

Tender Heart High School

Section 33 B, Chandigarh

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Class: X

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Subject: Geography

Chapter 12

Agriculture in India - III

Cash Crops

(1) Cotton

- both kharif and rabi crop.
- It provides basic raw material to cotton textile industry.
- India ranks 4th in cotton production in the world and it accounts for 10% of world cotton output.

Characteristics

- Cotton plant is small in size, about 1 to 1.5 metres high, with large leaves and yellow flowers.
- The flowers develop into cottonseed pods known as bolls.
- The cottonseeds are used in vanaspati industries and make excellent fodder for milch cattle.
- It is both tropical and subtropical crop grown up to 40°N latitude.

Types or Variety

(a) Long staple cotton

- has large fibre with 24 to 27 mm.
- Egyptian cotton of this variety is world famous.
- In India half of the cotton is of this variety.
- It is produced in Punjab, Haryana, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana

(b) Medium Staple Cotton:

- Its fibre length varies from 20 to 24 mm.
- It is produced in Rajasthan, Punjab.

(c) Short Staple Cotton:

- Its fibre length is less than 19 mm.
- produced in UP, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Rajasthan, Punjab, Haryana.

Soils

- Cotton is mainly grown in deep black soil of Deccan Plateau, Malwa Plateau and Gujarat, as these soils retain moisture.
- It can also be grown well in Alluvial soils of Satluj-Ganga plains and also in red and laterite soils of peninsular regions.

Temperature

- It needs temp. of 21°C to 27°C but not less than 20°C .
- needs plenty of sunshine.
- warm days and cool nights are good for development of ball.
- requires 200 frost free days during growing period.

Rainfall

- requires 50 to 80 cm of rainfall throughout the year.
- Stagnant water and excessive rain is harmful.

Method of Cultivation

- takes 6 to 8 months to mature.
- depending upon climatic condition, its sowing and harvesting time varies.
- frost is worst enemy of crop.
- The seeds of cotton are sown by broadcasting method, but drilling method is more popular.
- In Punjab and Haryana, it is sown in April or May and harvested in December or January and grown as Kharif crop.

- In peninsula India, it is grown as kharif crop because there is no fear of crop damaging the crop
- In Tamil Nadu, cotton is grown both kharif and Rabi.

Problems of cotton cultivation

- requires large amount of investment.
- Farmers facing security threats due to losses incurred.
- requires plenty of labour.
- Increase in price of electricity consumption
- Cotton seeds are very expensive.

Diseases

- attacked by pests
- attacked by diseases like Boll worms, boll weevils and wilts.

Processing

Ginning

- In this, the cotton fibre is separated from cotton.
- It is mostly done by roller gins.
- After separating, the lint is tied in bales and sent to cotton mills for spinning into thread.

Uses

- After ginning, oil is extracted from the cotton seed and used for making Vanaspati, margarine and soap.
- The residue is used as cattle feed.

Areas or States

- | | |
|---------------|------------------|
| - Punjab | - Karnataka |
| - Maharashtra | - Tamil Nadu |
| - Gujarat | - Andhra Pradesh |
| - Haryana | - Telangana |

Jute

- It is second important fibre crop.
- It is known as Golden Fibre
- It is used to make gunny bags, ropes, upholstery strings etc.
- It is also known as Brown Paper Bag because its bags are used for packing purpose.
- It is very important cash crop as it earns a lot of foreign exchange.

Types of Variety

- * white jute - grown in deltas and lowlands.
- * Toss jute - It is grown only on uplands.

Soils

- grows best in light sandy soil or clayey loams and also in alluvial soil of Deltas and flood plains.

Temperature

- between 24°C to 35°C .

Rainfall

- requires rainfall of 170 to 200 cms.
- untimely rain and draught is injurious to crop.

Method of Cultivation

→ Sowing

- sown in February in lowlands and March or May on upland.
- seeds are either broadcast or sown by dibbling method.

→ Harvesting

- It is ready for harvesting as soon as flowering starts.
- Harvesting is done from July to September.
- If area is flooded the plants are uprooted otherwise cut to ground height.

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Problems of Jute Cultivation

- Lack of irrigation facilities.
- During kharif season, other crops are grown instead of Jute.
- Delay in sanction of loan.

Processing

- After harvesting, the plants are tied into bundles after 2-3 days.
- Then these bundles are submerged into water for retting and left there for 2-3 weeks.
- After this retting process is carried out.
- As soon as retting process completes, stripping, rinsing, washing and cleaning is done.
- After this fibre is dried in sun and pressed into bales.

Areas or States

- West Bengal - Bihar
- Assam - Orissa