

# Agriculture in MDCs



# Agriculture in MDCs

- Corporate factory farms
  - Suitcase farmers – Crop based farms where farmer lives outside community except during planting and harvesting season
  - Less likely to maintain sensitive land management
  - Mega-farms
  - Monoculture – Single Crop
    - Crops for sale off site
  - Chemical fertilizers and hormones (Capital)

# Food Production in MDCs

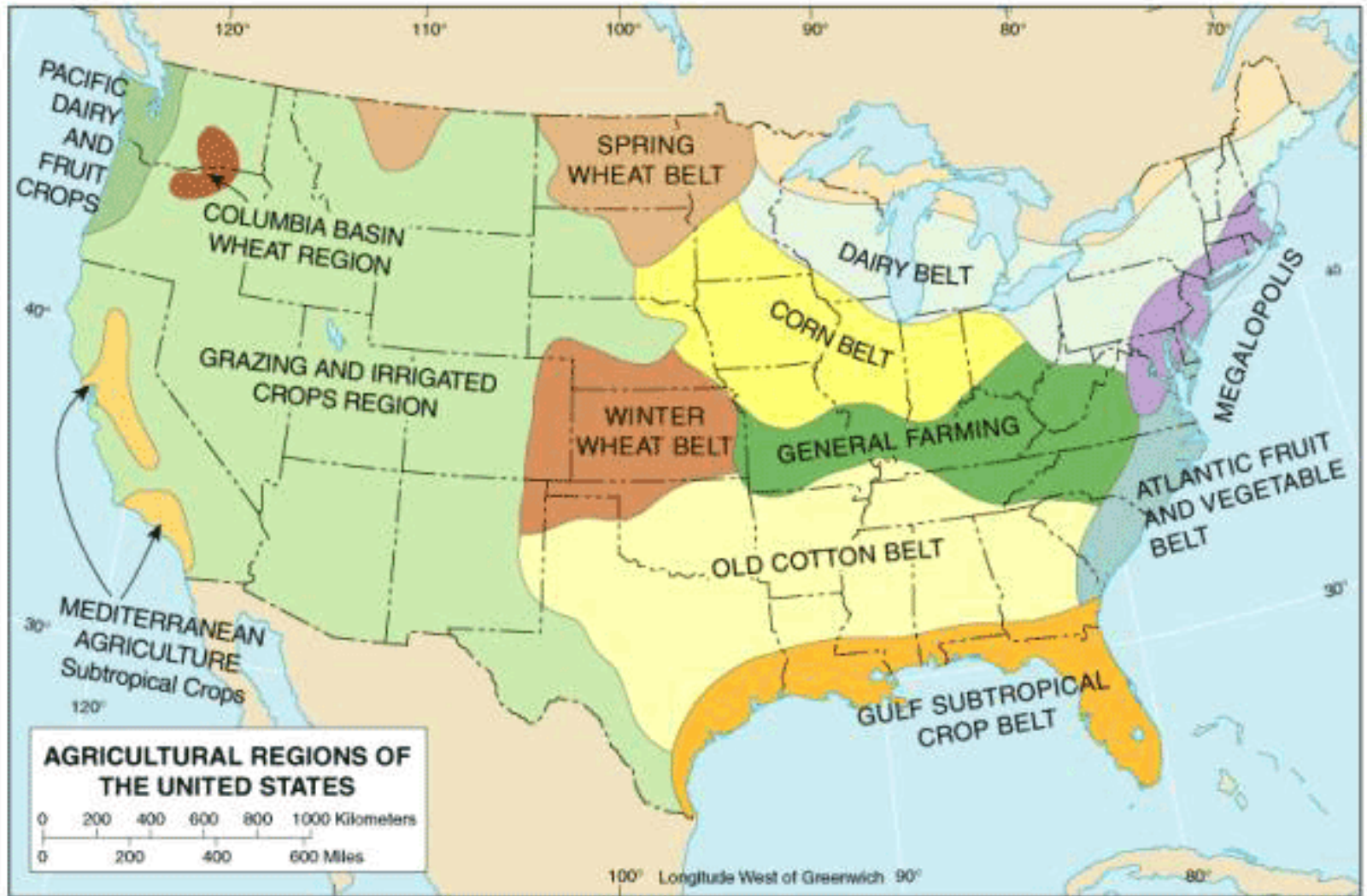
- Food more likely to be processed and have added preservatives
- Bigger variety and less seasonal

