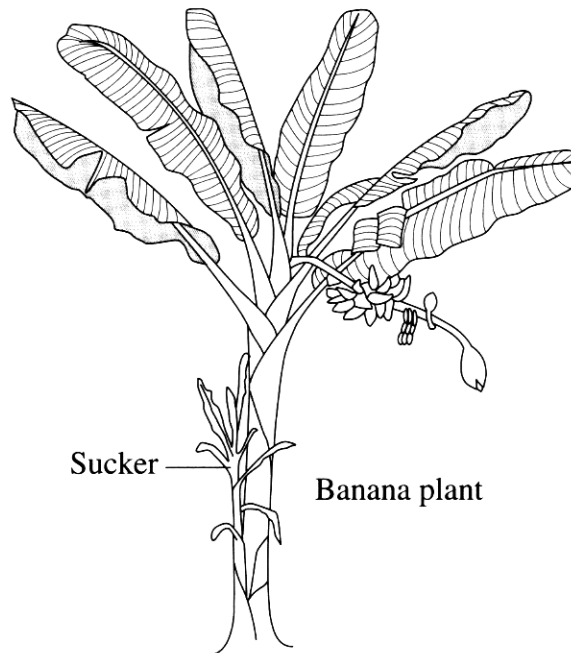


Marks

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.

if this cloning was used, and the plants were considered disease free, what would happen if an unknown pathogen was to rear its head, and due to the fact all plants are the same, genetically, the entire species of banana plants died out.