

A topographic map of India showing terrain features like mountains and rivers. A central text box is overlaid on the map.

# The Agrarian Atlas

Mapping the Systems,  
Seasons, and Scale  
of Indian Agriculture



Engaging Two-Thirds  
of India's Population

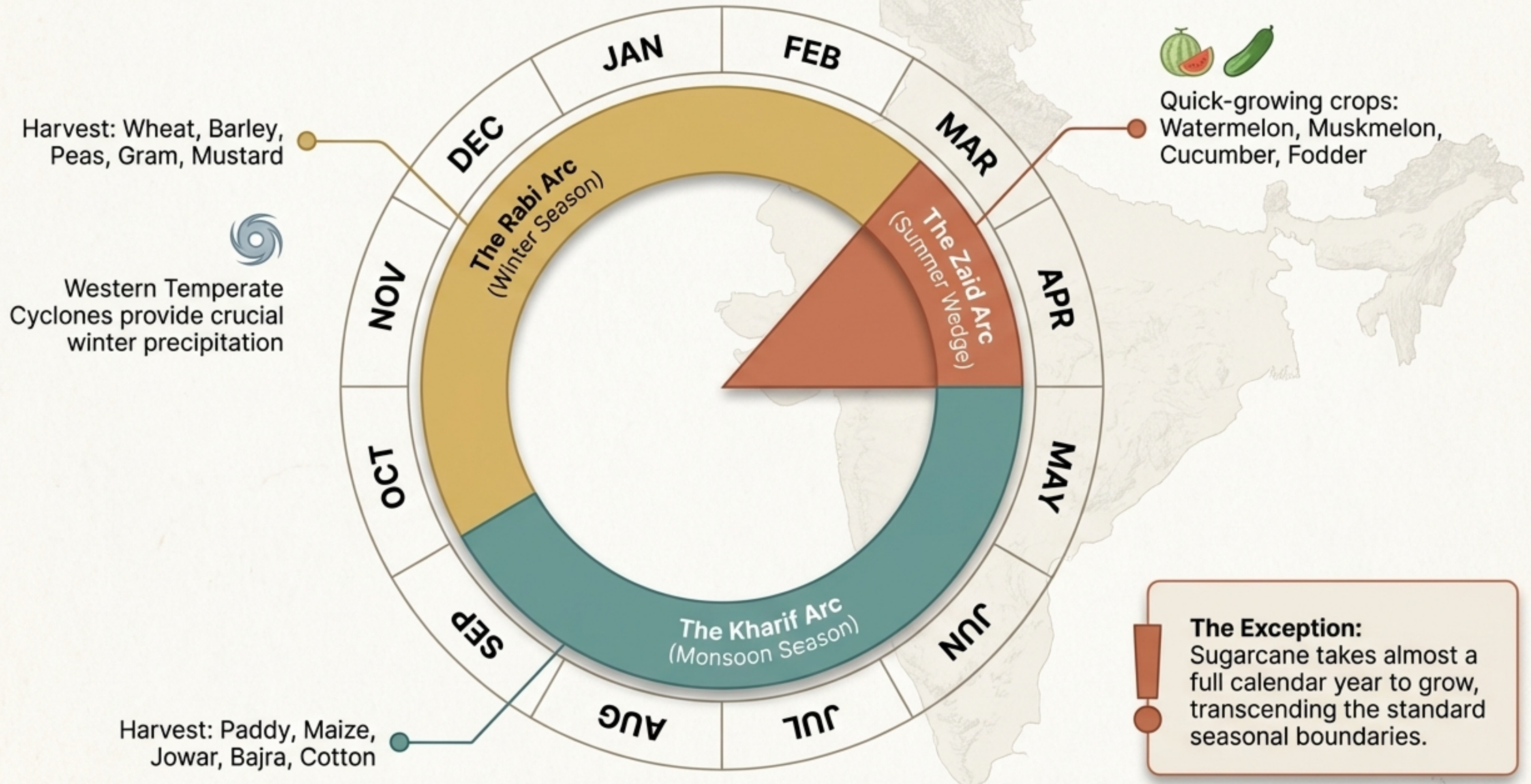
# The Farming Typology Matrix

	Primitive Subsistence	Intensive Subsistence	Commercial
Scale & Land	Small patches	Uneconomical, fragmented plots (due to right of inheritance)	Large tracts and plantations
Labor & Tools	Family/community labor using hoes and digging sticks	High labor-intensity	Migrant laborers and capital-intensive machinery
Inputs	Zero modern inputs; relies on monsoon and natural fertility	High doses of biochemicals and irrigation	HYV seeds, chemical fertilizers, pesticides
Output Goal	Sustain the local family	Maximize yield from limited land	Pure market production and industrial raw material

