

**PENANG SANGAM HIGH SCHOOL
P.O.BOX 44, RAKIRAKI
LESSON NOTES**

School: PENANG SANGAM HIGH SCHOOL
Subject: SOCIAL SCIENCE

Year/Level: 10
WEEK 22

Strand	STRAND III PLACE AND ENVIRONMENT
Sub Strand	3.1 Develop an understanding recognize, demonstrate and critically examine the interdependent relationship of people with different places and environments and explain how people utilize and adapt this relationship for their survival and for sustainable development
Content Learning Outcome	Investigate the main features of physical geography and illustrate how they determine land use to maximize productivity.

PASTORAL FARMING

Location

- Scattered distribution on:
 - a) extensive grassland areas (large farms) on the dry sides of the main islands
 - b) most cane farms where they are used as work animals

Methods of farming

- Indo Fijian farmers graze cattle and goats on the leased holdings in the hill areas inland from the coastal cane farms
- Cattle run primarily for beef are found on 3 types of land:
 - a) An extensive farm runs on ranch type basis in Yaqara. Here the Fiji Pastoral company runs Hereford and Brahman cattle on 7,300 hectares of improved grassland.
 - b) Small beef fattening farms less than 500 acres had been developed in Yalavou in Sigatoka and Uluisaivou in Rakiraki.
 - c) Cattle are grazed on copra estates in order to control weed growth and to provide meat for the farm staff.

Problems

- Grazing consists of poor unimproved grasses mainly wire grass and blue grass type
- Land is rarely fenced
- Burning and growth of weed pests(guava) result in low density
- Overstocking results in overgrazing
- Shortage of feeds in the drier months
- Diseases which kills a lot of cattle's and therefore a loss to farmers (brucellosis disease)






Markets






Fiji is still not self-sufficient in meat production and has to import its needs. Whatever is produced is sold locally

Sheep farming

- Sheep farming has been trialed out at Ravua Pastoral Farm in Ra. This is an independent privately funded firm that allows the implementation of rapid changes to strategy. If this is a success then we won't have to rely on imports for our supply of lamb products.
- The farm has grown from just 50 sheep to 300 sheep as of December 2010.
- Ravua Pastoral Farm intends to begin contract farming with farmers in the area, that is, farmers look after 50 sheep and share the profits with the company.
- Sheep is grazed in the forest.
- Problems faced by sheep farmers include lack of capital to start their own farms and lack of modern management skills of animal husbandry and pasture management.

Other crops grown

Crops grown	Areas (locations)	Problems
<p>Ginger</p> 	<p>Waibau, Naitasiri Navatuvula, Sawani</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Erosion • Drainage should be good • Nematode infestation
<p>Cassava</p> 	<p>All over Fiji</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Market is a problem for farmers • Adverse weather conditions and climatic extremes • Prices in the local market are very low as compared to its care from the beginning to the time of harvest.
<p>Yams</p> 	<p>Can be grown anywhere in Fiji</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climate • Diseases • No overseas market and local market depending on who will buy the product.
<p>Dalo</p> 	<p>Taveuni, Naitasiri, Tailevu, Navua</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Low prices • Transportation • Market • Diseases/Dalo beetle • Laborers
<p>Bananas</p> 	<p>Naitasiri and along major river systems (floodplains) in Fiji</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding/hurricane • Market • Pests and diseases

<p>Potato</p> 	<p>Nadarivatu, Ra</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Quality is not the same as the imported ones
<p>Pawpaw</p> 	<p>Salad Bowl of Fiji</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Climatic extremes
<p>Tobacco</p> 	<p>Nadi, Sigatoka Valley (Virginia Tobacco)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flooding especially since the farms are located in low-lying areas or in floodplains • Market • Accessibility of roads
<p>Pineapple</p> 	<p>Salad Bowl of Fiji, Seaqaqa,</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Diseases • Markets • Accessibility to markets
<p>Flowers</p> 	<p>Mostly grown in areas where the weather suits that particular flower.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No fixed market except for hotels and boutiques • Climatic extremes