

Agricultural Regions

Sem - III

The main problem in classifying the world into different agricultural regions is the common or overlapping disposition of these attributes, like land type, climatic conditions, supply of labour etc. in different regions. To overcome this ambiguity, "homogeneity" has been defined in agricultural regionalisation.

Classification of agricultural regions

(by Whittlesey)
This classification is based on some factors:-

- i) Crop & live stock association
- ii) Labour & capital intensity
- iii) Productivity
- iv) Consumption pattern of production
- v) Methods & techniques used.

①. Nomadic herding: Practised in drylands of Sahara, Saudi Arabia, Iran, Iraq, Central Asia, ~~Asia~~ Mongolia & China, along the southern boundary of the Tundra region, where "Tungus" rear reindeers.

This is characterised by a frequent change of habitation in search of animal fodder, fruit, nuts, trading opportunities etc. The migration may be of "Seasonal" nature.

②. Livestock ~~Ranching~~ Ranching: This is found in vast Prairies of Wn. USA, Wn. Canada, Central Mexico, S. Africa, temperate grassland of Australia etc.

Cattle rearing is done in relatively rainy parts, Sheeps are in less rainy parts; goats & camels are in low rainfall region.

③. Commercial Dairy farming: This type is practised in France, UK & Ireland, Great lakes regions, S. En. Australia, etc. Mainly cattle & poultry are reared & are famous for good quality milk ~~production~~ products - like cheese, butter etc. which are even exported.

④. Commercial Crop & Livestock farming - This are found in temperate & dry continental climates of central ~~to~~ European plains. Rainfall is low in summer. ~~to~~ major crops are oats, barley, rye, flax, wheat etc. Vineyards are also important.

- ⑤ Commercial Grain Farming - Found in Great Plains of N. America, Argentina, etc. Crops are produced commercially for international market.
- ⑥ Commercial Plantation - Found in S.E. Asia (Indo-China, Malaysia, ~~Philippines~~ Philippines etc.) This is distinctly tropical cultivation practice, where labour intensity is characteristically high. Main crops are tea, coffee, rubber, cocoa, coconut, sugarcane etc.
- ⑦ Commercial Gardening - Found in S.W. states of USA & in European countries!
- ⑧ Mediterranean Agriculture - Found in Spain, France, Italy etc. Central California, Chile, S.W. Australia. These regions are famous for good quality citrus fruits - grapes, olives, oranges, lemons, pineapples etc.
- ⑨ ~~Shift~~ Shifting Cultivation - This is mainly subsistence type of agriculture, found in South America, Africa, India etc. This is an ~~un~~ unscientific, wasteful & inefficient agricultural practice with low productivity.
- ⑩ Intensive Subsistence Cultivation - Mainly found in South & S.E. Asia covering the monsoon regions with red & alluvial soil. In higher rainfall region, rice is an important crop.