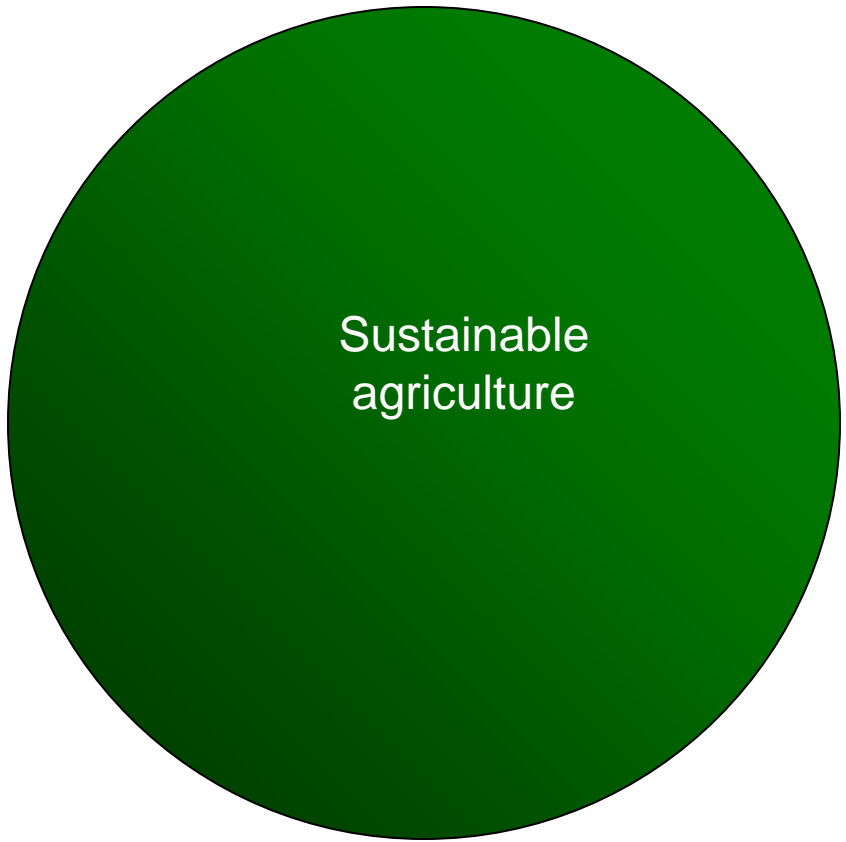


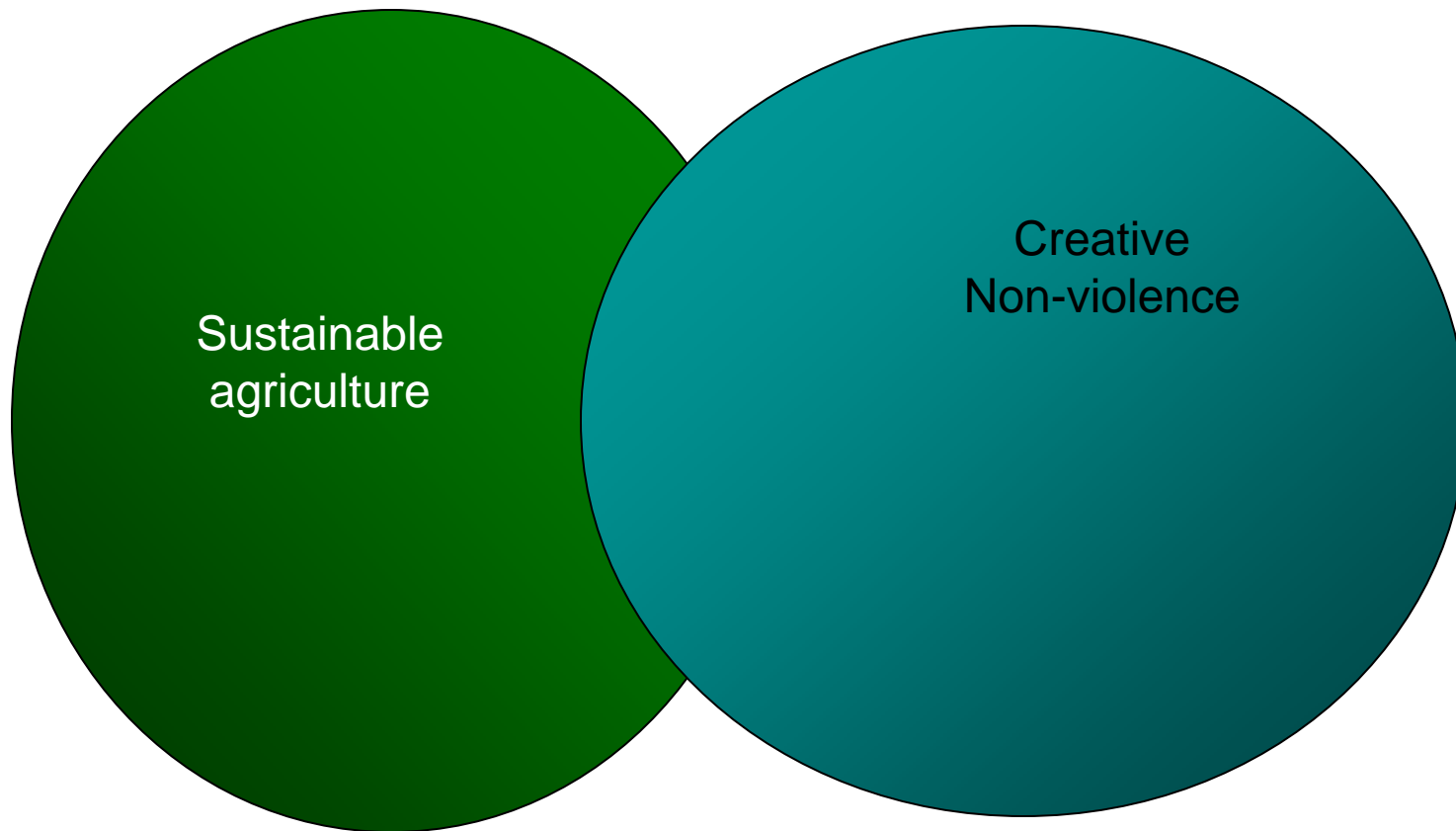
Non-violence and sustainable
agriculture
– Connecting the dots

Presented by:
me

Connecting the dots.....



Connecting the dots...

