

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

SUBJECT: AGRICULTURAL SCIENCE.

TOPIC: LAND AND ITS USES

CLASS SS1

DATE: 28TH OCT, 2025

Land is the solid parts of earth's surface (the soil and its mineral resources) where agricultural and non-agricultural activities takes place.

GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF LAND.

1. It is fixed in supply and its value rises steadily in response to increasing demand for it
2. The supply of land is limited and cannot be easily increased
3. Land is immobile i.e. cannot be moved from place to place.

USES OF LAND.

Land use is subdivided into agricultural and non-agricultural uses.

AGRICULTURAL USES OF LAND

1. **Crop production:** Land is used for the production of food crops such as yam, rice, cassava etc
2. **Grazing:** Large areas of land set aside where there are abundant grasses for grazing by livestock is called pasture land.
3. **Fishery:** It involves the uses of land for the establishment of fish pond where fishes are reared artificially.
4. **Forestry:** This involves the use of land for the establishment of forest.
5. **Wildlife conservation:** Land is set aside for the establishment of game reserve to conserve wildlife. Examples of game reserve and where they are located in Nigeria are;
 - a) Kanji National Park in Niger State.
 - b) Borgu game reserve in Kwara State.
 - c) Zurguma game reserve in Niger State.
 - d) Yankari game reserve in Bauchi State.

NON-AGRICULTURAL USES OF LAND.

1. Land used for building houses
2. Land used for industrial purposes
3. Land used for transportation purposes
4. For social-economic activities like stadia, amusement parks, market, hospitals, etc.
5. Land used for religious centres like churches, mosques and shrine
6. Land uses for mining minerals like petroleum, tin, coal, gold etc.

FACTORS AFFECTING LAND AVAILABILITY FOR AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

1. **Population pressure:** increase in population lowers the area of available land. Social life and demand on life increases with population growth
2. **Land tenure system:** leads to land fragmentation which rarely gives enough land for effective agricultural venture. Communal land tenure system leads to land deterioration.
3. **Topography:** Land in mountainous and hilly areas with rocks are not suitable for agriculture. Steepness of the slope of the hill or mountain encourages rapid run off and erosion. Depressed part of the land is easily waterlogged.
4. **Climatic factors:** Restricts the use of land for agricultural purposes. Rainfall is the major determinant in crop and animal distribution. Areas with heavy rainfall favours tree crops while areas with moderate rainfall favours food crops.

5. **Cultural practices:** Cultural practices like bush burning, shifting cultivation, deforestation etc make land unsuitable for agriculture
6. **Socioeconomic factors:** Use of land for residential buildings, markets, schools, roads etc does not make land available for agricultural use.
7. **Soil type:** A land with predominantly sandy soil is not suitable for agriculture. A land that is mainly clay is difficult to till and heavy to work on
8. **Environmental pollution and oil spillage:** This renders a land unsuitable for agriculture or cultivation.

EVALUATION.

1. What is land
2. List three general characteristic of land
3. Outline uses of land for agriculture
4. State five game reserves in Nigeria
5. Outline five nonagricultural uses of land
6. List five socioeconomic factors affecting land.

ASSIGNMENT.

1. Which of the following is not a factor affecting land availability in Nigeria? A. rainfall. B. topography. C. soil type. D. soil microorganism.
2. The climatic factors affecting land use for agriculture include the following except? A. pest. B. rainfall. C. temperature. D. light.
3. Which of the following farm practice does not have a harmful effect on soil? A. crop rotation. B. land clearing. C. over grazing. D. flooding
4. Agricultural land should not be used for the establishment of? A. game reserve. B. pasture. C. horticultural crops. D. arable crops.
5. The use of land for agriculture is not influenced by----- A. labour. B. climate. C. topography. D. population