



Sow, Grow and Farm

Geography

Farming in the UK

Farming is the business of growing crops and rearing livestock. Up to 70% of the land in the UK is used for farming. There are 3 main types of farming in the UK. These are: arable, pastoral and mixed.



Arable farming is growing crops, such as cereals and vegetables



Pastoral farming is rearing animals, such as cows and sheep



Mixed farming is both growing crops and rearing animals.



Allotments

Allotments are small pieces of land that individuals can rent to use for growing fruit, vegetables and flowers. The location of allotments in the local environment depends on many factors, including soil quality, drainage, transport links, and local facilities

Food miles

Consumers in the UK have come to expect that they can buy most foods all year round, regardless of the growing season. This means that some foods are transported from where they are grown to where they are eaten. The distances food travels is known as food miles. However, this movement of goods means more energy is being used to transport the food and keep it fresh, which can add to pollution and contribute to climate change.

Climate Zones



The **polar zone** is cold and dry with long, dark winters. Average temperatures are 10°C to -55°C.



The **temperate zone** has warm summers, cool winters and year-round rainfall. Average temperatures are 0°C to 20°C.



The **Mediterranean zone** has hot summers and mild, rainy winters. Average temperatures are 15°C to 30°C.



The **desert zone** is hot year-round and has very little rainfall. Average temperatures are 25°C to 40°C.



The **tropical zone** has a wet season and a dry season. It is hot and humid. The average temperature is around 31°C.



Mountains have changeable climates with colder temperatures and more rainfall as the elevation increases.

Glossary

Climate

The general weather conditions found in a place over a period of time

Fertiliser

A natural or chemical substance that is spread on the land or given to plants to make them successfully

Irrigation

The practice of supplying land with water so that crops and plants will grow

Pesticide

A chemical substance used to kill animals and plants that are harmful to crops

Livestock

Animals and birds that are kept on a farm, such as cows, sheep or chickens