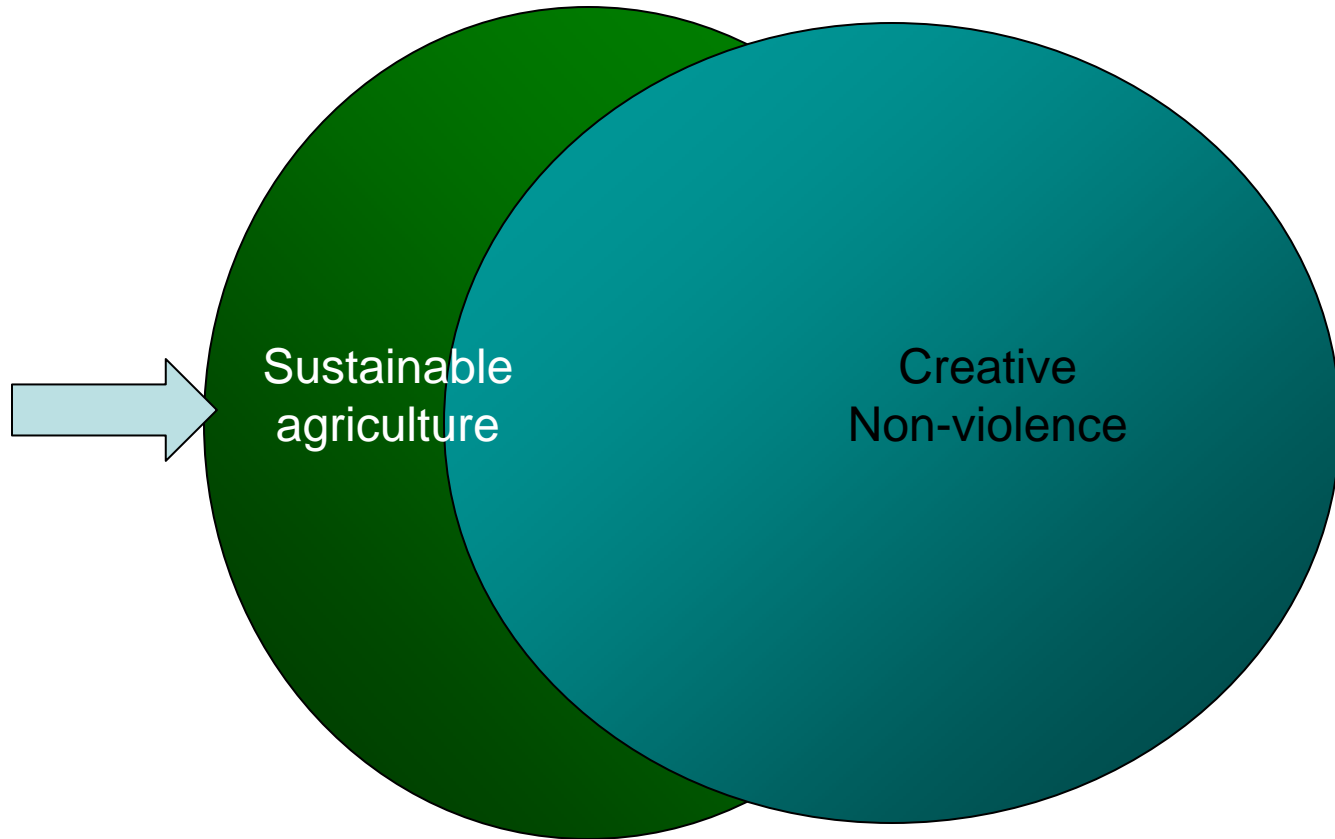


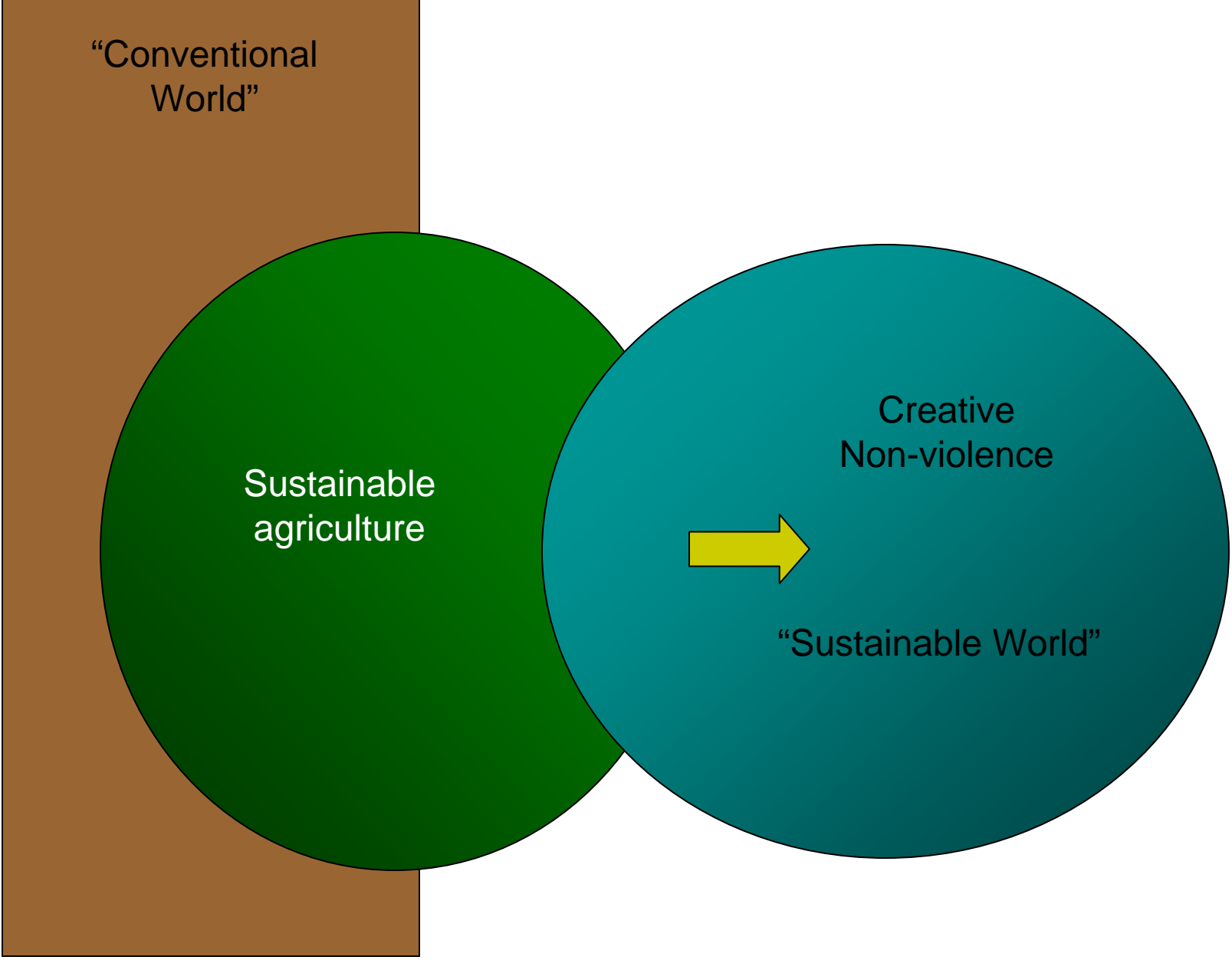
- “The first clue, lesson number one from human history on the subject of nonviolence, is that *there is no word for it.*”
 - Nonviolence has been viewed as a marginal point of view
 - Is not the same as pacifism
 - Gandhi used the word satagraha, which means “holding on to truth” or “truth force.”
 - Reputed to be not a serious force in itself, **BUT**.....
 - Has always been treated as something profoundly dangerous.

