

Rural Land and Natural Resources

Agriculture in MDCs



- Corporate factory farms
- Suitcase farmers: crop based farms where the farmer lives outside the community except during planting and harvesting season
- Less likely to maintain sensitive land management
- Mega-farms

Agriculture in MDCs



- **Monoculture: single crop farms**
 - Crops for sale off site
- **Chemical fertilizers and hormones** (part of their capital)
- Food is more likely to be processed and have added preservatives
- Bigger variety and less seasonal

What is the impact of machinery?

- Expensive
 - Often results in **co-ops** - sharing of machines and facilities
- Dramatically increases productivity
 - Requiring far less labor
 - Allows for mega-farms

Agricultural Regions of the United States

-Pacific Dairy and Fruit Crops

-Columbia Basin Wheat Region

-Grazing and Irrigated Crops Region

-Mediterranean Agriculture

-Spring Wheat Belt



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-Dairy Belt

-Corn Belt

-Winter Wheat Belt

-General Farming

-Megalopolis

-Old Cotton Belt

-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Belt

-Gulf Subtropical Crop Belt

Agricultural Practices in MDCs



- Mediterranean Agriculture

- Truck Farms

- Commercial gardening and fruit farming

- **Truck:** a Middle English word meaning bartering or the exchange of commodities

- Market Gardening

- Small scale production of fruits, vegetables, and flowers as cash crops sold directly to local consumers

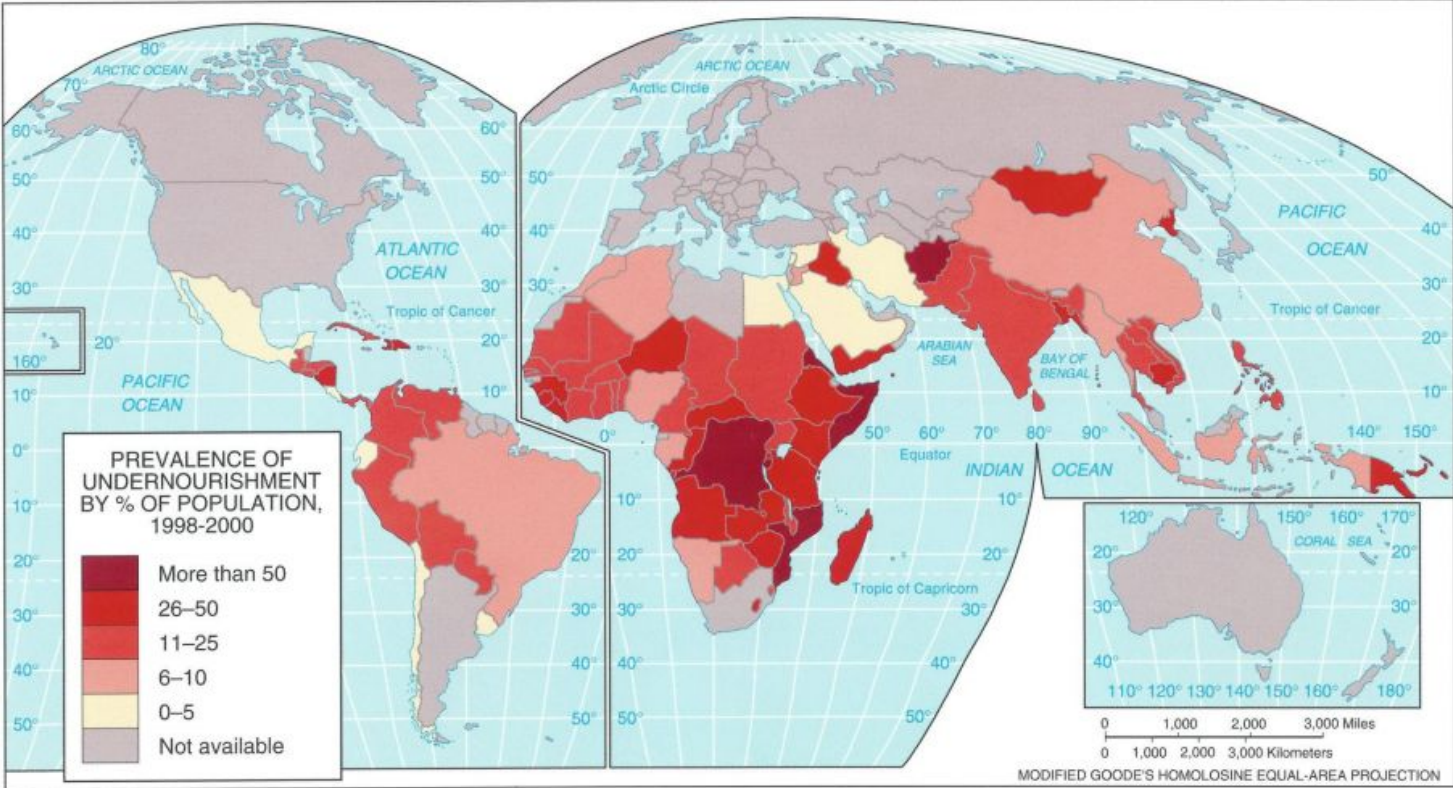
- Large diversity of crops, small area of land, single growing season
- Labor is done manually

