What Is Agriculture?

Humans are often looking for ways to improve their lives and make things easier – and things like technology and agriculture are excellent examples of this. Around 10,000 years ago, we decided that it was time to produce our own food instead of going out and hunting, leading to the inception of agriculture.

First of all, what exactly is agriculture?

The definition of agriculture is the practice or science of farming, whether that comes in the form of raising animals or growing crops for human consumption.

In one way or another, this is something that we have been doing for a large portion of our existence – and even with how the processes have evolved and changed over the years, it's still essential to our survival.

2 types of **agriculture explained**

Subsistence agriculture

This is closer to the traditional roots of the niche, where a farmer lives on a small plot of land and produces a nominal amount of food or livestock to feed his family, as well as enough to bring some extra money. The food is typically grown for the household as a priority, with any excess being sold locally.

Industrialized agriculture

With **industrialized agriculture** however, crops and livestock are produced in much larger quantities with the sole intention of selling it (and can encompass things like clothing, as well as food). Companies can produce greater amounts by using more extensive farming methods, with more resources at their disposal like heavy machinery and chemical fertilizers.