From introduction to “Non-Violence: twenty-five lessons from the history of a dangerous idea.”

by Mark Kurlansky, 2006

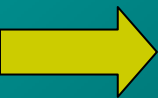
- “The first clue, lesson number one from human history on the subject of nonviolence, is that there is no word for it.” Sustainable ag is a word, but no one agrees on the definition.
 - Nonviolence has been viewed as a marginal point of view. Sustainable ag has been viewed as a marginal point of view.
 - Is not the same as pacifism. Sustainable ag not the same as organic, but also not the same as “business as usual.”
 - Gandhi used the word satagraha, which means “holding on to truth” or “truth force.” Sustainable ag has never addressed this specifically....but proponents believe that we take a systems approach, rather than a mechanical or reductionist approach...a “larger” truth.
 - Reputed to be not a serious force in itself, **BUT**..... Sustainable ag is often dismissed as a “niche market,”
 - Has always been treated as something profoundly dangerous. Sustainable ag is a scary thing to many people because by definition it implies that everything else is “non-sustainable???”





"Conventional
World"

Sustainable
agriculture

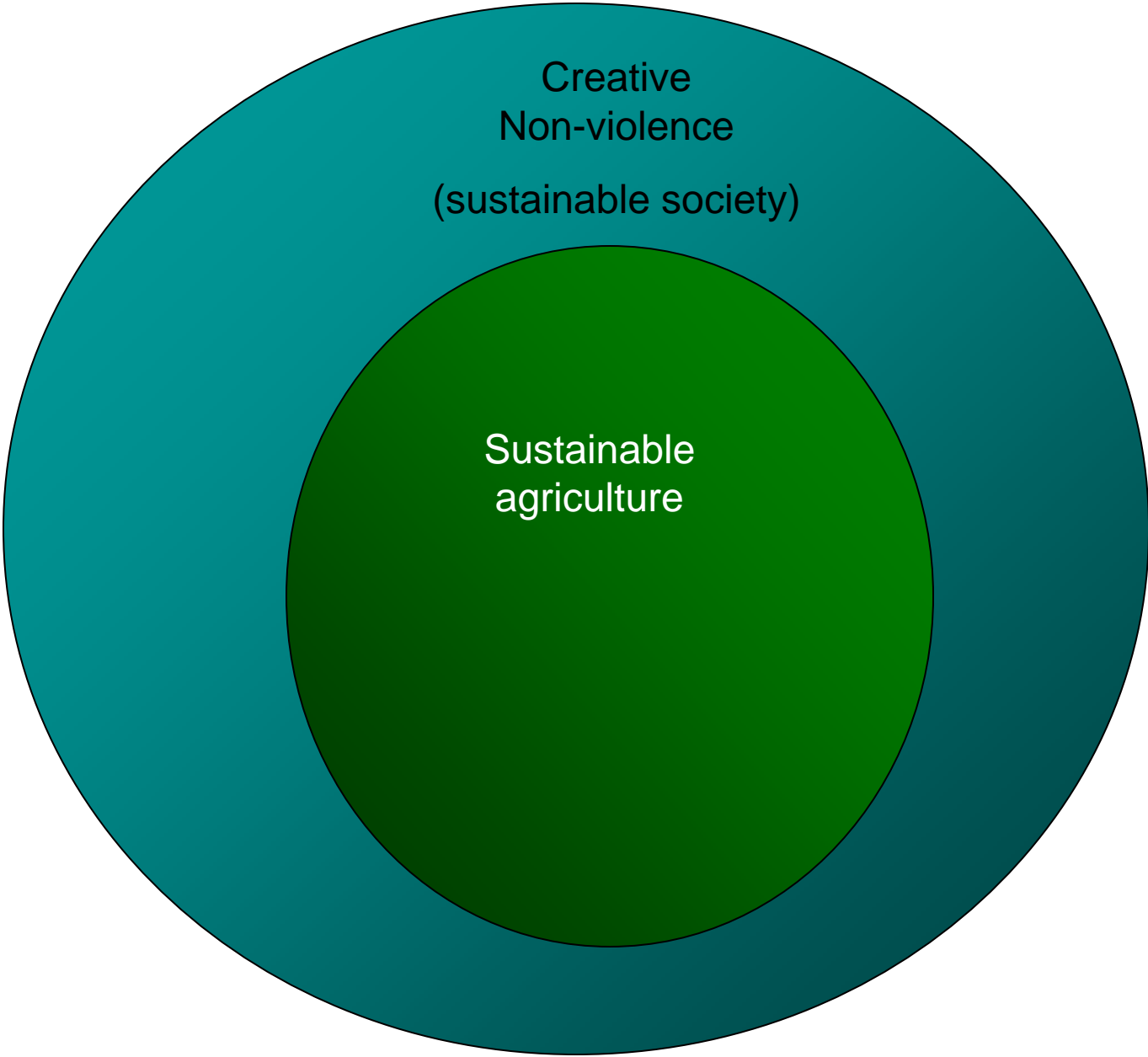


Creative
Non-violence

"Sustainable World"

“I think it is important to acknowledge here that nonviolence does not mean the mere absence of violence. It is something more positive, more meaningful than that. The true expression of nonviolence is compassion, which is not just a passive emotional response but a rational stimulus to action.”

-- The Dalai Lama



A brief history of non-organic agriculture in the US. continued

- Post WWII chemicals used in agriculture included insecticides originally developed as nerve toxins (organophosphates), herbicides such as 2,4-D, and nitrogen fertilizers including anhydrous ammonia (used to solidify soil to create air strips).
- These and other “synthetic” compounds are not allowed in US organic standards.

Before *Silent Spring*

Pesticides and Public Health
in Pre-DDT America

JAMES WHORTON

Princeton University Press PRINCETON, NEW JERSEY

Discusses the risks of arsenic in foods, paints, cosmetics, and the political battles (vs. voluntary compliance) for over 50 years in the late 1800's and early 1900's.

Note: arsenic only recently removed from "pressure treated" lumber, and residues are now found in poultry meats.

1 0 0 , 0 0 0 , 0 0 0

GUINEA PIGS

DANGERS IN EVERYDAY FOODS
DRUGS, AND COSMETICS

BY

ARTHUR KALLET

of Consumers' Research, Inc.

AND

F. J. SCHLINK

of Consumers' Research, Inc.

