Food and Farming

The Incas were highly advanced in agriculture. They had over 400 varieties of corn and 2000 varieties of potatoes, each adapted for particular elevations, climates and weather conditions. This great variety ensured that a large percentage of the crop would be successful every year, regardless of how the weather turned out.

The Incas ran agricultural experiment stations, such as at Tipon and probably Moray, in order to develop new, more robust varieties and to learn which crops did better under what specific conditions.

The Incas farmed everywhere. They could get two crops per year where they could irrigate, including the Sacred Valley and on many of the terraces. They could only get one crop per year on the Altiplano, due to the lack of water for irrigation.
Some of the 400 Varieties of Corn
Some of the 2000 Varieties of Potatoes
Tipon Agricultural Experiment Station
Dry Land Farming on the Altiplano
Large-Scale Farming in Sacred Valley
Water Works

The Incas had highly developed systems of aqueducts for irrigation, storm water management, personal use and industrial use.
Irrigation Headworks at Tipon
Water for Personal Use -- Pisac
Channeling Water to the Salt Pans