AGRICULTURE

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WHAT IS THE INDUSTRY?

• The science of cultivating plants, livestock, and other life forms for food, fiber, and fuel is agriculture, also known as husbandry or farming. Farms, dairies, hatcheries, and ranches are part of the agricultural industry, which involves enterprises engaged in growing crops, raising fish and livestock, and logging wood.

HOW DID WE USED TO PRACTICE AGRICULTURE?

• Agricultural workers worked six days a week before the Industrial Revolution, from sun to sun down, just to keep their crops growing. Some seasons were more demanding than others, particularly the seasons of plowing and harvesting. It was the largest source of jobs in Europe because of the strength and importance of agricultural labor. Men, women and children worked hard to feed the crops. Sometimes, if your father was a farm owner and a farmer, his whole family worked next to him. Although the labour was hard, agriculture work became the largest source of employment because of the 'self-supply' benefit, which gives you the ability to stock their own food stores through their own work. Before the industrial revolution farmers used a simple hoe. Machines were used by hand, horses and steam engines.

HOW DO WE PRACTICE IT NOW?

• Agriculture has changed a lot, in 2020 its way different than what it was a couple hundred years ago. In 2020 we have a lot of different technology to help us work less and still be able to produce crops. We have intensive tillages, use of synthetic chemicals, chemical pest control, monoculture and many more differences. Back In the day many farmers used animals to farm, my great grandpa used a camel to actually farm since we were really poor. In 2020 we have 3 tractors and 1 harvester just like many farmers around the world. Now a day since we have many powerful machines, we don't need our family to help us farm.

HOW IS AGRICULTURE IMPACTING THE ENVIRONMENT IN A GOOD OR A BAD WAY?

 There are many positives and bad about agriculture, some negatives are pollution, degradation of soil, water, and air. Some positives are trapping greenhouse gasses within crops and soils, or mitigating flood risks through the adoption of certain farming practices.

WHAT ARE SUSTAINABLE ALTERNATIVES THAT CAN MODIFY OR REPLACE THE PRACTICE?

 Some sustainable alternatives of agriculture are making use of renewable energy sources, integrated pest management, hydroponics, and Aquaponics, crop rotation, polyculture, farming, permaculture, avoiding soil erosion and crop diversity.

WHAT CAN YOU AS AN INDIVIDUAL DO TO REDUCE YOUR IMPACT WHEN IT COMES TO THIS INDUSTRY?

There not much I really do to even help this industry other than buy food I guess but
one thing I can think of is farmers always coke in discussion of pollution. We can help
reduce that topic by riding a bike to school or even cutting down your use of your car,
We can also reduce water usage since farmers use a lot of water since it's a main factor
in farming.

LINKS

- https://cuesa.org/article/10-ways-farmers-can-fight-climate-change
- https://www.vault.com/industries-professions/industries/agriculture
- https://www.conserve-energy-future.com/sustainable-farming-practices.php