Crop Production and Management in India

Ages 13–14 · Science

Name _____ Class _____ Date _____

A Key terms: match each term to its meaning

Write the letter of the correct meaning in the box next to each term.

1	**Crop**	☐	**A** Growing different crops in turn on the same field to keep the soil fertile.
2	**Kharif crop**	☐	**B** Natural organic matter from decomposed plant and animal waste that adds humus to soil.
3	**Rabi crop**	☐	**C** A crop sown with the rainy season, such as paddy, maize or cotton.
4	**Tilling (ploughing)**	☐	**D** Supplying water to crops at regular intervals.
5	**Manure**	☐	**E** Loosening and turning the soil before sowing.
6	**Crop rotation**	☐	**F** A crop grown in the winter season, such as wheat, gram or mustard.
7	**Irrigation**	☐	**G** A chemical, such as 2,4-D, used to kill weeds without harming the crop.
8	**Weedicide**	☐	**H** Plants of the same kind grown on a large scale in one place.

B Quick quiz

Circle the best answer, write its letter, then explain your choice in a few words.

1 Loosening and turning the soil before sowing is called:

a) Tilling **b)** Winnowing
c) Threshing **d)** Irrigation

Answer: _____ Why? _____

2 Which of these is a kharif crop?

a) Wheat **b)** Gram
c) Paddy **d)** Mustard

Answer: _____ Why? _____

3 Why does growing a legume such as gram help the next crop?

a) It kills all weeds **b)** Rhizobium in its root nodules fixes nitrogen
c) It removes water from the soil **d)** It adds urea to the soil

Answer: _____ Why? _____

4 Which irrigation method delivers water drop by drop near the roots?

a) Sprinkler system **b)** Rahat
c) Chain pump **d)** Drip system

Answer: _____ Why? _____

5 Why are freshly harvested grains dried before storage?

a) To remove moisture that invites pests and microbes **b)** To make them heavier
c) To change their colour **d)** To help them germinate

Answer: _____ Why? _____

Answers on page 2

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Answer key for teachers · Ages 13–14 · Science

A Key terms

1	Crop	H	Plants of the same kind grown on a large scale in one place.
2	Kharif crop	C	A crop sown with the rainy season, such as paddy, maize or cotton.
3	Rabi crop	F	A crop grown in the winter season, such as wheat, gram or mustard.
4	Tilling (ploughing)	E	Loosening and turning the soil before sowing.
5	Manure	B	Natural organic matter from decomposed plant and animal waste that adds humus to soil.
6	Crop rotation	A	Growing different crops in turn on the same field to keep the soil fertile.
7	Irrigation	D	Supplying water to crops at regular intervals.
8	Weedicide	G	A chemical, such as 2,4-D, used to kill weeds without harming the crop.

B Quick quiz

1 a) Tilling

Tilling, or ploughing, loosens and turns the soil so that roots can go deeper and air can reach them.

2 c) Paddy

Paddy is sown with the rainy season and needs plenty of water. Wheat, gram and mustard are rabi crops.

3 b) Rhizobium in its root nodules fixes nitrogen

Rhizobium bacteria in the root nodules of legumes fix nitrogen from the air, which enriches the soil for the next crop.

4 d) Drip system

In the drip system, water falls drop by drop close to the roots, so very little is wasted. It suits fruit trees, gardens and dry regions.

5 a) To remove moisture that invites pests and microbes

Fresh grain holds extra moisture. Drying it prevents attack by insects, rats and microorganisms during storage.