

Grade 7 Natural Science Worksheet

Assessment Task: Botony: plant reproduction

Asexual reproduction in plants

Flowering plants have specialised reproductive organs called flowers. However, plants are also able to undergo **asexual reproduction**. This form of reproduction does not involve the production of gametes and fertilisation does not take place. Other parts of the plant are involved in producing new plants.

Question 1

Complete the following statements by choosing the correct answers from the box.

1. Potatoes can reproduce using ...
2. New onion plants can develop from ...
3. Irises grow new plants from ...
4. Plants such as strawberries and grass can produce new plants ...
5. Hen and chicken plants reproduce asexually by ...
6. Kalanchoe plants make new little plantlets ...
7. Other plants, such as Hypoestes and African violets can be cultivated from ...

cuttings taken from established plants. by sending out runners. forming new little plantlets at the end of special stalks or stems. new shoots from existing bulbs. the buds or “eyes” that grow on the tubers. along the edges of their leaves. rhizomes which are underground stems.
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[7 marks]

Question 2

How have humans exploited (used their benefit) the fact that many plants can reproduce asexually? Discuss your ideas with a partner. Your teacher may ask for you to present your ideas verbally to the class, or write your ideas down in a paragraph.

[8 marks]

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Suggested Solutions

Possible marks	Solution
7	<p>Potatoes can reproduce using the buds or “eyes” that grow on the tubers. ✓</p> <p>New onion plants can develop from new shoots from existing bulbs. ✓</p> <p>Irises grow new plants from rhizomes which are underground stems. ✓</p> <p>Plants such as strawberries and grass can produce new plants by sending out runners. ✓</p> <p>Hen and chicken plants reproduce asexually by forming new little plantlets at the end of special stalks or stems. ✓</p> <p>Kalanchoe plants make new little plantlets along the edges of their leaves. ✓</p> <p>Other plants, such as Hypoestes and African violets can be cultivated from cuttings taken from established plants. ✓</p>
8	<p>Learners should present ideas either verbally or in a written paragraph. They should come up with ideas such as quicker reproduction, therefore more food for humans; cloning – the quality/strain is maintained; people without many skills can reproduce good quality plants in their own gardens etc.</p>