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# GEOGRAPHY

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— R K JAIN —

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G43S7 and  
G43S10  
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# ICSE GEOGRAPHY

**Class 10**

**Chapter 15: India-Agriculture**  
**(Crops II- Pulses, Oilseeds, and Sugar cane)**



## PULSES

Though gram and arhar (tur) are major pulses grown in India, others include urad (black gram), moong (green gram), masur (lentil), matar (peas), moth or matki, etc. India is the largest producer of pulses in the world.

In India, pulses are grown under varying temperature, moisture and soil requirements. These are grown all over the country, often intermixed with kharif and rabi cereals. The main growing states are Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Andhra Pradesh.



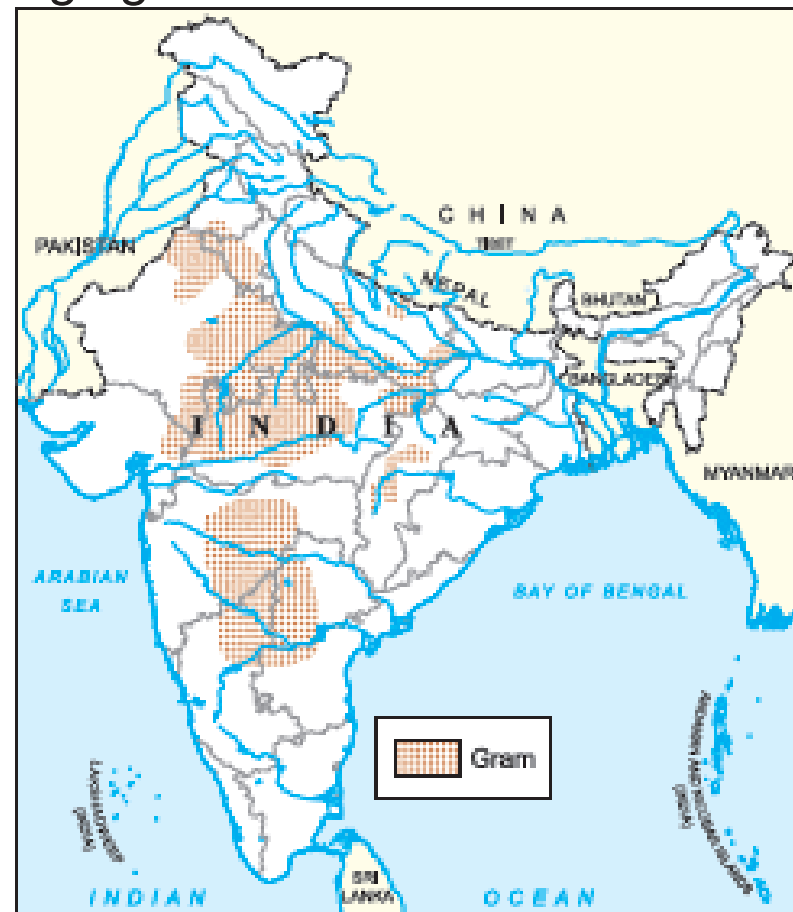
Pulses

## GRAM

Gram is the most important pulse crop, which covers about one-third of the total area under pulses. It is used not only as human food, but also for animal fodder. It can be grown in wide range of climatic conditions.

- ❖ Gram grows well in mild cool weather with temperature ranging between 20 to 25 °C.
- ❖ It needs comparatively dry climate with rainfall ranging between 35 to 50 cm.

Although gram is cultivated in many states of India, but more than 80 per cent area is cultivated in Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana and Uttar Pradesh. These state also grow about 75 per cent of gram. Other states of cultivation are Karnataka, Chhattisgarh Gujarat, Punjab and Haryana. The production of gram has actually suffered a lot at the hands of wheat. India produces about 9 million tonnes of gram from about 9 million hectares of land.



India – Gram producing areas

## ARHAR OR TUR

Arhar or tur or **pigeon pea** is the second most important pulse in India. It is mainly grown as a kharif crop, but it is also grown as a rabi crop in the areas of mild winters. It is normally grown as a dry crop and is mixed with cereals, like jowar, bajra, ragi and maize.

**Maharashtra** is the leading producer of arhar, followed by **Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Gujarat** and **Uttar Pradesh**. They together produce about 70 per cent of the total arhar produced in India. Other producing states are Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Jharkhand, Odisha, Bihar and Tamil Nadu.

The area under arhar cultivation has not increased much in the last fifty years. About 70 per cent area is in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Gujarat. The yield per hectare has also not changed much.



India – Arhar or tur producing areas

## MASUR OR LENTIL

It is a rabi crop and is often grown in combination with barley or mustard. The main producing states in India are **Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal** and **Karnataka**. India is the largest producer and consumer of pulses. Recently, the only positive change about the production of pulses, is the introduction of short duration third crop of moong or urad, which can grow as a post rabi crop.



## OILSEEDS

Oilseeds are grown mainly in the tropical and subtropical region. India has the largest area and production of oilseeds in the world. The oil extracted from these seeds is called **vegetable oil**, and it is an important item of Indian food.

