

Chapter 9 Genetic diversity

- 1** The National Vegetable Research Station stores a collection of seeds from many species and varieties of vegetables. These include old and rare varieties.
- (a) Why is it important to keep seeds from old and rare varieties of vegetables? *(2 marks)*
- (b) Every few years, seeds of each variety in the collection are germinated and grown into mature plants. New seeds obtained from these plants are added to the collection.
- (i) Suggest why it is necessary to obtain new seeds every few years.
- (ii) Within each variety, the scientists cross plants with different genes. Explain the advantage of this. *(3 marks)*

AQA, 2004