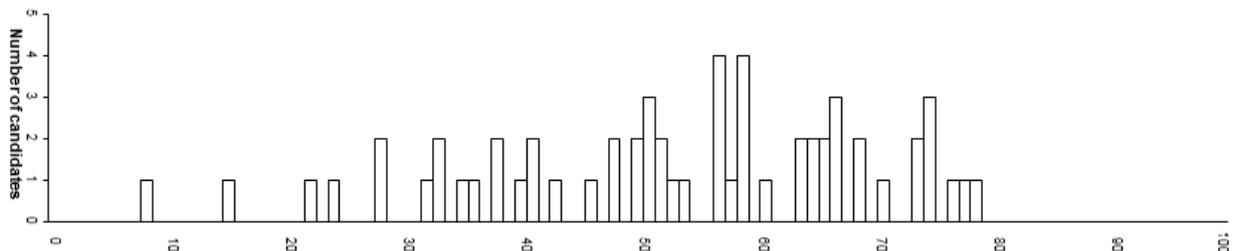




## Summary report for candidates on the 2015 WACE examination in Animal Production Systems Stage 3

Year	Number who sat	Number of absentees
2015	59	2
2014	19	0
2013	52	0

### Examination score distribution



### Summary

The examination consisted of four sections. Candidates were required to complete all the questions in sections one to three and two questions from a choice of three in section four (Extended answer). The mean for the 2015 examination was 53.11%, which was lower than the 2014 mean (58.38%). The standard deviation was 16.62, with a range in scores from 78.84% to 7.57%.

Section means were:

Section One: Multiple-choice	Mean 10.44(/15)	Max 14.00	Min 4.00
Section Two: Short answer	Mean 28.94(/50)	Max 44.64	Min 3.57
Section Three: Production practices	Mean 6.94(/15)	Max 12.69	Min 0.29
Section Four: Extended answer	Mean 7.28(/20)	Max 15.00	Min 0.00

### General comments

*Advice for candidates*

- You need to prepare for the examination by practising writing answers to questions from past papers.
- You need to practise planning and writing essay style questions under time pressure.
- You need to practise preparing answers for questions that require input of knowledge, justification (reason) and application of this knowledge to a scenario.

### Comments on specific sections and questions

#### Section One: Multiple-choice

Attempted by 59 Candidates Mean 10.44(/15) Max 14.00 Min 4.00

Candidates performed reasonably well in this section. The questions only required a narrow range of responses. Questions 2, 10, 11 and 12 were the easiest with means of 90% or above. The more challenging questions of this section were 3 and 5.

#### Section Two: Short answer

Attempted by 59 Candidates Mean 28.94(/50) Max 44.64 Min 3.57

Questions that were answered well were the topics of animal genetics, biosecurity, and questions on general immunity. It is important to note that where some of the questions that

were cited as 'easy' the candidates still did not obtain high scores. The questions on economics, partial budgets, comparative advantages, immunity response; were not answered well. Candidates were required to have a better knowledge and application of these concepts to gain a high score.

### **Section Three: Production practices**

Attempted by 58 Candidates

Mean 6.94(/15)    Max 12.69    Min 0.29

This section consisted of one question (with several sub-questions) where candidates could demonstrate their knowledge of a selected enterprise. Candidates performed poorly in this section, scoring very low marks and this may be due in part to students lacking the ability to plan and write coherent answers under examination conditions.

### **Section Four: Extended answer**

Attempted by 56 Candidates

Mean 7.28(/20)    Max 15.00    Min 0.00

This section required candidates to answer two questions out of three. Questions 23 and 24 were the more popular questions that candidates attempted, with Question 25 attempted by a smaller number of candidates. Candidates performed poorly in this section scoring very low marks and this may be due in part to students lacking the ability to plan and write coherent essay answers under examination conditions.