

Name: _____

Date: _____

Agriculture Depletion

Climate change has so many effects on how we live life. Today we are talking about Agriculture Depletion; the food we eat on our table every day.

So, What is Agriculture Depletion?

Agriculture depletion is defined as the dwindling in numbers of crops that are produced around the world. Farmers are the **people** who face these wraths of climate change.

What causes Agriculture Depletion?

There are two main causes behind Agriculture Depletion. The first one is the changing of **precipitation** patterns, or the fall of rain, sleet, hail, or snow. Rainfall patterns have already begun shifting across the country, and such changes are expected to intensify over the coming years. This is likely to mean more intense periods of heavy rain and longer dry periods, even within the same regions.

The second main cause is the changing of temperature. Climate change results in the rising of the global temperature, bringing intense heat to areas. This makes crops unable to grow due to heat, and during the winter time, **thawing** comes faster.

What are the impacts/effects?

There are three main effects to Agriculture. First, an increase in flooding. **Flooding** is when there is an increase in storms due to an increase in **precipitation**. Flooding destroys crops by causing **soil erosion**, wearing away the upper layer of soil, and destroying buildings to turn these crops into **products**, or what you see in the supermarket.



The picture shows a family surveying their flooded crops

The second effect is **droughts**, the opposite of flooding. **Droughts** are when there is intense heat, and a lack of moisture or **humidity** in the air. This makes soil unable to grow crops because there are no more nutrients. In worst case scenarios, droughts cause **wildfires** , which can burn crops.



The third effect is on our animals! **Livestock**, animals who are produced into products (like chickens, cows, pigs, the list goes on) can't adapt to the changing weather. That forces farmers to rethink their choices about raising specific animals which can cause **shortages** in markets.

How can we help?

The main solution everyone can do is stop wasting food. Think of how hard these farmers have to work to adapt to these hard situations! We can stop wasting food and use these resources wisely so everyone has a more equal access to food. That involves either convincing your parents to buy less at the supermarket, or convincing them to possibly donate food for people in need.