

AGRICULTURE IN AFRICA

TYPES

- SUBSISTENCE FARMING
- COMMERCIAL FARMING

Subsistence farming

1. SHIFTING CULTIVATION
2. ROTATIONAL BUSH FALLOWING
3. NOMADIC PASTORALISM

Shifting cultivation

- CHARACTERISTICS
- ADVANTAGES
- DISADVANTAGES





characteristics

- Small plots of land are used
- Family labour for clearing and planting
- Only food crops are grown
- A number of crops are grown
- Production for home consumption

advantages

- Limits risks of pests and diseases
- Bush burning adds potash to the soil
- Land is allowed to regain fertility
- bush burning also kills seeds of weeds

disadvantages

- Destruction of natural vegetation
- Does not encourage growth of commercial crops
- Its tiresome due since there is use of rudimentary tools
- Not possible in densely populated areas