

Chapter 8

CHALLENGES IN IMPROVING AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION Crop Production Management

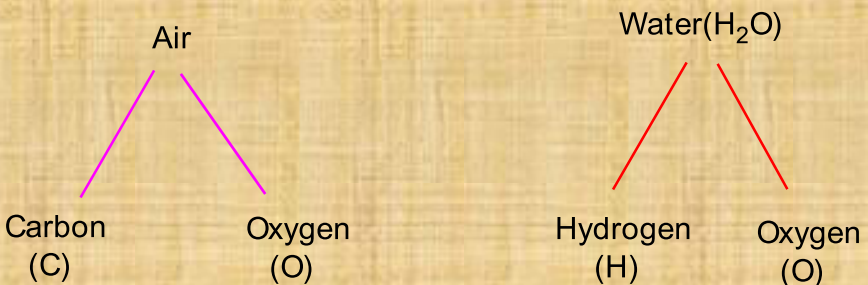
In India and in many agricultural countries different farmers may have small (or) large land for practicing agriculture/farming. The choice of farming practices would depend totally upon the financial resources of farmers. Depending on that farming practices. They are divided in to different categories.

They include,

- 1 No cost production
- 2 Low cost production
- 3 High cost production

Nutrient Management:

They are supplied to plants by air, water and soil.



