

Tendern Heights High School

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Date: 25/11/24

Subject: Geography

Class: X

Agriculture in India - II

Food Crops

(1) Rice (Kharif Crop)

- It is the most important crop of India and supports half of Indian Population.
- It is the staple food of people living in northeast and southern states.
- It is tropical as well as subtropical crop and can be grown in different terrains in whole of India.
- Since it is grown under different conditions, so it has given rise to number of varieties that also differs in quality.

Types or Varieties

- (a) wet or lowland rice - rice grown in well watered plains.
- (b) Terrace cultivated rice - rice grown on terraces in hill slopes.
- (c) dry or upland rice - rice grown on upland dry lands.

Soils

- Rice can be grown on deep fertile clayey soil, black lava soil.
- They grow best in low lands, river valleys, flood plains, deltas and coastal plains.

Climatic Conditions

- Temperature - average temperature 24°C with range of 16°C to 32°C .
 - 18°C to 32°C at ripening stage.
 - needs plenty of sunshine.

Rainfall - average rainfall 150 cm to 200 cm.

- needs flooded fields during earthen part of growing season
- little rain before ripening increases the size of grain.

Methods of Cultivation

(1) Broadcasting Method / Scattering Method:

- In this method seeds are sown by sprinkling in soil by hand.
- By this method low quality seeds are sown and hence yield is very low.

(2) Dibbling

- In this method seeds are dropped at regular intervals in the furrow made by the farmers with the help of plough and dibben.
- Dibben is a stick that is used to make hole in ground.
- It is time consuming.

(3) Drilling Method

- While using plough, seeds are dropped through a bamboo shaft attached to it, in the furrows made by the plough in a straight line.
- It does less wastage of seeds and it is very time consuming.
- It is mostly used in Tamil Nadu in Peninsular India.
- Before using this cultivating method, sometimes seeds are soaked in water for a few hours before sowing, this helps in quick germination especially where soil has less moisture.

(4) Transplantation

- It is practiced in the areas of fertile soil, abundant rainfall, plenty of sunshine and more supply of labour.
- In this method, seeds are sown in nursery after soaking them for 24 hrs.
- After 4 weeks seeds are uprooted and planted in the flooded fields so that they can grow again.
- In this method lot of manual work is required.

Advantages of Transplanting

- Lot of labour is required that is easily available.
- weeds are removed during resowing.
- There is less wastage of seed.

(5) Japanese Method of Cultivation

- less and best quality seeds are used.
- Sowing of seeds is done in raised nursery beds.
- seeds are transplanted in rows to make weeding and fertilizing easy.
- It obtains high yield due to much use of manure.
- This method gives three times higher yield.
- It is successfully adopted by many rice cultivating regions of Asia.

Harvesting and Processing

- Harvesting is done by hand.
- The cut crop is kept in field for 3-4 days to dry.
- After that it is threshed and trampled by bullocks to separate the kernel from seeds.
- After this rice is sent for polishing.
- By Polishing, the rice looks nice but loses its nutrients.

Diseases

- Rice tungro virus
- green leaf hopper
- rice Caseworm
- paddy stem borer
- Stem-brot and stripe
- blast of bacterial leaf streak.

Distribution of Rice Crop

- Lower and Middle Ganga plains
- Brahmaputra plains
- East and West Coastal regions
- Parts of peninsular plateau, especially Tamil Nadu

Major rice producing States

- | | | |
|------------------|--------------|----------|
| - West Bengal | - Telangana | - Odisha |
| - UP | - Punjab | - Bihar |
| - Andhra Pradesh | - Tamil Nadu | |

Regions of Rice Cultivation

(a) West Bengal

- largest producer of rice
- accounts for 15% of total rice producing area
- regions are lower Ganga valley.

(b) Tamil Nadu

- It is best grown in Kaveri Delta, especially in Thanjavur in Tamil Nadu.

(c) Other regions

- Punjab, Haryana, western UP, Bihar, Jharkhand, Madhya Pradesh, Orissa, Kerala, Andhra Pradesh.

(2) Wheat (Rabi Crop)

- It is staple food of north and northwest part of country.
- rich in protein, vitamins and carbohydrates.
- It is temperate crop.
- grown in winter and harvested in March or April.
- It is grown especially in flat alluvial plains of North India.

Types of wheatNormal Bread wheat

- grown on irrigated land of loamy and clayey soil.
- mostly grown in Punjab, Haryana and UP.

Harder Variety, Macaroni wheat

- grown in areas of high rainfall.
- It grows in clayey black soil.
- mostly grown in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, western Andhra Pradesh.

Soils

- wheat grows best in loamy soil, alluvial soil of clayey composition.
- Mostly grown in Indo-gangetic plains.
- It can be also grown best in black soil in Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.

Climatic requirementsTemperature

- requires cool climate with moderate rainfall.
- average temp. 10°C - 15°C at sowing time and 20°C - 25°C during ripening.
- Grows in winter season in north and north-western part of India.

Rainfall

- needs 50 to 100 cm of rainfall during growing season.
- In less than 50 cm of rain, irrigation is used to cultivate crop.
- little winter rain is required before ripening. this helps to increase the yield.
- High temp. and excessive rains are harmful.
- Low tem. in month of Oct. and Nov. is very useful and also winter rains by westerly disturbances.

Method of cultivation

- field is prepared by end of November and harvesting is done by March.
- seeds are sown by broadcasting, dibbling, drilling method.

Harvesting

- wheat is harvested by cutting the plants with sickle close to the ground.
- soon after this Threshing is done under the feet of bullocks or Threshing machines.
- After this winnowing process is done to clean the grains from husk and left out materials in seeds.
- At last milling process is done.

Diseases

- Stripe rust
- Black point
- Loose smut
- Yellow rust

Problems of wheat Cultivation

- continuous cropping of wheat decreases the fertility of soil.
- excessive high or low temperatures or droughts are harmful.
- high humidity and low temperature destroys crops as it attracts rust attack.

Area on states

- Uttar Pradesh
 - Punjab
 - Haryana
 - Madhya Pradesh
 - Rajasthan
 - Bihar
 - Gujarat
 - Maharashtra
- } known as Granary of India.