

2010 HIGHER SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION
Biology

Section I – Part B (continued)

Question 23 (7 marks)

- (a) Use an example to explain why hybridisation within a species is carried out.

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Hybridisation is carried out to give an organism species more of a desired trait. Wheat is hybridised to make it bigger, grow bigger and be more resistant.

- (b) Use an example of a named transgenic species to discuss the social and environmental impact of this technology.

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BT cotton is a species that has had a gene inserted into it so that it became resistant to the cotton boll weevil. This has allowed farmers of cotton to be more successful and will have most likely lowered the price of cotton. It has also however removed a resource from the cotton boll weevil and may cause it to become endangered or extinct if it can't adapt.