Advantages of MDCs over LDCs



- Less susceptible to water shortages, desertification, plant diseases, resource crisis
- Lower percentage of population in agriculture in MDCs
 - Bigger markets
- Access to resources
 - Chemical fertilizers
 - Livestock steroids, hormones, medicines
- Governmental/Social Stability
 - No Tribalism
 - Less Corruption
- Better access to medical care and education for producers

Undernourishment



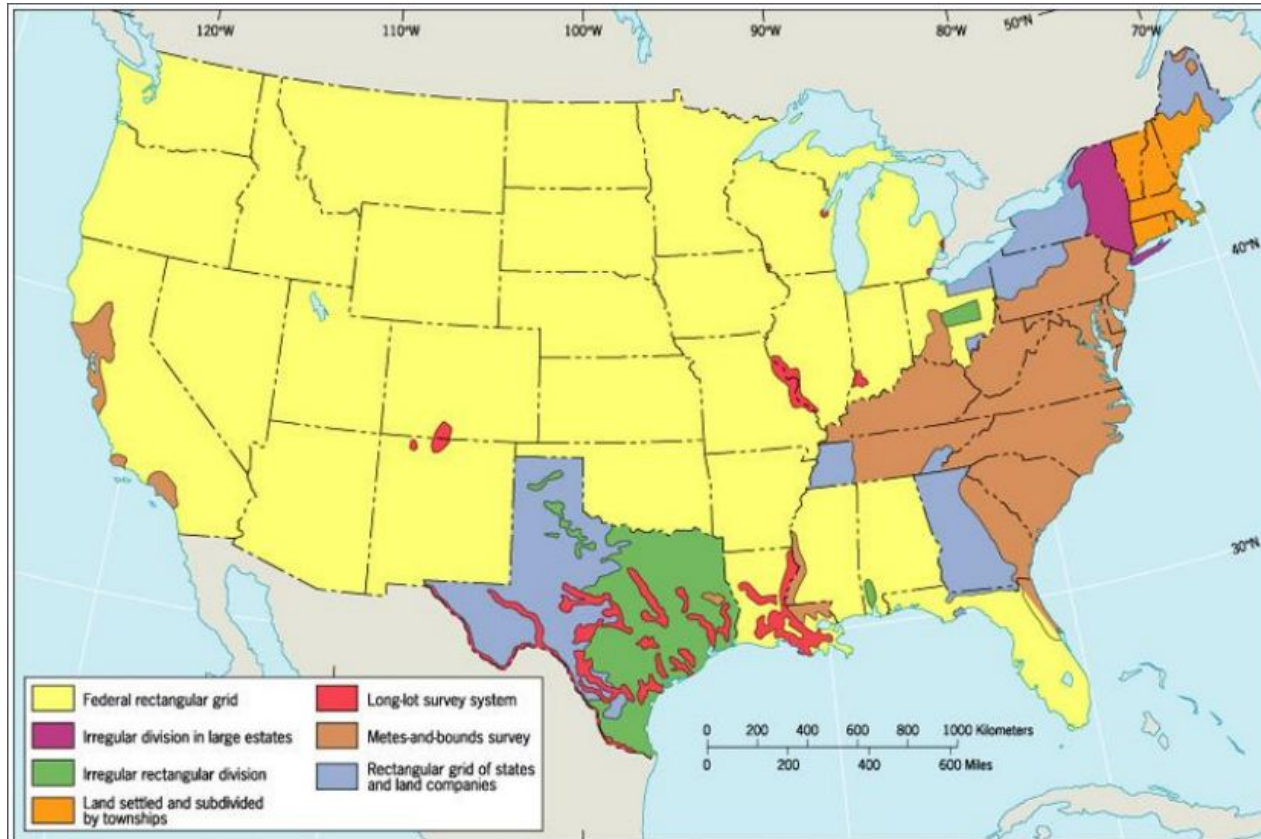
Rural Organization Patterns

