

UNIVERSAL CONVENT SR. SEC. SCHOOL KALADHUNGI

CLASS - X SOCIAL SCIENCE (GEOGRAPHY)

CHAPTER - 4 AGRICULTURE (Notes)

AGRICULTURE is a primary activity, which produces most of the food, raw material for various industries. Two-third of India's population is engaged in agricultural activities.

TYPES OF FARMING

1. PRIMITIVE SUBSISTENCE FARMING

- It is practised on small patches of land with the help of primitive tools like hoe, dao and digging sticks, and family/ community labour.
- This type of farming depends upon monsoon and natural fertility of the soil.
- It is a 'slash and burn' agriculture. Farmers clear a patch of land and produce cereals and other food crops. When the soil loses its fertility, the farmer shifts and

clear a fresh patch of land for cultivation. This allows nature to replenish the fertility of the soil.

- It is also known as Thumming in north-eastern states.

2. INTENSIVE SUBSISTENCE FARMING

- This type of farming is practised in areas of high population pressure on land.
- It is labour-intensive farming.
- High doses of bio-chemical inputs and irrigation are used for higher production.

3. COMMERCIAL FARMING

- This type of farming uses higher doses of modern inputs such as HYV seeds, chemical fertilisers, insecticides and pesticides to obtain higher productivity.
- Plantation is a type of commercial farming in which a single crop is grown on a large area.

- Plantations cover large tracts of land, using capital intensive inputs, with the help of migrant labourers.
- All the produce is used as a raw material in industries.
- Eg. Tea, Coffee, Rubber, Sugarcane, Banana.

CROPPING PATTERN

India has three cropping seasons:

(i) RABI

- Rabi crops are sown in winter from Oct. to Dec.
- Harvested in summer from April to June.
- Important rabi crops are wheat, barley, peas, gram and mustard.

(ii) KHARIF

- Kharif crops are grown with the onset

of monsoon.

- Harvested in September - October.
- Important crops are paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, tur, moong, urad, cotton, jute, groundnut and soyabean.

(iii) ZAID

- In between the rabi and the kharif seasons, there is a short season during the summer months known as the Zaid season.
- Important crops are watermelon, muskmelon, cucumber, vegetables and fodder crops.

MAJOR CROPS :

1. RICE

- India is the second largest producer of rice in the world after china.
- It is a kharif crop.

- It requires high temperature and high humidity with annual rainfall above 100 cm.
- It is grown in the plains of north and north-eastern India, coastal areas and the deltaic regions.

2. WHEAT

- This is a rabi crop.
- It requires a cool growing season and bright sunshine at the time of ripening.
- It requires 50 to 75 cm of annual rainfall.
- The Ganga-Satluj plains in the north-west and black soil region of the Deccan are two main wheat growing zones in India.
- Major wheat producing states are Punjab, Haryana, U.P, Bihar, Rajasthan and M.P.

3. MAIZE

- It is a kharif crop.
- It requires temperatures between 21°C to 27°C .
- It grows well in old alluvial soil.
- It is used both as food and fodder.
- Major maize producing states are Karnataka, M.P., U.P., Bihar, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.

[MILLETS AND PULSES - do it yourself]

FOOD CROPS OTHER THAN GRAINS

1. SUGARCANE

- It is a tropical as well as subtropical crop.
- It grows well in hot and humid climate with a temperature of 21°C to 27°C and annual rainfall between 75 cm to 100 cm.

- Needs manual labour from sowing to harvesting.
- India is the second largest producer of sugarcane after Brazil.
- Major sugarcane producing states are U.P., Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar, Punjab and Haryana.

2. OIL SEEDS

- Different oil seeds are grown covering approximately 12% of the total cropped area of India.
- Main oil seeds produced in India are:
- Groundnut: is a kharif crop and accounts for half of the major oil seeds produced in India.
- Gujarat is the largest producer of groundnuts.
- Mustard: is a rabi crop.
- Sesame (til): is a kharif crop in north

and rabi crop in south India.

- Castor seeds: It is grown as both Rabi and Kharif crop.
- Linseed: is a rabi crop.
- Coconut, soyabean, cotton seeds, sunflower etc.

3. TEA

- It is also an important beverage crop introduced by the British in India.
- The tea plant grows well in tropical and sub-tropical climates with deep and fertile well-drained soil, rich in humus and organic matter.
- Tea bushes require warm and moist frost free climate all through the year.
- Tea is a labour-intensive industry.
- Major tea producing states are Assam, Darjeeling, Jalpaiguri districts, West Bengal, Tamil Nadu and Kerala.

4. COFFEE

- India produces about four percent of the world's coffee production.
 - Indian coffee is known in the world for its good quality.
 - Yemen coffee is produced in India and has great demand all over the world.
 - Its cultivation was introduced on the Baba Budan Hills and is confined to the Nilgiri in Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.
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