*Co-Author, with Stuart Chase,
of "Your Money's Worth"*



THE VANGUARD PRESS

NEW YORK - 1933

200,000,000 Guinea Pigs

NEW DANGERS IN EVERYDAY FOODS,
DRUGS, AND COSMETICS

by John G. Fuller



G. P. Putnam's Sons, New York

20938-5 • \$3.50

FAWCETT
CREST

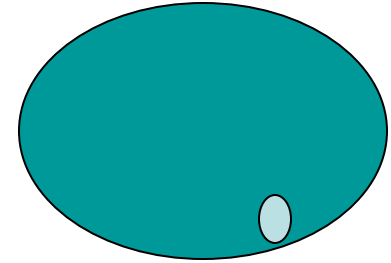
THE WORLD-FAMOUS BESTSELLER
ABOUT THE MAN-MADE POLLUTANTS
THAT THREATEN TO DESTROY LIFE
ON THIS EARTH.

Rachel
Carson



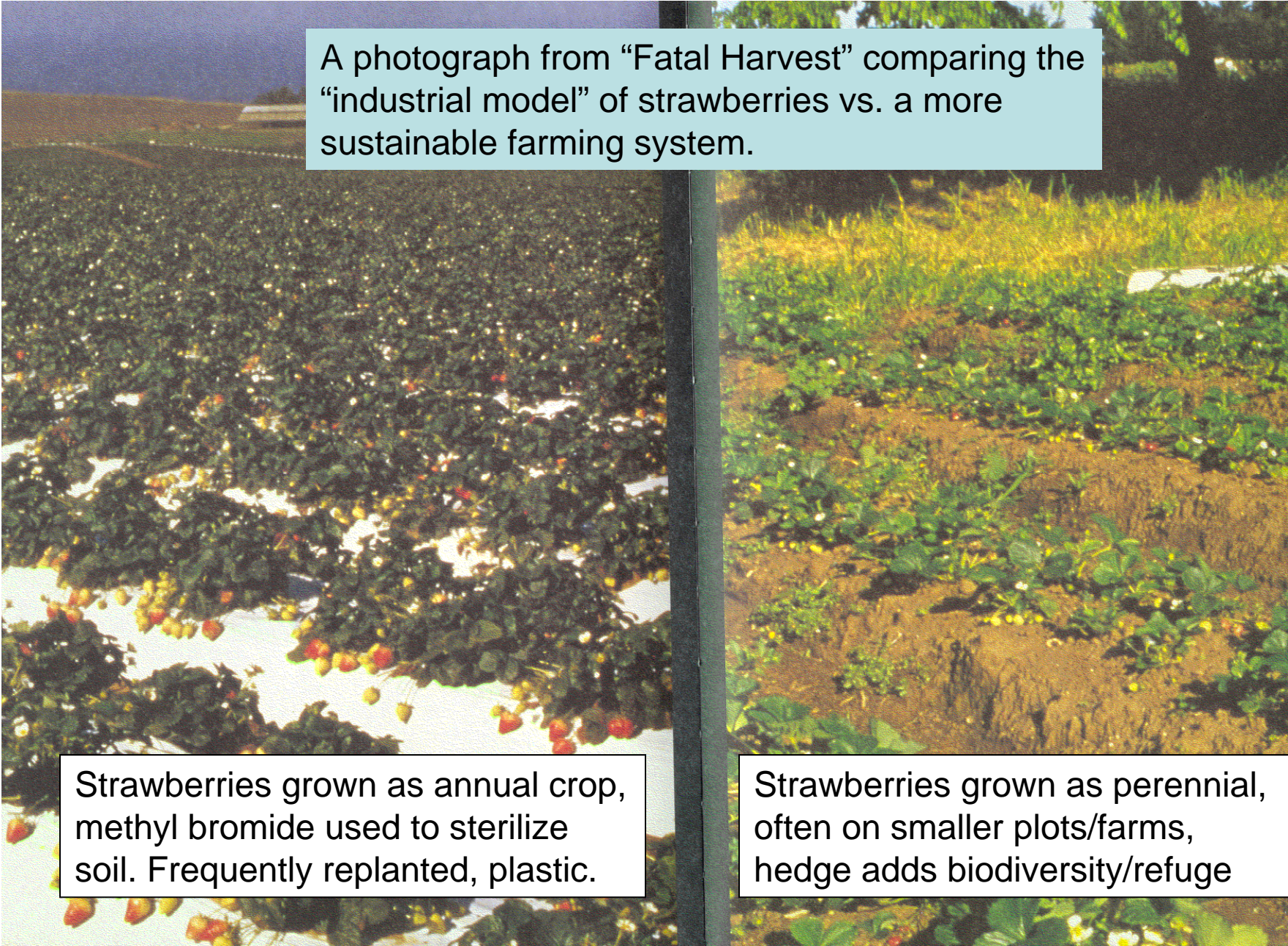
Silent
Spring

Since the 1970's – Contrasting Realities:



- The current system.
- An alternative vision





A photograph from “Fatal Harvest” comparing the “industrial model” of strawberries vs. a more sustainable farming system.

Strawberries grown as annual crop, methyl bromide used to sterilize soil. Frequently replanted, plastic.

Strawberries grown as perennial, often on smaller plots/farms, hedge adds biodiversity/refuge

How the land is treated.....

- Any fertilizer will do. Some add salt to the soil, lower the pH.
- Most fertilizer (especially nitrogen) is highly dependent on fossil fuel.
- Only limits on fertilizer use are cost, and voluntary programs funded through farm bill, NRCS, etc.
- Organic sources of fertilizer almost always add organic matter along with a nutrient.
- Fertilizer products tend to be slow release, and not “pump up” the plants with water.
- Soil building (adding organic matter) a **requirement** of organic certification.

Pest management

- Monoculture crops (only one crop) is normal, without crop rotation. Pest build up in these systems.
- Pesticides used to kill insects, weeds, and pathogens. Become necessary, as many pests are induced in a monoculture system.
- Genetically modified crops used now are not superior to non-GM crops in flavor, nutrition, or yield. They allow for the use of broad spectrum herbicides, or include a toxin in the plant (Bt) to kill insects.
- Crop rotation is part of the soil fertility and pest management program.
- Avoid many pests and pest buildup through rotation.
- Beneficial insect enhancement is encouraged, along with other biological control methods (Bt, Nosema, etc).
- Only short duration plant-extract derived pesticides are allowed, along with non-toxic products such as soap, oil, and clay.

How animals are treated:

- Confinement operations (large scale) are common. Require permitting by KDHE/EPA to control manure run-off and handling.
- Operations are efficient economically (low cost per animal) but like monoculture crops, many pests/diseases are caused by the system. The feeding of antibiotics is common (not just treatment), along with other drugs.
- High grain diet fed to ruminants in feedlots also increases disease risk, including E. coli H0157 in humans.
- These operations by their nature create more of a bio-hazard risk than smaller, more diversified systems.
- In organic systems, animals must have access to fresh air and the outdoors, at least for part of the day, or part of their life-cycle as appropriate.
- Antibiotics in the feed, and hormones, arsenic, and other weight gain enhancers are not allowed. Vaccination is allowed, and treatment with antibiotics is allowed for an ill animal, which then may not to be sold as organic.
- Grass-based systems becoming more common not just for beef, but also for poultry and hogs.

