

Cheat Sheet 1 – Plant Breeding: Definition, Scope & Aims

Definition

- **Plant Breeding** = the **art and science of improving plants** by altering their heredity for human benefit.
 - Combines **traditional methods** (selection, hybridization) and **modern tools** (biotechnology, genetic engineering).
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Scope of Plant Breeding

- **Yield improvement** → e.g., high-yielding wheat, rice.
 - **Resistance to stresses** → biotic (disease, pests) & abiotic (drought, salinity).
 - **Quality traits** → protein-rich pulses, vitamin-enriched rice (Golden rice).
 - **Adaptability** → varieties suitable for diverse soils & climates.
 - **Industrial use** → cotton (fiber), sugarcane (sugar), oilseeds.
 - **Conservation** → preservation of crop genetic resources.
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Aims of Plant Breeding

1. High yield.
 2. Biotic stress resistance (diseases, insects).
 3. Abiotic stress resistance (drought, heat, salt).
 4. Improved quality (nutrition, flavor, storage).
 5. Early maturity (short-duration crops).
 6. Better adaptability (wide cultivation).
 7. Economic traits (fiber length, oil %, sugar content).
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Domestication

- Conversion of wild plants into cultivated crops.
- Selected for **larger seeds, non-shattering, uniform maturity**.
- Examples:
 - Wheat & barley (Fertile Crescent).
 - Maize (Mexico).
 - Rice (India/China).
 - Cotton (India, America).

◆ Plant Introduction

- Transfer of plant varieties across regions.
- **Intercontinental:**
 - Groundnut (South America → India).
 - Rubber (Brazil → Asia).
 - Mexican wheat (to India during Green Revolution).
- **Interstate:** crops moved across Indian states.
- Requires **acclimatization** for success.

◆ Mnemonics 💡

- **Aims of Plant Breeding = “Y-QEAR”**
 - Yield
 - **Q**uality
 - **E**arliness
 - **A**daptability
 - **R**esistance

◆ Exam Capsule 🌀

- Plant breeding = genetic improvement of crops.
- Scope: productivity, resistance, quality, adaptability.
- Aims: yield ↑, quality ↑, stress resistance ↑, maturity ↓.
- Domestication & plant introduction supply raw material for breeding.

📄 Cheat Sheet 2 – Agencies & Risks in Plant Breeding 🏛️🔑

◆ Major Agencies in India

1. **IARI (Indian Agricultural Research Institute, New Delhi)**
 - “Pusa Institute.”
 - Pioneered crop improvement research in India.
 - Key role in Green Revolution (wheat & rice).
2. **FRI (Forest Research Institute, Dehradun)**

- Works on forest trees & medicinal plants.
 - 3. **BSI (Botanical Survey of India, Kolkata)**
 - Maintains national herbarium & plant biodiversity records.
 - Helps in documentation of wild relatives of crops.
 - 4. **ICAR (Indian Council of Agricultural Research)**
 - Apex body for agricultural education & research.
 - Coordinates breeding programs across India.
 - 5. **NSC (National Seeds Corporation)**
 - Produces & distributes high-quality breeder & foundation seeds.
 - 6. **SSC/SSCA (State Seed Corporations/State Seed Certification Agencies)**
 - Handle certification, multiplication & distribution at the state level.
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◆ Risks of Plant Introduction

- Along with useful traits, **undesirable traits may spread**:
 1. **Diseases**
 - Example: Late blight of potato introduced to Europe.
 2. **Pests**
 - Example: Cotton boll weevil in America.
 3. **Weeds**
 - Example: *Parthenium hysterophorus* (congress grass) introduced accidentally in India.
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◆ Precautions

- Quarantine checks at ports.
 - Screening & acclimatization before large-scale introduction.
 - Controlled trials in experimental fields.
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◆ Mnemonics 💡

- **Agencies** → “**I Fix Better National Seeds**”
 - IARI
 - FRI
 - BSI

- NSC
 - SSC
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◆ Exam Capsule 🌀

- Agencies: IARI, FRI, BSI, ICAR, NSC, SSC.
- Risks: introduction may bring diseases, pests, weeds.
- Example: *Parthenium* weed, late blight of potato.
- Solution = quarantine + acclimatization.

