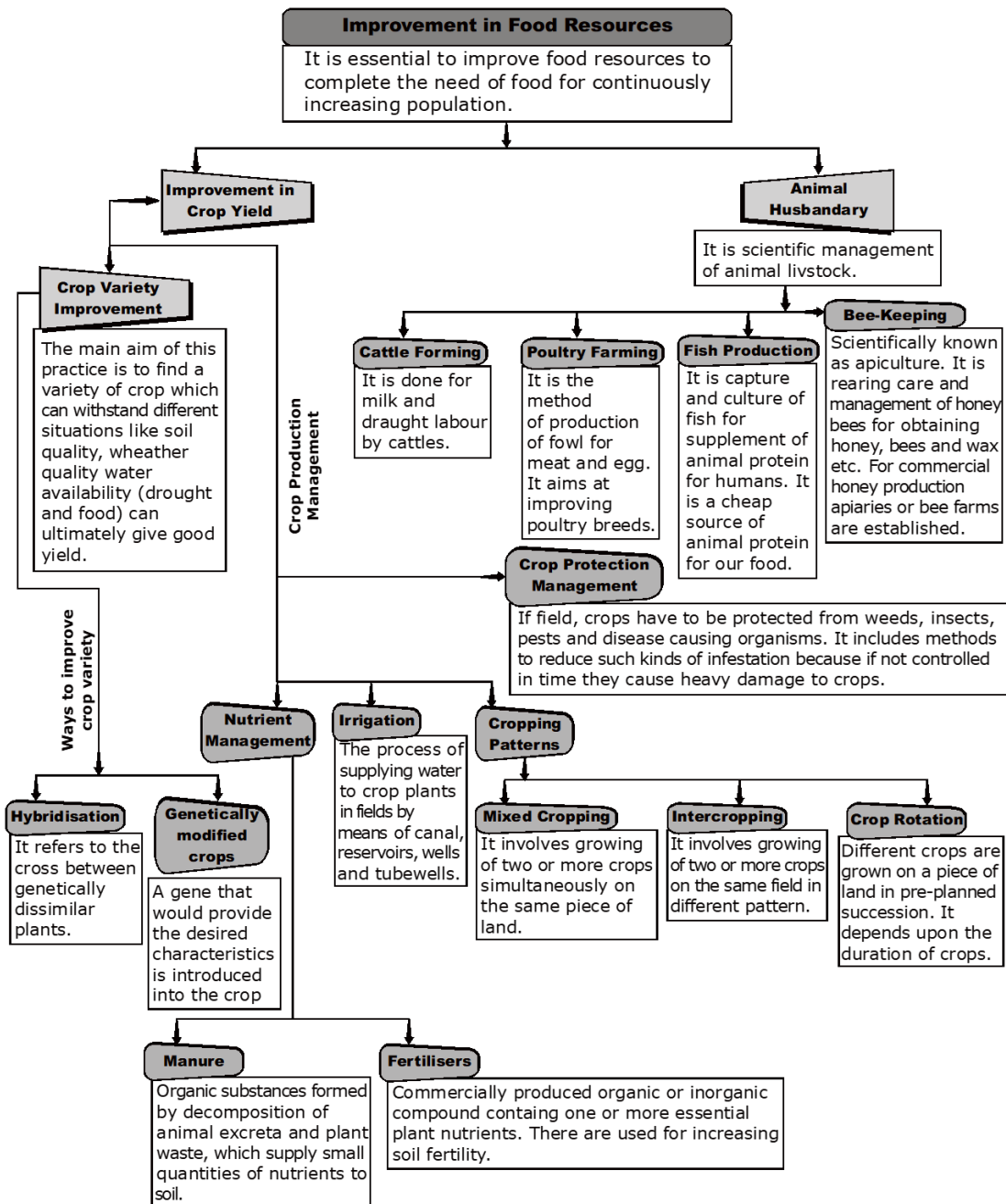


## SCIENCE

## INTRODUCTION OF IMPROVEMENT IN FOOD RESOURCES

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**INTRODUCTION**

Food is the combination of various organic and inorganic substances which is capable of providing

- (i) Energy for the various metabolic activities.
- (ii) Materials for repair / replacement of worn-out tissues in the body.
- (iii) Materials for growth & reproduction.
- (iv) Regulatory substances, body secretions and metabolic activities etc. 70% of India's economy is based on agriculture and 40% of G.N.P (Gross National Product) comes from agriculture.

**Agriculture:**

(Ager means field; culture means cultivation). It is the applied biological science which deals with the production of plants and raising of animals useful to man, involving soil cultivation, breeding and management of crops and livestock.

**Horticulture:**

(Hortus-garden; culture-cultivation). It is the branch of agriculture and the science of growing vegetables, fruits and ornamental plants.

**Silviculture:**

(Sylvan- wood and trees) Cultivation of wood and trees e.g.-pine, teakwood, sesamum etc.

**Sources of food:**

Plants provide us with foods like cereals, pulses, oil seeds, fruits and vegetables, on this basis plants are classified as follows:

TABLE : CLASSIFICATION OF CROP PLANTS		
Type of crop plant	Examples	Importance
1. Cereals	Wheat, Rice, Maize, Minor energy millets, Sorghum requirements.	Rich in carbohydrates for
2. Pulses	Gram (Ghana), Pea (Matar) builders.	Rich in proteins that are body
3. Oil seed crops	Black gram (Moong), Pigeon pea (Arhar), Lentil (Masoor) etc. Soyabean, Groundnut Sunflower, Niger, Sesame, Castor, Mustard, Linseed .	Rich in oils and fatty acid
4. Root crops	Turnip, Carrot, Turmeric, medicines Sweet potato & Ginger	It is utilized as the vegetables &
5. Sugar crops	Sugarcane and Beet	Important for wine industry.
6. Fibre crops	Jute & Cotton industry.	Important for jute & cotton
7. Plantation crops	Tea, Coffee, Coconut and Rubber called cash crops.	Increases cash as are also
8. Fodder crops	Berseem, Maize, Sorghum and Elephant grass.	Provides fodder for animals
9. Horticulture crops	Apple, Banana, Guava, along (Fruits and vegetables) with small three quantities of Coriander, Jeera, Carrot, Raddish, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Spinach, Cucurbit.	Provides vitamins, minerals Pomegranate, Pears, Chillies, carbohydrates, proteins and oils.

**(a) Crop Seasons:**

Different types of crops require different climatic conditions like :

- (i) Temperature
- (ii) Photoperiod (duration of light)
- (iii) Completion of life cycle

**(a) Depending upon the growing season, there are two groups of crops:**

Kharif crop/ Rainy season crop	Rabi crop/ Winter season crop
(a) Grown during monsoon/rainy season	(a) Grown during winter season
(b) They require warm and wet weather	(b) They require cold and dry weather
(c) They are sown in June-July and harvested September/October	(c) They are sown in October/November & harvested in March-April
(d) Examples- Rice, Jowar, Bajra, Cotton, Urad, Moong etc.	(d) Examples- Wheat, Barley, Gram, Peas, Groundnut, Mustard, Potato etc.