

Biodiversity and Indigenous Agriculture



- What Indigenous Agriculture is
- Biodiversity in Indigenous Farming
- Why Biodiversity is Important for Indigenous Agriculture
- Case Studies – The Three Sisters Planting Method, Aztec Chinampas, and Rice Terraces
- Biodiversity and Food Security
- Adapting to Change
- Supporting Cultural Practices
- Challenges to, and Protection of, Indigenous Agriculture



Preview File

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- Some slides appear blank because they have been removed
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- Other slides may have on them, this represents writing that has been removed on this sample

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Learning Goals

By the end of this lesson, students will be able to:

- 1.Explain what Indigenous agriculture means.
- 2.Explain how biodiversity helps Indigenous farming.
- 3.Provide examples of Indigenous farming practices that use biodiversity.
- 4.Describe why protecting biodiversity is important for Indigenous agriculture.

What is Indigenous Agriculture?

Definition: _____



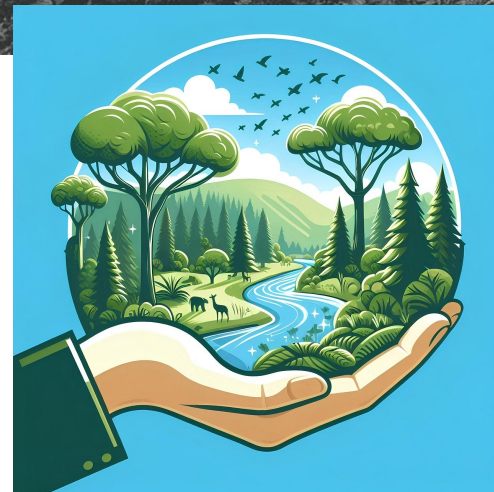
- Key features:
 - Uses local plants and animals
 - Works with nature, not against it
 - Passed down through generations



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Why is Biodiversity Important for Indigenous Agriculture?

1. _____
2. Helps adapt to changing conditions
3. Supports cultural practices
4. Protects the environment



Case Study – The Three Sisters Planting



- What it is:

- _____

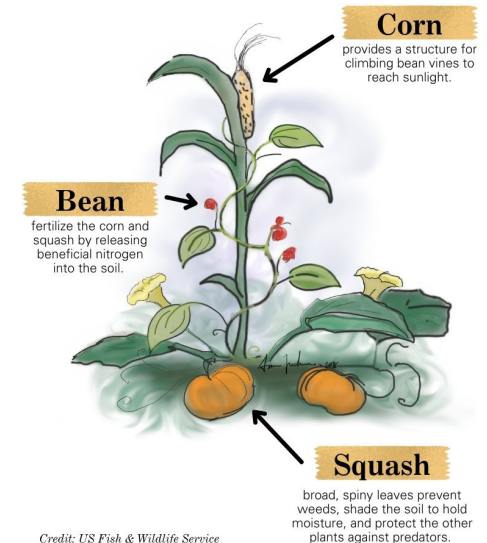
- How it uses biodiversity:

- _____

- Attracts helpful insects
- Improves soil health



The Three Sisters Planting is a traditional agricultural practice used by Native Peoples where corn, beans, and squash are planted in a symbiotic triad to enhance soil fertility and plant growth.



Case Study – Aztec Chinampas (Mexico)

- What are they:
 - _____
- How they use biodiversity:
 - Grows many types of plants
 - Uses lake plants and mud for soil
 - Creates habitats for fish and birds

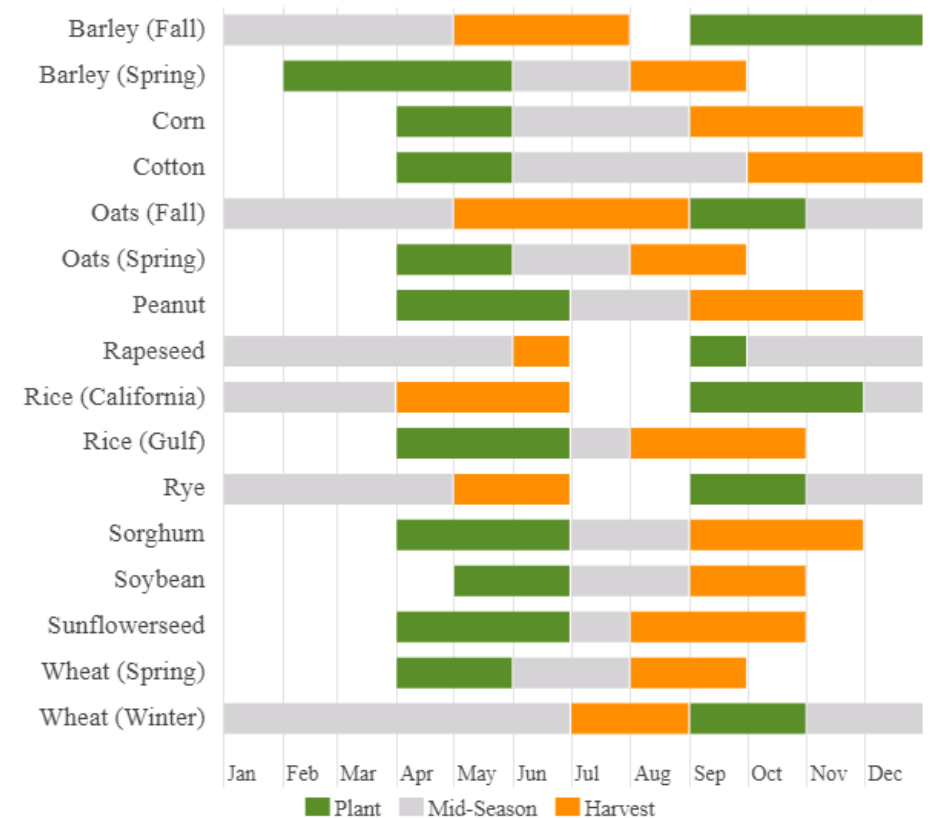


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Biodiversity and Food Security

- Growing different crops means:
 - _____
- If one crop fails, others might survive
- Varied diet with different nutrients

United States — Crop Calendar



Adapting to Change

- Biodiversity helps
Indigenous farmers
adapt to:

- Climate changes

- _____

- _____



Supporting Cultural Practices

- _____

- Used in:
 - Traditional medicines
 - Ceremonies and rituals
 - Art and crafts



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Challenges to Indigenous Agriculture

- Loss of traditional lands

- _____

- _____

- Loss of traditional knowledge



Protecting Indigenous Agriculture and Biodiversity

- _____
- Supporting seed-saving programs
- Documenting traditional farming knowledge
- Promoting

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Discussion Questions

Individually or in pairs, answer the following questions.

1. How might
2. Can you think of any local plants or animals that could be used in farming?
3. Why is it important to preserve traditional farming knowledge?

Review

- Indigenous agriculture relies on biodiversity
- Biodiversity provides food security and helps adapt to changes
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- Preserving biodiversity is crucial for Indigenous agriculture