Cropping systems with a focus on legumes, cover crops, crop rotation, and weed control.

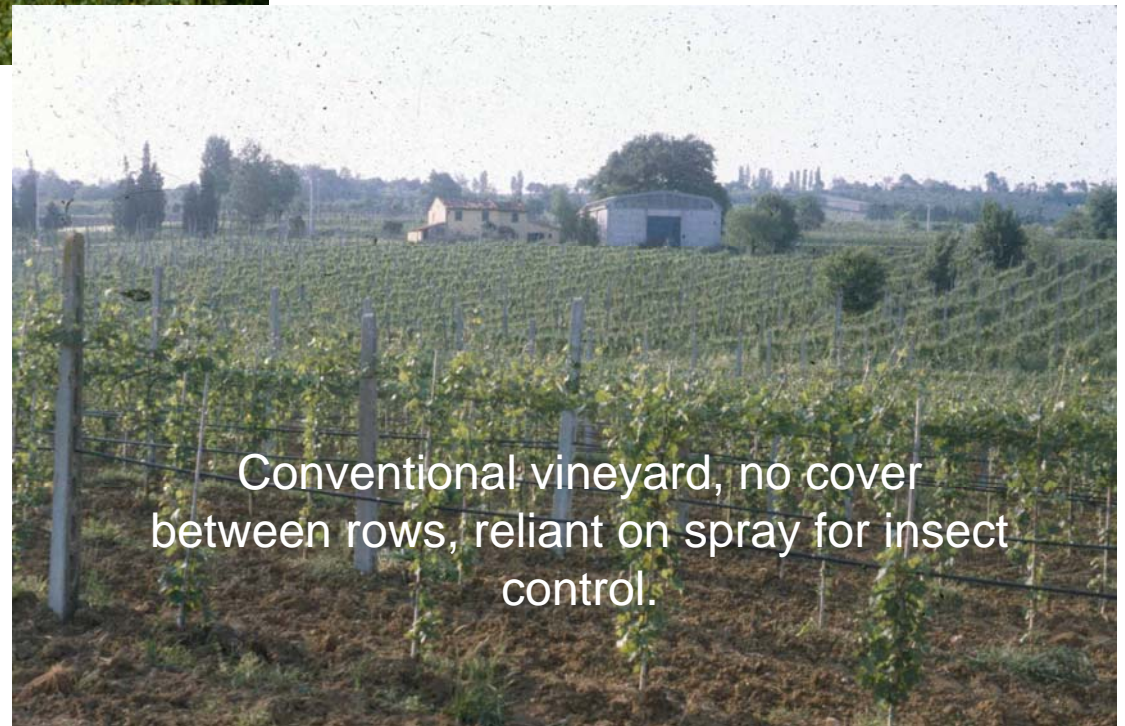


Systems approach to fruit and vegetable production



Organic orchard with flowering ground cover to attract beneficial insects.

Beneficial insects recognized and appreciated.



Conventional vineyard, no cover between rows, reliant on spray for insect control.



**Management
intensive rotation
grazing systems:
beef, pork and dairy.
Livestock outdoors,
sunshine, etc.**





Poultry grazing, on-farm value added production.



Trailer for chicken processing: “death on wheels.”



ARE THESE
FREE-RUNNING
CHICKENS?

NOT
ANYMORE.

franzke

Marketing

- Grocery stores – trend is for bigger. Now walmart has super stores.
- Food comes from all over.
- Large distributors deliver food from warehouses.
- Hard for local food to enter this system.
- Alternative markets include face-to-face transactions at farmers' markets.
- CSA model; “community supported agriculture,” or subscription farming.
- Agri-tourism possible.
- People looking for the connection with the farm/farmer.

Comparison of economic assumptions:

- No minimum wage for farmers.
- Competition is a race to the bottom?
- Some farm worker standards in place, but long battle to get them.
- Trends toward confinement livestock farms with corporation-serf relationship, not independent farming.
- Organic standards do not deal with economic justice issues.
- ***Fair Trade*** label used for international products (coffee, cocoa) assures living wage for farmers.
- Move towards a North American Fair Trade label (see www.foodalliance.org)

The Consumer?

- Non-Violent
- Sustainable

The Consumer?

- Non-Violent
 - Supports ethical treatment of animals or vegetarian/vegan diet.
 - Respect for who grew the food and where it came from.
 - Doesn't waste food.
 - Play a role in seeing that everyone has enough?
- Sustainable
 - Knows something about where their food comes from; how it was grown.
 - Concerned with environmental impact of food production.
 - Supports living wage for farm workers (and farmers)

sustainable table servicing up healthy food choices

- OUR OTHER SITES:
- EAT WELL GUIDE
 - THE MEATRIX
 - GET INVOLVED

- Home
- Introduction
- News and Features
- The Issues
- Sustainable Kitchen
- Shop Sustainable
- Education & Schools

- Get Involved
- Tools You Can Use
- Daily Table Blog
- Discuss in the Forum
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SEARCH GO

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- Help



Sustainable Table celebrates the sustainable food movement, educates consumers on food-related issues and works to build community through food.

Start with our introduction, or jump right in and get involved!

[get started >](#)

current features

The Eat Well Guided Tour of America

Aug 2 - Sept 8

Choosing Healthy Dairy

HOST A SUSTAINABLE DINNER PARTY!

get cooking

Buy Sustainable Recipes & Tips

Find local, sustainable meat, dairy & eggs with our Eat Well Guide now! Enter your zip code:

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WATCH THE MEATRIX II 1/2



The Consumers Union Guide to Environmental Labels

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PERSONAL HYGIENE WOOD/PAPER
OR BY PRODUCT
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SEARCH BY CERTIFIERS
CERTIFYING ORGANIZATION
VIEW ORGANIZATION INDEX
CERTIFYING PROGRAM
VIEW PROGRAM INDEX

WHAT MAKES A GOOD ECO-LABEL?

GLOSSARY

Learn more about products that are eco-labeled compared to those that are conventionally farmed or produced, [keep track](#) of labels recently added, [compare labels](#) quickly with a shorthand [report card](#) and print easily to [use while shopping](#), sign up to [register for specific news updates](#) and much more! We welcome your feedback.

