

17.0: AGRICULTURE (443)

The 2004 Agriculture examination consisted of papers 1, 2 and 3. The candidates were examined in a wide range of skills and knowledge from the entire syllabus.

This report analyses candidates' performance in the 2004 KCSE Agriculture examination paying special attention to those questions where performance was relatively poor. The report also highlights the possible causes of the poor performance and gives the expected responses. An attempt is also made in this report to give advice to the teachers with the hope of helping them evaluate, improve their methods and approaches when teaching the subject.

Table 17: Candidates' Overall Performance in Agriculture for the Past Four Years

Year	Paper	Candidature	Maximum Mark	Mean Score	Standard Deviation
2001	1		100	38.54	14.06
	2		60	36.99	7.20
	Overall	95,968	160	74.51	20.00
2002	1		100	35.08	13.26
	2		60	36.09	6.50
	Overall	90,425	160	70.56	18.59
2003	1		100	36.79	13.71
	2		60	38.00	6.00
	Overall	94,963	160	74.88	18.14
2004	1		100	36.74	14.34
	2		60	38.50	6.53
	Overall	98,760	160	75.03	19.00

From the table above, the following observations can be made:-

- In the past four years, 2004 had the highest number of Agriculture candidates at 98,760. There was an increase of 3,797 candidates up from 94,963 candidates in 2003. This is a very encouraging trend for the subject.
- There was an insignificant increase in the mean score of only 0.15. The performance for 2004 and 2003 are quite similar. The mean score in the individual papers was also not very different. In paper one it was 36.74 while in paper two it was 38.50 as compared to 36.79 and 38.00 respectively of the year 2003.
- The overall standard deviation was higher in 2004 compared to 2003, indicating that there was a wider spread around the means.