

**Question 28** (10 marks)

storing - water      dams  
drip irrigation      water tanks  
                                 less      bores  
                                 water

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

A strategy used by farmers to manage sustainability of water resources for agricultural production is storing water in great quantities to prepare for drought and later use. They do this by storing it in <sup>large</sup> dams/water catchments. Also the implementation of water tanks around the home to store it and in bores/artesian water holes (bores). By doing this it helps to sustain enough water in case restrictions are put in place or drought occurs and so they can **Question 28 continues on page 22** continue to sustain their agricultural production.

removal of trees  
excessive irrigation  
soil salinity  
grazing runoff  
plant salt resistant trees  
crop rotation  
planting trees  
fencing off areas

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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~~A problem of soil degradation is salinity.~~  
 A soil degradation problem is salinity.  
 Farm management practices have greatly contributed to this problem. The removal of trees to make pastures for crops ~~or~~ has caused an excessive ~~of~~ rise in the water table due to no roots <sup>so it rises.</sup> ~~been~~ taking the water out into the atmosphere to keep ~~the~~ <sup>the salt</sup> With this increase ~~causes~~ <sup>so it rises.</sup> rises to the top causing salinity. Overgrazing of animals also contributes as they take away vital plants when eating that help <sup>stop</sup> combat salinity. Physical and chemical weathering contribute as well as they breakdown and take away <sup>important</sup> plants. Excessive irrigation ~~the~~ takes away soil nutrients and runoff ~~from this~~ <sup>from this</sup> as well which all cause the ~~problem~~ <sup>soil</sup> soil degradation problem of salinity. ~~At this~~ ~~is one~~ A procedure that is used to alleviate ~~and~~ this problem and that is highly effective is the planting of trees in affected areas. ~~that~~ this helps by the roots taking the water in and putting it into the atmosphere, helping to lower the water table and the salt.

End of Question 28