

EDUVISTA

CLASS 10 • GEOGRAPHY

AGRICULTURE

COMPLETE • EASY • EXAM-READY NOTES

One chapter. One revision source.

Designed from the complete 12-page chapter supplied by the student, with concepts, crop conditions, states, reforms, definitions, comparisons and NCERT-style questions organised for quick learning.

MASTER FORMULA	REMEMBER
Farming Types → Cropping Seasons → Major Crops → Reforms → Bhoodan-Gramdan	Learn the season + conditions + states + uses for every important crop.

EDUVISTA • Learn Smart • Revise Fast • Score Better

1. AGRICULTURE — THE BIG PICTURE

India is an agriculturally important country. The chapter states that two-thirds of India's population is engaged in agricultural activities. Agriculture is a primary activity because it produces most of the food we consume and also supplies raw material to many industries. Tea, coffee and spices are examples of agricultural products that are exported.

Why is agriculture important?

- Provides food grains and other food products.
- Supplies raw material to various industries.
- Provides livelihood to a large share of the population.
- Produces export commodities such as tea, coffee and spices.

The chapter explains that farming practices change according to physical environment, technological know-how and socio-cultural practices. Farming ranges from subsistence to commercial farming.

2. TYPES OF FARMING

Type	Core idea	Key features
Primitive Subsistence	Small patches; family/community sustenance	Primitive tools; monsoon & natural fertility; slash-and-burn; shifting cultivation
Intensive Subsistence	Maximum output from limited land	High population pressure; labour-intensive; high doses of biochemical inputs
Commercial	Production mainly for market	HYV seeds, fertilisers, insecticides, pesticides; higher productivity
Plantation	Single crop on large area	Commercial farming; capital-intensive; migrant labour; produce linked to pro

Primitive Subsistence Farming — understand it in one chain

Clear land → Slash & burn → Grow food crops → Soil fertility falls → Shift to a fresh patch.

It depends on monsoon, natural soil fertility and suitability of environmental conditions. Primitive tools include the hoe, dao and digging sticks. Productivity is low because modern inputs such as fertilisers are not used.

Important names of shifting/slash-and-burn cultivation

Region	Name
North-East (Assam, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland)	Jhumming
Manipur	Pamlou
Bastar district, Chhattisgarh	Dipa
Andaman & Nicobar Islands	Jhumming
Madhya Pradesh	Bewar / Dahiya
Andhra Pradesh	Podu / Penda
Odisha	Pama Dabi / Koman / Bringa
Western Ghats	Kumari
South-eastern Rajasthan	Valre / Waltre
Himalayan belt	Khil
Jharkhand	Kuruwa

Global names of slash-and-burn agriculture mentioned in the chapter: Milpa (Mexico & Central America), Conuco (Venezuela), Roca (Brazil), Masole (Central Africa), Ladang (Indonesia), Ray (Vietnam).

Intensive Subsistence Farming

Practised in areas of high population pressure on land. It is labour-intensive and uses high doses of biochemical inputs and irrigation to obtain higher production. Inheritance divides land among generations, making holdings uneconomical; therefore farmers try to obtain maximum output from limited land when alternative livelihoods are absent.

Commercial Farming & Plantation Farming

Commercial farming uses higher doses of modern inputs such as HYV seeds, chemical fertilisers, insecticides and pesticides. The degree of commercialisation differs by region: rice is commercial in Haryana and Punjab but subsistence in Odisha.

Plantation is a form of commercial farming where a single crop is grown over a large area. It is an interface between agriculture and industry. Plantations use capital-intensive inputs and migrant labour; the produce becomes raw material for the respective industries. Important plantation crops include tea, coffee, rubber, sugarcane and banana. Transport and communication linking plantations, processing industries and markets are important.

3. CROPPING PATTERN

India has three main cropping seasons: Rabi, Kharif and Zaid.

Season	Sowing	Harvesting	Important crops / clues
RABI	October–December	April–June	Wheat, barley, peas, gram, mustard; winter crops
KHARIF	With onset of monsoon	September–October	Paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, tur, moong, urad, cotton, jute, groundnut
ZAID	Short summer season between sowing of Kharif and Rabi	Summer	Watermelon, muskmelon, cucumber, vegetables, fodder crops

Special point: Sugarcane takes almost a year to grow.

Rabi — exam points

Rabi crops are sown in winter and harvested in summer. Northern and north-western states such as Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu & Kashmir, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh are important for wheat and other rabi crops. Winter precipitation from western temperate cyclones helps these crops. The Green Revolution in Punjab, Haryana, western Uttar Pradesh and parts of Rajasthan also contributed to their growth.

