

Feeding 9.5 Billion

As the world population continues to grow, we must invest in new ways to feed the future. Without harming the planet. This may mean having to cut down on the world's meat intake.

The world's population is constantly growing. We need to start investing in new ways to feed the world. The current world population is 7.2 billion and is predicted to increase over the next 12 years and reach 9.6 billion by 2050. United Nations said that this will mainly affect the developing nations. (who already struggle to feed their growing population). Yet how can we possibly feed over 9 billion people?

The meat industry is proven to be a hinder. This is because it isn't sustainable.

Animal agriculture is responsible for 18 percent of greenhouse gas emissions, this is shockingly more than the combined exhaust from all transportation.

The food productivity of farmland is quickly falling behind population growth. An option available apart from stabilizing the population like they have done already in China (one child per family), is to cut back on meat consumption and convert grazing land into food crops.

In the U.S. an estimated 56 million acres of land produces hay for livestock, and only 4 mil-

lion acres are used to grow vegetables for human consumption. Just by this simple statistic we see a lot of land, and resources are not being used to feed the growing population, all because of the meat industries demand for space.

With this it creates loss of biodiversity. Poaching and the black-marketeering of bushmeat is becoming a growing problem as our planet becomes more overcrowded. Poachers venture into wildlife reserves to kill endangered species for food, and sell on the black market.

Being able to produce more food will largely depend on increasing crop yield, not farming more land.

Already net investments of US\$83 billion a year must be made in agriculture in developing countries so there is an attempt to make sure there is enough food for

9.5 billion people in 2050. have to increase by 70%

Livestock and their byproducts account for at least 32,000 million tons of carbon dioxide (CO2) per year, 51% of all worldwide greenhouse gas emissions.

Agriculture is responsible for 80-90% of US water consumption. So just by growing feed crops for livestock consumes 56% of water in the US, so not only is our food in short supply around the world, so is water.

Our water is in high demand. With droughts around the world already, imagine the lack of water for when the population increases by over 2 million. Just for 1 pound of beef, 500 gallons of water are needed.

A person who follows a vegan diet produces the equivalent of 50% less carbon dioxide, uses 1/11th oil, 1/13th water, and 1/18th land compared to a meat-lover for their food. By cutting down on meat and eating more plant based meals, you will help end famine. Because food production will increase by 70%



WHY MEAT CAN'T FEED THE FUTURE

by Lily Finnegan

