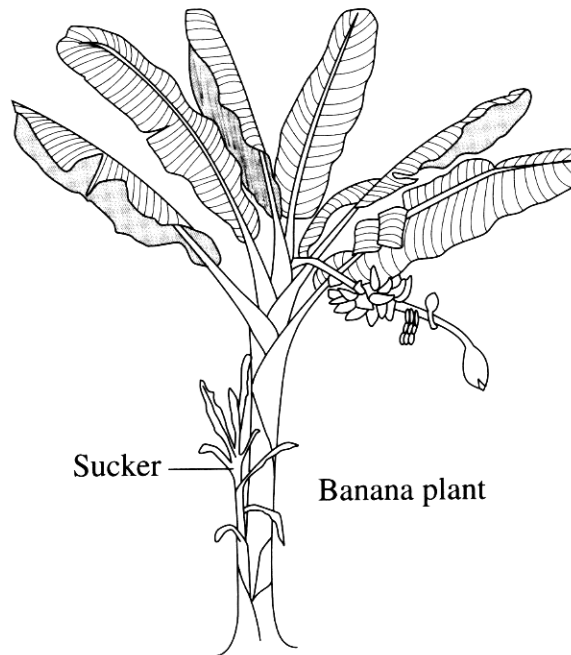


Marks

Question 24 (4 marks)

Traditionally, banana plants in Australia have been propagated asexually by cutting out and planting suckers from the adult plant.

4



There is a growing trend to produce disease-free plants in laboratories through a process of cloning from disease-free tissues from existing plants.

Assess the potential impact of this cloning process on the genetic diversity of banana plants in Australia.

..... This cloning process has the potential to impact on the genetic diversity of banana plants in Australia as it interferes with the natural growth process of the banana plant. Also by cutting out suckers, they are going to fall in number when on their own and not connected to banana plants.

..... The overall diversity of the banana plants is going to decrease as they are being propagated asexually.