

Industry A

When you think of agriculture in The Gulf region, you usually have an image of date farming. But between Abu Dhabi and Dubai, there is an agricultural revolution going on. Hydroponics uses science to boost traditional methods and reduce the impact on the environment.

The technique, which started in Europe, grows fruit and vegetables without using soil. Normally, plants use considerable energy to push roots out to find the nutrients in the earth. Instead, with hydroponics, nutrients are fed to the roots with specially blended water which is repeatedly recycled. A team of scientists makes sure that the nutrients in the water are constantly monitored to maximize output and ensure food safety. Not only do the fruits and vegetables look and taste as good as traditional ones, they can be grown all year round whatever the season.

Hydroponics is an eco-friendly way of growing food because of massive saving in water consumption; to produce one kilo of strawberries traditionally requires 370 gallons of water, but with hydroponics the same results can be achieved with just 15 gallons! As this industry is still in its infant stages, investment opportunities are plentiful.

Verdict: A growing industry. Huge potential.

Group A

2-Read your article again. Which of the following sentences is true for your industry, according to the text?

- 1 Our company makes more than a \$1 billion a year.
- 2 Our industry is very eco-friendly.
- 3 The UAE is a world leader in this industry.
- 4 Our company relies on traditional methods.
- 5 Our industry uses European know-how.

- 6 Our product is safe thanks to constant scientific checks.
- 7 Our industry has grown dramatically over the last 30 years.
- 8 Our company exports most of its products abroad.
- 9 Our company's products can be good for your health.
- 10 Our company's products are tailor-made according to clients' requests.
- 11 Most of our company's products are sold within the UAE.
- 12 Our industry has a good safety record compared to other countries.