## The Slash & Burn Cycle



# The Agricultural Calendar



# The Staple Giants

## Rice (The Primary Staple)



**Season:** Kharif

**Temp Needs:** High  
(Above 25°C)

**Water Needs:** High  
Humidity, >100cm  
annual rainfall

**Key Regions:** North/Northeastern plains, Coastal areas, Deltaic regions. (Northern).  
(Aus, Aman, and Boro are the three yearly crops in Assam and West Bengal).

## Wheat (The Northern Staple)



**Season:** Rabi

**Temp Needs:** Cool  
growing season, bright  
sunshine for ripening

**Water Needs:**  
50-75cm evenly  
distributed rainfall

**Key Regions:** Ganga-Satluj plains  
(North-West) and Black soil regions of  
the Deccan.

# Portfolio: Nutritional & Restorative Crops

## Module 1

### The Millets (Coarse Grains)



Jowar: 3rd most important food crop, rain-fed/moist areas.

Bajra: Grows on sandy/shallow black soils.

Ragi: Rich in iron/calcium, thrives in dry regions on red/black/loamy soils.

## Module 2

### Maize (Food & Fodder)



Temperature: 21°C - 27°C

A Kharif crop requiring old alluvial soil.

Yields boosted by modern inputs like HYV seeds and fertilizers.

## Module 3

### Pulses (The Soil Restorers)



India is the world's largest producer and consumer.

Crucial protein source (Tur, Urad, Moong, Masur, Peas, Gram).

Ecological function: Survive dry conditions and restore soil fertility by fixing airborne nitrogen. Grown in rotation.

# Portfolio: Cash Crops & Plantations

## Sugarcane

Tropical & Sub-tropical

**Metrics:** 21°C-27°C, 75-100cm rain.

**Fact:** India is the 2nd largest producer (after Brazil). Source of sugar, gur, khandsari, molasses.



## Oil Seeds

12% of Total Cropped Area

**Details:** Groundnut (Kharif, ~50% of oilseed production), Mustard (Rabi), Sesamum.

**Uses:** Cooking mediums, soaps, cosmetics, ointments.



## Tea

The British Introduction

**Metrics:** Tropical/sub-tropical climates, deep fertile soil rich in humus.

**Critical Need:** Warm, moist, frost-free climate year-round with frequent showers for tender leaf growth.



## Coffee

The Arabica Variety

**Details:** Brought from Yemen, globally demanded.

Cultivation initially on Baba Budan Hills, now confined to the Nilgiri in Karnataka, Kerala, and Tamil Nadu.



# Portfolio: Industrial Materials & Fibers

## Rubber (The Equatorial Crop)



**Metrics:** Requires >200cm rainfall, >25°C temperature, moist/humid climate.

Grown primarily in Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, and Meghalaya.

## Cotton (The Textile Base)



**Metrics:** Grown in drier parts of Deccan black cotton soil. Requires high temperature, light rainfall, and exactly 210 frost-free days with bright sunshine.

Matures in 6-8 months (Kharif).

## Jute (The Golden Fiber)



**Metrics:** Requires well-drained fertile soils renewed annually by floods, and high temperatures during growth.

Used for gunny bags, mats, and ropes.

# The Reform Roadmap

Transitioning from traditional reliance to engineered security.



# The Bloodless Revolution

The socio-cultural reform of land redistribution.



**The Ideology:** Mahatma Gandhi declares Vinoba Bhave his spiritual heir, emphasizing gram swarajya (village self-rule).



**The Catalyst (Pochampalli):** During a padyatra in Andhra Pradesh, landless villagers demand land. Shri Ram Chandra Reddy spontaneously offers 80 acres.



**Bhoodan (Land Gift):** Bhave travels India, sparking a movement where landowners voluntarily donate parcels of land to landless farmers.



**Gramdan (Village Gift):** Entire villages are distributed by Zamindars (partly driven by the impending Land Ceiling Act), achieving massive land reform without state violence.