# Impact of Machinery

- Expensive
  - Often result in co-ops
    - Sharing of machines and facilities
- Dramatically increases productivity
  - Requiring far less labor
  - Allows for megafarms



# Agricultural Regions of the US



# Agricultural Practices in MDCs

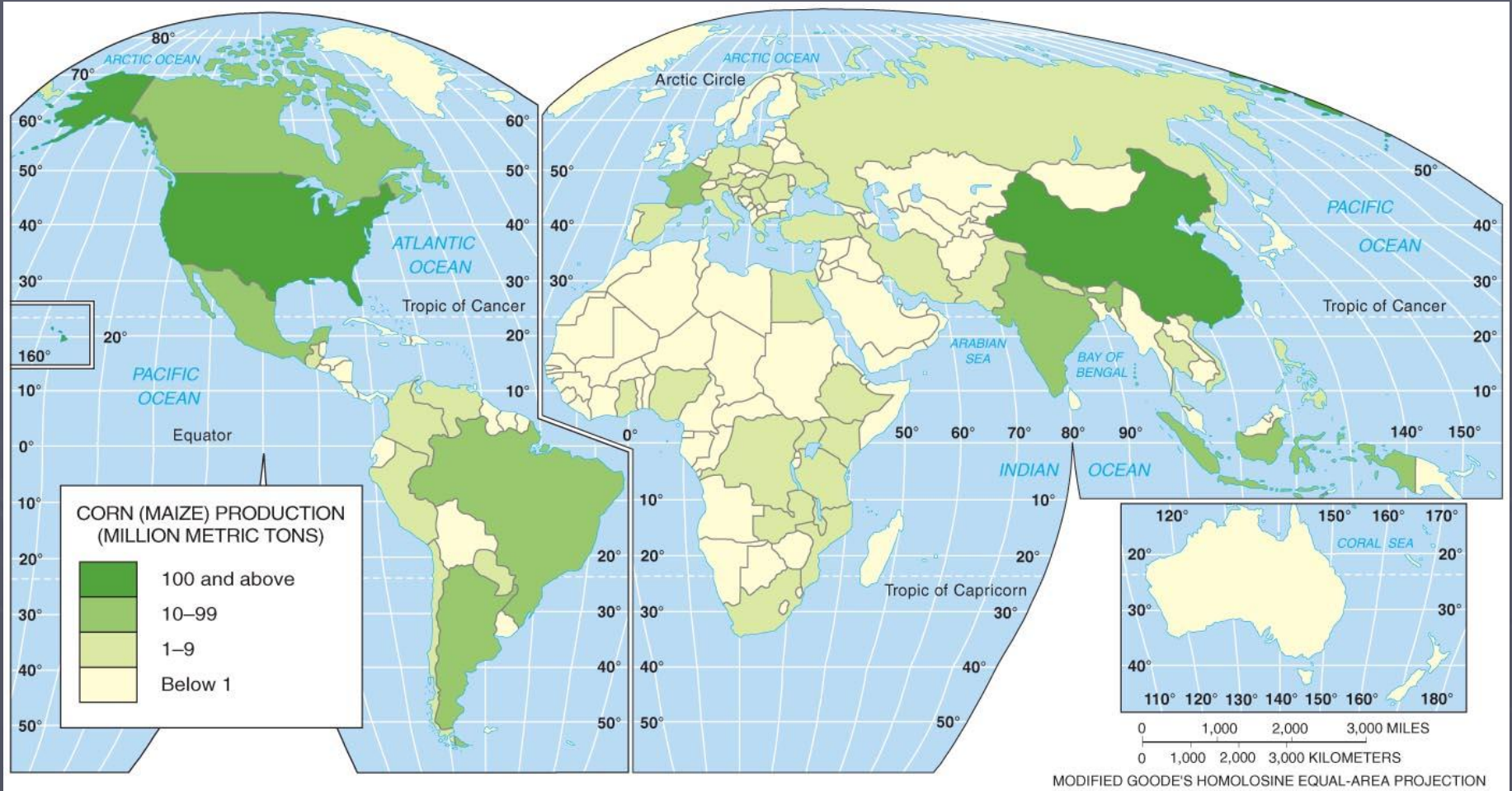
- Mixed Crops and Livestock Farming
- Dairy Farming
- Grain Farming
- Livestock Ranching