**Madhya Pradesh** is the leading producer of oilseeds in India, followed by **Rajasthan**, **Gujarat**, **Maharashtra**, **Uttar Pradesh** and **West Bengal**. The production of oilseeds has always fallen short of our total needs. Thus, we have to import oilseeds or their products to meet the requirements of our rapidly increasing population.



India – Oilseeds producing areas

## GROUNDNUTS

It is the most important oilseed of our country. It accounts for about half of the major oilseeds produced in India. The groundnut oil is used as an edible oil. It is also used for the manufacturing of margarine, medical emulsions, soap and toilet requisites.





Groundnut is eaten raw, roasted, salted or sweetened. Oilcake is a rich cattle feed.

## Areas of Groundnut Production

India is the **second largest** producer of groundnut in the world, next only to China. The progress in groundnut production depends largely on the farmer's choice of crops and weather conditions.

Groundnut is mainly a rain-fed crop and its yield and production varies according to distribution and amount of rainfall. **Gujarat** is the largest producer of groundnuts in India, followed by Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Madhya Pradesh and Telangana.

The total annual production of India is about 9.25 million tonnes from 4.89 million hectares of land. Tamil Nadu gets the highest yield of about 3,078 kg per hectare.

## MUSTARD

Next to groundnut, mustard is the most important oilseed of India. The oil contents of mustard is about 35 per cent, which is used as cooking medium, preservative for pickles, lubricants and raw material for toilet goods. The oilcakes are used as cattle feed and manures.



Mustard

## Areas of Mustard Production

India is the **third largest** producer of mustard in the world next only to Canada and China. About 90 per cent of the total production of India comes from the Satluj – Ganga plain. The main producing states are **Rajasthan, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Bihar and Punjab.**

## SOYABEAN

The cultivation of soyabean has gained popularity in India in recent years. Soyabean is a good source of edible oil and proteins. It is grown both in kharif and rabi seasons.

### Conditions for Growth of Soyabean

- ❖ Soyabean grows well in areas having 15 to 25 °C of temperature.
- ❖ It needs average annual rainfall between 40 to 60 cm.
- ❖ It grows well in loamy soils which can retain moisture.



Soyabean

### Areas of Soyabean Production

**Madhya Pradesh** is the largest producer of soyabean in India. It produces about 5.32 million tonnes from 5 million hectares of land. The other producing states are Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Andhra Pradesh and Karnataka.

Soyabean is richer in protein than any other leguminous crop. Soyabean milk is very nutritive. Soyabean oil is also used in cooking, making margarine, soap, paints, lubricants, printing ink, etc. India produces about 11 million tonnes of soyabeans from about 10 million hectares of land.

## SUGAR CANE

Sugar cane belongs to the bamboo family of plants and is the raw material for making sugar, gur and khandsari. It also provides raw material for producing industrial alcohol. The residue after cane is crushed, called **bagasse**, can be used for making paper, fibreboard, etc.



India is the original home of sugar cane and has the largest area under sugar cane cultivation. India is also the second largest producer of sugar cane in the world next only to Brazil. However, the yield per hectare is low when compared with Java, Cuba or Hawaii.



Sugar cane

## SUGAR CANE CULTIVATION IN INDIA

Sugar cane is grown as a single crop. The land is prepared and some manure is applied before the planting begins in the month of February and April. The sowing of sugar cane is done in the following ways:

1. **Sett Method:** New sugar cane in our country is usually planted by taking cuttings, called **setts**. A sett is a stalk cutting of two or three joints. The setts are planted at a distance of about 1.5 to 2.0 metres in rows. These setts are quickly established and after a few days, the buds sprout to form new stalks.



India – Sugar cane producing areas

**2. Ratoon Method:** In the ratoon method, the sugar cane is harvested leaving the root intact in the soil. Ratoon is the second or any other successive crop obtained from the roots left over in the field from the first crop. This method is very popular in India due to its low cost of production.

### **AREAS OF SUGAR CANE PRODUCTION**

India is the second largest producer of sugar cane in the world next only to Brazil. There has been a dramatic increase in the production and yield of sugar cane in the last 65 years. The three distinct belts of sugar cane cultivation in India are:

1. the Satluj-Ganga plain from Punjab to Bihar,
2. the Black soil belt along the eastern slopes of Western Ghats from Maharashtra to Tamil Nadu,
3. the coastal areas in Andhra Pradesh and Krishna river valley.

### **PROBLEMS OF SUGAR CANE CULTIVATION IN INDIA**

- ❖ Sugar cane cultivation reduces the soil fertility. Thus, large quantities of manures and chemical fertilizers are needed with every new crop.
- ❖ Sugar cane is a weight-losing commodity and thus, cannot bear the high cost of transport.
- ❖ Only one crop of sugar cane can be produced in one year. The total value is less than that of the two grain crops in a year.
- ❖ Sugar cane is a perishable commodity. It should be taken immediately after harvest to the crushing centres or sugar mills.
- ❖ Adequate and timely irrigation facilities are not available to the farmers in many states of India.



THANK YOU