

## Unit B Topic 1 notes:

Environment- produce O<sub>2</sub> and absorb (fix) CO<sub>2</sub>

Food chain= producer level.

Staple food crops: (major food crops) - 75% of world's food from these 7

Wheat

Rice

Corn (maize)

Potatoes

Barley

Cassava (native to Brazil. A type of flour can be made. Source of tapioca)

Sorghum (native to Africa. Drought resistant.

Can produce sugar, grain, and fibre Used in ice cream)

Fibre: the tissue from the stems, roots, seeds, leaves, or other part of a plant.

Cotton: world's most important non-edible plant. Fibre from seed "boll" makes cloth, paper, and plastics.

Hemp: Oldest cultivated plant. 1ha of hemp produces 4x fibre of same area of trees. Produces paper, clothing, and many other products.

Flax: Was at one time most popular clothing fibre. Now used for paper, cloth, and linseed oil.

### Plants for medicine

- More than 7000 medicines are made from plants
- Aspirin was developed by following the genetic blueprint of white willow bark.
- Opium poppies are the source of morphine and codeine
- Quinine from the cinchona tree is more effective in the prevention of malaria than synthetic quinine.

### Plants for transportation:

- Rubber is derived from liquid latex harvested from a rubber tree.
- Some plants can be used as vehicle lubricants
- Ethanol and methanol are forms of alcohol made from plants that can be used as fuel for vehicles.