

Types of Farming

Mixed and Multiple Agriculture

- Mixed farming is referred to cultivation of crops and raising of animals simultaneously.
- The multiple farming is used to denote the practice of growing two or more crops together.
- In such case a number of crops having varying maturing periods are sown at the same time.
- This practice is followed in areas having good rainfall or facilities of irrigation.

Multiple Farming	Mixed Farming
The main objective is to utilize the space left between two rows of main crop.	To get at least one crop under favourable conditions.
More emphasis is given to the main crop.	All crops are cared equally.
There is no competition between both crops.	There is competition between all crops growing.
Multiple crops are of short duration and are harvested much earlier than the main crop.	The crops are almost of the same duration.
Sowing time may be same or different.	Sowing time is the same for all crops.
Crops are sown in different rows without affecting the main crop when sown as sole crop.	Crops are sown in rows or mixed.

Crop Rotation

This refers to growing of number of crops one after the other in a fixed rotation to maintain the fertility of the soil. The rotation of crops may be complete in a year in some of the areas while it may involve more than one year's time in others.

- Pulses or any leguminous crop is grown after the cereal crop.
- Legumes have the ability of nitrogen to the soil.
- Highly fertilizer intensive crops like sugarcane or tobacco are rotated with cereal crops.

The selection of crops for rotation depends upon the local soil conditions and the experience and the understanding of the farmers.

Terrace Cultivation

- The hill and mountain slopes are cut to form terraces and the land is used in the same way as in permanent agriculture.
- Since the availability of flat land is limited, terraces are made to provide small patch of level land.
- Soil erosion is also checked due to terrace formation on hill slopes.