Kharif — exam points

Kharif crops grow with the monsoon and are harvested in September–October. Rice-growing regions include Assam, West Bengal, coastal Odisha, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Maharashtra (especially Konkan), Uttar Pradesh and Bihar. Paddy has also become important in Punjab and Haryana. In Assam, West Bengal and Odisha, three paddy crops are grown in a year: Aus, Aman and Boro.

4. MAJOR CROPS — COMPLETE QUICK SHEETS

RICE — staple + Kharif

Point	What to remember
Importance	Staple food crop of a majority of Indians; chapter states India is the 2nd largest producer after China.
Season	Kharif
Climate	High temperature: above 25°C; high humidity
Rainfall	Above 100 cm annually; irrigation helps in lower-rainfall areas
Distribution	North & north-east plains, coastal areas and deltaic regions; irrigation has enabled cultivation in Punjab, Haryana, Western UP.

RICE MAP MEMORY: North/North-East + Coastal/Delta + Irrigated Punjab/Haryana/Western UP.

WHEAT — major Rabi cereal

Point	What to remember
Importance	Second most important cereal; main food crop of north and north-west India
Season	Rabi
Climate	Cool growing season + bright sunshine at ripening
Rainfall	50–75 cm, evenly distributed over growing season
Major zones	Ganga-Satluj plains in north-west; black soil region of Deccan
Major states	Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar, Rajasthan

WHEAT MAP MEMORY: Punjab–Haryana–UP + MP–Bihar–Rajasthan.

MILLETS — Jowar, Bajra, Ragi

Crop	Conditions / features	Major states
Jowar	Third most important food crop by area & production; rain-fed	Maharashtra, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh
Bajra	Grows well on sandy soils and shallow black soil	Rajasthan, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Gujarat, Haryana
Ragi	Dry-region crop; grows on red, black, sandy, loamy and shallow black soils	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, Jharkhand, West Bengal

MAIZE

Point	What to remember
Uses	Food + fodder
Season	Mainly Kharif; in Bihar it is also grown in Rabi
Temperature	21°C–27°C
Soil	Old alluvial soil
Production boost	HYV seeds, fertilisers and irrigation
Major states	Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana

PULSES

Point	What to remember
Importance	India is the largest producer and consumer of pulses; major protein source in vegetarian diet
Examples	Tur (arhar), urad, moong, masur, peas, gram
Moisture	Need less moisture and can survive dry conditions
Soil fertility	Leguminous; all listed except arhar help restore soil fertility by fixing nitrogen from air
Cropping practice	Often grown in rotation with other crops
Major states	Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka

Memory trap: Pulses → protein + low moisture + nitrogen fixation + crop rotation.

SUGARCANE

Point	What to remember
Type	Tropical + subtropical crop
Climate	Hot and humid
Temperature	21°C–27°C
Rainfall	75–100 cm; irrigation in low-rainfall areas
Other	Grows on a variety of soils; needs manual labour from sowing to harvesting
Importance	Source of sugar, gur (jaggery), khandsari and molasses; chapter states India is 2nd largest producer after Brazil
Major states	Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Bihar, Punjab, Haryana

OIL SEEDS

Point	What to remember
Main oilseeds	Groundnut, mustard, coconut, sesamum (til), soyabean, castor seed, cotton seed, linseed, sunflower
Uses	Mostly edible/cooking mediums; some used for soap, cosmetics and ointments
Groundnut	Kharif; about half of major oilseeds; Gujarat largest producer in 2019–20, followed by Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu
Season details	Linseed & mustard: Rabi; Sesamum: Kharif in north, Rabi in south; Castor: both Rabi & Kharif
Chapter fact	In 2020, India was 2nd largest producer of groundnut after China

TEA

Point	What to remember
Type	Plantation + beverage crop
Climate	Tropical/subtropical; warm, moist, frost-free
Soil	Deep, fertile, well-drained, rich in humus and organic matter
Rainfall	Frequent showers, evenly distributed through the year → continuous growth of tender leaves
Labour	Labour-intensive; abundant, cheap, skilled labour
Processing	Processed within tea garden to restore freshness
Major states	Assam; Darjeeling & Jalpaiguri (West Bengal); Tamil Nadu; Kerala; also Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Meghalaya, Andhra Pradesh
Chapter fact	In 2020, India was 2nd largest tea producer after China

COFFEE

Indian coffee is known for good quality. The Arabica variety, initially brought from Yemen, is in high demand worldwide. Its cultivation was introduced on the Baba Budan Hills and is concentrated in the Nilgiri region, Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu.