# Mixed crop and livestock farming

- Most land is devoted to crops
  - Use of crop rotation
- Most profits are derive from the livestock
  - More time required for raising animals



# Corn (Maize) Production

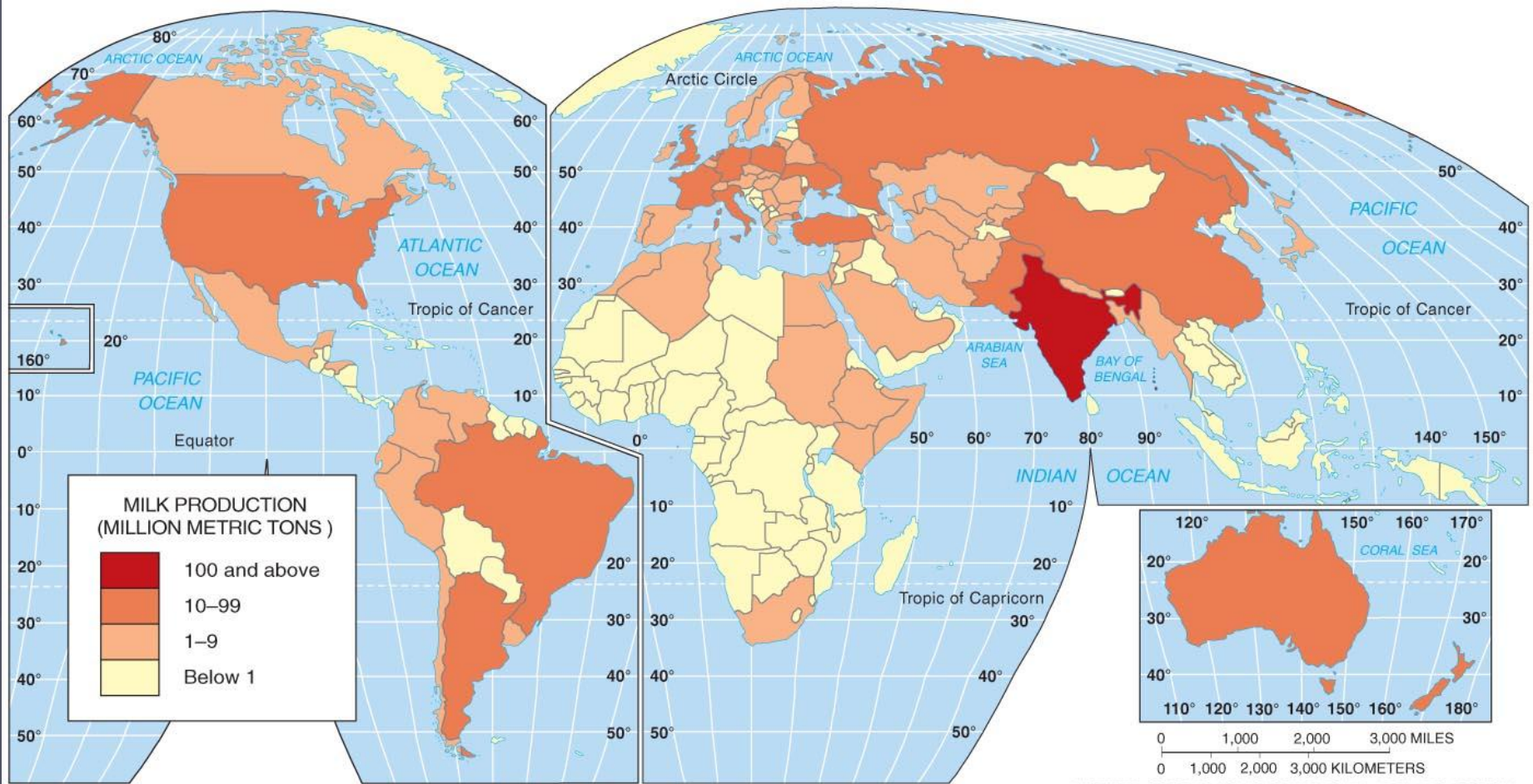




