

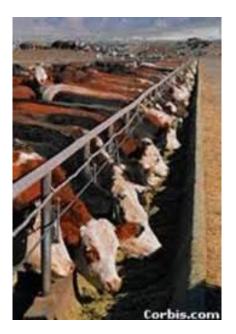
The Art of Creating Scarcity From Plenty

- Worldwide, three-fourths of all agricultural land, including pasture, goes to produce animal products. And from all this, what do we get? Just 17 percent of our calories.
- Of calories in the feed that cattle eat, humans get only 3 percent in the beef we eat.
- About half the world's calories from crops don't go to people directly but primarily to feed livestock—which consume a third of the world's grain and 85 percent of soy—and into agrofuel and other industrial uses.

Given this mind-boggling inefficiency, U.S. agriculture—viewed by many as the pinnacle of efficiency— **actually feeds fewer people per acre** than either Chinese or Indian.



Why Industrial Ag, Focused on Livestock, Is a Dead End (Literally)



- Producing a pound of lamb or beef averages from about 20 to almost 50 times greater climate impact compared to high-protein plant foods.
- Irrigation claims nearly 70 percent of freshwater that humans use. Producing a pound of beef uses almost 50 times more water than a pound of vegetables, and about 9 times more than grain.

Living democracy, feeding hope



visit smallplanet.org to learn more

Scarcity? Hardly...

Since 1970, worldwide production of food has grown **40% per person**. For each of us every day the world produces:

• 2870 calories

(most Americans need 2,100 calories)

80 grams of protein

(Almost 60% more than USDA recommends for adults)





Does the U.S. Really Feed The Hungry World?

- U.S. exports don't feed the hungry world: China, Mexico, and Japan comprise over 50% of the U.S. agriculture export market. Most of the rest goes to middle income countries.
- The U.S. imports 80% as much as it exports.
- Small farmers produce 80 percent of what's consumed in Asia and sub-Saharan Africa.





And Yes, Agroecology Is Proving Itself Worldwide



- Globally, organically farmed land more than doubled in the decade before 2011, and in India it grew almost eightfold.
- In Andhra Pradesh & Telangana, Indian state government supports a network of "village activists" that teach ecological farming, reducing pesticide use on **about 2 million farms**.
- Pesticide use in Andhra Pradesh dropped by half in four years.
- In 2010, the state of Kerala officially declared the goal of becoming 100% organic within ten years.



Hunger Is Not Caused By Scarcity of Food But Scarcity of Democracy

- Economic inequality is increasing throughout most of the world: Today the top 1% of the global population controls over half of global wealth at the same time, the poorer half controls less than 1% of the wealth.
- **Tightly held private wealth defeats democracy**, as it shapes public choices to favor the few.
- So policies steer agriculture toward producing animal food that only the better-off can afford and help to ensure farmers' dependency upon purchased seeds and chemical inputs, contributing to rural poverty and hunger.