FOCUS OF THE MONTH

What you should know about chemicals in your cosmetics
You slather, spray, and paint them on and rub them in. Cosmetics are so much a part of your daily regimen that you probably never think twice about them. If they're on store shelves, it seems reasonable to figure that they're safe to use, despite those unpronounceable ingredient lists....
[Past Focus Stories](#)

NEW! LABELS

[Recent Additions](#)
[Coming Soon](#)

FEATURE STORY

Traditional vs. Eco Production

[Food-labeling poll: Do you want to know where your food comes from?](#)

[Past Features](#)



LABEL REPORT CARD

Look for a specific label:

Compare a label category:
--- choose ---
Compare a product area:
--- choose ---

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

"Letters to the Editor" posts letters to and responses from eco-labels.org
Re: Consumer Reports Article: Organic, it's lower in pesticides. Honest. (August 2000 issue)

[All Letters to the Editor](#)

- [Eco-labels.org Newsletters](#)
- [Regulatory agencies involved in eco-labeling](#)
- [Links to others involved in sustainability](#)

ARTICLES & COMMENTS

- [Read Consumer Union's letter of concern to the USDA issued June 15, 2004](#)
- [Read Consumer Union's letter of thanks to USDA issued May 28, 2004](#)
- [Consumers Union Letter to USDA on Weakening of National Organic Program](#)
- [USDA Drastically Cheapens Meaning of Organic](#)
- [Consumers Union's Comments to USDA on Proposed Meat and Livestock Marketing Claims](#)
- [Presentation to Ecolabels and Greening of the Food Market Meeting, Boston, MA, Nov 7-9, 2002.](#)
- [Other Publications](#)



ConsumerReports

Greener ChoicesSM
Eco-labels center



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Search GreenerChoices.org

What makes a good eco-label?

1. Meaningful and verifiable.
2. Consistent and clear.
3. Transparency.
4. Independent and protected from conflict of interest.
5. Opportunities for public comment.



Sustainable Seafood



The Sustainable Seafood Guide has been developed with consideration given to the following:

status of wild populations - native stocks should be abundant enough to sustain fisheries.

fishing method - hook and line, for example, is preferred to trawling; on-shore fish farming is safer than net pens in the open water; string and rack shellfish farming is preferred to ground culture.

bycatch - wasted catch of fish other than the target species.

impact on natural habitat - spawning grounds, sea bottom, kelp beds require protection.

management initiatives - which increase the odds of fisheries remaining sustainable.

http://www.eartheasy.com/eat_sustainable_seafoods.htm

.....Sustainable Seafood Guide.....

Better Choices

Anchovies
Bluefish
Calamari
Catfish (farmed)
Clams
Crab: Blue, Dungeness, King
Crawfish
Striped Bass (farmed)
Sturgeon (farmed)
Tilapia (farmed)
Tuna: Pacific Albacore
Uni (sea urchin)



Moderate Risk

Flounder:
Lingcod
Lobster (Atlantic)
Mahi Mahi or Dorado
Octopus (Atlantic)
Salmon (wild from WA, OR, BC Canada)
Salmon (farmed from Chile or WA)
Scallops (Sea, Bay wild)
Shrimp (domestic, trawl-caught)
Snow Crab
Sole
Squid (Atlantic)
Swordfish (Pacific)
Tuna: Yellowfin or skipjack

Best to Avoid

Alaska King Crab
Atlantic Cod
Caviar (wild sturgeon)
Grouper
Haddock (Atlantic)
Halibut (Atlantic)
Salmon (farmed from Scotland or Faroe Islands)
Scrod
Seabass: Chilean
Shark: all species
Skate
Sturgeon (wild)
Swordfish (Atlantic)
Tuna: Bluefin

<http://www.kansasrivervalley.com/>

KANSAS RIVER VALLEY FOODS

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Announcements

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Welcome to our Newest
Producers:

Gasper Family Farm

Kansas Heritage Meats

**ShroomHeads Organic
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See All Current Producers

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Welcome!

Welcome to the Kansas River Valley Local Foods Website, your source for buying and selling local farm and ranch products in the Kansas River Valley.

Visit our "[about us](#)" page to learn more about our services.

This website specializes in larger quantity wholesale institutional and restaurant sales. For smaller quantity retail purchases, please contact the [producers](#) directly.

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Pete Garfinkel, MSW, Local Foods Liaison
1606 Throckmorton Plant Science Center, Manhattan, KS 66506
785-313-4033 info@kansasrivervalley.com



VERIFLORA Certified Sustainably Grown

- * Home
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- * Making a Difference
- * Find VeriFlora Products
- * VeriFlora Sustainability Council
- * Getting Certified
- * In the News
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Choices That Matter



Quality

Supporting handling practices from seed to store that allow you to enjoy flowers and plants that look beautiful and last longer.



Environment

Encouraging farming practices that build soil, conserve water and support healthy ecosystems.



People

Promoting a healthy, equitable workplace that supports farmers, workers, their families and the community.

VeriFlora® is a sustainability certification program for *fresh cut flowers* and *potted plants*.

We've all heard of "sustainability". But what exactly does it mean? Sustainability refers to the ability to "meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs."¹ When it comes to consumer products, sustainability addresses a full range of product quality, social responsibility and environmental protection issues. As consumers, when we choose sustainable products, we are sending a strong signal that these issues matter to us.

The VeriFlora certification program was established to provide stringent sustainability performance standards for growers and handlers of cut flowers and potted plants. It empowers each of us to stand up for sustainability standards that encompass all of the important issues, and to support the farmers and businesses who are making sustainability a reality.



VERIFLORA

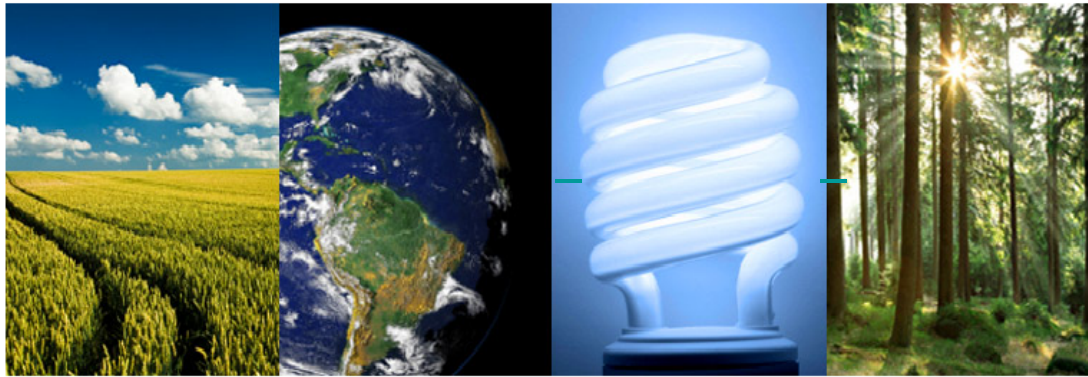
Certified Sustainably Grown

Meets Draft American National Standard for Trial Use (SCS-001) Sustainable Agriculture

Look for this label on fresh cut flowers and potted plants to know you are buying products that meet America's most comprehensive



SCIENTIFIC CERTIFICATION SYSTEMS



Events and Conferences

[National Sustainable Agriculture Standard Process: Upcoming Stakeholder Meetings](#)

[LCIA Framework for Power Declarations: Technical Working Session](#)

[3-part webinar series on Indoor Air Quality beginning in February](#)

Download "[Demystifying Sustainability](#)," presented by SCS President and CEO Stan Rhodes at Greenbuild 2007

Find Out About




Latest News

- > [SCS and FSC Cited in High Profile Forestry Story](#) (external link)
- > [G3i Announces the First Low Fluorocarbon Treatment Certification from Scientific Certification Systems](#)
- > [Osmose® MicroPro™ Technology Earns Environmentally Preferable Product Certification](#)
- > [SCS working to verify forest carbon sequestration \(see p. 3\)](#)
- > [Webster Industries Introduces Nation's First Store Brand Certified Recycled Content Bags](#)
- > [BusinessWeek: \(Mis\)Understanding Green Products](#)

Just released!

