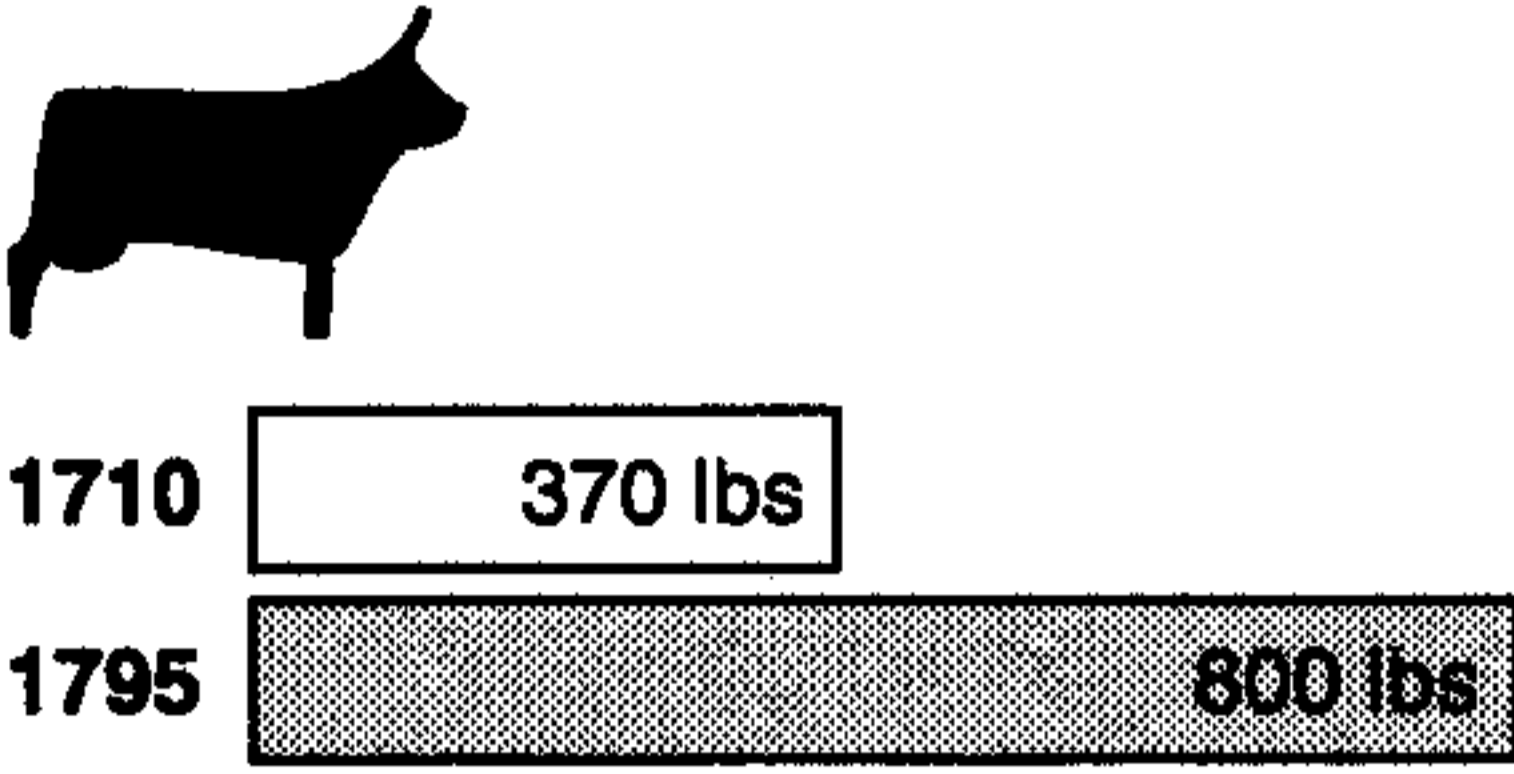
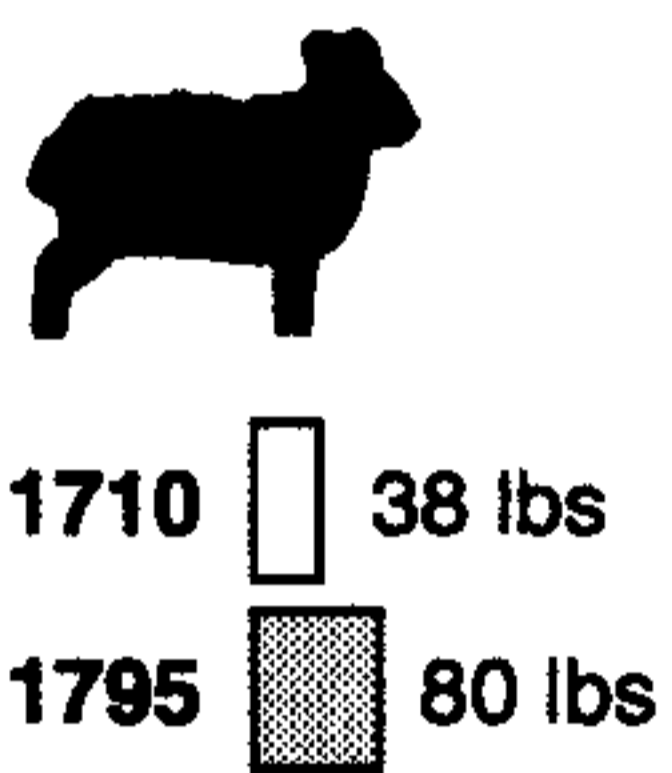
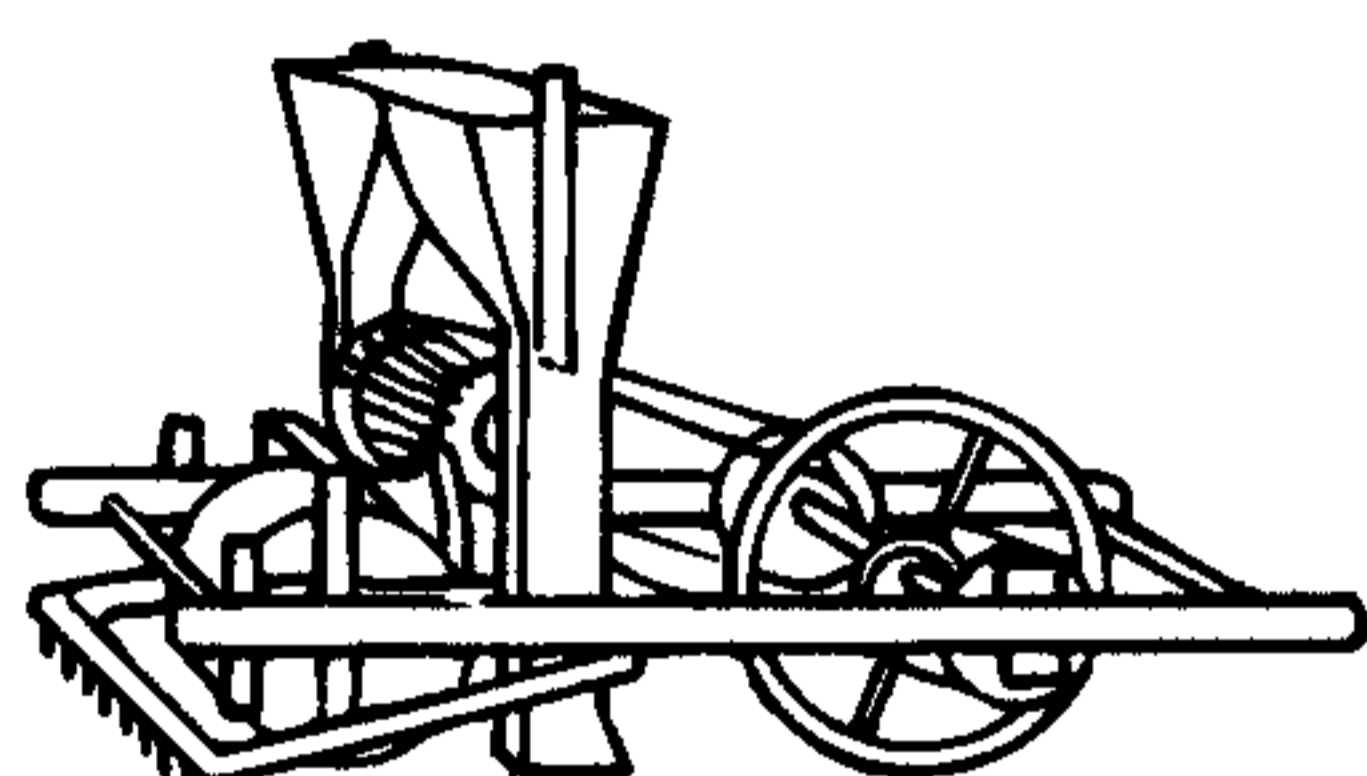
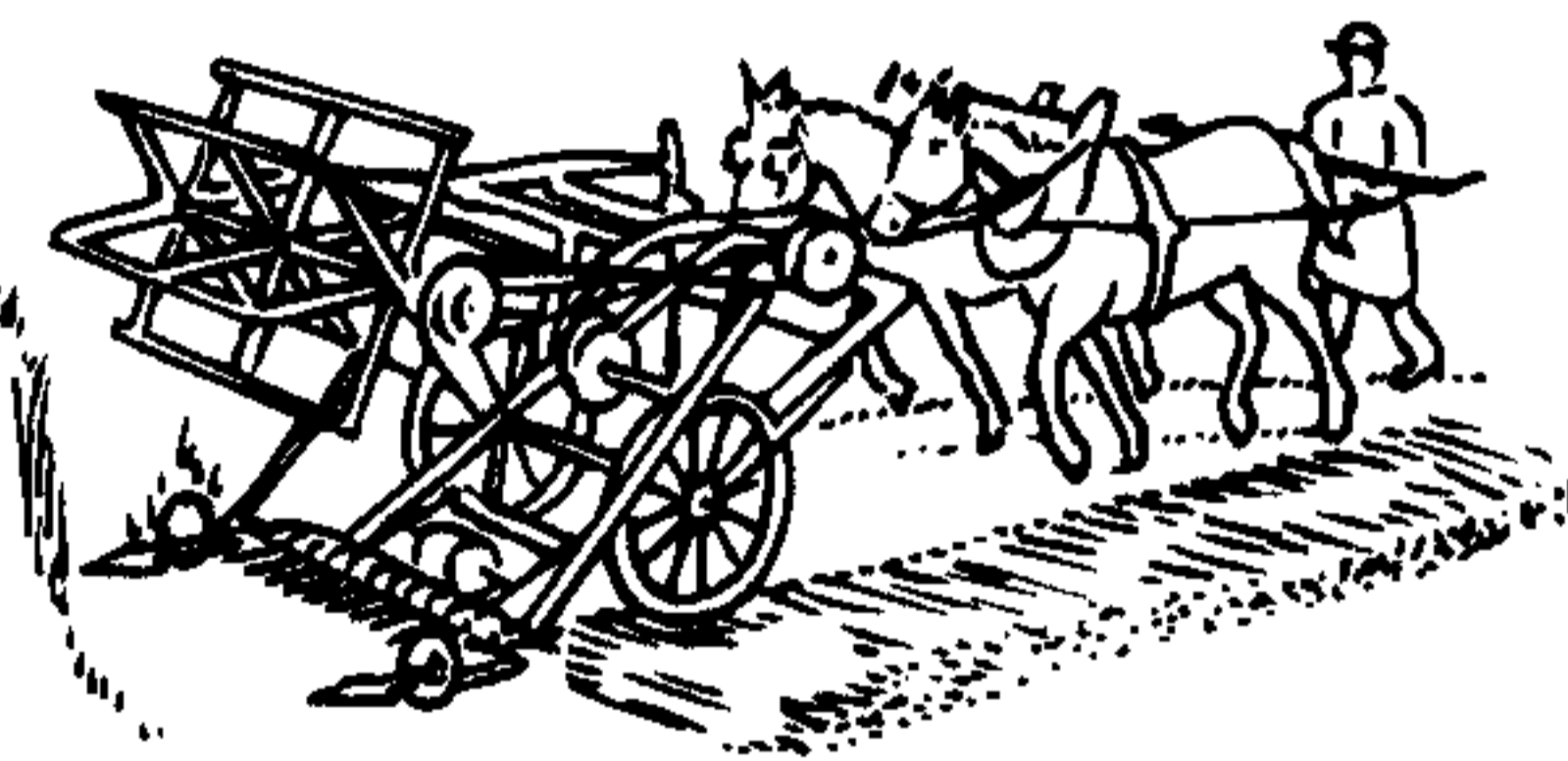


Agricultural Revolution—Great Britain 1700–1850

<p>CHANGES 1700–1850</p> <p>Enclosures</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Land was fenced and reallocated under the Enclosure Acts, creating compact farms. This replaced the open field system of scattered strips of land in large, unfenced fields 	<p>IMPACT</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Experimentation to increase productivity of the land ● Farms grew larger as wealthy landowners bought land from poor landowners who became tenant farmers. Those left with no land became farm laborers or moved to towns 	<p>INCREASE IN WEIGHT OF MARKET ANIMALS</p> <p>Cows (beef and milk)</p>  <p>Sheep (mutton and wool)</p>  <p>1 lb = 0.454 kg</p>
