Glossary

acre ('a-ker) a measure of land; 4,840 square yards
alfalfa (al fal'fe) a hay grown as a feed for animals
agribusiness ('agri-biz-nes) a business or farm involved in research, service, supply, and production, as well as, processing, marketing, and distribution of ag products
agronomist (a-gron'a-mist) a person who applies scientific facts to the growing of crops
antibiotic (an'ti-bi-ot'ik) a medicine, such as penicillin, used in people and animals to kill germs
aquaculture (ak'wā-kul'char) the raising of fish
aquatic (ā'kwā-tik) growing or living in water
aquifer (ak'wā för) the earth's underground storage for water
bale (bāl) to bind with rope or twine as hay or trees
barn (bārn) a building for storing hay or keeping livestock
biotechnology (bi-o-tek'-näl-e-jē) the study of living plants, animals, and humans and the use of this knowledge to improve life
bushel (bush'el) a measure for fruit, grain,, vegetables, and other dry products equal to 4 pecks or 32 quarts
byproduct (bī-prād'-ekt) an additional product received from the raising or processing of a crop or animal
combine (kom'bin) a machine that reaps, threshes, and cleans grain while harvesting it
compass (kum'pes) a symbol showing directions
competitive (kam-pet'ə-tiv) to compete-selling a product or service at a price at or below someone else's price
conserve (kon-serv') protect from loss or from being used up
consumer (kon-soo'mer) Someone who buys products or services
cooperative (kō-op'ə-rātiv) A member-owned business providing goods or services
domesticate (de-mes'tā-kat) change from wild to tame
down ('daun) the small soft insulating feathers from water birds
elevator (el'e-vä'ter) a machine for moving grain, a place where grain is stored
endanger (en-'dan-jär) to be used up or threatened by extinction
erosion (i rō'zhen) the act of land wearing away, slowly or gradually
ethanol (eth'ə-nəl) an alcohol which can be used as a fuel
exports (eks-port') send out of one country for sale and use in another
fertilizer (fər'tel-izər) a material used to add nutrients to the soil
fiber (fi'ber) materials used to make clothing such as wool and cotton
fingering (fing'-ər-ləng) A young, small fish
foal (fōl) young horse
forage (for'ij) food for horses or cattle
gene (jen) a complex molecule which passes on characteristics from parent to offspring
grain (gran) a single seed or seedlike fruit of wheat, corn, oats, and similar cereal grasses
hatchery (hach'ərē) A place for hatching eggs
homogenize (hō-mōj′-ē-nīz′)  distribute fat evenly throughout the milk
hybrid (hī′-brid′)  the offspring of two different varieties of plant or animal
incubator (in′k-yē-bā′-ter′)  a machine which keeps temperatures constant for the hatching of eggs
individual (in′dē-vī′ō-lā′)  one animal at a time
input (in′-put′)  an item or service which contributes to producing a product
irrigation (ir′a-gā′-shan′)  to supply with water
loess (lo′ēs)  a pale, yellowish silt or clay forming finely powdered wind-blown deposits
malt (mō′lēt′)  grain used in brewing and distilling
mare (mār′)  female horse
mutton (mat′-nēt′)  the meat from mature sheep used for food
native (nāt′-iv)  grown, produced or originating in a particular place
nectar (nek′tār)  a sweet liquid found in many flowers
nutrient (nū′-trē-ēnt′)  a nourishing substance; food
output (out′-put′)  a product produced by a farm or business
pasteurize (pās′-tēr-iz′)  using heat to destroy harmful bacteria
pesticide (pes′te-śīd′)  a product used to destroy plant and animal pests
poultry (pō′-lēt′)  domesticated birds kept for eggs or meat
predator (pre′-ět′-ār)  an animal that preys, destroys, or devours
profit (prof′it)  the money left after a business pays its expenses
protein (prō′tēn)  an important nutrient
rotate (rō′-tāl)  to change the crop grown in a field each year
sap (sāp)  the liquid inside plants which carries food and nutrients
shear (shir′)  to cut wool or fleece from a sheep; to shape a tree or shrub
silo (sī′ō)  a structure used to store animal feed
soil (soil)  the fine rock mixed with plant and animal matter, making up that part of the earth where plants grow
sown (sōn′)  having spread seeds over the land for growing
specialty crop (spi′-el-tē krop′)  a product grown for its special quality or particular characteristic
spigot (spi′-gōt′)  a valve or faucet for controlling the flow of water or other liquid
stallion (stā′-liōn)  male horse
tap (tap)  to drill a hole in a tree to allow the sap to run out
tuber (tū′-bōr)  the thick part of an underground stem
turf (tūrf′)  a layer of matted earth formed by grass or plant roots
udder (ud′-ār)  the mammary gland of a cow, goat, or other animal where milk is produced
veterinarian (vēt-ē-rē′-ān′)  a doctor for animals
whey (hwe′)  the watery part of milk that separates from the curd when cheese is made