



Weed Plantation's Geographical Impact on Daily Life and Medicine

Smith Samson

Department of Biochemistry, Ayan University of sciences, Berlin, Germany.

***Corresponding author:** Smith Samson, Department of Biochemistry, Ayan University of sciences, Berlin, Germany, Email: Smithsamson@uni.edu

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Description

Weeds have existed since humans began settled agriculture have existed since the advent of settled agriculture around 10,000 years ago it has been suggested that the most common characteristic of the ancestors of our presently dominant crop plants is their willingness—their tendency to be successful, to thrive, in disturbed habitats, mostly those around human dwellings. Farmers have likely always been aware of weeds in their crops, although the evidence for their awareness and concern is nearly all anecdotal

Weeds are controlled in much of the world by hand or with crude hoes. The size of a farmer's holding and yield per unit area are limited by several things and paramount among them is the rapidity with which a family can weed its crops. More human labor may be expended to weed crops than on any other single human enterprise, and most of that labor is expended by women. Weed control in the Western world and other developed areas of the world is done by sophisticated machines and by substituting chemical energy (herbicides) for mechanical and human energy. There is a relationship between the way farmers control weeds and the ability of a nation to feed its people. Successful weed management is one of the essential ingredients to maintain and increase food production.

More broadly, "weed" is occasionally applied pejoratively to species outside the plant kingdom, species that can survive in diverse environments and reproduce quickly; in this sense it has even been applied to humans. Some plants that are widely regard as weeds are intentionally grown in gardens and other cultivated settings, in which case they are sometimes called beneficial weeds.

Weed scientists have tended to focus on results and progress. Modern agriculture in the world's developed nations has addressed but not eliminated most weed problems through extensive use of herbicides and the more recent development of herbicide resistant crops through genetic modification.

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Intended purpose also has created environmental, non-target species, and human health problems. Farmers in the world's

developing nations use some herbicides but newer herbicides and the necessary application technology are often unavailable or too expensive. Weeds are always present in these farmer's fields but often the most available, affordable control methods are mechanical weeding, usually with animal power, or by hand, and most of the labor is provided by women. Neither the hypothesis that more energy is expended for the weeding man's crops than for any other single human task nor the corollary hypothesis that women do most of the world's weeding has been verified, but they are widely accepted. Modern weed science combines basic and applied sciences in the study of weeds, typically defined as plants that are objectionable or interfere with the activities or welfare of humans. Although weeds have been associated with human activity since the beginning of crop cultivation, the history of weed science parallels the history of modern day agriculture and is less than 100 year old. From an early emphasis on chemical weed control, the field of weed science now integrates preventive, mechanical, chemical, cultural, and biological tactics in the management of weeds. Weeds cause tremendous economic costs to agriculture and natural resources in terms of crop loss, loss of land utility, health-related problems, and the costs of control. Weed science is now expanding its focus to include invasive plants in natural systems, which are undesirable from an ecological perspective rather than just an economic one.

Considering important role there is need to revisit weed science research under changing agricultural scenario of climate change, conservation agriculture, precision farming, herbicide resistance weeds, integrated weed management, weed management in pulses and oilseed crops, use of un manned aerial vehicle, plant image science for weed control to mitigate the challenges of modern agriculture. Weed control methods vary according to the growth habit of the weeds in question, as well as the context. For example, different methods of weed control may be used on a food crop versus a fiber crop or a golf course, because there is often more concern about health effects of chemicals used on food crops.

Weeds can be categorized by their life habit. They can generally either be grouped as annuals or perennials. An annual weed grows from the seeds dropped in the previous growing season. Perennial weeds regrow from previously established roots, dormant stolon, tubers, rhizomes, as well as the seed.

Understanding the habit of weeds is also important for non-chemical methods of weed control, such as plowing, surface scuffling, promotion of more beneficial cover crops, and prevention of seed accumulation in fields. For example, amaranth is an edible plant that is considered a weed by mainstream modern agriculture. It produces copious seeds (up to 1 million per plant) that last many years, and is an early-emergent fast grower.