Cadastral Systems

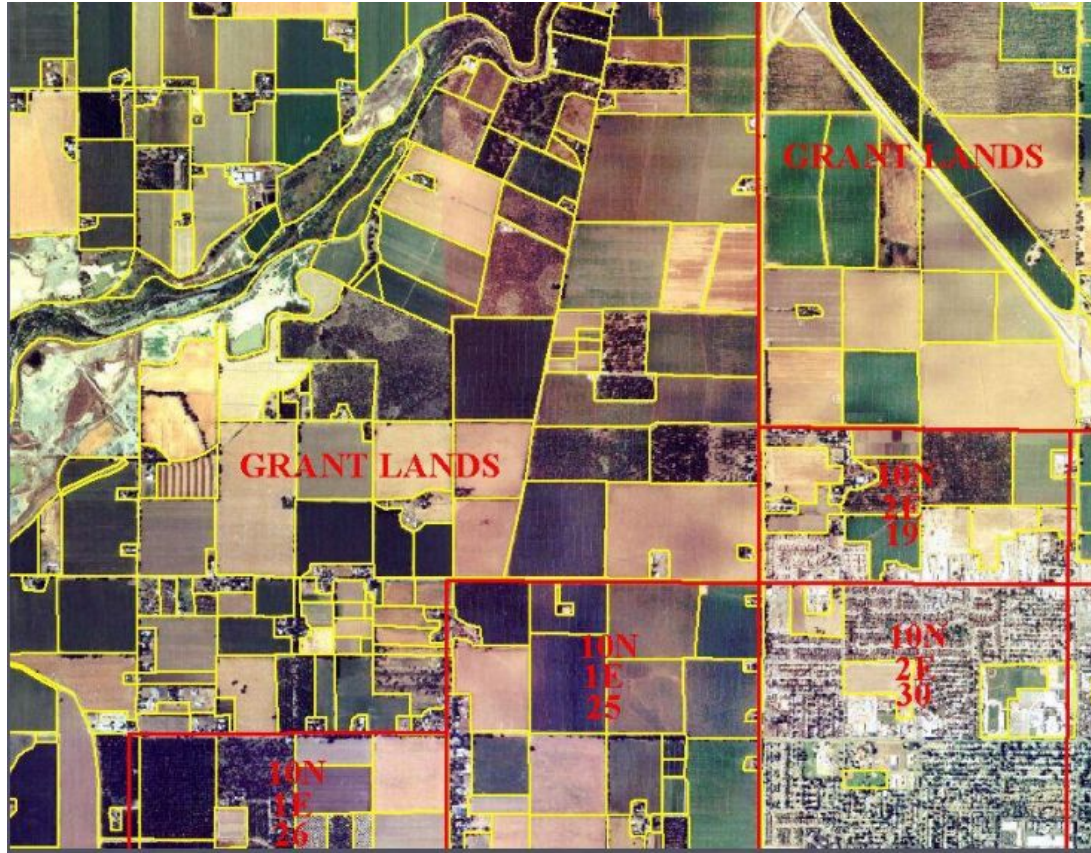


- **Township and Range System**
 - Rectangular survey system/grid system
- **Metes and Bounds Survey**
 - Uses natural features to demarcate irregular parcels of land
 - Eastern U.S.
- **Long Lot Survey System**
 - divides land into narrow parcels stretching back from rivers, roads, or canals
 - system developed in Quebec
- **Primogeniture-Germanic custom** - first born son inherits all land
 - Diffused to North America and Australia

