



Agri Articles

(e-Magazine for Agricultural Articles)

Volume: 02, Issue: 02 (MAR-APR, 2022)

Available online at <http://www.agriarticles.com>

© Agri Articles, ISSN: 2582-9882

Demand of Modern Times: Intensive Farming

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The environmental conditions on the world stage are constantly changing. Due to its adverse effects, the effects of climate, animals and human life are increasing. It is also adversely affecting the environment. Man is completely dependent on his fertile land to meet the food related needs. And increasing population is using more chemical fertilizers and chemical pesticides, due to which the balance of the soil is disturbed and the fertility of the soil is continuously increasing in the future. Due to which the balance of the soil is deteriorating and the fertility of the soil is continuously decreasing, due to which there will be a deep crisis of manure supply for the increasing population in future. From ancient times to the present time, food was supplied for humans and animals from the crops produced by different types of agricultural activities under different conditions. Population (estimate) 10,000 BC-2000 BC. Thirty thousand years ago, hunter-gatherer activities supplied food for six million people. Three thousand years ago, primitive agriculture supplied food for six crore people. Three hundred years ago a more intensive agriculture supplied food for sixty million people. Today, in the modern era, industrial agriculture faces the challenge of supplying food to eight billion people. India is also not untouched by this problem. India ranks second in the world in terms of population and seventh in terms of area. Thus the area of India is also less in terms of per capita population, due to which the challenges are increasing continuously. India is a country with different climates and climates.

Different types of crops are grown at different places in different states of India and due to ignorance of this serious issue to the farmer in those crops, the farmers immediately refrain from using chemicals and pesticides indiscriminately for the production of the crop. In the form of profit, the production is getting more but the soil fertility is getting depleted and the crop is not produced at the right time as per the global demand and that is why farmers have to bear heavy losses. In India, it is a challenge to get favorable production by managing the land properly to maintain the increasing population and the fertile capacity of the soil, in which intensive farming can prove to be a good option. Under intensive farming, we can grow more than one crop at a time on limited land according to more crop compatibility and market demand and simultaneously can get food supply and economic income by doing animal husbandry. Intensive farming is that system of agricultural production in which more production is taken by adding more labor, capital, fertilizers or pesticides etc. to less land. In this, many crops are sown in a year on the same land. Nowadays it is very much trending abroad and most of the crops we see in Japan like rice crop, horticulture, dairy farming are all the result of this, that is why we get to see more production there. Intensive farming means that by putting more effort in less land, by using the fertilizers and pesticides proportionately, a good profit can be earned by planting more crops on less land in the same year.

History of Intensive Farming

Agricultural development in Britain between the 16th century and the middle of the 18th century saw a huge increase in agricultural productivity and net production. By the early 19th century, agricultural techniques, equipment, seed stocks and varieties had improved so much that the yield per land was many times higher than in the Middle Ages. The industrialization phase involved a continuous process of mechanization. Mounted machinery such as the McCormick Reaper revolutionized harvesting, while inventions such as the Cotton Gin reduced the cost of processing. During the same period, farmers started using steam driven threshers and tractors. In 1862, the first gasoline-powered tractor was successfully developed, and in 1923, the International Harvester Farmall tractor became the first all-purpose tractor. These inventions increased yields and allowed individual farmers to manage increasingly large farms. The identification of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium (NPK) as important factors in plant growth led to the creation of synthetic fertilizers, which further increased crop yields. The discovery of vitamins and their role in nutrition led to vitamin supplements in the first two decades of the 20th century, which allowed some livestock to be raised indoors in the 1920s, reducing exposure to adverse natural elements. The use of synthetic fertilizers increased rapidly after World War II. The discovery of antibiotics and vaccines helped increase livestock by reducing diseases. The Green Revolution transformed farming in many developing countries. It spread technologies that already existed, but were not widely used outside industrialized countries. These techniques included miracle seed, insecticides, irrigation and synthetic nitrogen fertilizers. In the 1970s, scientists created high-yielding varieties of maize, wheat and rice. The high yielding varieties performed many times better than the conventional varieties and responded better to irrigation, addition of pesticides and fertilisers. Presently, hybrid power is being used in many important crops to increase the yield for the farmers.

Features of Intensive Farming

More production on small land area

Intensive farming is done on a small area. The farmer can earn more profit even on less land. In intensive farming, not much land is required, we can grow a lot of crops even on less land. The product we get in traditional farming at one time whereas in intensive farming we can get it in any season. Intensive farming is done in places where there are small farms and the emphasis is on high production to support a large population.

Planting multiple crops annually

Another feature of intensive farming is that many crops are planted in it every year. Due to which the production not only increases and it also increases the income of the farmers. Like rice crop is taken 2 to 3 times in a year. Due to which rice reaches the market in large quantities.

Proper use of labor and manure

Intensive farming requires more labor and the use of appropriate fertilizers and pesticides so that the work can be completed as quickly as possible and the land can be prepared for another crop.

Using more machines

There are more intensive farming farms inside developed countries. All the work inside them is done with the help of machines. Farmers need not worry much. Most of the meat, dairy products, eggs, fruits and vegetables available in supermarkets are produced by such farms.

Crop circle

Crop rotation is a means of replenishing nitrogen through the use of legumes and green manure in order to maintain soil fertility, a traditional component of cereals and other crops. Sowing alternately in crop rotation improves soil structure and fertility. It proves beneficial in intensive farming with continuous cover and multiculture.

Conclusion

Intensive farming is the need of the hour due to increasing population and decreasing land area. In the ever-increasing global competition, earning livelihood and food supply in the agriculture sector can be possible only due to intensive farming. Globally, food supply related needs can be met only through intensive farming. In today's time, the management of nutrients for humans can be possible only through intensive farming. By adopting intensive method of farming in commercial form, conscious farmers are cultivating farming as a business. The condition and direction of modern agriculture has changed by adopting agriculture as a commercial form and the farmer is doing his traditional farming as an industry and earning more livelihood than the traditional profit. In the present time, according to the demand and requirement of the area and the market, supplying food items for the discharge and coordinated nurturing of the population can be possible only through intensive farming.

