Sustainable Agriculture

Resources can be RENEWABLE or NON-RENEWABLE

Renewable Resources

Renewed through natural processes:

Agriculture, Fishing, Forestry.

Non-Renewable resources

 Can not be renewed by natural processes in a short period of time:

- Fossil Fuels (Coal, Oil, Natural Gas),
- Minerals.

Sustainable/Sustainability

Managing resources for future generations.

Agriculture

Arable vs Pastoral

Arable Farming = Crops

Pastoral Farming = Animals

Chemicals in Agriculture

Used in Fertilizers, Pesticides, and Herbicides to increase crop yields.

Pesticides help create cosmetically attractive products. Herbicides kill weeds that use up valuable nutrients and water.

Is Agriculture really Renewable?

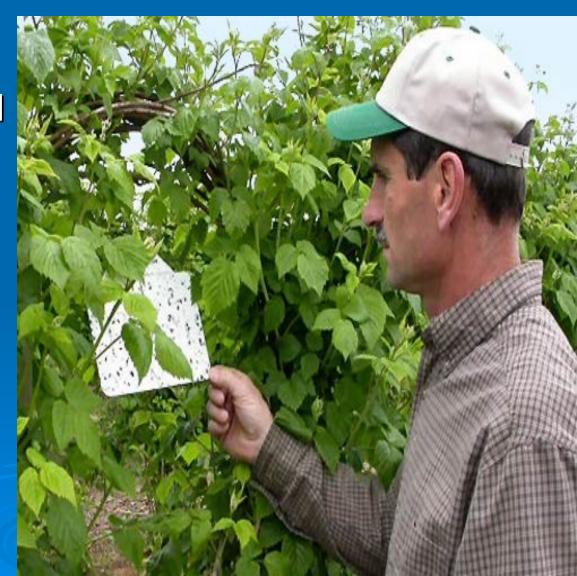
Use of Fossil Fuels on huge commercial farms and chemicals as fertilizers and in pesticides make agriculture nonrenewable

Organic Farming

Producing crops using natural methods rather than chemicals and fossil fuels

Integrated Pest Management

- Use natural predators instead of pesticides
- Lady bugs eat aphids
- Scrape off pests by hand with water

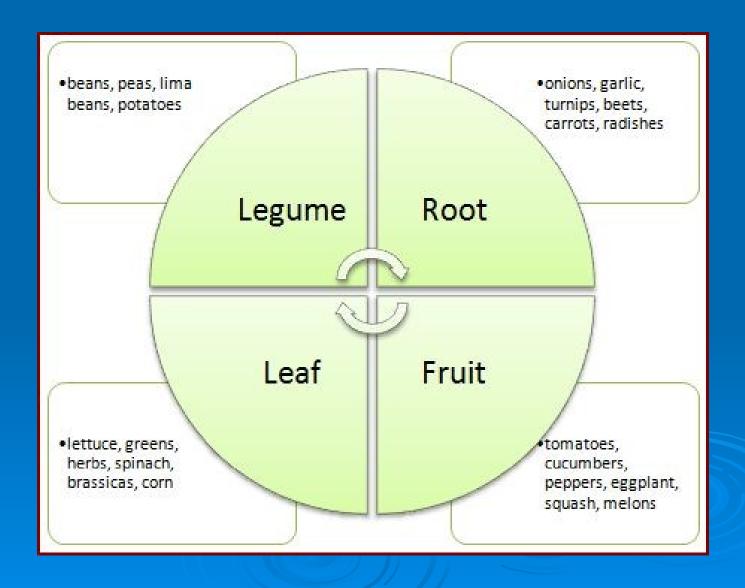


Crop Rotation

- Rotate crops leaving one field fallow (empty) each year
- Legume crops add nitrogen to soil
- Improves soil fertility

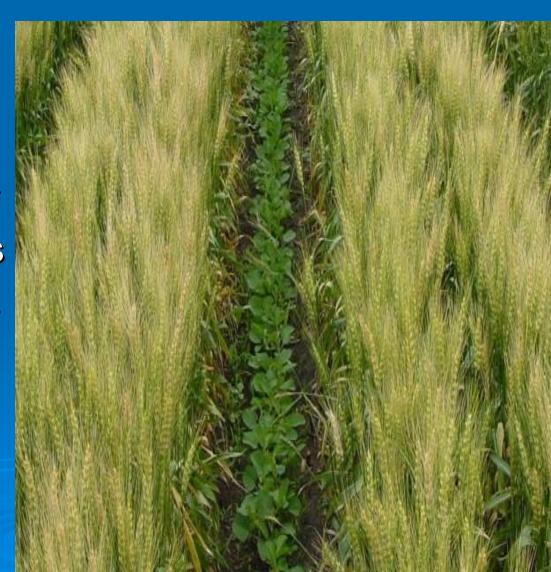


Crop rotation



Intercropping

- Growing alternate rows of different crops
- Prevents spread of pests and diseases
- Increases nutrients available



Nutrient depletion

Overcropping can suck all of the nutrients out of the soil

This leads to quicker erosion from wind and water

Water erosion

- Water erosion
- Gully erosion is small Vshaped gouges that form easily in unprotected soil
- Sheet erosion gradual removal of topsoil on sloping or unprotected land

Wind Erosion

In dry areas soil is prone to wind deflation and wind erosion

Preventing Wind Erosion

Shelterbelts

- Rows of trees planted perpendicular to prevailing winds
- Reduces wind erosion as roots bind soil
- Also provides habitat for birds that eat insects
- Plant a fruit or nut tree that can be harvested



