Farmers worked very hard. They did not live a life of luxury. Farmers were used as human sacrifice if no other people, like captured warriors, were available.

They had to pay taxes to the king and the nobles.



**Living conditions**

Farmers lived in huts outside the city near their farms. The huts were usually made from mud and had a thatched roof. They only had one room.

**Clothing**

Farmers wore simple clothing. The men often wore loincloths and the women wore long skirts.

On festival days, they wore their best clothes. But when they got home, they put their good clothes carefully away as they needed to last.

Farmers were forbidden from wearing the sort of clothing that the nobles wore.

**Education**

There was no school for the children of farmers. The job of a child was to help their parents.

**Entertainment**

Farmers did have days off to attend and family celebrations and religious festivals.

They would have played music, danced, and played and watched ball games.

**Job**

The farmers did not have metal tools or any animals to help them farm. They used stone tools and did the work by hand.

When farmers were not farming, they helped to build temples and estates of the nobles.

The women on the farms helped in the fields at planting and harvest time. Most of their time was spent cooking, cleaning, and sewing.

Women took produce to market to trade for other goods. They carried produce in baskets balanced on their heads.

The men spent evenings working on crafts such as tools, while the women wove cloth to make clothing to trade.

**Food**

The farmers ate very well. The most important food that the Maya ate was maize. They made all types of food from maize including tortillas, porridge, and even drinks. They also ate beans, squash, and chillies.

For meat the Maya ate fish, deer, ducks, and turkey.



