

Question 28 (10 marks)

- (a) Explain a strategy that farmers use to manage the sustainability of water resources for agricultural production. 3

The use of Partial Root-Drying (PRD) in the production of grapes allows approximately a 50% decrease in water needed to produce the same amount of fruit. This reduces the stress on water resources to ensure their sustainability.

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Question 28 (continued)

- (b) For a soil degradation problem, explain farm management practices that have contributed to the problem and a procedure that can be used to alleviate the problem.

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Dryland Salinity is a problem that occurs when deep-rooted plants and crops are removed from an area, which ~~the~~ raises the water table (and without salts), turning the soil saline. Farmers can contribute to this problem through the removal of trees and other deep rooted plants that used ~~the~~ water from the water table. It can be combatted through the planting of salt tolerant species such as saltbush, deeper rooted crops such as lucerne and tree lines to help lower the water table.

End of Question 28