

Irrigation and land improvement—Irrigation of agricultural land is important in all areas of the United States and is particularly important in the western part where precipitation is not adequate for the production of many crops without the use of irrigation.

Land-use practices relating to soil conservation and land improvement include planting crops on the

contour, where the rows or strips are at right angles to the natural slope of the land; and stripcropping where different crops are planted in alternating rows.

The increased use of fertilizer and lime has been an important factor in increasing crop yields and crop production. Fertilizer was used on nearly 2 out of 3 farms in 1964 and about 1 out of 6 farms reported the use of lime and liming materials.

