

LESSON FOR WEEK EIGHT (8) ENDING 31ST OCTOBER, 2025.

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE.
TOPIC: FARMING SYSTEM
CLASS JSS2
DATE: 28TH OCTOBER, 2025

Farming system is a given method for production of crops and rearing of animals. Soil, climate and availability of land can influence the choice of any system.

Types of farming system

1. Mixed farming.
2. Bush fallowing system/ shifting cultivation
3. Pastoral farming (nomadic, ley and ranching).

MIXED FARMING: This is a farming system where the farmer grows crops and rears animals on the same farm land.

ADVANTAGES OF MIXED FARMING.

1. Animal dungs are used as manure to improve soil fertility.
2. Crop residues are used to feed farm animals.
3. Large animals like cattle can be used to till the soil for crop production.
4. If either crops or animal sector fails, the farmer has the other to fall back, etc.

DISADVANTAGES OF MIXED FARMING.

1. The farmer has divided attention and he may not function well.
2. If crops fail, the farmer can make use of animals to make up.
3. If the animals are not well managed, they can eat up the crops, etc.

Bush fallowing/shifting cultivation: Bush fallowing is a system of farming where by the farmer abandons unproductive land for a productive one and allows the unproductive land to fallow or rest for some period of years (3-5 years) before returning to it. This type of farming system is also known as land rotation. In shifting cultivation, the farmer never returns to the previous land.

ADVANTAGE OF BUSH FALLOWING SYSTEM.

1. It is simple, cheap and effective method of restoring soil fertility.
2. It helps to control build up of harmful insect pest and diseases.
3. The plant cover helps to check erosion.

DISADVANTAGES OF BUSH FALLOWING SYSTEM.

1. It cannot be practiced where land is scarce.
2. It wastes land, etc.

PASTORAL FARMING: This is an extensive system of livestock production where the animals are unrestricted left to roam and graze in the field.

TYPES OF PASTORAL FARMING.

There are three types of pastoral farming these are:

1. Nomadic farming.
2. Ley farming.
3. Ranching.

NOMADIC FARMING: In this system, the farmer moves his animals from one place to another in search of green pastures and water.

LEY FARMING: This is a system of combining pasture with crop production. The pasture is allowed to grow for about four years, and, then, the land is tilled and used to cultivate other crops. It is, thus, called rotational pasture.

RANCHING: It's the semi-intensive system of animal production. The animals are kept on a large but enclosed expanse of land like in Obudu Cattle Ranch in Cross River State. Here, animals are allowed to have access to natural vegetation, also supplement feed are given to the animals.

ADVANTAGES OF PASTORAL FARMING.

1. Livestock kept on pasture are more comfortable than those kept indoors in feed lots.
2. The livestock harvest the pasture crops by grazing there by saving labour cost.
3. It does not require large financial investment for building and equipment.
4. The soil fertility is improved through the animals' droppings.
5. Animals raised on pasture tend to produce more milk than those kept – indoors in feed lots

DISADVANTAGES OF PASTORAL FARMING

1. It requires a large piece of land for it to be successful
2. Animals and herdsman are exposed to various hazards.

EVALUATION.

1. Define farming system.
2. List the types of farming system.
3. Explain any two types you have mentioned.

Assignment.

1. Which of these farming system involves crop production. A. ley farming. B. ranching. C. mixed farming. D. nomadic farming.
2. The land is left from _____ to _____ years to rest in bush fallowing system. A. 3-5. B. 7-10. C. 15-20. D. 20-30.
3. Which of these farming system involves the production of crops and rearing of animals. A. pastoral farming. B. bush fallowing. C. mixed farming. D. ranching.
4. Ranching is a form of _____ animal production system. A. extensive. B. semi- intensive. C. intensive. D. semi- extensive.
5. In which of these farming system is pasture grown for farm animals. A. ley farming. B. mixed farming. C. bush fallowing. D. shifting cultivation.