to ewe and lamb mortality.

(c) Describe how the digestibility of a grass sward changes during the growing season.

(48 marks)

**2008 – Question 1 – Part (f)**

(f) (i) Why are mineral and vitamin supplements used in the diet of farm animals?

(ii) How are these supplements supplied to farm animals?

**2006 – Question 3 – Part (c) – Option 2**

(c) (i) Name two examples of “production diseases” which occur in farm animals.

(ii) In the case of one of the diseases you have mentioned, state the cause, the main symptoms and a method of prevention or cure.