MARKING SCHEME
GRADE 7 AGRICULTURE AND NUTRITION

1. Plastic wastes do not decompose hence stay long in the soil thereby causing soil pollution.
[Correct/relevant explanation = 2 marks]
2. Excessive use of fertilisers causes too much acidity in the soil. Soil which is acidic hinders plants growth leading to poor yields. ***[Correct/relevant explanation = 2 marks]***
3. (a) Mulching ***[1 × 1 = 1 mark]***
   (b) Crop rotation, cover cropping ***[Any 2 × 1 = 2 marks]***
4. Farmers, communities and policymakers need to be informed about sustainable agricultural practices, proper waste disposal, and the potential environmental consequences of excessive fertilizer and chemical use. This knowledge can empower individuals to make informed decisions that protect soil health.
[Correct/relevant explanation = 2 marks]
5. (a) Water retention pits
   (b) banana sucker, sugarcane, napier grass or arrowroot. ***[Any 2 × 1 = 2 marks]***
6. (a) Water retention ditches ***[1 × 1 = 1 mark]***
   (b) Near drainage paths or depressions in the landscape ***[1 × 1 = 1 mark]***
7. – Helps in making water available longer after rains
   – It makes water available for fish farming.
   – It ensures that there is supply for present and future generation.
   – It makes water available for mixing agricultural chemicals.
   – It makes water available for plant and animal use.
   – It ensures that we reduce the cost of buying and pumping water.
[Any 4 × 1 = 4 marks]
8. Soil type, space availability, water requirements, purpose, sunlight exposure ***[Any 3 × 1 = 3 marks]***
9. Reducing Soil Erosion: Tree roots help bind soil particles together, stabilizing soil structure and reducing erosion caused by water runoff.
10. (a) To preserve the food nutrients
    (b) To cleanse the surface of the food and remove dirt
11. (a) The nutritional value of the food is preserved, ensuring that it remains a valuable source of essential nutrients for maintaining overall health and well-being.
    (b) Helps maintain the flavor, colour and texture of food.
    (c) Maximises the health benefits derived from consuming the food.
12. (a) (i) P – Stem cuttings ***[1 × 1 = 1 mark]***
    (ii) Q – Seeds ***[1 × 1 = 1 mark]***
    (b) Cassava, Sugarcane ***[Any 2 × 1 = 2 marks]***
13. (a) A planting site is a selected area where crops are grown from seeds or seedlings until ready for harvesting or transplanting. ***[1 × 1 = 1 mark]***
    (b) Soil tilth refers to the suitability of a soil for planting and growing crops. ***[1 × 1 = 1 mark]***
14. (a) Its seeds are small in size ***[1 × 1 = 1 mark]***
    (b) wheat seeds, seasema seeds, millet seeds
15. − Accessibility to sunlight.
    − Fertility of the soil.
    − Tools and equipment needed for cultivation.
    − Security i.e the site should be safe from human and animal damage.
    − Chemical needs for pre-plant soil improvement.
    − Accessibility of the site by the farmer and equipment.
[Any 4 × 1 = 4 marks]