

Class : 9

Chapter : 1

AGRICULTURE IN PAKISTAN

New Book Punjab Board

Multiple Choice Questions (MCQs)

1. What is the primary purpose of agriculture?
 - a) Industrial development
 - b) Food production**
 - c) Urbanization
 - d) Tourism
2. Which of the following is NOT a branch of agriculture?
 - a) Agronomy
 - b) Horticulture
 - c) Aquaculture
 - d) Astronomy**
3. Which crop is a staple food in Pakistan?
 - a) Wheat**
 - b) Coffee
 - c) Tea
 - d) Cotton
4. What is the main source of water for irrigated agriculture in Pakistan?
 - a) Rainfall
 - b) Indus River System**
 - c) Groundwater only
 - d) Desalination plants

Agriculture - Solved Exercise

5. Which of the following is a rain-fed crop in Pakistan?

- a) Rice
- b) Sugarcane
- c) Barley
- d) Cotton

6. What is the primary role of agroforestry?

- a) Increasing urbanization
- b) Integrating trees with crops and livestock
- c) Reducing industrial output
- d) Promoting tourism

7. Which of the following is a major constraint in Pakistani agriculture?

- a) Excessive rainfall
- b) Water scarcity
- c) Over-irrigation
- d) Lack of labor

8. What is the main purpose of crop rotation?

- a) Increasing soil erosion
- b) Maintaining soil fertility
- c) Reducing crop diversity
- d) Increasing water usage

9. Which of the following is a high-value crop in Pakistan?

- a) Wheat
- b) Mango
- c) Barley
- d) Millet

10. What is the primary benefit of drip irrigation?

- a) Increased water wastage
- b) Reduced water usage
- c) Higher soil erosion
- d) Increased labor costs

Agriculture - Solved Exercise

Short Questions

1. **What is the difference between irrigated and rain-fed agriculture?**

Irrigated agriculture uses artificial water sources like canals and tube wells, while *rain-fed agriculture* depends solely on rainfall for crop growth.

2. **What are the main environmental benefits of agroforestry?**

Agroforestry improves soil fertility, reduces erosion, increases biodiversity, and helps combat climate change by absorbing carbon dioxide.

3. **What is the role of poultry farming in Pakistan's economy?**

Poultry farming provides affordable protein, creates jobs, supports the rural economy, and contributes significantly to Pakistan's agricultural GDP.

Solved Long Questions

1. **Discuss the importance of agriculture in Pakistan's economy, focusing on its contribution to GDP, employment, and food security.**

Answer:

Agriculture is considered the backbone of Pakistan's economy. It directly affects the country's food availability, income generation, industrial growth, and export earnings.

➤ **Contribution to GDP:**

- Agriculture contributes approximately 19–20% to Pakistan's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).
- This sector also supports other industries, especially the textile, sugar, and food processing industries, which are heavily dependent on agricultural raw materials.

➤ **Employment Generation:**

- About 38–40% of the total labor force in Pakistan is employed in agriculture.
- It is the largest source of livelihood in rural areas, especially for small landholders and laborers.

➤ **Ensuring Food Security:**

- Agriculture provides essential food crops like wheat, rice, maize, and vegetables.
- Self-sufficiency in food production reduces reliance on imports and keeps food prices stable.

➤ **Export Earnings:**

- Major exports such as rice, cotton, fruits, and vegetables earn foreign exchange.
- Pakistan's textile exports are heavily dependent on domestically grown cotton.

Conclusion:

Agriculture is essential for Pakistan's economic stability, employment generation, industrial development, and national food security.

Agriculture - Solved Exercise

2. What are the major constraints faced by farmers in Pakistan? How can these constraints be addressed to improve agricultural productivity?

Answer:

Pakistani farmers face several economic, technical, and environmental challenges, which affect crop yields and profitability.

➤ **Major Constraints:**

- **Water Scarcity:** Limited irrigation, declining rainfall, and inefficient water use.
- **Outdated Techniques:** Use of traditional tools, lack of mechanization.
- **Expensive Inputs:** High cost of seeds, fertilizers, and pesticides.
- **Lack of Education:** Many farmers lack knowledge of modern practices.
- **Poor Infrastructure:** Inadequate roads, storage facilities, and transport.
- **Climate Change:** Unpredictable weather, floods, and droughts.
- **Limited Access to Credit:** Small farmers struggle to get bank loans.

➤ **Solutions:**

- Promote drip and sprinkler irrigation systems to save water.
- Provide subsidies on inputs like seeds and fertilizers.
- Launch farmer training programs to spread awareness.
- Invest in rural infrastructure, including cold storage and roads.
- Encourage use of climate-resilient seeds and biotechnology.
- Improve access to loans and crop insurance schemes.

➤ **Conclusion:**

By solving these issues through government support, education, and innovation, agriculture in Pakistan can become more productive and sustainable.

3. Compare and contrast irrigated and rain-fed agriculture in Pakistan, highlighting their advantages and disadvantages.

Answer:

Both irrigated and rain-fed (barani) farming systems exist in Pakistan, each with its own pros and cons.

Aspect	Irrigated Agriculture	Rain-fed Agriculture
Water Source	Canals, tube wells, and rivers	Natural rainfall
Regions	Punjab, Sindh	Potohar, KP, Balochistan
Crops Grown	Rice, sugarcane, wheat, cotton	Millet, pulses, barley
Productivity	Higher and consistent	Lower and variable
Cost	Higher input costs	Lower input costs
Risk	Less affected by rainfall	High risk due to droughts

✔ **Advantages of Irrigated Farming:**

- Multiple cropping possible.
- Better yield and economic return.

Agriculture - Solved Exercise

● **Disadvantages:**

- High dependence on water.
- Over-irrigation causes salinity and waterlogging.

✓ **Advantages of Rain-fed Farming:**

- Low-cost and eco-friendly.
- Suitable for hardy crops.

● **Disadvantages:**

- Depends heavily on rainfall.
- Low yield and crop failure during droughts.

Conclusion:

Both systems have their importance in Pakistan. A balanced approach using **modern techniques** can improve the efficiency of both.