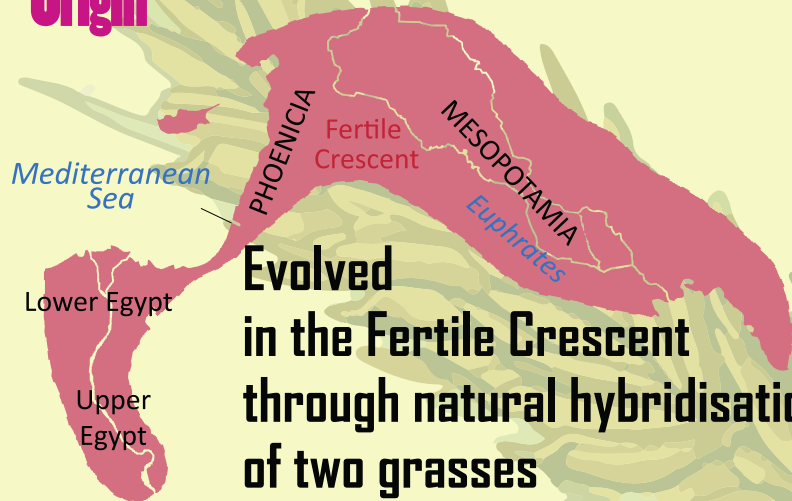


# Fascinating Wheat

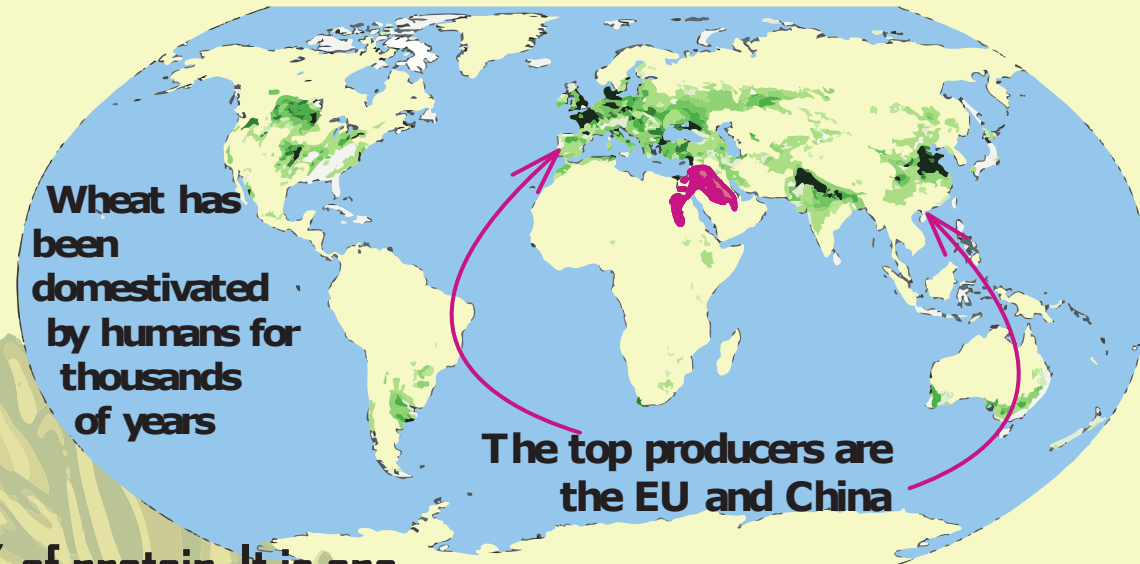
*Triticum aestivum*

## Origin



Evolved in the Fertile Crescent through natural hybridisation of two grasses

## Cultivation



Wheat has been domesticated by humans for thousands of years

The top producers are the EU and China

## Consumption

Wheat provides 20% of the world's calories and 19% of protein. It is one of the most versatile crops and can be found in many foods we eat.

## Production

Global production in 2020 was approx. 760 million tonnes. To meet future demands, this need to double by 2050.



## Climate change

As with many food crops, climate change threatens yields. For every °C increased, yields will decline 4 - 6 %



Collaborations such as the International Wheat Yield Partnership aim to develop high yielding wheat varieties. Scientists at Lancaster University are part of this international effort.