# Dairy Farming

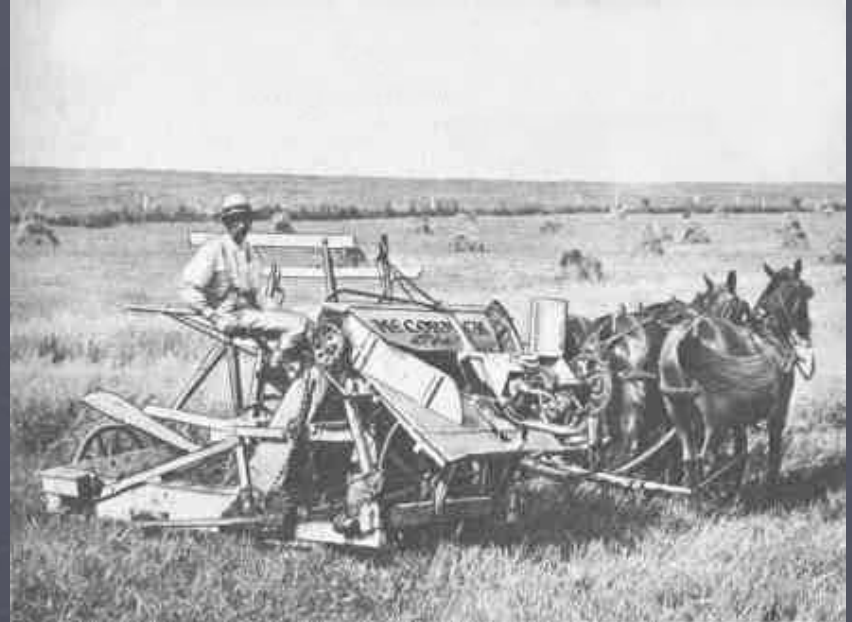
- Regional distribution:
  - The Milkshed – Ring around city milk can be supplied without spoiling
- Two primary challenges
  - Labor-intensive
  - Expense of winter feed

