

What is Agriculture

agriculture	сільське господарство
cultivation	обробіток, культивування
to grow	виросити
crop	сільськогосподарська культура
crop growing	рослинництво
to breed	розводити, вирощувати
animal breeding (animal husbandry)	тваринництво
branch	галузь
soil	грунт
yield	врожай
arable	орний
arable land	орна земля
intensification	інтенсифікація
to reclaim	освоювати
variety	сорт, вид
hybrid	гібрид
mechanization	механізація
application	застосування
increase	збільшення
fertilizer	добриво
extensive	екстенсивний
herbicide	гербіцид
to disturb	порушувати

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Agriculture is a human activity in which people use areas of land to produce food, clothing and other necessary materials.

The word “ager” is a Latin word. It means a field. The word “agriculture” means the cultivation of fields and growing crops. But this is the old meaning of this word. Now it also means the use of land for breeding animals. At present there are two main branches of agriculture. They are crop growing and animal breeding.

We do not know when people began to grow crops. It was many thousand years ago. Now crop growing is a highly developed branch of agriculture.

Soil is a basis of agriculture. Enough food for all the people can be grown if there is sufficient good soil for crops to produce high yields.

There are two ways to grow enough food. They are increase an area of arable land and the intensification of agricultural production in the areas already used for cropping. At present the second way is more important because there is not enough experience to reclaim tropical and subtropical lands.

The intensification of production in the traditional agricultural areas is based on the knowledge of climate, soils and their use, and on a large collection of high-yielding varieties and hybrids of agricultural crops.

All intensification factors, such as full mechanization, high application of fertilizers and extensive use of herbicides must be used in such a way as not to disturb the biological equilibrium of the soil.

Animal husbandry is fully dependent on crop growing and it is very important. In a country's economics, too.

Thus, it may be said that the development of agriculture is an important factor in the development of national economy and it will result in the rise of living standard of people.