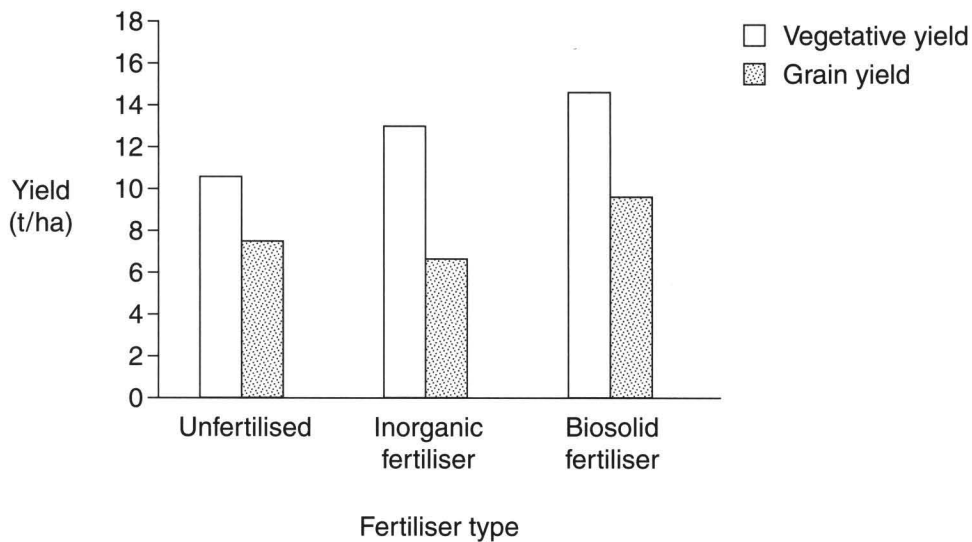


Question 25 (7 marks)

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

The inorganic fertiliser would still have added nutrients to the soil
The inorganic fertiliser may have made the soil too acidic to promote grain yield

Question 25 continues on page 18

Question 25 (continued)

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

4

The cost of the ~~not~~ biosolid fertiliser
may be more than an inorganic fertiliser.
Also, maybe the current fertiliser that the
farmer is using at the moment is
working for him very well in terms of
production

End of Question 25