

History of Agriculture

Agriculture · Practice Test · 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 What was the primary purpose of the 'Corn Laws' in the United Kingdom, repealed in 1846?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