

History of Agriculture

Agriculture · Answer Key · 15 Questions

1. Which site, dating back to approximately 9500 BCE, provides some of the earliest evidence of the intentional cultivation of einkorn wheat?

- A) Catalhoyuk
- B) Gobekli Tepe
- C) Abu Hureyra**
- D) Jericho

2. The 'Three Sisters' agricultural technique, involving the companion planting of maize, beans, and squash, was perfected by which Indigenous North American group?

- A) Haudenosaunee**
- B) Anasazi
- C) Mississippians
- D) Hopewell

3. Which 18th-century English agriculturist is credited with inventing the seed drill in 1701, a device that sowed seeds in uniform rows?

- A) Robert Bakewell
- B) Charles Townshend
- C) Jethro Tull**
- D) Arthur Young

4. The Chinampa system, a method of 'floating gardens' used to expand agricultural land, was primary to the economy of which civilization?

- A) Inca
- B) Aztec**
- C) Maya
- D) Olmec

5. In the 1940s, Norman Borlaug began the research in Mexico that sparked the 'Green Revolution' by focusing on which specific crop variety?

- A) High-yield maize
- B) Dwarf wheat**
- C) Hybrid rice
- D) Soybean rotation

6. The first 'Enclosure Acts' in England, which consolidated small landholdings into larger, privately owned farms, began accelerating during which century?

- A) 15th Century
- B) 17th Century
- C) 18th Century**
- D) 14th Century

7. Which crop, native to the Andes, was introduced to Europe by Spanish explorers in the 16th century and eventually became a staple that fueled the European population explosion?

- A) Cassava
- B) Potato**
- C) Quinoa
- D) Sweet Potato

8. During the Abbasid Caliphate, the 'Islamic Green Revolution' introduced which irrigation technology, originating in Persia, to the Mediterranean?

- A) Shadoof
- B) Qanat**
- C) Noria
- D) Archimedes' screw

9. The 'Four-Field System,' which eliminated the need for fallow land by rotating wheat, turnips, barley, and clover, is associated with which agricultural reformer?

- A) Cyrus McCormick
- B) Charles 'Turnip' Townshend**
- C) John Deere
- D) George Washington Carver

10. What was the primary purpose of the 'Corn Laws' in the United Kingdom, repealed in 1846?

- A) To mandate crop rotation
- B) To impose tariffs on imported grain**
- C) To subsidize irrigation
- D) To standardize seed quality

11. The development of the first successful mechanical reaper, patented in 1834, is attributed to which American inventor?

- A) Eli Whitney
- B) Cyrus McCormick**
- C) John Deere
- D) Henry Ford

12. Which ancient civilization developed the 'shaduf,' a hand-operated device for lifting water from the Nile for irrigation?

A) Sumerians

B) Ancient Egyptians

C) Indus Valley

D) Minoans

13. The 'Dust Bowl' of the 1930s in the United States was exacerbated by the removal of native grasses for the cultivation of which specific crop?

A) Cotton

B) Winter Wheat

C) Tobacco

D) Corn

14. Which specific botanical advancement did George Washington Carver promote to improve soil nitrogen levels in the Southern United States?

A) Cotton monoculture

B) Peanut planting

C) Rice grafting

D) Blueberry hybridization

15. The 'Great Famine' of Ireland (1845-1852) was triggered by a blight that decimated which specific monoculture crop?

A) Rye

B) Lumper Potato

C) Oats

D) Barley