

# Science

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(Chapter – 15) (Improvement in Food Resources)

(Class – IX)

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**Q.1** What do we get from cereals, pulses, fruits and vegetables?

**Sol.** (i) Cereals provide us with carbohydrates. Also, they are a rich source of energy.  
(ii) Pulses give us proteins.  
(iii) Fruits and vegetables are a rich source of vitamins and minerals. A small amount of proteins, carbohydrates, and fats are also present in them.

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**Q.1** How do biotic and abiotic factors affect crop production?

**Sol.** A variety of biotic factors such as pests, nematodes, diseases, etc. can reduce the net crop production. A pest causes damage to agriculture by feeding on crops. For example, boll weevil is a pest on cotton. It attacks the cotton crop, thereby reducing its yield. Weeds also reduce crop productivity by competing with the main crop for nutrients, light, and space.

Similarly, abiotic factors such as salinity, temperature, etc. affect the net crop production. Some natural calamities such as droughts and floods are unpredictable. Their occurrence has a great impact on crops sometimes, destroying the entire crop.

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**Q.2** What are the desirable agronomic characteristics for crop improvements?

**Sol.** The desirable agronomic characteristics for crop improvements are:

- (i) Tallness and profuse branching in any fodder crop.
- (ii) Dwarfness in cereals.

These desirable agronomic characteristics help in increasing crop productivity.