# Milk Production

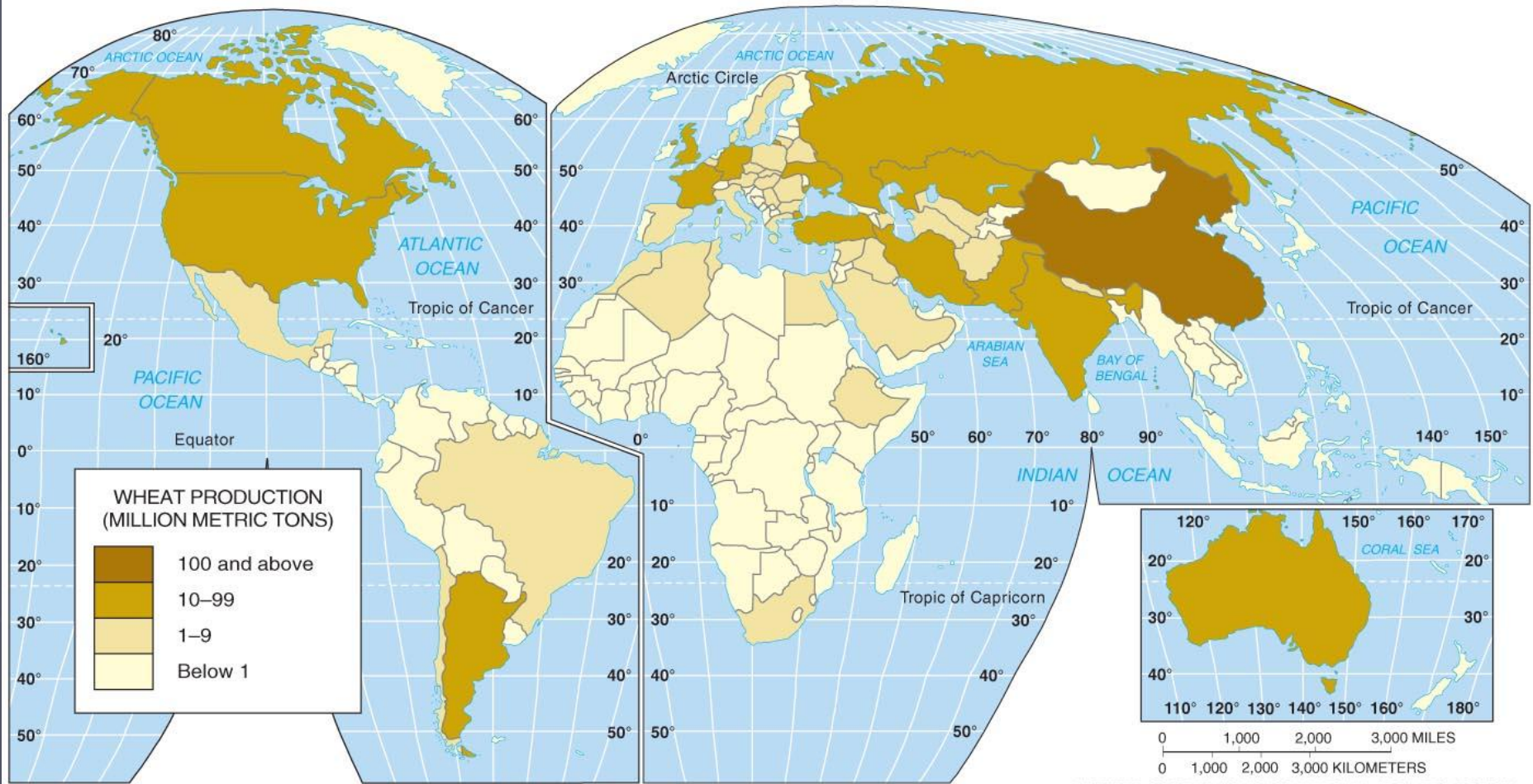


# Grain Farming

- Grain farming
  - The largest commercial producer of grain is the United States
  - Winter-wheat belt
  - Spring-wheat belt



