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Mechanized agriculture facts for kids

[Kids Encyclopedia Facts](#)



A [cotton picker](#) at work. The first successful models were introduced in the mid-1940s and each could do the work of 50 hand pickers.

Mechanised agriculture is the process of using agricultural machinery to mechanise the work of [agriculture](#), greatly increasing farm worker productivity. In modern times, powered machinery has replaced many farm jobs formerly carried out by manual labour or by working animals such as [oxen](#), [horses](#) and [mules](#).

The entire history of agriculture contains many examples of the use of tools, such as the [hoe](#) and the [plough](#). But the ongoing integration of [machines](#) since the [Industrial Revolution](#) has allowed farming to become much less labour-intensive.

Current mechanised agriculture includes the use of [tractors](#), [trucks](#), [combine harvesters](#), countless types of farm implements, aeroplanes and helicopters (for aerial application), and other vehicles. Precision agriculture even uses [computers](#) in conjunction with satellite imagery and [satellite navigation](#) (GPS guidance) to increase yields.

Mechanisation was one of the large factors responsible for [urbanisation](#) and industrial economies. Besides improving production efficiency, mechanisation encourages large scale production and sometimes can improve the quality of farm produce. On the other hand, it can displace unskilled farm labour and can cause environmental degradation (such as [pollution](#), [deforestation](#), and [soil erosion](#)), especially if it is applied shortsightedly rather than [holistically](#).

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Fishing industry facts for kids

[Kids Encyclopedia Facts](#)



A commercial fishing ship specialized in catching [tuna](#) with [nets](#). All activities that are concerned with growing, catching, processing or transporting [fish](#) either as a [hobby](#) or as an [economic activity](#) is called **Fishing industry**. According to the [FAO](#) definition it includes recreational, subsistence and commercial fishing, and the harvesting, [processing](#), and marketing sectors. The commercial activity is aimed at the delivery of [fish](#) and other [seafood](#) products for human consumption or as input factors in other industrial processes. Directly or indirectly, the livelihood of over 500 million people in [developing countries](#) depends on fisheries and [aquaculture](#).



Double-rigged shrimp trawler hauling in the nets



Drying salted fish at Malpe Harbour



[Sea urchin](#) roe



Fresh [seafood](#) laid out on one of several floating barge vendors

There are three principal industry sectors:

- **The commercial sector:** comprises enterprises and individuals associated with wild-catch or aquaculture resources and the various transformations of those resources into products for sale. It is also referred to as the "seafood industry", although non-food items such as pearls are included among its products.
- **The traditional sector:** comprises enterprises and individuals associated with fisheries resources from which aboriginal people derive products in accordance with their traditions.
- **The recreational sector:** comprises enterprises and individuals associated for the purpose of recreation, sport or sustenance with fisheries resources from which products are derived that are not for sale.

Commercial fishing

The top producing countries were, in order, the [People's Republic of China](#)(excluding [Hong Kong](#) and [Taiwan](#)), [Peru](#), [Japan](#), the [United States](#), [Chile](#), [Indonesia](#), [Russia](#), [India](#), [Thailand](#), [Norway](#) and [Iceland](#). Those countries accounted for more than half of the world's production; China alone accounted for a third of the world's production.

Fish farming

Main pages: [Aquaculture](#) and [Fish farm](#)

Aquaculture is the cultivation of aquatic organisms. Unlike [fishing](#), aquaculture, also known as aquafarming, is the cultivation of aquatic populations under controlled conditions.

Mariculture refers to aquaculture practiced in marine environments. Particular kinds of aquaculture include algaculture (the production of [kelp/seaweed](#) and other [algae](#)); fish farming; shrimp farming, shellfish farming, and the growing of [cultured pearls](#).

Fish farming involves raising fish commercially in tanks or enclosed pools, usually for food.

Fish species raised by fish farms include [carp](#), [salmon](#), [tilapia](#), [catfish](#) and [cod](#). Increasing

demands on wild fisheries by commercial fishing operations have caused widespread [overfishing](#). Fish farming offers an alternative solution to the increasing market [demand](#) for [fish](#) and fish [protein](#).

Fish processing



[Tuna](#) being processed with an Oroshi hocho tuna knife at the Tsukiji fishmarket.

