

Agriculture & Livestock of World

These notes are your ultimate revision weapon to revise Agriculture & Livestock of World. We've distilled years of previous exam questions (PYQs) into one powerful, concise resource. Everything you need to know, nothing you don't.

- **PYQs, Decoded:** All key concepts from past exams, organized and simplified.
- **Revise in Record Time:** Short, precise, and designed for last-minute review.
- **Focus on What Matters:** Master high-probability topics and boost your confidence.

Global Agricultural Production & Rankings

Cereals & Staples



Crop	Key Facts	Leading Producer	Other Notable Producers/Rankings
Rice	- Highest Productivity: Japan - Largest Cultivation Area: China - Hybrid Rice Cultivation: Most popular in China - Gene Bank: Located in the Philippines - Biofertilizer: Blue-green algae (e.g., Azolla-Anabaena) is used.	China	2. India
Wheat	- High-Yielding Varieties: First developed in Mexico.	China	Ranking: 1. China, 2. India, 3. USA, 4. Russia

Maize (Corn)	- Used as a staple food in Middle Africa.		China ranks 2nd in world production.
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Sugarcane & Sugar Crops

Crop	Key Facts	Leading Producer	Other Notable Producers
Sugarcane		Brazil	2. India - Sugar Bowl of the World: Cuba
Sugar Beets	- Germany produces sugar from sugar beets only.	France & Russia	- Highest Export %: Mauritius exports the highest percentage of its sugar production.

Fibers & Commercial Crops IASbook www.iasbook.com

Crop	Key Facts	Leading Producer	Other Notable Producers
Cotton	- Highest Productivity (Yield/Hectare): Israel (as of 2014) - Highest Per-Acre Yield (among listed): China - Principal Export of Chad.	India	
Jute	- Major production zone is the Ganges delta (India/Bangladesh).	India	Bangladesh - leading exporter
Silk (Raw)	- Note: The statement that Italy is the largest producer is incorrect.	(Not specified)	India ranks 2nd in global silk production.

Natural Rubber	- ~1/3 of world's production comes from Thailand. - Largest Cultivation Area: Amazon and Zaire basins. - A major plantation crop in Malaysia.	Thailand	2. Indonesia
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Beverage Crops

Crop	Key Facts	Leading Producer	Notable Producers /
Coffee	- Large Plantations in Brazil: Called Fazendas. - Variety: Robusta is produced in Africa. - Historical Note: Cultivation abandoned in Sri Lanka due to Leaf Rust disease. - Principal Export of Rwanda.	Brazil (largest % of global production)	Ranking: 1. Brazil, 2. Vietnam, 3. Colombia, 4. Indonesia - 2nd Largest Exporter: Vietnam - Mocha Coffee: Grown in Yemen.
Tea	- Contains: Theanine, Caffeine, Tannin (does not contain Morphine). - Soil Requirement: Fertile soil with high humus.	China	- Largest Exporter: Kenya - Other major exporters: China, Sri Lanka. - Sri Lanka is famous for tea production.
Cocoa	- Cultivation is popular in Ghana.	Ivory Coast	Major producers: Cameroon, Ghana, Ivory Coast (Latvia is not a major producer).

Fruits, Nuts & Other Crops

Crop	Key Facts	Leading Producer
Bananas		India
Coconut	- A plantation crop.	Indonesia
Castor Oil	India is the largest producer and exporter of castor-oilseeds.	India
Citrus Fruits	Production is well-developed in the Mediterranean regions.	Brazil
Groundnut	- Main crop of Gambia. - Native to Brazil.	China followed by India
Saffron		Iran
Grapes	- Commercial Viticulture: Specific to the Mediterranean Region (85% for winemaking). - Also prominent in California's Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley.	China
Jowar		India
Soybean		Brazil
Tobacco		China
Catechu	Made from the wood of the Khair tree.	India
Alfalfa	A kind of grass.	USA

General Fruit Production: India is the **second-largest** fruit producer in the world.

Fruit Types:

- **Tropical:** Coconut, Cashewnut.
- **Temperate:** Walnut, Apple.