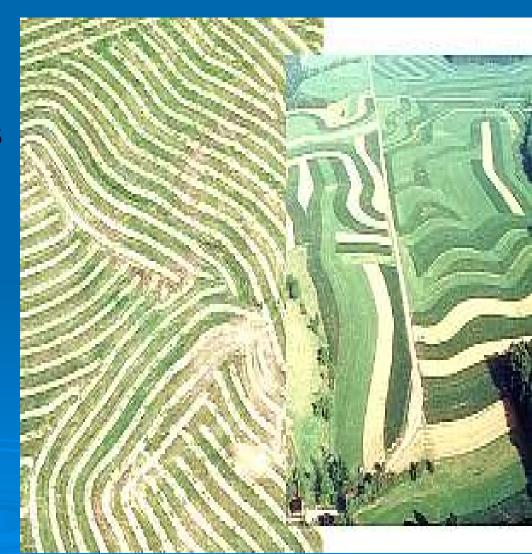
Stubble Mulching

- Leaves stubble on the fields to prevent wind erosion
- Also adds nutrients to soil as stubble decays



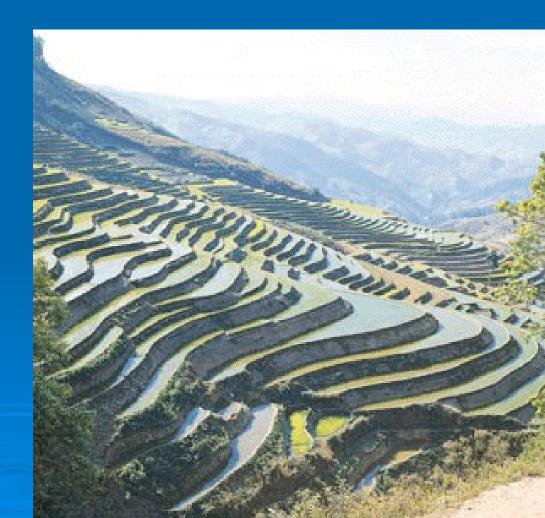
Contour Ploughing

 Planting crops with the contours (slope of the land) prevents erosion



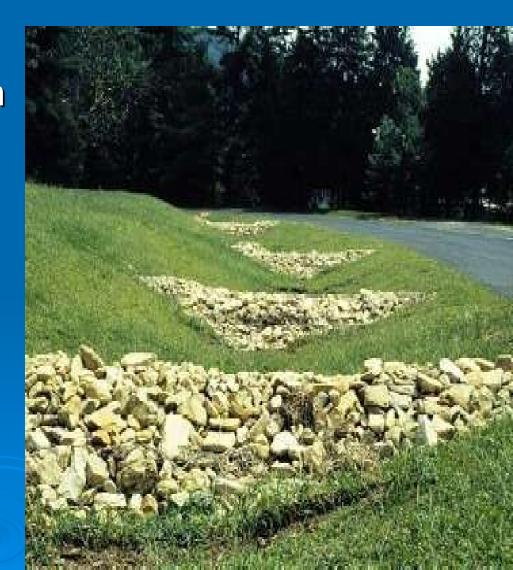
Terracing

Prevents water erosion on steep slopes



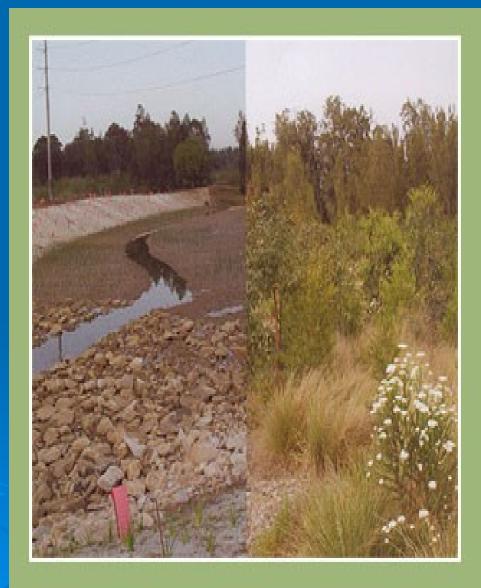
Check Dams

Simple dams that prevent water erosion from flooding



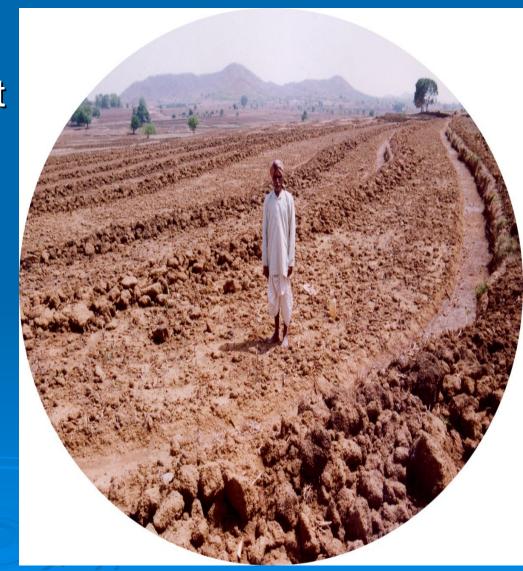
Revegetation

Planting vegetation helps roots hold soil in place preventing erosion



Bunds

Small dams used in surface irrigation that prevents water erosion



OMG GMO's

- Genetically Modified Foods
- What are they and why many scientists today in favor of them?

Global Warming

How is Global Warming expected to increase our fresh water worries?

Fresh water

- Divided into 3 categories
 - 1) Domestic
 - 2) Industrial
 - 3) Agricultural

What is most of the fresh water in the World used for?

Diversified Farm vs Monoculture

What is the difference between a diversified farm and monoculture?

What are the benefits and drawbacks of each?

Vocalize Localize

What are some of the benefits of buying local produce?