School of Plant Sciences and Food Security

The thesis will be submitted at the end of the degree, under the responsibility of the student and the supervisor, ensuring timely submission.

Thesis Sections

The thesis will include the following sections in the specified order (sections do not need to be numbered):

1) **Title Page** - Includes the topic, submission date, student's and supervisor's names, and signatures of the student and supervisor(s) (all supervisors if more than one).

2) **Acknowledgments** - Up to one page, including acknowledgments to laboratories/people contributing to the work (e.g., assistance in data analysis, providing plant material, operating equipment, etc.).

3) **Abstract** – Up to one page. Should include the following elements: introduction, objectives, methodology (description of the experimental stages), results, and conclusions. No need to include literature references in the abstract. It is not mandatory to provide the full scientific names of organisms if they have common names.

4) **Table of Contents** - Detailed up to the second level.

5) **List of Abbreviations and Acronyms** - A list of all abbreviations and acronyms used throughout the thesis with full explanations for each.

6) **Introduction** - Includes an extensive literature review on the research topic, demonstrating the student's familiarity with the field of study. The introduction should present the researched problem and justify the need to investigate it. Additionally, emphasize relevant information supporting the research objectives and/or hypotheses.

7) **Objectives of the Study** - As specified: research hypothesis, research goal, and secondary objectives (aims).

8) **Results and Summary of Key Findings** - Results should be presented concisely, utilizing tables and graphs as required in scientific articles. The description of each experiment should include: a. the reason for conducting the experiment, b. description of the experimental procedure, c. description of the experimental results, and d. immediate interpretation of the results (not an
extensive discussion, which will be presented in the Discussion section). In a MSc thesis, there is no requirement for innovative results, and negative results are acceptable and encouraged. The scope of the work, as reflected in the Results section, should align with the standards accepted in MSc thesis works at the School of Plant Sciences, including statistical analysis of the results. For interdisciplinary works involving collaboration, specify which parts of the work were conducted by the student and which by others. The Results section should not be a repetition of the experimental section, and the level of detail in describing the experimental procedure should allow understanding of its course and the most important conditions but not be as detailed as required in the Methods section.

9) **Discussion** - This section should explain the significance of the obtained results, highlighting novelty compared to literary publications or other works in the field. The discussion should be critical and refer to other works in the field. This section must be separate from the Results section and should conclude with conclusions and, if possible, a proposal for further research.

10) **Figures, Graphs, Diagrams, and Tables** - Where possible, it is recommended to integrate these elements into the Results and Summary of Key Findings section. However, they can also be presented as a separate section along with accompanying text or captions.

11) **Materials and Methods** - This section will include a detailed description of all materials and work methods, as is expected in scientific articles.

12) **Supplementary Information** - This section will include figures, graphs, diagrams, and tables that did not fit into the Results section of the work but are important to support and clarify the results. These graphic elements should be numbered in continuation of the numbering from the Results section, or bear a characteristic number (e.g., Figure S1 or Supplementary Figure 1). Any graphic element in this section must be referenced to in the text of previous sections.

13) **List of References** (Bibliography) - Sources cited in the work will be marked in the body of the work as customary in professional literature. Each citation requires reading the article. The citation should include the names of the authors, the title of the work, the publication year, the journal, volume, page numbers, and the article title. All citations should be presented uniformly (see technical instructions below).

14) **Abstract in Hebrew** (up to one page).
15) Title Page in Hebrew - Includes the topic, submission date, student's and supervisor's names, and the supervisor's signature (all supervisors if more than one).

Technical Definitions and Instructions:

- All parts of the thesis (Parts 1-12) will be written in English, except for the abstract in Hebrew and the title page in Hebrew (Parts 13-14).
- The thesis will be written on standard A4 pages, using an accepted font (David, Times New Roman, Ariel, etc.), font size 12, 1.5 line spacing, and minimal margins of 1.9 cm on the right/left and 2.5 cm on top/bottom.
- Pages will be numbered (bottom of the page) consecutively throughout the entire work.
- The thesis will be submitted as a single PDF document. Printing the work is unnecessary unless a specific request is made by the examiners.
- Emphasis should be placed on writing quality, consistency in spelling, and the use of various terms, proper punctuation, and logical paragraph and chapter divisions. If necessary, consult a professional language editor.
- Ensure that all abbreviations and acronyms are defined in the first place they appear in the work, in addition to their appearance in the list of abbreviations and acronyms (section 5).
- Figures/Graphs/Tables - All figures/graphs/tables appearing in the work at any point must be uniquely numbered. Ensure that each figure is necessary and that each has a reference in the body of the work (indicating the figure/graph/table number and the corresponding location in the text).
- Ensure that all citations (references) are in the correct locations, are up-to-date, and follow a consistent format of a prominent scientific journal in the field. It is recommended to use EndNote or another references manager.