Soil Fertility Questions

1. State two roles of humus in the soil that are beneficial to crops

2. List four characteristic of fertile soil

3. The diagram below illustrates a compost heap. Study it and answer the questions that follow

4. Name the part labeled Q and state its function

5. What is the function of each of the following components in preparation of compost manure
   a. Top soil
   b. Wood ash
   c. Rotten manure

6. The illustration below shows a four heap system of making compost manure. Study it and answer the questions that follow.

   A  B  A

   C

   FIELD
7. By use of arrows indicate on the diagram above how the following material should be transferred from one heap to another till the manure is applied in the field.

8. How long does the material take to be ready for application in the field as manure?

9. Give a reason for turning the material in the heap regularly

10. Give two reasons why it is necessary to sprinkle water on the heap

11. Name four indicators of well-decomposed manure

12. State two factors that should be considered when siting a compost manure heap

13. When preparing compost manure, explain the importance of each of the following:
   a. Addition of ash
   b. Regular turning of the compost manure

14. What is leaching?

15. State four advantages of adding organic matter to a sandy soil

16. Describe the preparation of the following farm materials:
   a. Farm yard manure
   b. Hay

17. Explain the factors considered in timely planting of annual crops

18. A ration containing 18% protein is to be made from maize and sunflower cake. Given that maize contains 7% protein, and sunflower seed cake 34% protein. Use Pearson square method to calculate the value of feedstuffs to be used to prepare 100kgs of the feed.

19. Apart from Pearson square method, name two other methods that can be used to formulate feed ration