

A wide-angle photograph of a lush green agricultural field, likely a vineyard or orchard, with rows of plants stretching into the distance. The field is bathed in the warm, golden light of a sunset or sunrise, with the sun low on the horizon to the right, creating a soft glow and long shadows. In the background, there are rolling hills and a few small buildings, all slightly out of focus. The overall atmosphere is peaceful and natural.

TRADITIONAL AGRICULTURE

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INTRODUCTION

The arrival of the Arabs from the 8th century marked the beginning of the greatest agricultural development in the Iberian Peninsula. They improved the agriculture with new cultivation and irrigation techniques that increased the harvests.

This is called "Agricultural Revolution of Medieval Islam". Moreover, they introduced new crops and made our diet more varied. The Arab agriculture was more efficient and productive than the Christian one.



FARMSTEADS

Farmsteads in Al-Andalus were little communities near the southern and eastern cities in the Iberian Peninsula. They were very productive.

Farmsteads were occupied by one or more families cultivating the surrounding land.



CROPS

A wide variety of crops were introduced:

Cereals: rice.

Vegetables: eggplants, asparagus, spinach, chard, pumpkin, cucumber, green beans, garlic, onions, carrots...

Fruits: Watermelon, melon, orange, lemon, fig, pomegranate, banana, quince, apricot, dates, coconut...

Spices: cinnamon, saffron, oreganus, cumin, thyme, walnuts, nutmeg, anise...

Other crops: sugarcane, cotton, linen...

IRRIGATION

Arabs introduced new irrigation techniques. They were innovative and didn't exist until that moment. Irrigation forced to do waterworks in order to extract and transport water.

All these techniques made an improvement on the terrains and their productivity. By making this improvement more groceries arrived to the cities.



TECHNIQUES

ANIMAL-POWERED WATER WHEEL



They extract groundwater for distribution through irrigation ditches or for storage.

HYDRAULIC WHEEL



They draw water from rivers by gravity and distribute it in irrigation ditches.

TECHNIQUES

DITCH



Construction for irrigating the field. The water is moved by the action of gravity.

CISTERN



Underground brick-built reservoirs developed in cities.

THANKS FOR YOUR ATTENTION!

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