

LESSON NOTE FOR WEEK FIVE (5) ENDING 10TH SEPT, 2025.

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE.
TOPIC: AGRICULTURAL LAWS AND REFORMS (LAND TENURE SYSTEM OR OWNERSHIP)
CLASS SS1
DATE: 6TH OCT, 2025

MEANING OF LAND TENURE SYSTEM

Land tenure is defined as the system of land ownership or acquisition either by individual, family and community or government agency either for temporary or permanent use.

TYPES OF LAND TENURE SYSTEM IN NIGERIA

1. **Communal land tenure:** This is a traditional ownership of land whereby land is generally regarded as the property of the community. Every member of the community has the right to use land for agriculture but cannot sell any part of it since it is regarded as a legacy that should not be sold.

ADVANTAGE OF COMMUNAL TENURE SYSTEM.

1. Each member of the community has opportunity to make use of the land.
2. Co-operative farming is possible since the land is extensive
3. Large scale farming is possible due to its large size if only community members co-operate
4. It is easier to transfer the land to prospective farmer since individual attachment is almost absent.

DISADVANTAGES OF COMMUNAL TENURE SYSTEM.

1. Inadequate maintenance of soil fertility.
2. Non- members of the community cannot have access to the land for farming.
3. There is lack of co-operation among members if the land is to be used for large scale farming.
4. It leads to fragmentation of the land into small and scattered units.
5. Perennial crops cannot be planted etc.
2. **Tenure based on inheritance:** This is the type of land tenure in which land is inherited from one's parents or from one generation to another.

ADVANTAGES OF TENURE BASED ON INHERITANCE

1. The land can be used as security to obtain loans from banks
2. The owner can improve its fertility.
3. Mechanized farming is practiced
4. Perennial crops can be planted.

DISADVANTAGES OF TENURE BASED ON INHERITANCE.

1. It leads to land fragmentation since the land is shared among many children.
2. Mechanized farming cannot be practiced on small plot of land.
3. Sharing of land can bring about dispute among family members etc.

Lease hold tenure: This is a situation in which the farmer is allowed by the owner to work on a piece of land for a fixed length of time under stipulated conditions. Certain amount of money is paid as rent for the use of land. At the expiration of the period of tenancy, the land reverts to the landowner or the agreement may be reviewed if the landlord so desires.

ADVANTAGES OF LEASE HOLD TENURE.

1. The land is efficiently used.
2. There is no time wasting to acquire or leave the piece of land

3. The owner of the land can earn more money etc.

DISADVANTAGES OF LEASE HOLD

1. It cannot be used as security to obtain loan
2. The user may not be encouraged to plant perennial crops
3. It affects long term planning
4. It can bring dispute between the landlord and the tenant. And is donated or given out on good will

Tenure based on free gift: This is the type of land tenure in which land is donated or given out on good will or free of charge in appreciation or as an incentive.

ADVANTAGES OF TENURE BASED ON FREE GIFT.

1. It ensures the maximum use of land.
2. Large scale farming can be practiced depending on the size.
3. It can be used as security to obtain loans.

DISADVANTAGES OF TENURE BASED ON FREE GIFT

1. The ownership of the land can be challenged at any time.
2. There may be disagreement over such gifts among family members.

State or government ownership of land: In this system, land belongs to the state or government and persons working or living on the land are tenant of the government. This system makes for effective government control of land and use but it may be subject to excessive bureaucratic control which may hinder individual initiative and give room to political abuses.

ADVANTAGES OF GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

1. There is effective control of land ownership
2. The government can earn more money leasing out the land
3. It encourages government investment on land

DISADVANTAGES OF GOVERNMENT OWNERSHIP

1. The system encourages bureaucratic control
2. There is monopolistic power over the land as the tenant may not be able to use the land according to wish etc.

EVALUATION.

1. Define land tenure system.
2. State the types of land tenure system in Nigeria.
3. List out two advantages and disadvantages of communal tenure system.

ASSIGNMENT.

1. A major disadvantages of land tenure by inheritance is that the land is ----- . A. very infertile for crop and animal production. B. usually small for commercial farming. C. too large for commercial farming. D. available for large scale mechanization.
2. Which of the following factors largely determine the amount of land availability for agriculture in an area? A. cash crop tenancies. B. climatic and physical factor. C. biotic factors. D. religion and tradition.
3. The commonest method of land tenure in Nigeria is ----- . A. inheritance. B. lease. C. outright purchase. D. state allocation.
4. A piece of land is said to be on lease to a farmer when the land is ----- . A. inherited from his father. B. given to him as a gift. C. given as compensation. D. given for a specified period on as rental basis.

5. Land tenure system is a process of ----- . A. conserving soil type. B. determining the suitability of soil for agriculture. C. acquiring land for agricultural purpose. D. developing land for building industries.