



# Learning objectives

List three ways agriculture systems interact with planetary boundaries.

- 2 Define two future forms of agricultural production, and one benefit and drawback to each.
- 3 Identify two foods that have emerged using advancements in technology, and their potential impact on future food systems.

























# Organic Agriculture and **Planetary Boundaries**

- Climate Change
- Organic farming practices sequester significantly more carbon in the soil, (Science, 2004, Rodale Institute 2011)
- Organic farming reduces fossil fuel consumption and releases 40% fewer carbon emissions (AAP 2012, Rodale Institute 2011)
- Organic farming outperforms conventional practices in years of drought, and are more resilient to temperature extremes (HEN 2014)
- Freshwater

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15-20% more water percolates through organic systems, replenishing ground table and helping crops perform well in extreme temperatures (Rodale Institute 2011)

Biodiversity Pollinator Services (PLoS One, 2014)

- Enhance soil fertility, enhance soil microbial activity and abundance (Applied Ecology, 2019, PLoS One, 2017) Crop Rotation and Cover Crops (USDA NOP, 2015)
- Nitrogen and Phosphorus
- Healthy solid more efficiently recycles Nitrogen and Phosphorus (Sustainable Agriculture Research, 2014)
   Organic farming practices reduces pesticide, fertilizer and other chemical runoff, protecting local land and waterways (HEN, 2014)

Organics : Evidence of 3 primary benefits Pesticide exposure, food safety and human health: (AAP 2012, HEN, 2014, PLoS Med 2018) • Pesticide exposure. Organic produce consistently has lower pesticide levels than conventional produce. Pregnant and nursing women, infant and young children are at potentially greater risk from organophosphate pesticides, due to rapidly dividing cells, smaller body weights and the establishment of critical metabolic, hormonal and cognitive pathways. ORGANIC rican Academy of Pediatric Organic Foods: Health and Environmental Advantages and TALKING POINTS nan, Janet Silverstein, TEE ON NUTRITION and \$3.5 organic foods has grown from \$3.5 billion in 1996 to \$28.6 billion in 2010, according to the Organic Trade Association. Organic products are now sold in specialty stores and Antibiotic-resistant bacteria. Choosing organic foods can help reduce risk of exposure to antibiotic resistant bacteria, and could contribute to a reduction in the threat of human disease by drug-resistant organisms. Hunger and DPG, 2014 Farmworkers/farmworker community exposure. linked with numerous adverse health outcomes (cognitive, neurologic, respiratory). Hunger and Environmental American Academy of Pediatrics, 2012 DPG, 2014



# Organics: Areas Requiring Further Research Nutrition, Cost and More.... Nutrition cost and More.... Nutrition composition and clinical importance (AAP, 2012, HEN 2014, Environmental Health 2017). Relationship with Allergic Disease (British Journal of Nutrition, 2002, AP2 2012) Potential harm of people avoiding nutrient rich fruits and vegetables out of fear of pesticides that meet Us regulations (Food and Chemical Toxicology, 2012). EPA thresholds: do they adequately account for prosticides in towner of pesticides that muture of pesticides pestici



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The Soil-Microbiome Connection

#### Post-Harvest Functional Attributes

- Root and soil microbes can increase nutritional quality of food/crop, including vitamins, mineral content, antioxidants, and other secondary metabolites beneficial for human health (Microorganisms, 2019).
- Symbiotic plant microbes and high species richness in soil have been shown to reduce storage-induced pests on staple crops such as potatoes (Trends in Plant Science, 2018).
- Exposure of bees to glyphosate can perturb their beneficial gut microbiota of honey bees, potentially affecting bee health and their effectiveness as pollinators (PNAS, 2018).



























# Cell-Based Meat

#### A Fast-Emerging Sector

- What it is: stem cells from animal muscle fibers and grow in nutrient-rich mediums (Harvard Business School, 2015)
- Language and regulatory framework still being developed by USDA and FDA (American Meat Institute, 2019)
- What it is NOT: Plant-based meat
- Potential pros: significantly reduce environmental and ethical impact of livestock, use of hormones, antibiotics (Harvard Business School, 2015).
- Potential cons: consumer acceptance, industry disruption, cost.
- Related innovation happening across animal foods, including seafood, collagen, milk, eggs and chicken.











# How are Consumers Responding?



Diet type A lower percentage of omnivores (44%) have tried a plant alternative to animal meat compared with vegetarians (72%), "sometimes" vegetarians (77%), vegans (76%) and pescatarians

vegetarians (77%), vegans (76%) and pescatarians (75%). Income The likelihood of trying a plant alternative to animal meat increased as income rose. Those making over \$210,000 were the most likely consumers (72%) and those making less than \$40,000 were the least likely consumers (53%). Age More common among the younger population, with those under 45 years of age being the most likely consumers (62%). Gender Men (53%) were more likely consumers than women (44%). Education Those with a college degree (62%) were more likely consumers than those without a college degree (37%).

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