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Environmental benefits of local food systems

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Ag Environmental Impacts

- Pollution from heavy use of ag inputs
 - Decreased soil fertility
 - Water pollution: fish kills, eutrophication, dead zones, polluted drinking water
- Reduction of pollinators
- Lost biodiversity
- Soil loss/erosion
- CAFO waste pollution into air, water, and land
- Antibiotic overuse leading to antibiotic resistance

What is Local Food?

- Literally = food produced relatively close to where it is sold
- Not a reliable indicator of sustainability, nor are food miles
- Good food system:
 - Source/farm identified
 - Fresh and delicious
 - Healthy, ethical, environmentally & socially responsible
 - Pasture-raised animals for eggs and meats
 - Sustainable and organic
 - Regenerative and beyond organic
- Local food sales estimated to be \$20 billion in 2019



PIG GESTATION CRATES



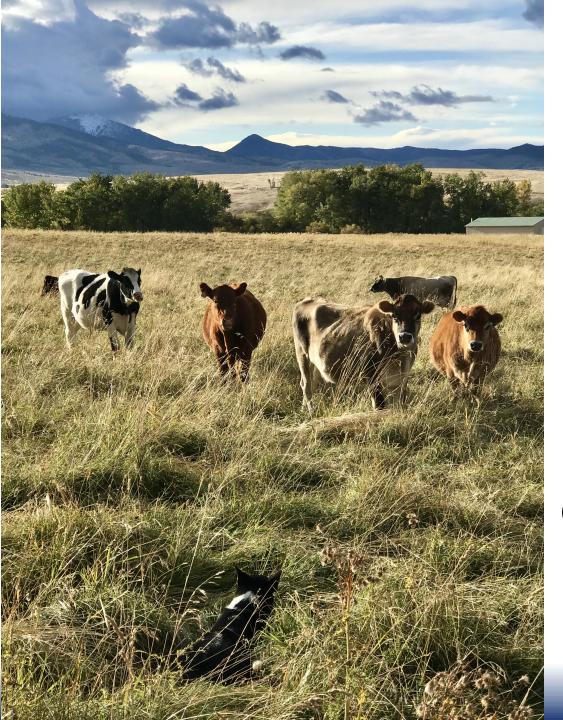
Putting the "Factory" in Factory Farming since 1969



Pollution: water & air quality







Sustainable grazing: increases soil health & cycling nutrients, builds soil organic mater & soil function, decreases soil erosion & nutrient loss into streams

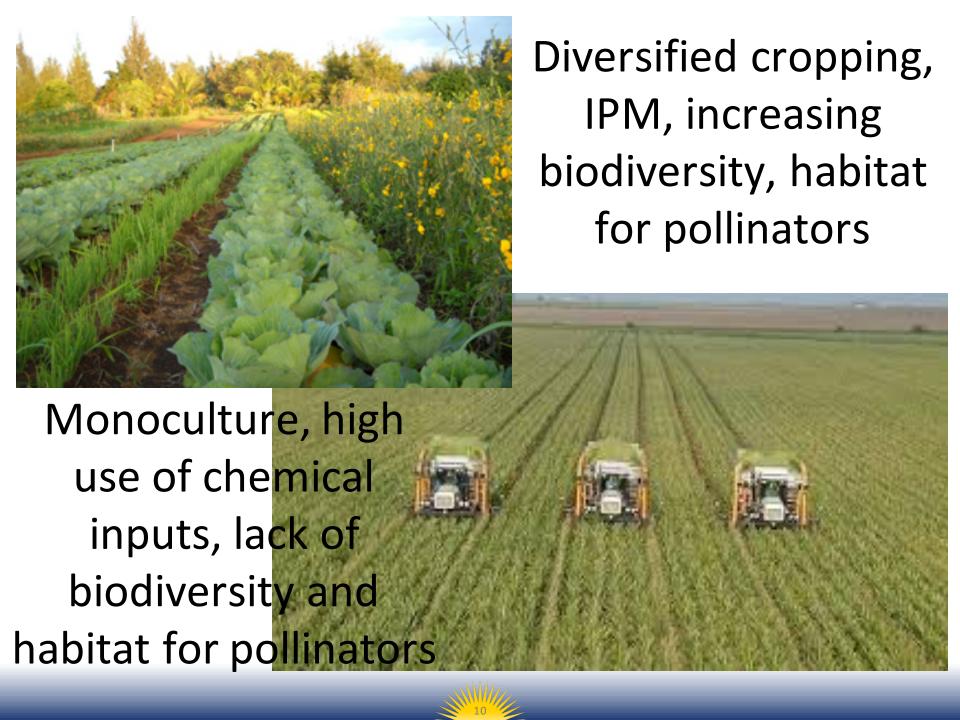


Increasing soil fertility & decreasing pollution

More ethical, producing a healthier product











Support for Pollinators







Healthy Soil Ecosystems







Local Food
Systems
Supporting
Rural
Communities

Housing
Developments
and Urban Sprawl



Local Good Food Systems' Environmental Benefits

- Carbon sequestration in soils
- Increasing soil health & fertility
- Decreased use of agricultural inputs (fertilizers, pesticides, herbicides)
- Decreased pollution: soil & input run-off, eutrophication, dead zones
- Improving water quality & conservation
- Promoting biodiversity & habitat for native pollinators
- Keeping local land in agriculture vs. development



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