# Wheat Production



# Livestock Ranching

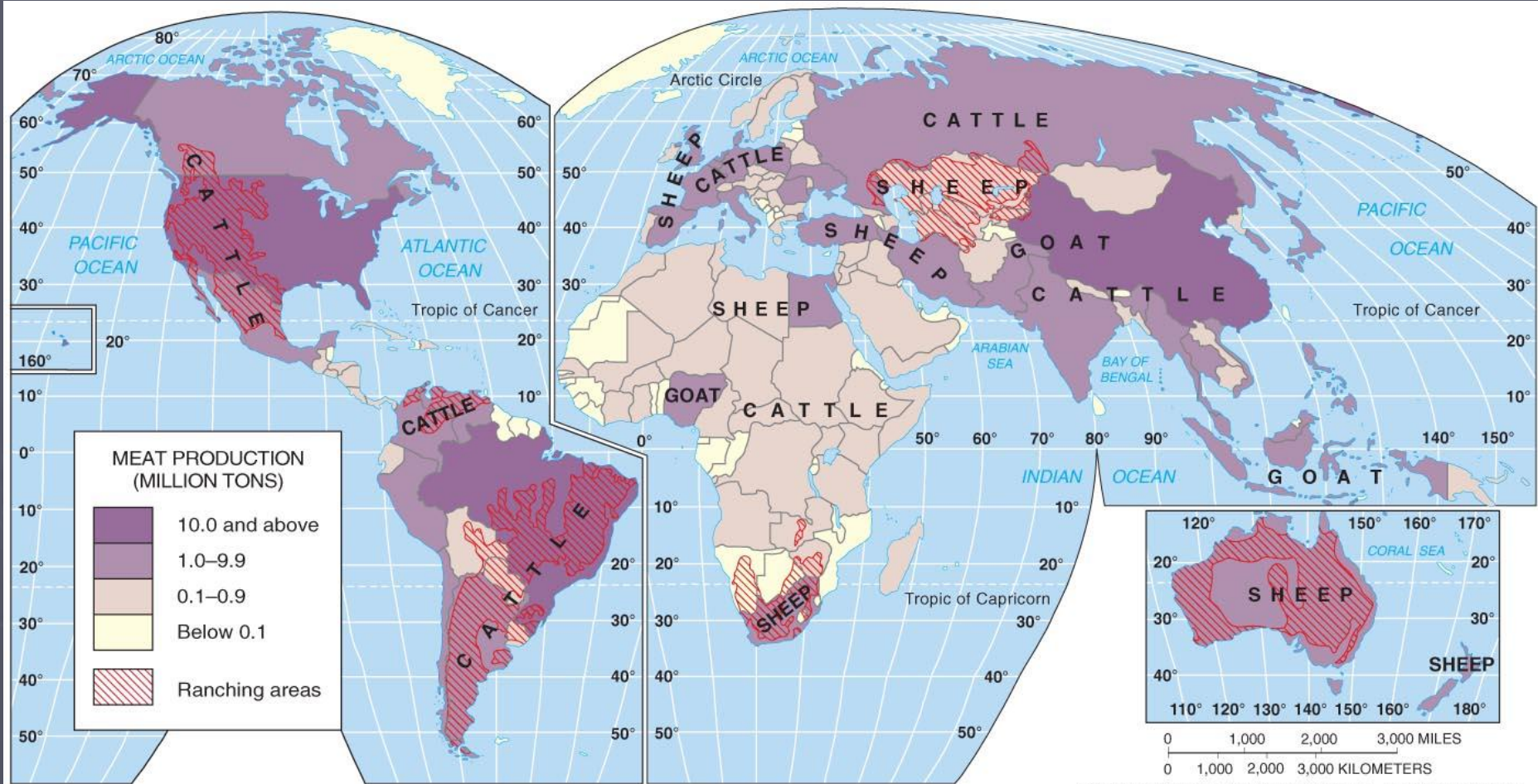
## – Practiced in marginal environments

- Low potential for cultivation of crops
  - Soil quality and unpredictable weather
- Productive for grasses

## – Extensive

- Requires large amounts of land for grazing

# Meat Production



# Mediterranean Agriculture

- Hot Dry Summers, Cool Wet Winters
  - California, Italy, Chile/Argentina, South Africa
- Based on horticulture
  - Growing fruits, vegetables, and flowers for human consumption
- Wine Country
  - Weather and temperatures most suitable for growing of grapes