Main page: [Fish processing](#)

Fish processing is the processing of fish delivered by commercial fisheries and fish farms. The larger fish processing companies have their own fishing fleets and independent fisheries. The products of the industry are usually sold [wholesale](#) to grocery chains or to intermediaries.

Fish processing can be subdivided into two categories: fish handling (the initial processing of raw fish) and fish products manufacturing. Aspects of fish processing occur on fishing vessels, fish processing vessels, and at fish processing plants.

Another natural subdivision is into primary processing involved in the filleting and freezing of fresh fish for onward distribution to fresh fish retail and catering outlets, and the secondary processing that produces chilled, frozen and canned products for the retail and catering trades.

Fish products



A white pearl [necklace](#).

Fisheries are estimated to currently provide 16% of the world population's [protein](#). The flesh of many fish are primarily valued as a source of food; there are many edible species of fish.

Other marine life taken as food includes [shellfish](#), [crustaceans](#), sea cucumber, [jellyfish](#) and [roe](#).

Fish and other marine life can also be used for many other uses: [pearls](#) and mother-of-pearl, [sharkskin](#) and rayskin. Sea horses, star fish, [sea urchins](#) and [sea cucumber](#) are used in traditional Chinese medicine. Tyrian purple is a pigment made from marine snails, sepia is a pigment made from the inky secretions of [cuttlefish](#). Fish glue has long been valued for its use in all manner of products. Isinglass is used for the clarification of [wine](#) and [beer](#). Fish emulsion is a [fertilizer emulsion](#) that is produced from the fluid remains of fish processed for fish oil and fish meal.

In the industry the term [seafood products](#) is often used instead of *fish products*.

Deforestation facts for kids

[Kids Encyclopedia Facts](#)



A deforested area

Deforestation is when [forests](#) are destroyed by cutting and not replanted. Sometimes deforestation happens when people change the land into [farms](#), [ranches](#) and [cities](#). A lot of deforestation is caused by the removal of all the trees from a forest for wood or fuel. Without the forest, the [habitats](#) of the animals are lost and many animals die. It also results in [global warming](#) ([climate change](#)).

Cause of deforestation

Deforestation is the removal of trees. As population grows, people remove more trees. They use the land to make farms. They also use the [wood](#) from the trees as [lumber](#) to make buildings and other things, or to burn the trees for heat. Sometimes, forests are lost because people want to make cities bigger: this means building roads and buildings on the land where the forests are.

Forests have the following functions:-

- regulation of the [water cycle](#)
- production of [soil](#)
- provide [habitat](#) for [animals](#)
- provide most of our [oxygen](#)
- maintain the oxygen and carbon dioxide balance in the atmosphere
- regulation of temperature
- prevent soil erosion

There are many reasons for deforestation like logging where people cut down trees for money because they have to feed their families

Forests are often planted to protect against [natural disasters](#). When forests are lost, very often the soil they protected is also lost. This loss of soil is often called [erosion](#). We give out [carbon dioxide](#) when we breathe and plants and trees take it in by photosynthesis. Without forests rain falls scarcely on hot areas.

Trees are also important for storing carbon. Deforestation causes the carbon in the trees to go into the air again, and this causes more carbon dioxide in our atmosphere. Since carbon dioxide is a [greenhouse gas](#), deforestation causes global warming. Tropical deforestation is responsible for about 20% of world greenhouse gas emissions.

Images for kids



■ Satellite photograph of deforestation in progress in eastern [Bolivia](#). Worldwide, 10 percent of wilderness areas were lost between 1990 and 2015.



■ The last batch of sawnwood from the [peat forest](#) in Indragiri Hulu, Sumatra, Indonesia. Deforestation for oil palm plantation.



■ Illegal slash and burn practice in [Madagascar](#), 2010



■ Fires on Borneo and Sumatra, 2006. People use slash-and-burn deforestation to clear land for agriculture.



■ Deforestation for the use of [clay](#) in the Brazilian city of [Rio de Janeiro](#). The hill depicted is Morro da Covanca, in Jacarepaguá



■ Illegal logging in Madagascar. In 2009, the vast majority of the illegally obtained rosewood was exported to [China](#).