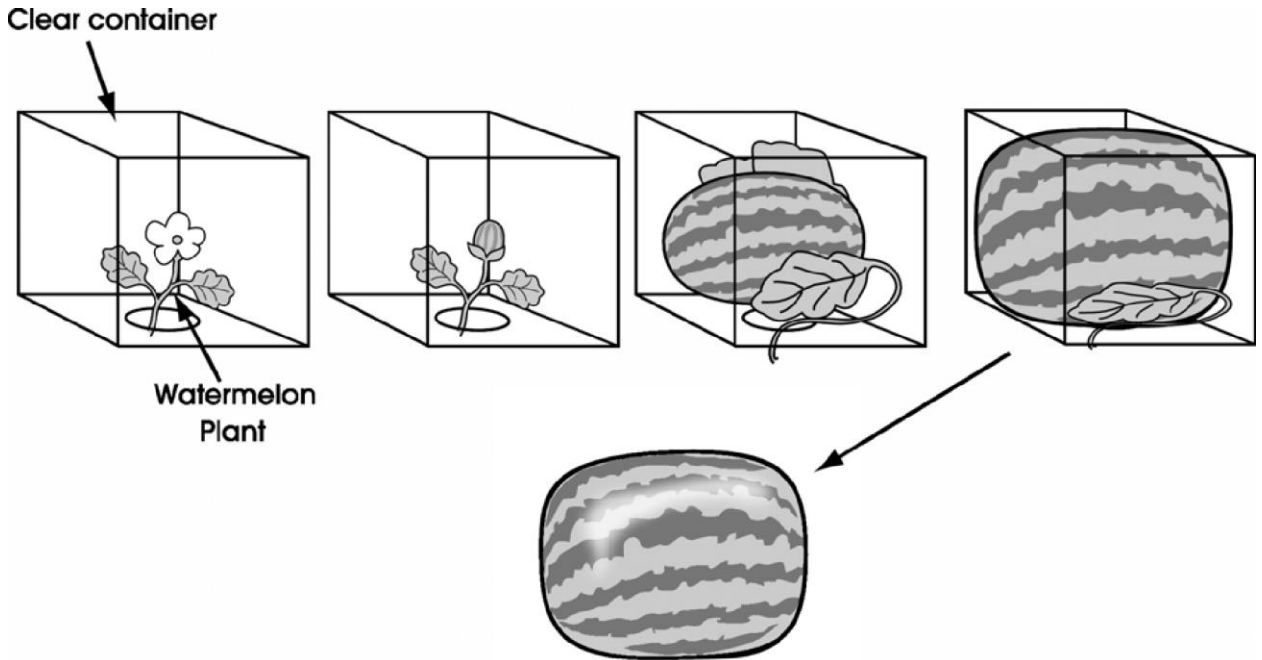


Item

40. In a recent agricultural experiment, farmers in Japan inserted fertilized watermelon blooms into square containers, which resulted in the fruit taking the shape of its container as it grew.



Describe two benefits of farming practices that produce square watermelons.

Respond in the space provided in your **Answer Document**. (2 points)

Sample Response for Item 40 (Short Answer):

Sample Response:

- Square watermelons are easier to stack/package for shipping.
- Square watermelons are less likely to roll off a preparation table and burst.
- To produce a square watermelon, the fruit must grow inside a container, so it is less likely to rot on the ground.
- To produce a square watermelon, the fruit must grow inside a container, which will offer protection from infestation/attack by insects and other pests.
- Square watermelon will have a better fit in the refrigerator.
- Other acceptable responses.

Scoring Guidelines for Item 40

Score Point Description

- 2 points The student response demonstrates a complete understanding of the task by describing two benefits to farmers of producing square watermelons.
- 1 point The student response demonstrates a partial understanding of the task by describing one benefit to farmers of producing square watermelons.
- 0 points The student response demonstrates no understanding of the task. The response may provide incorrect information or be irrelevant to the task. The student may only repeat information from the passage or prompt without any supporting information responsive to the task. The student may have written "I don't know."

To produce square watermelons, you'd have to grow the seed in a box or cut the seed in the shape of squares, farms try many different practice to help the growth and shape of their foods or goods.

Score Point: 0

The response does not meet the criteria required to earn one point. The response provides descriptions of how it might be possible to produce square watermelons, not of the benefits of growing square watermelons.

One benefits of farming practices that produces square watermelons are that the people who planted the watermelon can win some kind of prize for it. Another benefit of doing that is that they can start a business with it and get paid alot of money.

Score Point: 0

The response does not meet the criteria required to earn one point. The response does not provide benefits related to the square shape of the watermelons.

THE WATERMELONS WILL ONLY GET THE SIZE OF THE BOX AND NO BIGGER MAKING THEM MORE ROOM TO GROW MORE WATERMELONS AND IT COULD BE EASIER TO TAKE CARE OF.

Score Point: 1

The response describes one benefit of farming practices that produce square watermelons. ("only get the size of the box and no bigger making them more room to grow more watermelons")

Two benefits of farming practices that produce square watermelons are that these square watermelons will be easier to handle and they will be easier to cut when they're ready to be eaten.

Score Point: 1

The response describes one benefit of farming practices that produce square watermelons ("easier to handle" and "easier to cut"). The response receives only one point because the provided descriptions essentially repeat themselves.

They may be bigger
& would be easier
to handle.

Score Point: 1

The response describes one benefit of farming practices that produce square watermelons ("easier to handle"). The response receives no credit for "bigger" because the box constricts the growth of the watermelon in order to cause it to grow in a square shape; the box does not provide conditions that would improve the growth rate of the watermelon.

Two benefits of producing square watermelons would be a decrease in maximum space needed to store the melons, and easy transport because they fit easily into boxes.

Score Point: 2

The response describes two benefits of farming practices that produce square watermelons. ("a decrease in maximum space needed to store the melons" and "easy transport because they fit easily into boxes.")

The benefits of having a square watermelon are that one when going to ship them they fit better in boxes and two they won't roll away from you.

Score Point: 2

The response describes two benefits of farming practices that produce square watermelons. ("one when going to ship them they fit better in boxes" and "two they won't roll away")

One convenience in these farming methods might be space conservation. The contained growing fruit could need less space. Pests could also be blocked out from attacking the fruit in its containers.

Score Point: 2

The response describes two benefits of farming practices that produce square watermelons. ("space conservation. The contained growing fruit could need less space." and "Pests could also be blocked out from attacking the fruit")

A watermelon that is square can be more efficiently stored in boxes, a truck, et. There is also not a worry of the watermelon rolling away. From these more water melons can be shipped and more watermelons can be kept from ruining by falling off something.

Score Point: 2

The response describes two benefits of farming practices that produce square watermelons. ("efficiently stored in boxes ... also not a worry of the watermelon rolling away.")