

Mark scheme

Question			Answer/Indicative content	Marks	Guidance								
1	a		<table><tr><td></td><td>Number of pesticide resistant insects</td><td>Number of pesticide sensitive insects</td><td>Ratio</td></tr><tr><td>At the end</td><td>4</td><td>2</td><td>2 : 1</td></tr></table> <p style="text-align: right;">✓ ✓</p>		Number of pesticide resistant insects	Number of pesticide sensitive insects	Ratio	At the end	4	2	2 : 1	2 (AO 2.2) (AO 1.2)	<p>ALLOW 4 : 2</p> <p><u>Examiner's Comments</u></p> <p>This question was answered well, with most candidates gaining the full 2 marks.</p>
	Number of pesticide resistant insects	Number of pesticide sensitive insects	Ratio										
At the end	4	2	2 : 1										
	b		Natural selection ✓	1 (AO 2.1)	<p><u>Examiner's Comments</u></p> <p>Approximately half of all candidates correctly selected natural selection. The most commonly seen incorrect response was genetic engineering.</p>								
	c		Pesticides kill pests/insects ✓ The pests/insects may become resistant ✓	2 (2 x AO 3.1a)	<p>ALLOW idea that may deter them from using pesticide</p> <p>ALLOW may choose alternative named methods / alternative pesticide/ become organic farmers</p> <p><u>Examiner's Comments</u></p> <p>This question proved to be found quite tricky by candidates. Where candidates had recognised that it was natural selection in the previous question, they generally gained at least 1 mark on this question, recognising that some of the insects became resistant to the pesticide, and/or that the farmers would need to find an alternative pesticide. When an incorrect response was selected in Question 17 (b), then candidates often</p>								

					went down the wrong path with their responses to this question.
			Total	5	
2			B	1 (AO 1.1)	<u>Examiner's Comments</u> This was answered correctly by the majority of candidates, with the most commonly seen incorrect response being A.
			Total	1	
3		i	All points correctly plotted ✓ ✓	2 (2 xAO 2.2)	3 points correct = 1 mark ALLOW +/- half a square DO NOT ALLOW a bar graph <u>Examiner's Comments</u> The majority of candidates were able to correctly plot all 4 points. Where only 1 mark was scored, it was due to the first point being plotted incorrectly.
		ii	Line of best fit ✓	1 (AO 2.2)	ALLOW ECF from incorrect points plotted IGNORE extrapolations <u>Examiner's Comments</u> The majority of candidates were able to draw a suitable line of best fit. Where candidates didn't score this mark it was generally for the following reasons: they did not use a ruler, their line was too thick, or they had multiple lines.
		iii	A figure in range of 1.55-1.7 ✓	1 (AO 2.2)	ALLOW ECF figure from candidate's graph <u>Examiner's Comments</u> More than half of all candidates were able to use their line of best fit to make a prediction.
		iv	Any two from: Less chance of mutations ✓ Less likely to get cancer/tumours ✓	2 (2 xAO 1.1)	ALLOW uncontrolled growth causes cancer/tumours

			Cancer/tumours can spread / be lethal ✓		ALLOW malignant <u>Examiner's Comments</u> This question was one of the more challenging questions for the majority of candidates, with candidates not making the link between uncontrolled cell growth and tumours/cancer. Most candidates who were credited marks tended to only gain 1 mark on this question, for stating that mole rats were less likely to get mutations, or less likely to get cancer.
			Total	6	
4			C	1 (AO 1.1)	<u>Examiner's Comments</u> Answered correctly by majority of candidates.
			Total	1	
5			B	1 (AO 1.1)	<u>Examiner's Comments</u> Over half of all candidates answered this correctly.
			Total	1	
6		i	<div style="display: flex; gap: 10px; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px;">D</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px;">C</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px;">B</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px;">A</div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px 5px;">E</div> </div>	3 (3 × AO 2.1)	D before C ✓ C before B ✓ B before A ✓ <u>Examiner's Comments</u> The majority of candidates scored 2 or full marks on this natural selection question showing the correct order.
		ii	(Charles) Darwin ✓	1 (AO 1.1)	ALLOW Wallace <u>Examiner's Comments</u> Over half the candidates correctly identified Darwin as the scientist who published a book describing the theory of natural selection. Most candidates who did not gain this mark did not answer with a no response.
			Total	4	