Agriculture and Rural Land-Use Patterns and Processes

AP Human Geography · Vocabulary in context

Word	Example
Green Revolution /ɡriːn ˌrevəˈluːʃn/	The **Green Revolution** brought new crops that gave much bigger harvests.
von Thünen model /vɒn ˈθuːnən ˈmɒdl/	The **von Thünen model** shows rings of different farming around a market town.
subsistence agriculture /sʌbˈsɪstəns ˈægrɪkʌltʃə/	In **subsistence agriculture**, farmers grow food mainly for their own family.
commercial agriculture /kəˈmɜːʃl ˈægrɪkʌltʃə/	In **commercial agriculture**, farmers grow crops to sell.
intensive agriculture	Rice paddies in Asia are **intensive agriculture**: lots of work on a small area. Asia
extensive agriculture	Cattle ranching is **extensive agriculture**: few workers on a very large area.
nomadic herding	In **nomadic herding**, people move with their animals to find fresh grass.
shifting cultivation /ˈʃɪftɪŋ ˌkʌltɪˈveɪʃn/	In **shifting cultivation**, farmers clear a field, use it for a few years, then move on.
clustered /ˈklʌstəd/	The houses are **clustered** together.
dispersed /dɪˈspɜːst/	The farms are **dispersed** across the land.
linear /ˈlɪnɪə/	The houses form a **linear** pattern along the road.

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metes and bounds /miːts ænd baʊndz/	**Metes and bounds** describes land using natural features such as rivers and trees.
long lots	**Long lots** are narrow farms that stretch back from a river.
township and range /ˈtaʊnʃɪp ænd reɪndʒ/	The **township and range** system divides land into square blocks.
agricultural hearths /ˌægrɪˈkʌltʃərəl hɑːθs/	The Fertile Crescent is one of the world's **agricultural hearths**.
First Agricultural Revolution	In the **First Agricultural Revolution**, people began to farm instead of hunting.
Second Agricultural Revolution /ˈsekənd ˌægrɪˈkʌltʃərəl ˌrevəˈluːʃn/	The **Second Agricultural Revolution** brought new machines and better crop rotation.
enclosure	**Enclosure** fenced off common land for private farming.
high-yield varieties /haɪ jiːld vəˈraɪətiz/	**High-yield varieties** of rice give more grain from the same field.
Columbian Exchange /kəˈlʌmbɪən eksˈtʃeɪndʒ/	The **Columbian Exchange** moved crops, animals and diseases across the Atlantic.
plantations	Coffee and sugar are often grown on **plantations**.
Mediterranean agriculture	Olives and grapes are typical of **Mediterranean agriculture**.
dairying	**Dairying** means keeping cows for milk.

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bid-rent	The **bid-rent** model says land near the city centre costs the most.
market gardening and dairying	Near cities, farmers choose **market gardening and dairying** because fresh food must reach shops fast.
agribusiness /ˈægrɪbɪznəs/	An **agribusiness** controls farming, processing and selling food.
commodity chains	**Commodity chains** link the coffee farmer to the person who drinks the coffee.
monoculture /ˈmɒnəʊkʌltʃə/	**Monoculture** means growing only one crop on a large area.
cash crops /kæʃ krɒps/	**Cash crops** like cotton are grown to sell.
subsidies /ˈsʌbsɪdiz/	The government pays **subsidies** to farmers.
fair trade /feə treɪd/	**Fair trade** seeks better trading conditions for producers.
desertification /dɪˌzɜːtɪfɪˈkeɪʃn/	**Desertification** makes dry land less productive.
salinisation	Watering crops in dry places can cause **salinisation**: salt builds up in the soil.
eutrophication /juːtrəfɪˈkeɪʃn/	**Eutrophication** happens when fertiliser runs into a lake.
food deserts /fuːd ˈdezəts/	People in **food deserts** live far from shops that sell fresh, healthy food.

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genetically modified organisms (GMOs)	**Genetically modified organisms (GMOs)** have had their DNA changed by scientists.

DNA