

# Agriculture and Early Settlements

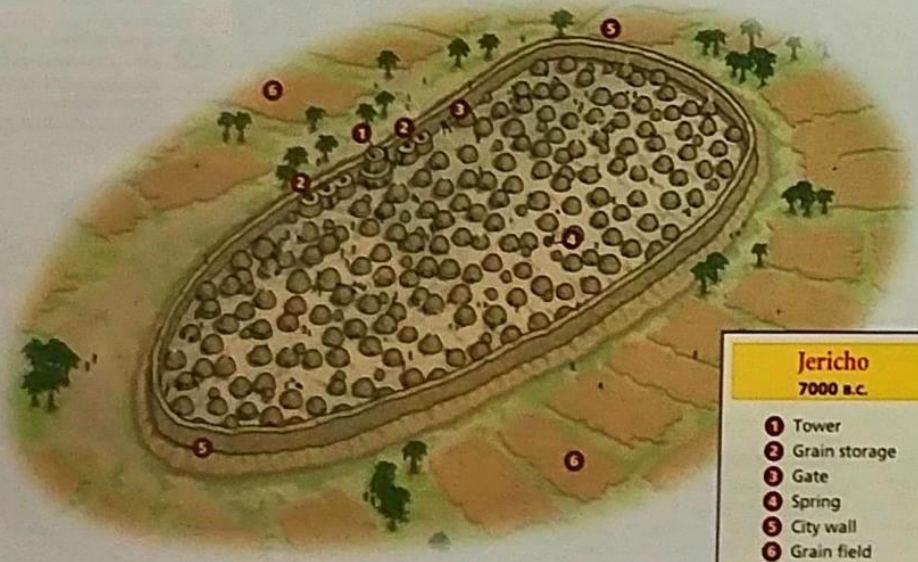
Agriculture, or growing plants and raising animals for food, changed human society forever. Agriculture was more reliable than hunting and gathering.

- People began to herd or keep wild animals in pens. They also planted seeds from wild grasses, using hoes and digging sticks. They had become farmers.
- Farmers could get their food in one place, so their settlements became permanent. Farming communities became villages.
- As farmers grew more food than they needed, some people became free to **specialize**. They worked at other jobs, such as making pots or tools.

### Isn't that wild?

Wild dogs probably followed people to get food scraps. Early people trained these dogs to guard their camps and to help them hunt or herd other animals. The dog is the earliest known **domestic** animal, living with people or under their care.

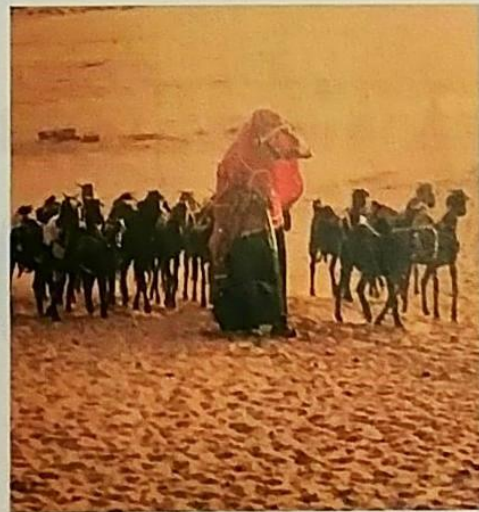
**A** Agriculture developed in several different regions of the world at about the same time. In areas unsuitable for farming, people continued to hunt and gather.



**Jericho**  
7000 B.C.

- 1 Tower
- 2 Grain storage
- 3 Gate
- 4 Spring
- 5 City wall
- 6 Grain field

Other buildings are houses.



**C** Hunters often returned empty-handed from a day of hunting. Herding animals, however, guaranteed a supply of meat, skins, and milk.

### Earliest Domestic Plants and Animals

	PLANTS	ANIMALS
Middle East	barley, lentils, peas, wheat	cattle, goats, pigs, sheep
China	millet, rice	chickens, pigs, water buffalo
South and Southeast Asia	cotton, millet, rice, soybeans, sweet potatoes, taro	cattle, chickens, pigs, water buffalo
Africa	barley, millet, sorghum, wheat, yams	cattle, sheep
Europe	barley, rye, wheat	cattle, dogs, pigs
Americas	beans, peppers, potatoes, squash	dogs, turkeys

**D** Agriculture started with resources found in the environment. What were the most common domestic plants and animals?