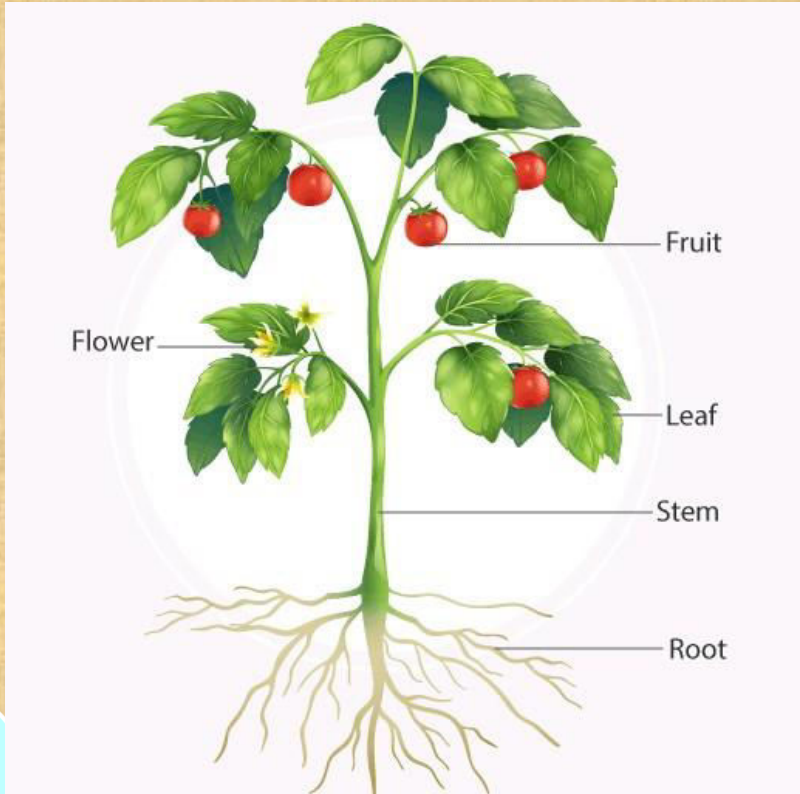
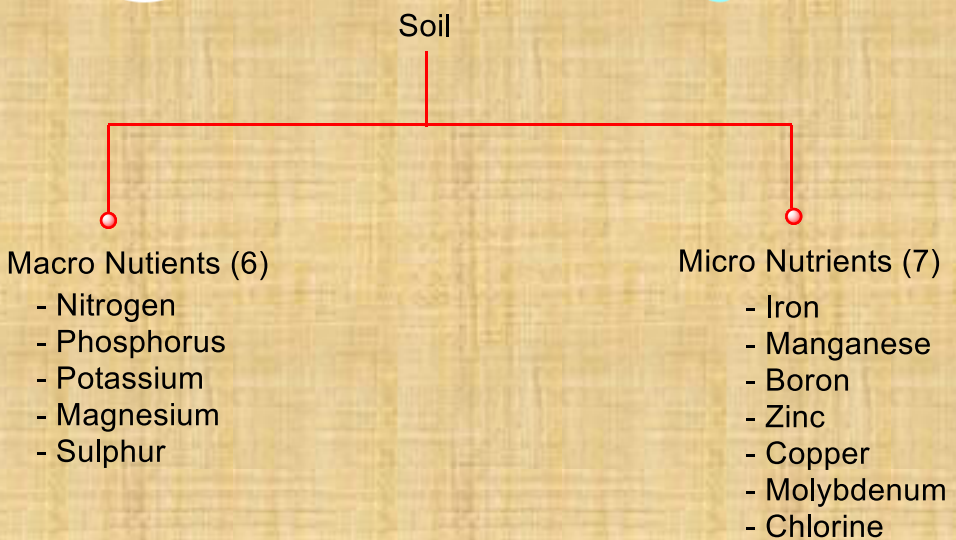
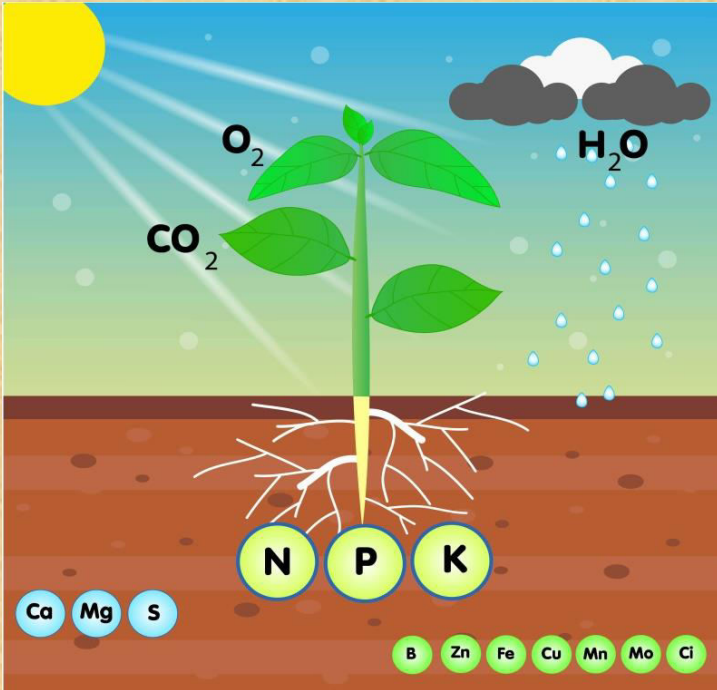


Fig. Plant





- If the plant lack any of the above nutrients, it may not able to reproduce and can get diseases easily.
- In addition to these yield can also be increased by using manure and fertilizers.

Manure:

- Contains large quantity of organic matter and it also supplies small quantity of nutrient to soil.
- Prepared by decomposition of animal excreta and plant waste.

Functions:

- It helps in improving soil structure.
- It also helps in increasing water holding capacity in sandy and clay soil.
- Protects the environment from excessive use of fertilizers.
 - Classification of Manure based on the kind of Biological material used

Compost:

It is prepared by using cow dung vegetable waste, domestic waste, sewage waste etc.

It takes around 5 to 6 months for compost formation.

Vermi compost:

- It is prepared by using earthworms.
- In this process decomposition of plant and animal waste is reduced by earthworms.
- It takes around 2 to 3 months for the compost formation.



Fig. Vermi Compost

Green manure:

Prior to the sowing of the crop seeds, some plants like sun hemp or guar are grown and then mulched by ploughing them into the soil. So these green plants turn into green manure which helps in enriching the soil nutrients.