

Modern Agriculture Alternatives



Intro to Environmental Science
DartmouthX

Organic agriculture:

aspires to work with
natural systems
rather than dominate them

Goals of organic agriculture:

- enhance biodiversity
- keep organic matter
and nutrients in soil
- maintain soil
- avoid synthetic fertilizers
and synthetic pesticides

Sustainable agriculture:

- enhancing quality of the soil
- minimizing use of resources
- allowing economic viability

Intercropping:

when two or more crop species are planted together to promote a synergistic interaction

Agroforestry:

intercropping trees with vegetables or other crops

Contour plowing:

plowing and harvesting parallel to the topographic contours of the land

No-till agriculture:

leaving crop residue in fields between growing seasons

Genetically modified:
a gene with a desirable trait
from one organism is inserted
into another organism

Maximum sustainable yield:
maximum amount of a renewable
resource that can be harvested
without compromising its future viability