

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_

## Soil Solarization Quiz **Answer Key**

1. How do most farmers currently protect their crops from bugs, weeds and disease?  
**Chemical application of pesticides and/or herbicides**

2. List some harmful side-effects from the current pest control practices.

**Pesticides and herbicides are toxic to humans.**

**These chemicals kill both harmful AND helpful plants and animals.**

**They run off from the fields into the surrounding area and damage ecosystems.**

3. Using the word bank provided below, fill in the blanks in the following sentence.

Soil solarization is a technique that harnesses \_\_\_\_\_ **radiation** \_\_\_\_\_ from the sun to heat the soil and \_\_\_\_\_ **acids** \_\_\_\_\_ from microbes to make the soil toxic for pests to live in. Combined, these two processes rid the soil of harmful pests, ensuring the best possible crop yield.

Word Bank:

chemicals

water

acids

bases

radiation

power

4. Circle the variables below that can be engineered in the soil solarization process to change how well it can remove pests. Circle ALL that apply.

**Plastic type/color**

Area of the field

Color of glass

**Addition of compost**

**Amount of water in soil**

Type of plant(s) grown