



Plants in our world

Plants are vital to all life on Earth for two reasons:

1. **Harvesting the Sun:** Plants use the energy from sunlight to convert raw materials from the Earth into carbohydrates, fats, and oils.
2. **Gas Exchange:** Plants use carbon dioxide from the air and convert it into oxygen. The process of food production and gas conversion is called photosynthesis.

Human Value

What are some ways humans use plant material?

1. Food
2. Feed for livestock
3. Fiber
4. Fuel
5. Medicine
6. Aesthetic value

Crop Regions

Certain crops grow in specific regions of the United States. Influencing environmental factors include:

1. Frost free periods (growing season)
2. Mean average temperature (growing degree days)
3. Rainfall