



# Economic Propedeutics

Agriculture and the environment –  
agricultural revolutions in the history,  
importance of agriculture for European  
society, meaning and development of  
the environmental question; green  
revolution; agriculture in developing  
world

# England

- Except of classical explanation (Ley farming and introduction of technical inventions in connection to the Industrial revolution), a very important step forward was the fencing and enclosing of farms, supported by the Crown.



# United States

For United States, it was crucial to multiply its, on extensive growth based agriculture, with technical inventions like **cotton-gin** in the 18th, **combined harvester** and **tractor** in the 19th Century.

1862: **Homestead Act**  
legalized squatters land  
owning rights



# Prussia – Germany

- State support of technical knowledge
- Colonization of poorly populated areas
- Tax benefits for the incoming farmers
- Soil cultivation
- Big introducer of potatoes (together with Ireland)





# Russia



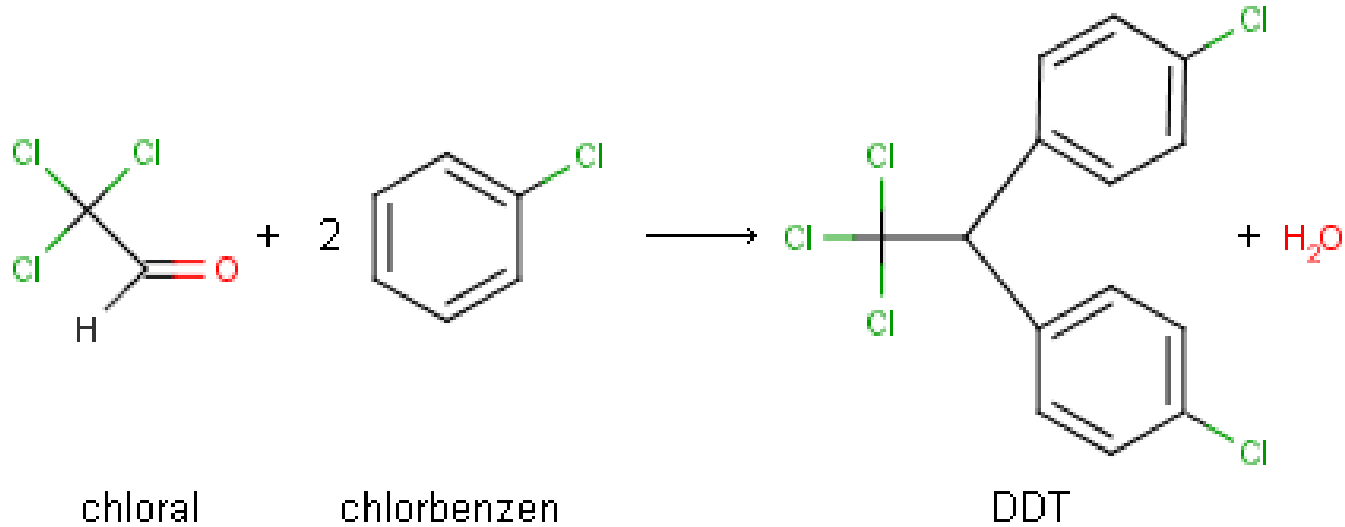
Piotr A. Stolypin,  
prime minister in  
1906-1911

- Real changes came with the agrarian reform in the beginning of the 20th Century – people from relatively overpopulated regions migrated to Central Asia and south Siberia.

# Green Revolution



- Introduction of chemical fertilizers, pesticides and insecticides



- Mechanization (watering system, harvesting)
- Deriving new sorts of crops, sustainable for a worse type of climate (for example grain for Canada or Scandinavia)





↑Before and After↓





# Negative effects of the Green Revolution

- Using of chemicals - negative effect on the health of humans and animals (DDT).
- Unknown effects of the genetic manipulation
- Destruction of woods and erosion of soil
- Overusing water supplies (for example Silicon Valley)
- Greenhouse gases (livestock)
- Globalization of economics endangers several species



George Kourounis



# Chances for the Third World

- Rational using of the Artesian aquifer
- Relatively harmless, cheap and effective pesticides
- Genetically improved crops
- **Microlivestock** instead of cows and pigs
  - guinea pigs, agoutis, greater cane rats

