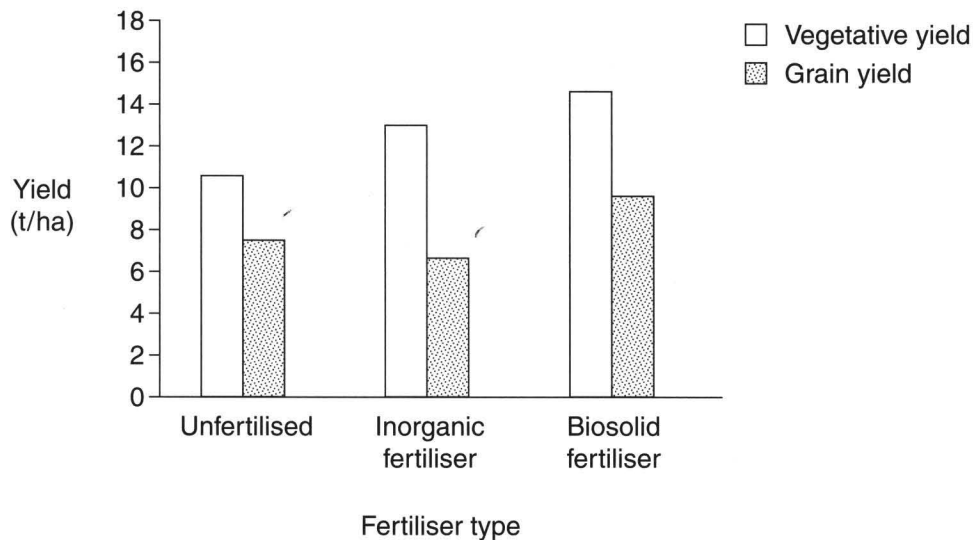


**Question 25** (7 marks)

Digested 'biosolid' (the solid residue produced from effluent) is being applied as a fertiliser as an alternative to inorganic fertilisers.

A study was carried out to investigate the effects of biosolid fertiliser on the growth and grain yield of maize. The level of vegetative yield (t/ha) and grain yield (t/ha) are shown.



- (a) Explain why the grain yield from the application of inorganic fertiliser differed from that of the control. 3

There may have been an inconsistent application of the inorganic fertiliser or a variable that was unknown more than likely human error.

Question 25 continues on page 18

Question 25 (continued)

- (b) Explain why a maize producer may decide NOT to use biosolid fertiliser.

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~~A farmer~~ A producer may decide not to use  
the biosolid fertiliser as it increases  
excessive vegetative growth which  
would be more labour intensive  
and expensive to process than  
other methods for the extra grain  
grown which may be more costly.

End of Question 25