

# Agriculture in Medieval England #1



**These merchants weigh wool in a basket.**

*Drawing from 1380*

Rather than collect money from exporting wool and then have importers pay to have it fashioned into cloth, England began producing and exporting woollen cloth.

- *What impact did the change from production of raw wool to production of woollen cloth have on English society?*
- *What types of new jobs would it create?*
- *How would an increase in jobs with higher wages affect our society today?*

# Agriculture in Medieval England #2



## The Black Death in Medieval England

The Black Death, a highly contagious plague, wiped out more than half the population in England between the years 1346 and 1353. Most people infected with the plague died within four days, and only two out of ten people fully recovered. The disease was spread by fleas that lived on rats. Many people felt that the plague was a punishment from God.

- *What impact did the Black Death have on the feudal system?*
- *How did the Black Death affect agriculture?*
- *Identify other time periods or events in history that have been impacted by microbes.*



# Agriculture in Medieval England #3



## Linen in the Middle Ages

*Drawing from the late 14th century*

This picture shows a linen tapestry being woven on a wooden frame. The weavers often worked from a sketch drawn by an artist, which was called a cartoon.

- *Why was wool used to make clothing more often than linen?*
- *What is linen made from? Where does wool come from?*
- *How did the increase in the production of wool affect England's economy in the Middle Ages?*

# Agriculture in Medieval England #4



## Feeding the chickens

*Drawing from the early 1300s*

The picture shows a peasant woman performing a chore that was common in Medieval England—making sure the chickens and other animals were fed.

**“Geography determines agriculture...which creates civilization and changes cultures.”**

- *Discuss the quote listed above. How does geography affect agriculture? How does agriculture create civilization and change cultures?*
- *How did geography play a role in determining the growth of wool production in Medieval England?*
- *How has our society been changed by geography and agriculture?*