Click here to access the new SCS Certified Products Database



Your online directory for green building products.

ANSI Standards Development

ANSI Draft National Standard for Sustainable Agriculture (SCS-001)

This standard was accepted on April 13, 2007 by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI) as a draft national standard for trial use and is currently in

Find Out About





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RECENT NEWS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Fair Trade Banana Push Targets National and Local Grocery Store Operators (*EarthTimes*)
- Inside Africa: A fair deal for farmers (*CNN*)
- The producer networks become co-owners of FLO (*Fairtrade Labelling Organizations*)
- Deciphering markets' new eco-friendly labels (*MSNBC.com*)
- More news...



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FAIRLY TRADED COFFEE, TEA, CHOCOLATE & SNACKS

Equal Exchange has created *Big Change* since 1986. Our founders envisioned a food system that empowers farmers and consumers, supports small farmer co-ops, and uses sustainable farming methods. They started with fairly traded coffee from Nicaragua and didn't look back. Today, we continue to find new and powerful ways to build a better food system. We partner with co-operatives of farmers who provide high-quality organic coffees, teas, chocolates and snacks from farmers all over the world, including here in the United States.

We invite you to join us. Together we can create stronger local communities, a more just food system and a healthier planet.

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- ◆ community conservation

Sustainable Agriculture

Bananas

Without a doubt, the banana is the world's most popular fruit, and with a market of nearly \$5 billion a year, it is the most important food crop after rice, wheat and maize. In collaboration with our nine partner organizations in the [Sustainable Agriculture Network](#), the Rainforest Alliance has demonstrated that the banana industry can be steered toward sustainability, constructively addressing environmental and social issues while increasing farm efficiency and maintaining high production levels.

[En Español](#)

[In Svensk](#)

[Auf Deutsch](#)

[View a list of Rainforest Alliance Certified farms.](#)

Although the industry is an economic pillar in many tropical countries, providing millions of jobs for rural residents, for much of its history the banana business was notorious for destructive production practices that resulted in widespread deforestation, poor waste disposal, the pollution of coral reefs and nearby watersheds and the excessive use of toxic agrochemicals.



The Rainforest Alliance has helped change the way bananas are farmed. In 1991 along with our partner groups and participation from agronomists, banana growers, community leaders, scientists, environmentalists, government agencies and others interested in improving tropical agriculture, we established the first [standards](#) for responsible banana production.

Today, more than 15% of all the bananas in international trade come from [Rainforest Alliance Certified](#) farms. These farms have improved water quality, instituted programs for recycling and safe waste disposal, dramatically decreased agrochemical use and improved the quality of life for farmer workers and their families. [Chiquita](#) and the [Favorita Fruit Company](#), two leading banana companies, have reached 100% certification of

“Better Banana”:

In 1992, Chiquita banana adopted a “code of ethics” for employees and began to certify all of their banana plantations through the “better banana” program of the Rainforest Alliance.



The program includes 10 principles, each made up of criteria, with a group of indicators that can be measured



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Chiquita admits paying terrorists

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Banana company Chiquita Brands International admitted in federal court Monday that, for years, it paid Colombian terrorists to protect its most profitable banana-growing operation.

The company pleaded guilty to one count of doing business with a terrorist organization. The plea is part of a deal with prosecutors that calls for a \$25 million fine and does not identify the several senior executives who approved the illegal protection payments.

The agreement ends a lengthy Justice Department investigation into the company's financial dealings with right-wing paramilitaries and leftist rebels the U.S. government deems terrorist groups.

Prosecutors say the Cincinnati-based company agreed to pay about \$1.7 million between 1997 and 2004 to the United Self-Defense Forces of Colombia, known as AUC for its Spanish initials.

The AUC has been responsible for some of the worst massacres in Colombia's civil conflict and for a sizable percentage of the country's cocaine exports. The U.S. government designated the AUC a terrorist group in September 2001.

Chiquita has said it was forced to make the payments and was acting only to ensure the safety of its clients.

But federal prosecutors noted in court Monday that from 2001 to 2004, when Chiquita made \$825,000 in illegal payments, the Colombian banana operation earned \$49.4 million and was the company's most profitable unit.

“Funding a terrorist organization can never be treated as a cost of doing business,” U.S. Attorney Jeffrey Taylor said.

Chiquita sold Banadex, its Colombian subsidiary, in June 2004 for around \$43.5 million.

In addition to paying the AUC, prosecutors said, Chiquita made payments to the National Liberation Army, or ELN, and the leftist Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, as control of the company's banana-growing area shifted.

Leftist rebels and far-right paramilitaries have fought viciously over Colombia's banana-growing region, though the victims are most often non-combatants. Most companies in the area have extensive security operations to protect employees.

Court documents listed 10 unidentified company employees who participated in the illegal deals and helped conceal them on company books. Prosecutors would not identify them or say whether they remain with Chiquita.

They assured U.S. District Judge Royce C. Lamberth, however, that two executives who approved the plea deal were not among those in court documents.

“Banana-Gate”