# Truck Farms

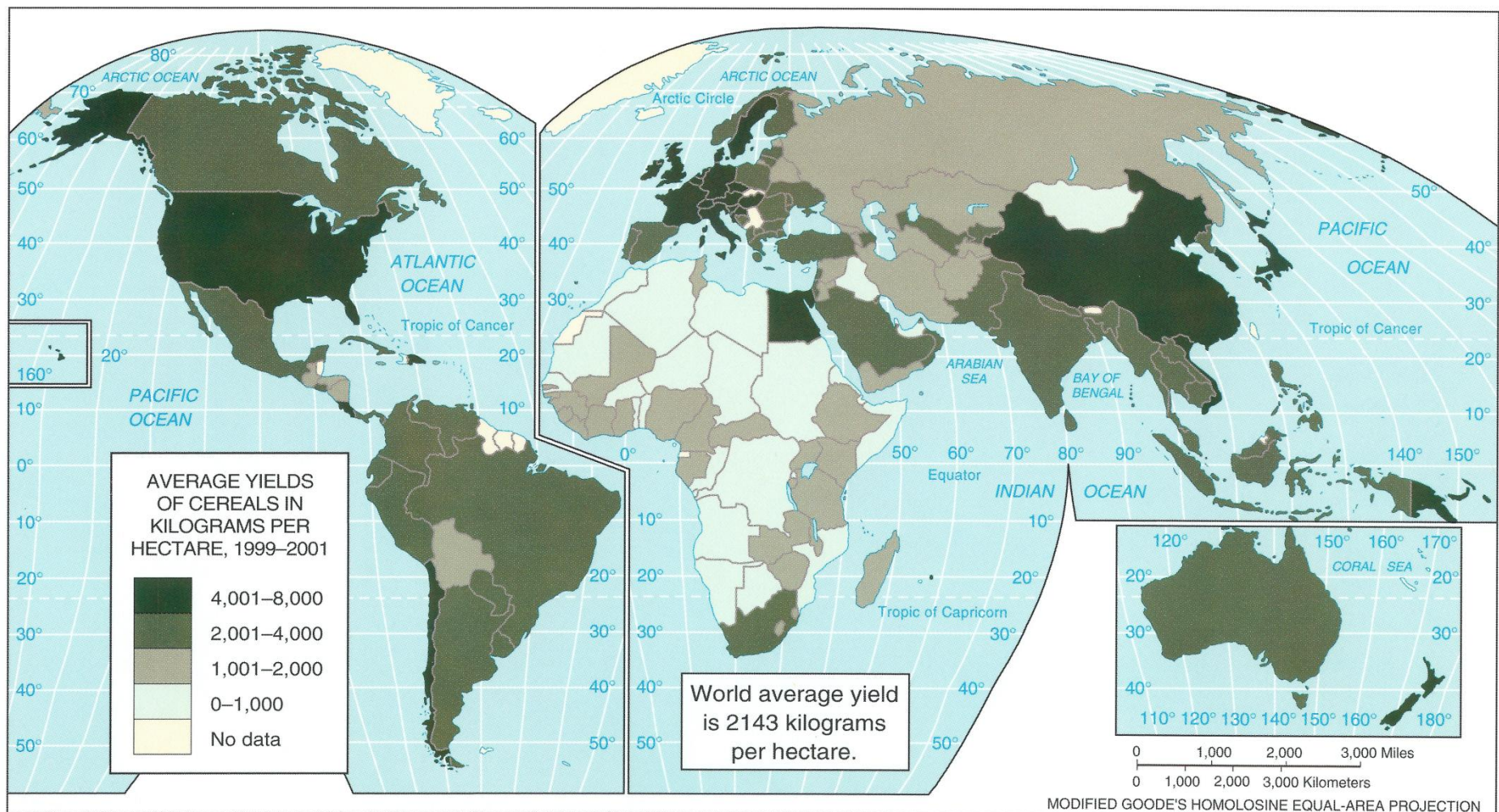
- Old English for “Barter”
- Growing one or more vegetable crops on a large scale for shipment to distant markets
  - Increased distances with railroads, trucks, and refrigeration



# Market Gardening

- Using high value suburban land for the cultivation of flowers and vegetables for nearby cities
  - Heavy fertilization and planting of successive crops for continuous returns from acreage

# Agricultural Productivity



# Advantages of MDCs over LDCs

- Less susceptible to water shortages, desertification, plant diseases resource crisis
- Lower percentage of population in agriculture in MDCs
  - Bigger market
- Access to resources
  - Chemical fertilizers
  - Livestock Steroids, Hormones, Medicines
- Governmental /Social Stability
  - No Tribalism
  - Less Corruption
- Better access to medical care and education for producers

# Undernourishment

