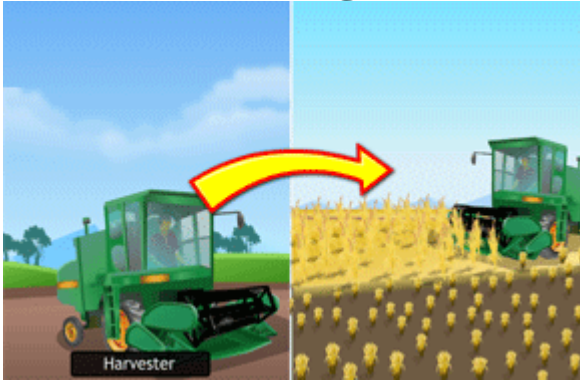


## Harvest and Storage



Harvest and Storage

Cutting the crop after it has ripened and **gathering** the grains is known as **harvesting**. We can use the word crop ripened rather than using the word **crop mature**. A **sickle** has a sharp serrate-edged metal blade attached to a wooden handle. A sickle is used for cutting the crop. A **harvester** is a machine that helps to cut the ripened crop from the fields. **Threshing** is the process of separating the grains from the straw and chaff. A **thresher** is used for threshing. A **combine** is a combination of a thresher and a harvester. **Winnowing** is a process in which we allow natural wind to blow through the grains, so the lighter substances fly away, whereas the heavier grains fall to the ground.

The fan in a **winnowing machine** blows away the chaff. **Protection of crops** against **microorganisms**, **rodents**, pests and **moisture** is done by drying in sun and exposing to fumes. **Silos** are huge, air-tight **cylindrical structures** used to store grains. **Granaries** are large rooms built above ground level to prevent rodents and pests from getting near the grains. In **cold storage**, vegetables and fruits are stored at low temperatures. **Animal husbandry** means rearing and breeding livestock on a large scale. **Poultry farming** means **rearing** hens, ducks and turkey for meat and eggs.

