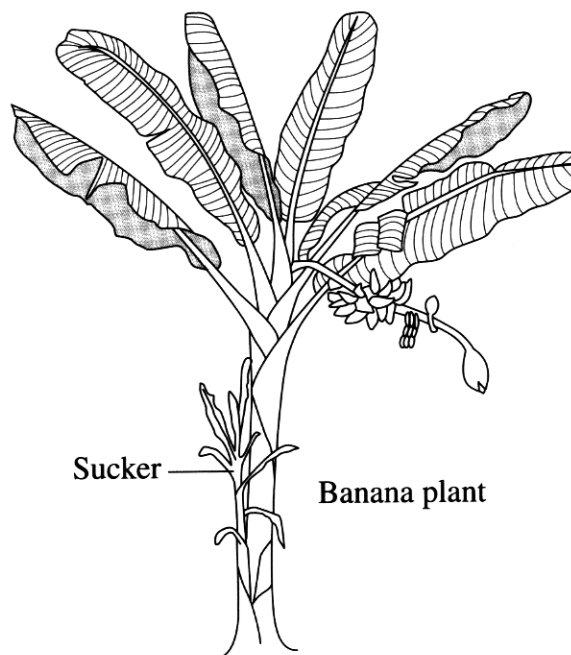


**Marks**

**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.

~~Although the disease in the plant may~~  
The impact will be that the plants will be disease free making for better crops. <sup>cloning</sup> won't have a real effect on the diversity of the banana plants as they have been asexually reproduced many times before this and asexual reproduction is a form of cloning itself. So although in many instances cloning would destroy the diversity of a species in this instance there will be no great impact except for no disease in crops and a better yield.