

AGRICULTURE

Unit 5

ORIGINS OF AGRICULTURE

- Agriculture is the deliberate modification of Earth's surface through cultivation of plants and rearing of animals to obtain sustenance of economic gain.
- Before agriculture:
 - Hunting and gathering
 - Forced to live nomadic lifestyles
- The exact origins of agriculture are unknown but by 10,000 B.C.E. agriculture had spread all over the world





FIRST AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION

- AKA Neolithic Revolution
- Agriculture originated in multiple hearths around the world:
 - Southwest Asia:
 - Early crops: barley, wheat, lentils, and olives.
 - East Asia:
 - Early crops: Rice and millet.
 - Sub-Saharan Africa:
 - Early crops: Sorghum, coffee, and yams.
 - Latin America:
 - Early crops: Beans, potato, and most importantly maize (corn).



COLUMBIAN EXCHANGE

- After the opening of communication between hemispheres, around 1500, crops were shared and spread worldwide.
- Europe to America: Wheat, cattle, sheep, pigs, horses
- America to Europe: Corn, potatoes, beans



SECOND AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION



- AKA Industrial Revolution
Technology allows much greater production with less human labor
- **Metal plows, Reapers, Cotton Gin, Seed Drill, Tractors**
Transportation of crops becomes easier with developments such as the railroad
- Increased food production assists with the massive increase in global population in the 1800s.



THIRD AGRICULTURAL REVOLUTION

- AKA Green Revolution
- Sparked by fear of famine and food insecurity in South Asia and Latin America
- Father of the Green Rev- Norman Borlaug
 - Scientific approach to gathering more food
 - Use of Genetically Modified Organisms (GMOs), pesticides, and fertilizers to force crop growth
 - Use of hormones and antibiotics to mass produce animals for consumption

