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By agriguru.in Part 10th

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Alley crops: Crops such as sweet potato, urd, turmeric and ginger are grown in the passages formed by the rows of eucalyptus, subabool and cassia mainly to hasten soil fertility restoration, enhance soil productivity and reduce soil erosion.

Augmenting crop: These crops supplement the yield of the main crops e.g. Sowing of mustard with berseem or lucerne to get higher yield in the first cutting.

Avenue crops: These crops are grown along farm road and fences eg. Arhar, sisal, glyricidia.

Cash crops: Such crops are grown for sale to earn hard cash e.g. Jute, cotton, tobacco, sugarcane**.**

Catch crops: These are grown as substitute for the main crop that has failed on account of unfavorable condition. They are of very short duration, quick growing, early harvestable or usable at any time eg. Moong, urd, cowpea, onion.

Arable crops: Crops which require preparatory tillage e.g. Potato, Tobacco, rice, sugarcane, maize.

Cole crops: Cole crops are essentially cold weather crops belonging to the family Cruciferae and capable for withstanding considerable frost eg. Cabbage, cauliflower, and sprout.

Cover crops/ Mulch crops: These crops are grown mainly to cover the soil and to reduce soil moisture and erosion by wind and water e.g. Lobia, groundnut, urd, sweet potato etc.

Complementary crops: In this cropping each other crop is benefited by intercropping e.g. Jowar + lobia. Jowar receives nitrogen from lobia and lobia requires support from jowar.

Ley crops: Such crops are grown for grazing or harvesting for immediate or future feeding to livestock eg. Berseem, mustard.

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Nurse crop: These crops are nourished other crops by providing shade and acting as climbing sticks eg. Rai/mustard in peas and jowar in cowpea.

Paired row cropping: Each third row is removed or growing of crops in paired row is called paired row cropping. It is suitable for dry land and objective is to conserve moisture.

Restorative crops: Such crops provide a good harvest along with enrichment or restoration or amelioration of soil eg. Legumes.

Skip cropping: A line left unsown in the regular row series of sowing is called skip cropping.

Smother crops: These crops provide large canopy and quick growing ability e.g. Cowpea, mustard, sorghum.

Trap crop/decoy crops: Grown on boundary of the field to attract insect pests and soil borne harmful biotic agents such as parasitic weeds e.g. Orobanche (weed) is trapped by solanaceae plants.

Silage crops: Such crops are grown to preserve in pits in a succulent condition by a process of natural fermentation or acidification for feeding livestock during lean months or offseason e.g. berseem, cowpea.

Mixed farming: It is a system of farming on a particular farm which includes crop production, livestock, poultry, fisheries, bee keeping sustaining and satisfying as many needs of the farmer as possible.

Crop rotation: Refers to the sequence of crops grown on the same land in a recurring succession.

Mono cropping/monoculture: Refers to growing of only one crop on a piece of land year after year.

Multiple cropping: Growing two or more crops on the same piece of land in one calendar year is known as multiple crops. It includes inter cropping, mixed cropping and sequence cropping.

- **Inter cropping:** Growing two or more crops simultaneously on the same piece of land with a defined row pattern.
- **Mixed cropping:** Growing two or more crops simultaneously intermingled without any row pattern.
- **Sequence cropping:** As growing of two or more crops in sequence on the same piece of land in farming year.

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