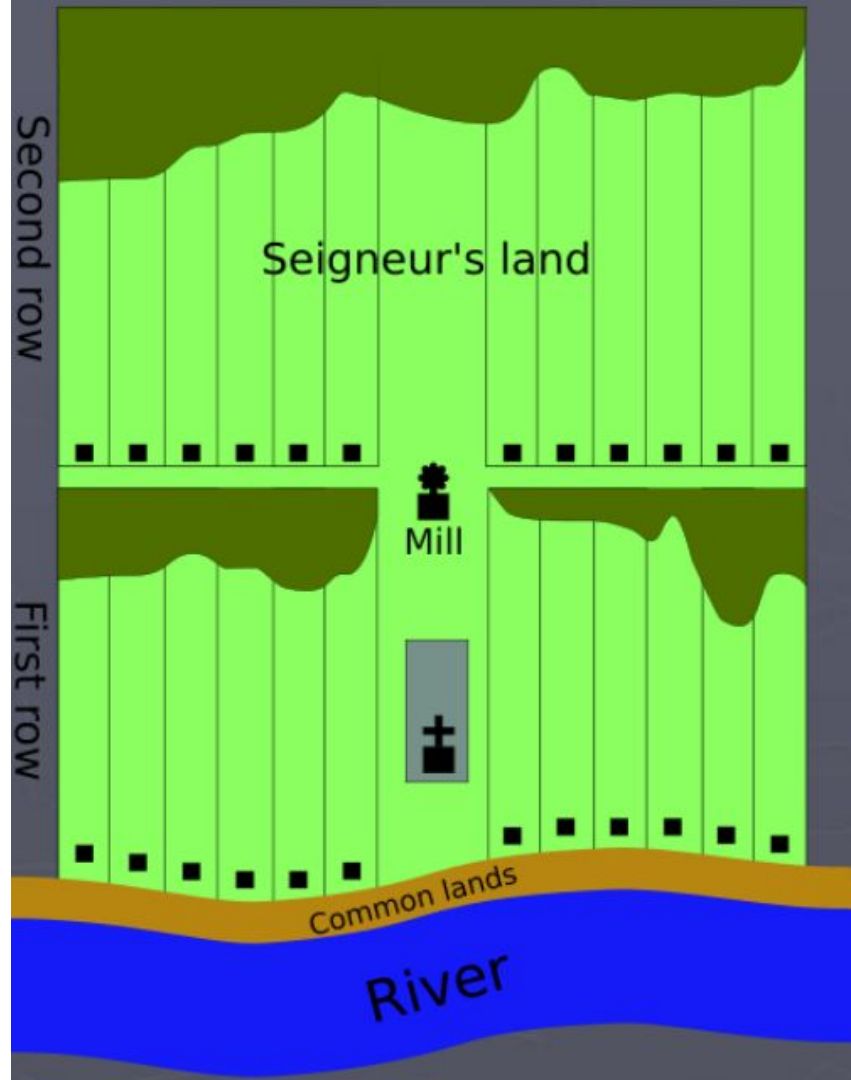
Dominant Land Survey Patterns in the U.S.



Township and Range



The Long Lot System of New France



Long Lot Field System



The cultural landscape along the St. Lawrence rivers reflecting the Long Lot System.

Pause and summarize what we
have just learned to a
neighbor.

Agricultural Settlements



- **Nucleated settlement**

- Intense cultivation with homes clustered in a village
 - Most of the world's farms are nucleated