HORTICULTURE CROPS

In 2020, India was the second largest producer of fruits and vegetables in the world after China. India produces both tropical and temperate fruits.

Produce	Important producing areas mentioned
Mango	Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal
Orange	Nagpur; Cherrapunjee (Meghalaya)

Produce	Important producing areas mentioned
Banana	Kerala, Mizoram, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu
Litchi & Guava	Uttar Pradesh, Bihar
Pineapple	Meghalaya
Grapes	Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Maharashtra
Apple, Pear, Apricot, Walnut	Jammu & Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh
Vegetables	Pea, cauliflower, onion, cabbage, tomato, brinjal, potato are important crops

5. NON-FOOD CROPS

RUBBER

Point	What to remember
Climate	Equatorial crop; can also grow in tropical/subtropical areas under special conditions
Requirements	Moist & humid climate; rainfall >200 cm; temperature >25°C
Importance	Important industrial raw material
Major areas	Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Andaman & Nicobar Islands, Garo Hills of Meghalaya

FIBRE CROPS

The four major fibre crops mentioned are cotton, jute, hemp and natural silk. Cotton, jute and hemp come from crops. Natural silk comes from silkworm cocoons. Rearing silkworms for silk fibre is called sericulture.

COTTON

Point	What to remember
Importance	Major raw material for cotton textile industry; India is stated as 2nd largest producer after China
Soil	Drier parts of black cotton soil of Deccan Plateau
Climate	High temperature; light rainfall or irrigation; about 210 frost-free days; bright sunshine
Season & duration	Kharif; 6–8 months to mature
Major states	The chapter lists Maharashtra, Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, Punjab,

JUTE — THE GOLDEN FIBRE

Point	What to remember
Soil	Well-drained fertile soils in flood plains; soils renewed annually
Climate	High temperature during growth
Major states	West Bengal, Bihar, Assam, Odisha, Meghalaya
Uses	Gunny bags, mats, ropes, yarn, carpets and other artefacts

6. TECHNOLOGICAL & INSTITUTIONAL REFORMS

Why reforms were needed: sustained use of land without compatible technological and institutional changes slowed agricultural development. Despite irrigation development, many farmers still depended on monsoon and natural soil fertility. Fragmentation of holdings through inheritance also created a need for consolidation.

Institutional reforms after Independence

- Collectivisation
- Consolidation of holdings
- Cooperation
- Abolition of zamindari
- Land reform was the main focus of the First Five Year Plan.
- Fragmentation due to inheritance made consolidation necessary.

- Land-reform laws were enacted, but implementation was often lacking or lukewarm.

Agricultural reforms of the 1960s-70s

Green Revolution: based on package technology. White Revolution (Operation Flood): another strategy to improve agriculture. The chapter notes that development became concentrated in selected areas.

Land development in the 1980s-90s

A comprehensive land development programme was initiated, including institutional and technical reforms.

7. FARMER SUPPORT MEASURES

Measure / scheme	Purpose / key idea
Crop insurance	Protection against drought, flood, cyclone, fire and disease
Grameen banks	Loan facilities to farmers at lower interest rates
Cooperative societies & banks	Credit support at lower rates
Kisan Credit Card (KCC)	Farmer credit support scheme mentioned by the chapter
Personal Accident Insurance Scheme (PAIS)	Farmer benefit / insurance support
Weather bulletins & agricultural programmes	Information through radio and television
Minimum Support Price (MSP)	Support mechanism for important crops
Remunerative & procurement prices	Help check exploitation by speculators and middlemen

8. BHOODAN-GRAMDAN MOVEMENT

Vinoba Bhave, associated with Gandhian ideas and gram swarajya, travelled widely after Gandhiji's martyrdom. At Pochampally in Telangana, poor landless villagers demanded land. Shri Ram Chandra Reddy offered 80 acres to be distributed among 80 landless villagers. This act became known as Bhoodan.

Gramdan: later, some zamindars and owners of many villages offered villages for distribution among landless people. Some landowners also donated part of their land, influenced by the land ceiling act.

The Bhoodan-Gramdan movement initiated by Vinoba Bhave is also called the Blood-less Revolution.

9. ULTRA-QUICK COMPARISONS

Compare	A	B
Rabi vs Kharif	Winter sowing; summer harvest	Monsoon sowing; Sep-Oct harvest
Subsistence vs Commercial	Mainly family sustenance	Mainly market-oriented
Primitive vs Intensive	Primitive tools, shifting, low inputs	High labour + biochemical inputs + irrigation
Commercial vs Plantation	Many crops possible; modern inputs	Single crop, large area, capital intensive
Rice vs Wheat	Kharif; >25°C; >100 cm rainfall	Rabi; cool season; 50-75 cm rainfall
Cotton vs Jute	Black soil/Deccan; Kharif; textile raw material	Floodplain fertile soils; golden fibre; bags/ropes etc.

