



**BAL BHARATI PUBLIC SCHOOL, PITAMPURA, DELHI – 110034**

**SUBJECT:- BIOLOGY- Class 8**

**CHAPTER:-Crop Production and Management**

**TOPIC:- Basic Agricultural Practices.**

### **Guidelines**

Dear Students

- Please refer to the content given in this lesson as it will help you understand the concept and to attempt the assignment that follows (which will be graded on submission).
- Click on the link given below to refer to class 8 Science NCERT textbook.

[http://ncertbooks.prashanthellina.com/8\\_Science.html](http://ncertbooks.prashanthellina.com/8_Science.html)

**Sub Topics: 1. Weeds**

**2. Harvesting, Threshing, Winnowing**

**3. Storage of Grains**

**4. Food for Animals**

### **TOPIC**

#### **Weeds**

Weeds are the unwanted plants that grow with the main plant. For example, Amaranthus, grass, wild oats and so on.



#### **Disadvantages of weeds**

Weeds compete with main crops for nutrients, space, sunlight, water etc. Due to weeds, main crop gets affected.

Removal of weeds is essential because:

- Weeds compete with crops for space, light, water and nutrients.

**Weeding:** The process of removing weeds is called weeding.

### A )Manual Weeding

## Manual weeding

Weeds may be uprooted by hand or removed with the help of implements such as harrow, trowel, or hoe.

manual weeding has the following disadvantages.

It is time – consuming and may even land to accidental removal of desired crops.

•The implements used (such as trowel, harrow, and hoe) are made of iron and need regular maintenance to prevent rusting.



### B)Removal of weeds using chemicals:-

## Using weedicides

A weedicide is a chemical that is used to destroy weeds.

Weedicides destroy the weeds without affecting the crop.

Dalapon, **Metachlor** and **Siziazine** are examples of weedicides.





1. The best time to remove weeds is before they produce flowers and seeds.
2. Weedicides are diluted with water and sprayed in the fields. Farmers should cover their nose and mouth with a piece of cloth while spraying them.



**Please click on the link given below and watch the video twice for better understanding.**

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eo9VwRETkDk>

### **Harvesting**

Cutting of crop after it matures is called **harvesting\***.

- Cereal crops usually take 3-4 months to mature.
- In India, many festivals are associated with harvesting, such as Pongal, Baisakhi, Holi, Diwali, Nabanya and Bihu.

Harvesting can be done manually (using sickle) or by machine (called **Harvester**).



After harvesting, separating chaff from grain can be done through **threshing** and **winnowing**.

**Threshing** is the process of separating chaff from grain by beating the crop against a stone or wooden bar. In this process, grains fall from the stalk due to force.



After threshing, **winning** separates the husk from the seeds by blowing air through it. In this process, the husk (which is lighter) flies away and the seeds (which are heavier) fall down.



There is a machine called '**Combine**' which works as a **harvester** as well as a **thresher**.

Click on the following links and watch the videos for better understanding of the concept:

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=78pav1C\\_TK4](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=78pav1C_TK4)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=f1qoaHabFEw>

## **Storage of Grains**

**How are grains protected from pests, bacteria and fungi?**

- Grains (seeds) are dried in the sun to reduce their moisture.
- At small scale, grains are stored in jute bags or metallic bins.
- At large scale, they are kept in silos and granaries.
- **Dried neem leaves are used at home to protect food grains.**

- In big godowns, chemical treatments are done to protect the large quantities of grain.

### **Precautions To Be Taken During Storage Of Grains**

Precautions to be taken during storage of food grains are:

- Grains should be dried properly or they might rot easily.
- They should be stored in completely dry gunny bags.
- The bags should be kept in a place which is completely moisture-free.
- Storage areas should be well-ventilated.
- In larger godowns, care should be taken that chemicals used to repel or kill insects and rats do not contaminate food grains.

### **Food from Animals**

When animals are reared at a large scale to obtain food from them, it is called **animal husbandry**.

Animal husbandry includes taking care of animals, breeding them and domesticating them for different purposes such as meat, wool, milk, eggs, honey etc.

Types of animal husbandry popular in India include:

- Beekeeping or Apiculture
- Cattle farming
- Dairy farming
- Fish Farming or Aquaculture
- Poultry farming
- Sheep farming



## PROTECTION FROM WEEDS

- \* Undesirable plants which grow naturally with crop is called **weeds**.
- \* **Removal of weeds is called weeding.**
- \* **Weeds are removed manually by using khurpi.**
- \* **Weeds can also be controlled by certain chemicals called weedicides.**
- \* **Farmers should cover their nose and mouth while spraying weedicides.**



### ASSIGNMENT

- Q1. What are weeds? How are they harmful for the crops?
- Q2. What is the best time for removal of weeds?
- Q3. Spraying of weedicides affects the health of the farmers. Comment.
- Q4. Describe two ways of controlling weeds.
- Q5. Differentiate between harvesting, threshing and winnowing.
- Q6. List the ways in which grains are stored in godowns.