



Question-76

Distinguish between fertilizers and manures.

Solution:

- (1) Fertilizers generally refer to chemical fertilizers which are produced in factories. They contain chemical elements like phosphorus, potassium and nitrogen etc.
- (2) Whereas, manures refers to green leaf manures, farm wastes, compost produced by storing cow dung and farm wastes. Manures are of biological origin and are not prepared in factories.

Question-77

What are the differences between intensive agriculture and extensive agriculture/farming.

Solution:

Intensive Agriculture:

- (1) To obtain high yields, large capitals and labourers are applied.
- (2) The size of land holding is small, production per hectare is high.
- (3) Most of the production is consumed locally.
- (4) Manual labour and draught animals are mostly used.

Extensive Agriculture:

- (1) As compared less capital and labour is applied.
- (2) The size of land holding is large and production per hectare is low.
- (3) Surplus production is sold in the market.
- (4) Mechanized farming is practiced. This type of farming is practiced in sparsely populated areas.

Question-78

Differentiate between settled agriculture and shifting agriculture.

Solution:

Settled Agriculture:

- (1) In agricultural farms, it is practiced permanently on a small or big piece of land. In this type of agriculture, size of the field is not paid much attention.
- (2) The land / soil is often suitable for agriculture, if not it is made suitable by farmers, by using manures to increase the fertility of land.

Shifting agriculture:

- (1) In this type of agriculture the place of cultivation changes after 2 to 3 crops, when there is over growth of grass, weeds etc. It is left fallow to regain its fertility.
- (2) The land for this type of agriculture is obtained after burning bushes etc or after cutting down trees or bushes. The farmer does not use manure to regain the fertility of the land.

Question-79

What are the cropping seasons are found in India? When are crops sown & harvested in each of these. With examples.

Solution:

India has 3 cropping seasons Rabi, Kharif and Zaid.

- a) Rabi - Crops are sown in winter from October to December and harvested in summer from April to June. Some of the important crops are - wheat, barley, mustard, peas, grass.
- b) Kharif - Crops are grown with the onset of monsoons and harvested in September - October. Important crops are - paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, tur, moong, urad, cotton, jute, ground nut, soya

bean.

c) Zaid - Crops are grown between rabi and kharif, there is a short season during summer known as Zaid season. Important crops are - watermelon, muskmelon, cucumber, vegetables and fodder crops. Sugar cane takes almost a year to grow.

Question-80

Define plantation farming. What are its main characteristics? Name any five plantation crops of India.

Solution:

Plantation farming is a bush or tree farming. In this type of farming a single crop is grown on a large area. Characteristics -

This type of agriculture is found in:

- (1) Hilly areas or North India, Sub Himalayas, W Bengal, Nilgiris, Andaman and cardamom hills.
- (2) The plantation has an interface of agriculture and industry.
- (3) Covers large areas of land.
- (4) It is capital intensive, i.e it requires expensive inputs, requires skilled labourers.
- (5) All the production is used as raw material in respective industries. The important crops are tea, coffee, banana, sugarcane etc.

Question-81

Give the characteristics of commercial farming?

Solution:

- (1) Use of higher doses of modern inputs, that is high yielding variety (HYV) seeds, chemical fertilizers, insecticides and pesticides in order to obtain higher productivity.
- (2) Agriculture goods are mainly produced for sale.
- (3) The main crops are rice, millets, spices, cotton, etc. The farmer can sell them on commercial lines.
- (4) The degree of commercialization varies from one region to another. For example, rice is a commercial crop in Haryana and Punjab, but in Orissa, it is subsistence farming.

Question-82

What is slash and burn agriculture?

Solution:

In this farmers clear a patch of land and produce cereals and other crops to sustain their family, when the soil loses its fertility, the farmers shift and clear a fresh patch of land for cultivation. Nature replenishes the fertility of soil through natural processes. Land productivity in this type of agriculture is low, because the farmers do not use fertilizers or other modern inputs. It is generally known as shifting agriculture, but also known in different names in different parts of the country.

Question-83

Define subsistence farming and give its main characteristics.

Solution:

Refers to an agricultural system where crops are produced for self use or for circulation within the social networks for ritual, ceremonial exchange purposes, and some food may be sold in the market.

Characteristics:

- (a) Small scattered land holding.
- (b) Primitive tools.
- (c) Farmers being poor do not use fertilizers and high yielding quality seeds as per requirement, facilities like electricity, irrigation, generally is not available to farmers.
- (d) It has given way to commercial agriculture to some extent.

