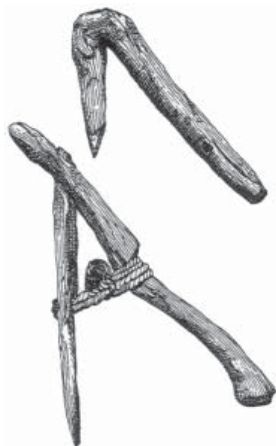


Images

Development of the Plow

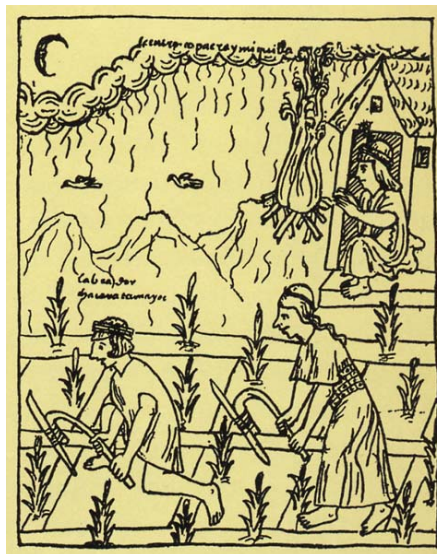
Development of Hand Plows and Weeders



Two primitive Egyptian hoes from the Middle Kingdom. (Source: Singer, 1963)



Soil preparation by hoeing; from a Tomb at Ti at Saqqara, ca. 2400 bce. Source: Singer et al., 1954, p. 375.



January. Wielding primitive hoes, a couple cultivates it's fields in the rain. Another farmer sits before a fire and keeps a sharp eye out for crop robbers.

Foot Plows of the Incas



A foot plow of tacla. Source: Leonards, First Farmers, 1973.



December. To plant potatoes, one woman inserts the tubers into a hole in the earth made by the man, while another stands by to smooth the soil with a cultivating tool.



August. In a symbolic ceremony, the Inca emperor and noblemen turn over the first earth in a sacred field, while three women bow and the empress offers corn beer.

Egyptian Plows



Plowing and hoeing; from a tomb at Beni Hasan, ca. 1900 BCE. Note that the plow is essentially a large hoe dragged through the soil. Source: Singer et al., 1954, Fig. 43.



Two handed Egyptian plow from Leonard. The symbol above the plow is the ancient pictorial word symbol for the plow.

Mesopotamian Plows

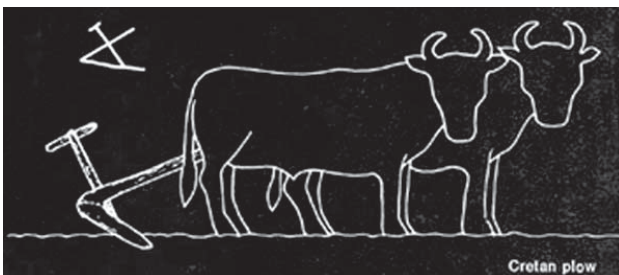


Plow from Assyrian bas-relief, 670 BCE. Note the funnel which allowed seed to be added the furrow during plowing.

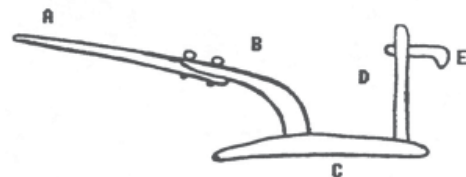


Babylonian scratch plow with seed drill.

Greek Plows



Cretan plow from Leonard, 1973.

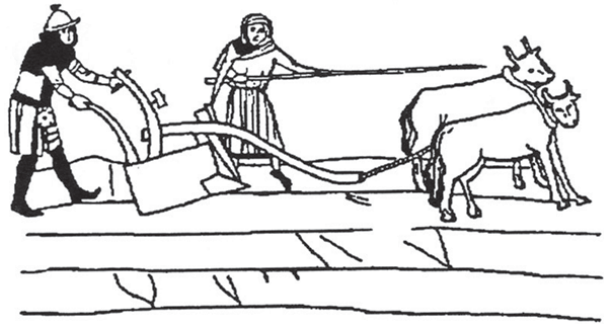


Greeks plowing with a primitive scratch plow, a sharp pointed hard-wood pulled by oxen. From a black-figured Nikostenes cup, 6th century BCE. A = draught pole; B = draught beam; C = stock; D = stilt; E = handle. Source: Singer, 1956.

Medieval Plows



Light plow with mould-board from an English fourteenth century bible. Note the donkey in the plow team of oxen.



Woodcut of an early English heavy plow with mould-board from the 14th century. Source: Klein 1987.



De Limbourg Brothers: The Month of March (detail) from **Les Très Riches Heures du Duc de Berry**. Source: Perspectives of European Agriculture.



Plow with iron ploughshare and coulter, in a 16th century Flemish miniature. Source: Perspectives of European Agriculture.

18th and 19th Century Plows



Ilyà Repin: The Ploughman. Tolstoy in the Fields. Note how closely the 19th century Russian plows resemble the plows of antiquity.



Symmetrical wooden plow with an iron ploughshare in use in 1787.

20th Century Plows



Horse-drawn plow, 1933.



Tractor drawn three-bottom Oliver plow, 1918.