<p>Inventions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 1701 Seed drill, invented by Jethro Tull, allowed corn to be sown in regular rows ● 1703 The Rotherham plow, invented in village near Rotherham, Yorkshire ● 1786 Threshing machine, invented by Scotsman Andrew Meikle to separate ears of corn from stalks ● 1827 First reaping machine, invented by Scotsman Dr. Patrick Bell ● 1808 First all-iron plow, made by Robert Ransome ● 1850s Steam power was applied to plowing: fixed to long cables, plows were pulled across fields by stationary steam engines 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Less wasteful than scattering seed by hand; easier to kill weeds ● Easier to use; turned the soil more effectively ● Faster, more efficient, and requiring less labor (previously, this task was done by hand) ● Less labor intensive than cutting corn by hand (using a sickle or scythe) ● Stronger than wooden plows ● Steam plow could cut several furrows at once 	 <p>Jethro Tull's seed drill 1701</p>  <p>Dr. Patrick Bell's reaping machine 1827</p>
<p>Crop Rotation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Early 1700s, Viscount Charles "Turnip" Townshend used turnips (introduced from Holland) as part of a four-course rotation of crops to preserve soil fertility ● Clover, lucerne (alfalfa), and other leguminous plants were also used 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● No longer necessary to leave a field fallow (unplanted) every two to three years to allow nutrients to replenish the soil 	<p>REASONS FOR CHANGES IN AGRICULTURE</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Growing population, creating an increase in demand for food ● Increase in number of urban dwellers dependent on farmers for their food ● Improvement in transport (new roads, canals, and railways), making it easier to take food to the towns and to deliver coal and machinery to farmers ● Increase in corn prices resulting from reduced supply of corn to Britain from Europe during the Napoleonic Wars (1792–1815); higher prices provided an incentive to produce more ● Purchase of land by middle class who wanted to make profits from farming
<p>Use of Fertilizers</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● From the 1750s, farmers built dung-pits (underground pits to hold and preserve animal manure) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Manure added to the soil helped to produce better crops 	
<p>Drainage</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Use of deep trenches for drainage and later (19th century) pipe drainage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Less waterlogging of crops, resulting in higher productivity and profits 	
<p>Livestock Breeding</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● c. 1750, Robert Bakewell experimented with selective breeding (breeding from the finest animals) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Better yields of milk and higher quality and quantity of meat and wool 	