📖 Cheat Sheet 3 – Steps in Plant Breeding & Selection Methods 🌱

◆ Steps in Plant Breeding

1. **Collection of Variability**
 - Germplasm collection from native & exotic sources.
 2. **Evaluation & Characterization**
 - Study useful traits (yield, disease resistance).
 3. **Selection of Parents**
 - Best varieties chosen for hybridization.
 4. **Hybridization**
 - Crossing of selected parents.
 5. **Selection in Progeny**
 - Desirable recombinants selected.
 6. **Testing & Evaluation**
 - Multi-location trials for adaptability.
 7. **Release & Multiplication**
 - Superior variety released for cultivation.
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◆ Selection Methods

1. **Mass Selection**
 - Plants with desirable traits chosen & seeds bulked.
 - Merits: simple, cheap, maintains variability.
 - Demerits: less uniform, not useful for self-pollinated crops.
 - Example: Improvement in wheat, maize.

2. Pure Line Selection

- Selection from progeny of a **single homozygous plant**.
- Produces highly uniform varieties.
- Merits: uniformity, stability.
- Demerits: narrow genetic base, less adaptable.
- Example: Many improved rice & wheat varieties.

3. Clonal Selection

- Used for **vegetatively propagated crops**.
- Superior plants cloned → propagated by cuttings, tubers, grafts.
- Merits: uniformity, easy to maintain.
- Demerits: no new variation.
- Example: Potato, banana, sugarcane, mango.

◆ Mnemonics 💡

- **Steps = “Cool Elephants Select Happy Small Tame Rabbits”** 🐘 🐰
 - **C**ollection → **E**valuation → **S**election → **H**ybridization → **S**election → **T**esting → **R**elease

◆ Exam Capsule 🌀

- Plant breeding steps = collection → evaluation → selection → hybridization → testing → release.
- Selection methods:
 - **Mass selection** (bulk seeds).
 - **Pure line** (single homozygous line).
 - **Clonal** (vegetatively propagated crops).

📄 Cheat Sheet 4 – Hybridization Basics 🌱🌿

◆ Definition

- **Hybridization** = process of **crossing genetically different plants** to combine desirable traits into one genotype.
- Produces **hybrids** with improved yield, resistance, or quality.

◆ Objectives of Hybridization

1. Combine traits of two or more parents.
 2. Develop disease- and pest-resistant crops.
 3. Improve yield & quality (nutrition, fiber, oil content).
 4. Introduce earliness, adaptability, stress tolerance.
 5. Create novel variations for further selection.
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◆ Basic Steps in Hybridization

1. **Selection of Parents** – superior plants chosen.
 2. **Emasculation** – removal of stamens from bisexual flowers before anther dehiscence (to prevent self-pollination).
 3. **Bagging** – covering emasculated flowers with paper/plastic bags.
 4. **Artificial Pollination** – transfer of pollen from chosen male parent.
 5. **Re-bagging** – to prevent contamination.
 6. **F₁ Generation** – shows **hybrid vigor (heterosis)**.
 7. **F₂ Generation** – segregation, recombination, variation.
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◆ Types of Hybridization (Basic Classification)

- **Intraspecific** – between varieties of same species (wheat × wheat).
 - **Interspecific** – between two species of same genus (sugarcane).
 - **Intergeneric** – between different genera (triticale = wheat × rye).
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◆ Features of Hybrids

- **F₁ generation** → uniform, vigorous.
 - **F₂ generation** → shows segregation (useful for selection).
 - **Commercial hybrids** often maintained only at F₁ level (e.g., maize).
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◆ Mnemonics

- **Hybridization Steps = “Every Boy Always Re-bags Flowers”** 
 - Emasculation
 - Bagging
 - Artificial pollination
 - Re-bagging

- F_1 generation
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◆ Exam Capsule 🌀

- Hybridization = crossing genetically different plants.
- Steps: emasculation → bagging → pollination → re-bagging → F_1 → F_2 .
- Objectives: combine yield, resistance, adaptability, quality.
- Produces hybrids with **heterosis** in F_1 and **variation** in F_2 .

📄 Cheat Sheet 5 – Hybridization in Self- & Cross-Pollinated Crops 🌱🌸

◆ In Self-Pollinated Crops

- Aim: combine useful characters into one homozygous line.
 - Common methods:
 1. **Pedigree Method**
 - Selection of superior plants in F_2 .
 - Maintains pedigree record for successive generations.
 - Example: wheat, rice.
 2. **Bulk Method**
 - Large population advanced without selection up to $F_5 - F_6$.
 - Natural selection operates.
 - Selection done later.
 - Example: barley.
 3. **Backcross Method**
 - Repeated crossing with **recurrent parent**.
 - Used for transferring a single trait (disease resistance).
 - Example: wheat resistant to rust.
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◆ In Cross-Pollinated Crops

- Aim: exploit heterosis (hybrid vigor).
- Methods:
 1. **Single Cross**
 - Cross between two inbred lines.
 - Example: maize hybrids.

2. Double Cross

- Cross between two single crosses.
- Produces more variability.