10. EXAM ANSWERS — READY TO WRITE

Q1. Which system grows a single crop on a large area?

Answer: Plantation agriculture.

Q2. Name one Rabi crop.

Answer: Gram (also wheat, barley, peas or mustard).

Q3. Name a leguminous crop.

Answer: Pulses are leguminous crops; they help restore soil fertility by fixing nitrogen, except arhar as specified in the chapter.

Q4. Name one important beverage crop and geographical conditions required.

Answer: Tea is an important beverage and plantation crop. It needs a warm, moist, frost-free climate, deep fertile well-drained soil rich in humus and organic matter, and frequent, evenly distributed showers throughout the year. It is labour-intensive and needs abundant skilled labour.

Q5. Name a staple crop of India and the regions where it is produced.

Answer: Rice is a staple food crop. It is grown mainly in the plains of north and north-eastern India, coastal and deltaic regions. Irrigation has also enabled rice cultivation in lower-rainfall areas such as Punjab, Haryana, western Uttar Pradesh and parts of Rajasthan.

Q6. Enlist institutional reform programmes introduced for farmers.

Answer: Collectivisation, consolidation of holdings, cooperation, abolition of zamindari and land reforms. The First Five Year Plan focused strongly on land reform.

Q7. What initiatives were taken to increase agricultural production?

Answer: The government introduced agricultural reforms including the Green Revolution based on package technology and the White Revolution (Operation Flood). Later, land development programmes combined institutional and technical reforms. Crop insurance, cheaper institutional credit, KCC, PAIS, weather information and price-support measures were also introduced for farmers.

Q8. Describe the geographical conditions required for rice.

Answer: Rice is a Kharif crop requiring high temperature above 25°C, high humidity and annual rainfall above 100 cm. Where rainfall is lower, irrigation makes cultivation possible. It is widely grown in the plains of north and north-east India, coastal and deltaic regions and, through irrigation, in areas such as Punjab, Haryana, western Uttar Pradesh and parts of Rajasthan.

11. ONE-PAGE CHAPTER MIND MAP

AGRICULTURE	CORE MEMORY
Importance	Food + industrial raw material + exports + livelihood
Farming types	Primitive Subsistence → Intensive Subsistence → Commercial → Plantation
Seasons	Rabi = Oct-Dec sowing; Kharif = monsoon; Zaid = summer gap
Food crops	Rice, Wheat, Millets, Maize, Pulses, Sugarcane
Beverage / horticulture	Tea, Coffee, Fruits & Vegetables
Non-food	Rubber + fibre crops: Cotton, Jute, Hemp, Silk
Reforms	Land reforms + Green Revolution + White Revolution + land development
Support	Crop insurance + banks/cooperatives + KCC + PAIS + weather info + MSP/procurement
Bhoodan-Gramdan	Vinoba Bhave → land donation → Bhoodan/Gramdan → Blood-less Revolution

12. LAST-MINUTE MEMORY BOX

- RABI: Wheat, barley, peas, gram, mustard.
- KHARIF: Paddy, maize, jowar, bajra, tur, moong, urad, cotton, jute, groundnut, soyabean.
- ZAID: Watermelon, muskmelon, cucumber, vegetables, fodder.
- RICE: >25°C + >100 cm + Kharif.
- WHEAT: cool season + 50–75 cm + Rabi.
- MAIZE: 21–27°C + old alluvial soil.
- RUBBER: >25°C + >200 cm + humid.
- JUTE: golden fibre + flood plains.
- COTTON: black soil + bright sunshine + 210 frost-free days.
- TEA: warm/moist/frost-free + humus-rich well-drained soil + skilled labour.
- PULSES: protein + less moisture + nitrogen fixation (except arhar as stated) + rotation.
- PLANTATION: one crop + large area + capital intensive + migrant labour + industry link.
- BHOODAN: 80 acres → 80 landless villagers at Pochampally.

13. SOURCE & STUDY NOTE

These notes are based on the complete 12-page PDF supplied for this task, covering the chapter text, crop-distribution maps, photographs/figures, exercises and activity. The source includes the rice distribution map on page 4, wheat distribution map on page 6, crop photographs across pages 1–10, and the exercise/puzzle section on pages 11–12.

EDUVISTA • COMPLETE NOTES • CONCEPT → MEMORY → EXAM