Agricultural Trade & Exports

Commodity	Key Facts / Leading Exporter
Rice	- Largest Exporter: India (as per 2019 data). - Export Dependency: Thailand accounts for ~2/3 of its export earnings from rice.
Coffee	- 2nd Largest Exporter: Vietnam.
Tea	- Largest Exporter: Kenya (by value and quantity).
Sugar	- Highest Export %: Mauritius.

Country-Specific Principal Exports:

- **Chad:** Cotton
- **Niger:** Uranium
- **Rwanda:** Coffee
- **Benin:** Petroleum



Agricultural Systems & Terminology

Types of Farming

System	Description	Examples / Local Names
Plantation Agriculture	- Monoculture (single crop on large scale). - Located in tropical regions, often near coasts. - Crops: Coffee, Rubber, Coconut, Tea, Cocoa, Spices.	
Intensive/Oriental Farming	- High labor input on small-sized holdings to	

	maximize yield.	
Shifting Cultivation	- Land cleared, cultivated, then abandoned. - A form of subsistence farming.	- India: Jhooming - Central America: Milpa - West Africa: Fang - Note: Fazenda (Brazilian plantation) is not shifting cultivation.
Other Systems	- Alley Cropping: Crops grown between rows of trees. - Taungya: Agroforestry system practiced in Myanmar.	

Scientific Nomenclature

- **Apiculture:** Production of honey.
- **Viticulture:** Production of grapes.
- **Floriculture:** Cultivation of flowers.
- **Horticulture:** Umbrella term for cultivation of fruits, vegetables, and ornamental plants.
 - **Pomology:** Sub-branch for fruit cultivation.
 - **Olericulture:** Specific term for vegetable cultivation (correcting the provided data).
- **Agronomy:** Science of crop cultivation.

Geographical Associations & Regions

Region / Location	Associated Crops / Activities
Sao Paulo Plateau (Brazil)	Coffee
Ganges Delta (India/Bangladesh)	Rice, Jute
Yangtze Plains / Yangzi Jiang Basin (China)	Rice

Prairies Plains (North America)	Wheat
Huang He Basin (China)	Wheat
Candy Basin (Sri Lanka)	Tea
Kenya	Tea, Coffee
Ghana & Ivory Coast	Cocoa
Mediterranean Region	Citrus Fruits, Olives, Viticulture
Sacramento-San Joaquin Valley (USA)	Viticulture, Citrus Fruits
Hawaii (USA)	Coffee
Amazon & Zaire Basins	Rubber (largest cultivation area)
Italy	Olives
Mauritius & South Africa	Sugarcane
Iran	Saffron
Golden Crescent	Region for Opium/Heroin production (Afghanistan, Iran, Pakistan; Iraq not included).

Livestock, Fertilizers & Miscellaneous

Livestock & Animal Products

- **Milk Production:**
 - **Largest Producer:** India.
 - **Ranking:** 1. India, 2. USA, 3. China, 4. Russia.
 - **Productivity:** Highest milk yield per cow in Netherlands, Great Britain, Denmark (higher than in India).
- **Livestock Population:** India has the world's largest livestock population.

- **Cattle Rearing in Australia:** Done more for meat than milk.
- **Beef Industry:** Mad Cow Disease damaged the image of beef in Europe and America.
- **Shahtoosh Wool:**
 - Considered the most attractive, warmest, and lightest wool.
 - Produced in China.
 - Made from the hairs of the Chiru antelope.

Fertilizers & Plant Nutrition

- **Biofertilizers:**
 - **Azolla-Anabaena:** Used for Rice.
 - **Nostoc:** A cyanobacterium used as a biofertilizer.
 - **Note:** *Agaricus* (mushroom) and *Spirogyra* (algae) are not typically used as biofertilizers.
- **Plant Nutrients:**
 - **Nitrogen:** Essential for green leaf growth. Deficiency causes stunted growth and pale/yellow leaves.



Soils & International Agreements

- **Podzol:** Soil found in the Coniferous forest region.
- **Green Box (International Agreements):** Includes assistance for Agricultural Research and Plant Protection. Does **not** include assistance for Fertilizer and Irrigation.

Know More About Agriculture & Livestock of World:

- [Agriculture & Livestock of World – Old Year Questions](#)
- [Agriculture and Livestock of World One Liner Questions & Answers](#)