



## Significance and Relevance of Agricultural Heritage in Present Context

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### Abstract

The agricultural heritage is study of practices, beliefs, proverbs and saying, techniques, procedure or protocols, collection of information about the practices followed in the ancient time and their relevance to the present day agriculture. This knowledge is categorized under heads such as Indigenous knowledge, Indigenous knowledge system, Indigenous technical knowledge, Community/farmers knowledge and traditional ecological knowledge and management systems based on the its source of knowledge, the generator of knowledge, relevance of knowledge, location/place of knowledge generation and purpose of generation of knowledge. The study of this knowledge is essential considering its relevance in present day due to changing climate and production systems such as organic farming and natural farming. In this article attempts has been made to highlight the relevance of incident knowledge along with their prospects.

**Keywords:** Agricultural Heritage; Indigenous Technical Knowledge

### Inherent knowledge - A basic concept

The agricultural heritage encompasses all the inherent knowledge, values and traditional practices adopted in ancient time and having the relevance to present day agriculture. The knowledge may the practices, beliefs, proverbs and saying, techniques, procedure or protocols, collection of information about the practices followed in the ancient time, etc. This knowledge were evaluated and tested in present day to identify their impact on the economy, ecological and other aspects of the farming activities. This knowledge based on its relevance is classified as indigenous technical knowledge, community knowledge, indigenous knowledge management system, traditional knowledge management system. It has significant impact on the process of knowledge generation for present situation and hence its study is needed at learning stages for agriculture graduates or worker or staff or faculty with objectives: 1) To impart knowledge about historical milestones in development of agriculture and its significance in terms of socio-economical, cultural research and academic aspects and 2) To convey status of agriculture in respect to importance, scope, issue and concerns of present day agriculture and agricultural setup in India. As the inherited knowledge is voluminous and modified the tested over

large difersity, it need a separate set of facilities and working professional which only test them for their relevance but also promite its use in the suitable niche and conserve it for the future generation. This article aims to highlights prospects and expected outcome from learning/studying the ancient knowledge, the relevance of ancient knowledge to present day agriculture by giving examples along the basic concept inherent knowledge and its difference from the modern knowledge. The inherent knowledge is classified based on its source of knowledge, the generator of knowledge, relevance of knowledge, location/place of knowledge generation and purpose of generation of knowledge. They are classified as follows:

- **Indigenous knowledge:** It indicates the knowledge generated by indigenous people in their social and temporal space and is mainly emphasizes the place/location of knowledge generation irrespective of tis relevance and significance.
- **Indigenous knowledge system:** It indicates the intellectual organization of knowledge related with the different preparations/practices as well as written theories conceptualized about the different phenomenon occurring around.