3. Three-Way Cross

- Cross between a single cross and another inbred line.

4. Top Cross

- Inbred line × open-pollinated variety.
- Used for testing combining ability.

5. Synthetic Varieties

- Produced by intercrossing several selected genotypes.
- Example: fodder crops.

◆ Key Differences

- **Self-pollinated crops** → methods stabilize homozygosity.
- **Cross-pollinated crops** → methods maintain heterozygosity & exploit heterosis.

◆ Mnemonics 💡

- **Self-pollinated** → “PBB”
 - Pedigree
 - Bulk
 - Backcross
- **Cross-pollinated** → “SDT-S”
 - Single
 - Double
 - Three-way
 - Synthetic

◆ Exam Capsule 🧠

- Self-pollinated: pedigree, bulk, backcross.
- Cross-pollinated: single, double, three-way, top crosses.
- Self → stabilize lines; cross → exploit heterosis.

Cheat Sheet 6 – Types of Hybridization

1. Intraspecific Hybridization

- Cross between two varieties/strains of the **same species**.
 - Aim: combine desirable traits within a species.
 - Example:
 - Rice variety (IR8 × Basmati).
 - Wheat high-yield × wheat rust-resistant.
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2. Interspecific Hybridization

- Cross between two **different species** of the same genus.
 - Produces hybrids that may be fertile or sterile.
 - Example:
 - Sugarcane (*Saccharum officinarum* × *S. spontaneum*) → high sugar + hardiness.
 - Potato (*Solanum tuberosum* × *Solanum demissum*) → late blight resistance.
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3. Intergeneric Hybridization

- Cross between species of **different genera**.
 - Often requires chromosome doubling (polyploidy) for fertility.
 - Example:
 - **Triticale** (*Triticum* × *Secale*) → wheat × rye hybrid, combines yield + hardiness.
 - **Raphanobrassica** (Radish × Cabbage) – Heterogeneous result, not commercially successful.
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Key Outcomes

- Intraspecific: easy, stable, fertile hybrids.
 - Interspecific: useful for disease resistance, stress tolerance.
 - Intergeneric: novel crops, often artificial polyploids.
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Mnemonics

- **Types = “S-I-I”**
 - **S**ame species → Intraspecific.

- Interspecific → Different species (same genus).
 - Intergeneric → Different genera.
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◆ Exam Capsule 🌀

- Hybridization types:
 - Intrasppecific → within species (wheat × wheat).
 - Interspecific → between species (sugarcane).
 - Intergeneric → between genera (triticale).
 - Used to combine yield, resistance, adaptability, or novelty.
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✓ That's Cheat Sheet 6.

👉 Do you want me to continue with **Cheat Sheet 7 – Mutation Breeding (concept, mutagens, examples like Norin-10, rice, barley, chlorina tobacco)**?

You said:

continue

ChatGPT said:

Alright 👍 Let's now go into **Mutation Breeding**.

📄 Cheat Sheet 7 – Mutation Breeding ⚡🌀

◆ Definition

- **Mutation breeding** = creating **new crop varieties** by artificially inducing mutations using **physical or chemical mutagens**.
 - Objective: develop traits not found in natural variation (disease resistance, dwarfness, early maturity).
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◆ Mutagens Used

1. Physical Mutagens

- X-rays, Gamma rays, Neutrons, UV radiation.

2. Chemical Mutagens

- EMS (Ethyl Methane Sulfonate).
 - Mustard gas.
 - Sodium azide, nitrous acid.
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◆ Procedure

1. Select parent material.
 2. Expose seeds/cells to mutagen.
 3. Grow M_1 generation (mostly heterozygous).
 4. Select mutants in M_2 generation (stable lines).
 5. Evaluation & release.
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◆ Examples

- **Norin-10 Dwarf Wheat** (Japan → introduced into India during Green Revolution).
 - **Rice**: “Sharbati Sonora,” “Jagannath,” “Pusa Basmati-1.”
 - **Barley**: disease-resistant mutants.
 - **Chlorina mutant in Tobacco** (classic example in teaching).
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◆ Advantages

- Quick method to develop new traits.
- Creates variability where none existed.
- Can improve both cross- and self-pollinated crops.

◆ Disadvantages

- Most mutations harmful or sterile.
 - Requires screening of huge populations.
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◆ Mnemonics 💡

- **Mutation = “Man-Made Magic”** → New traits appear suddenly.
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◆ Exam Capsule 🌀

- Mutation breeding = induction of mutations by radiation/chemicals.
- Mutagens: gamma rays, EMS, sodium azide.
- Examples: Norin-10 wheat, rice mutants, barley, chlorina tobacco.
- Useful for dwarfness, resistance, quality improvement.