

Traditional Farming Methods in India

Chapter 13: The Story of Indian Farming · Topic 1

Key Concept

Traditional farming often uses bullock-drawn ploughs to prepare land, and relies on rainfall or simple irrigation methods like wells and canals for water.

Farmers traditionally use natural fertilisers, like cow dung and compost, and practice crop rotation to maintain soil fertility without chemical inputs.

Traditional methods often involve significant manual labour for tasks like sowing seeds, weeding, and harvesting, using simple tools passed down through generations.

While traditional farming is often more environmentally friendly, it can produce lower yields compared to modern methods, which is why many farmers now combine both approaches.

Quick Revision Notes

- Traditional farming uses bullock-drawn ploughs.
- Farmers rely on rainfall or simple irrigation like wells and canals.
- Natural fertilisers like cow dung are commonly used.
- Crop rotation helps maintain soil fertility.
- Traditional farming involves significant manual labour.
- Simple tools are passed down through generations.
- Traditional farming is often environmentally friendly.
- It can produce lower yields than modern methods.

Practice Questions

- 1 Research a traditional farming tool used in India.
- 2 Discuss why crop rotation helps soil.
- 3 Interview a farmer (or research) about traditional methods.
- 4 Compare traditional and modern farming yields.
- 5 Discuss why some farmers combine both methods.
- 6 Explain why traditional farming can be environmentally friendly.