- **Dispersed settlement**

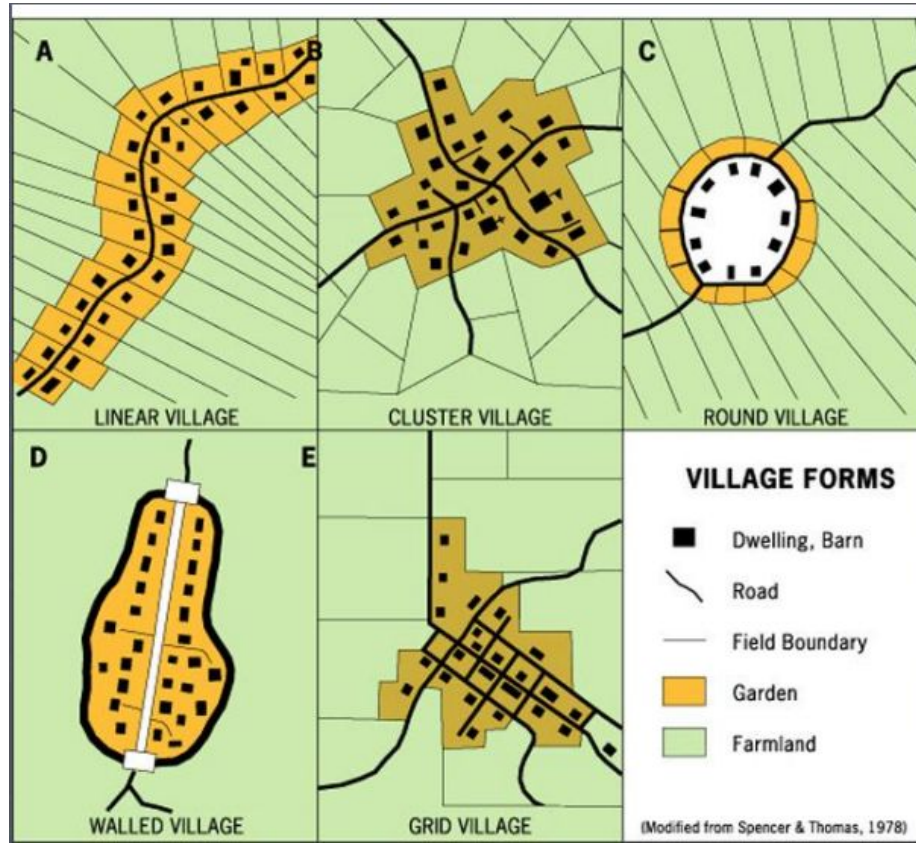
- Individual farmhouse widely spaced
 - Mostly North America



Types of Village Planning

- **Linear Village**
 - Follows a stream or road
- **Cluster Village (nucleated)**
 - Intersection of roads
- **Round Village**
 - To corral livestock into center of village
- **Walled Village**
 - Villages built within enclosures of protective wall
- **Grid Village**
 - Planned villages and cities based on Greek model

Village Forms - Advantages/Disadvantages?



Walled Cities - Advantages/Disadvantages?

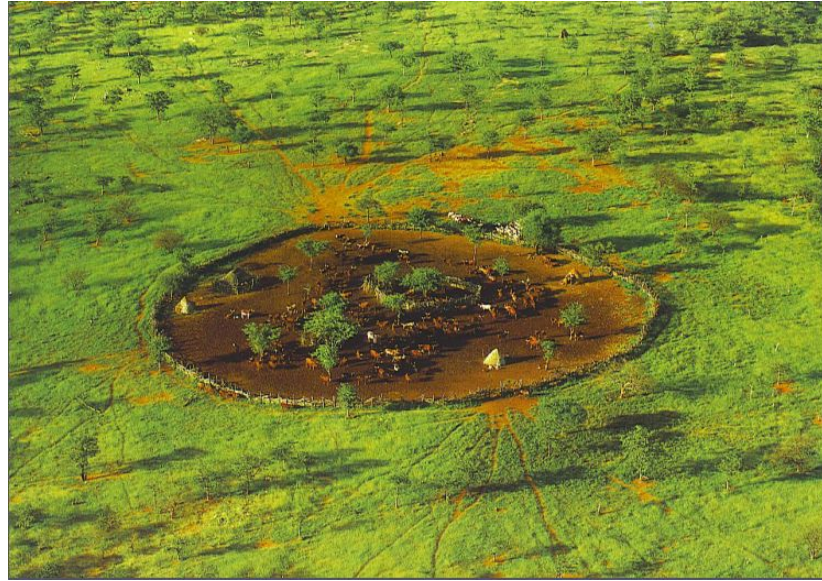


Nordlingen, Germany built in the Middle Ages circa, 14th Century



Rothenburg, Germany

Round Village - Advantages/Disadvantages?



Namibian village or kraal to protect livestock