Manhattan Mercury,

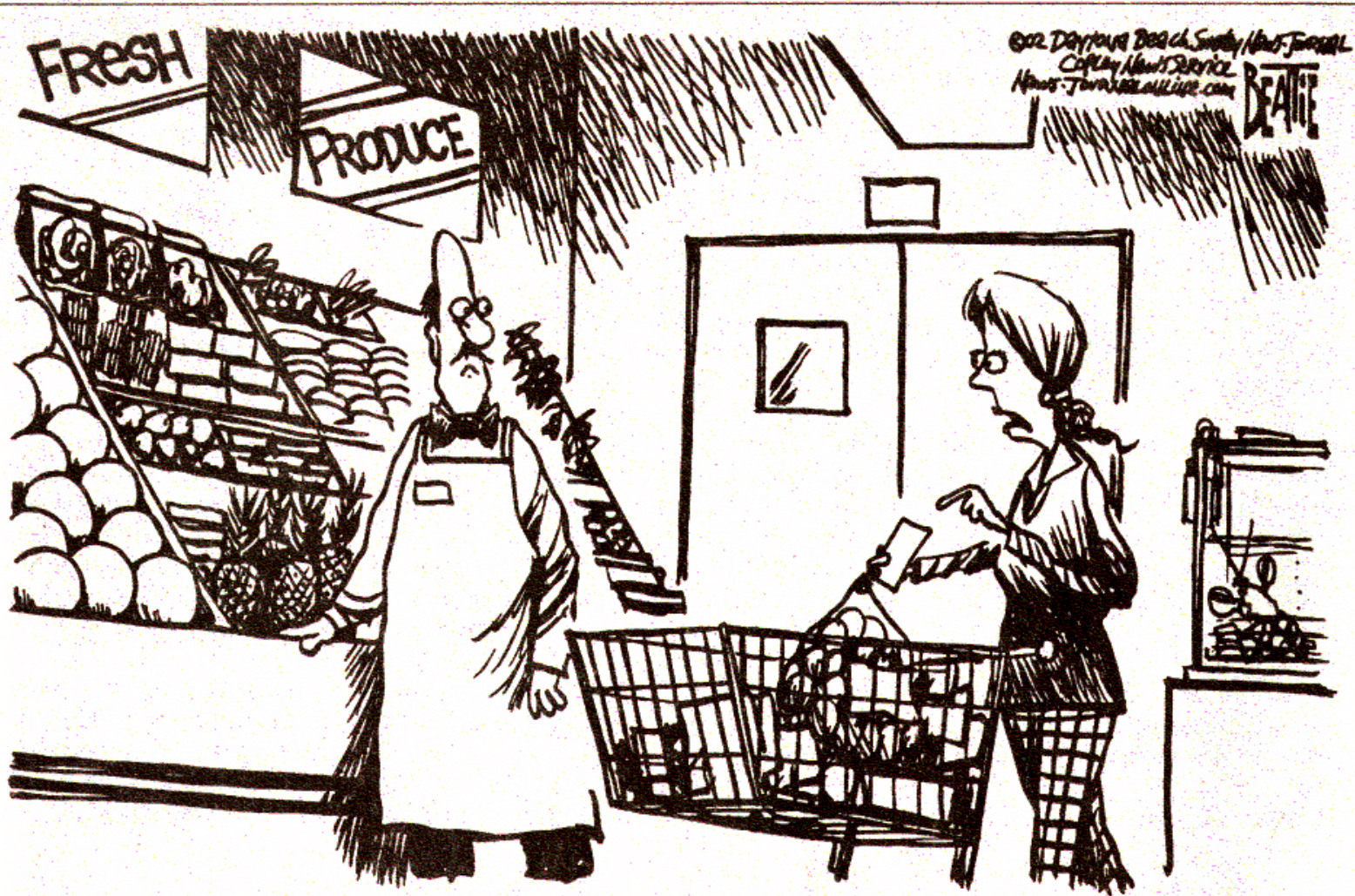
Monday, March 19, 2007



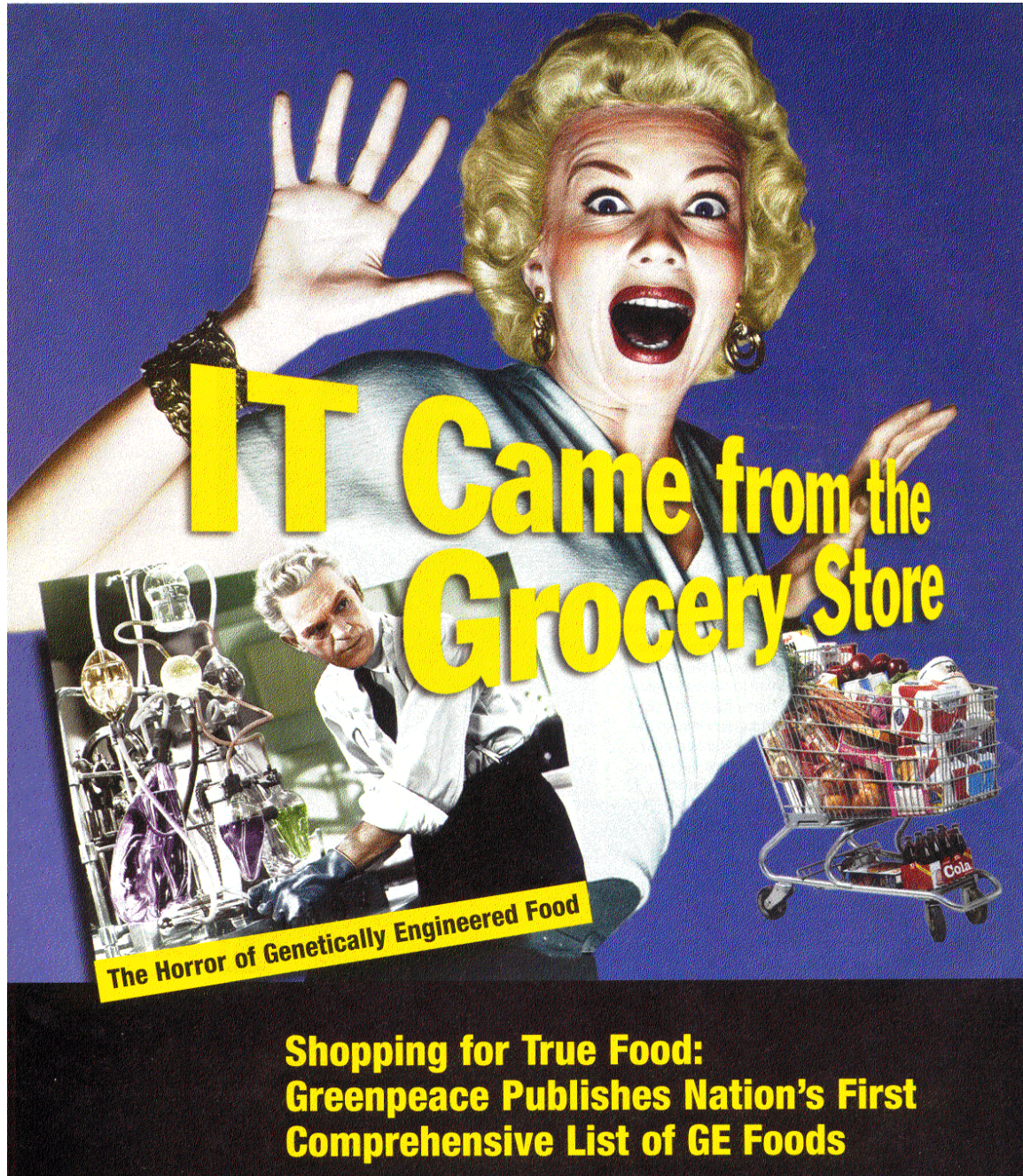
The Consumer?

- Non-Violent
- Sustainable

- **Educated**
- **Aware**
- **Compassionate**
- **Committed**



“Wait a minute. This new organic label . . . were any pesticides used on the tree they made the paper from?”

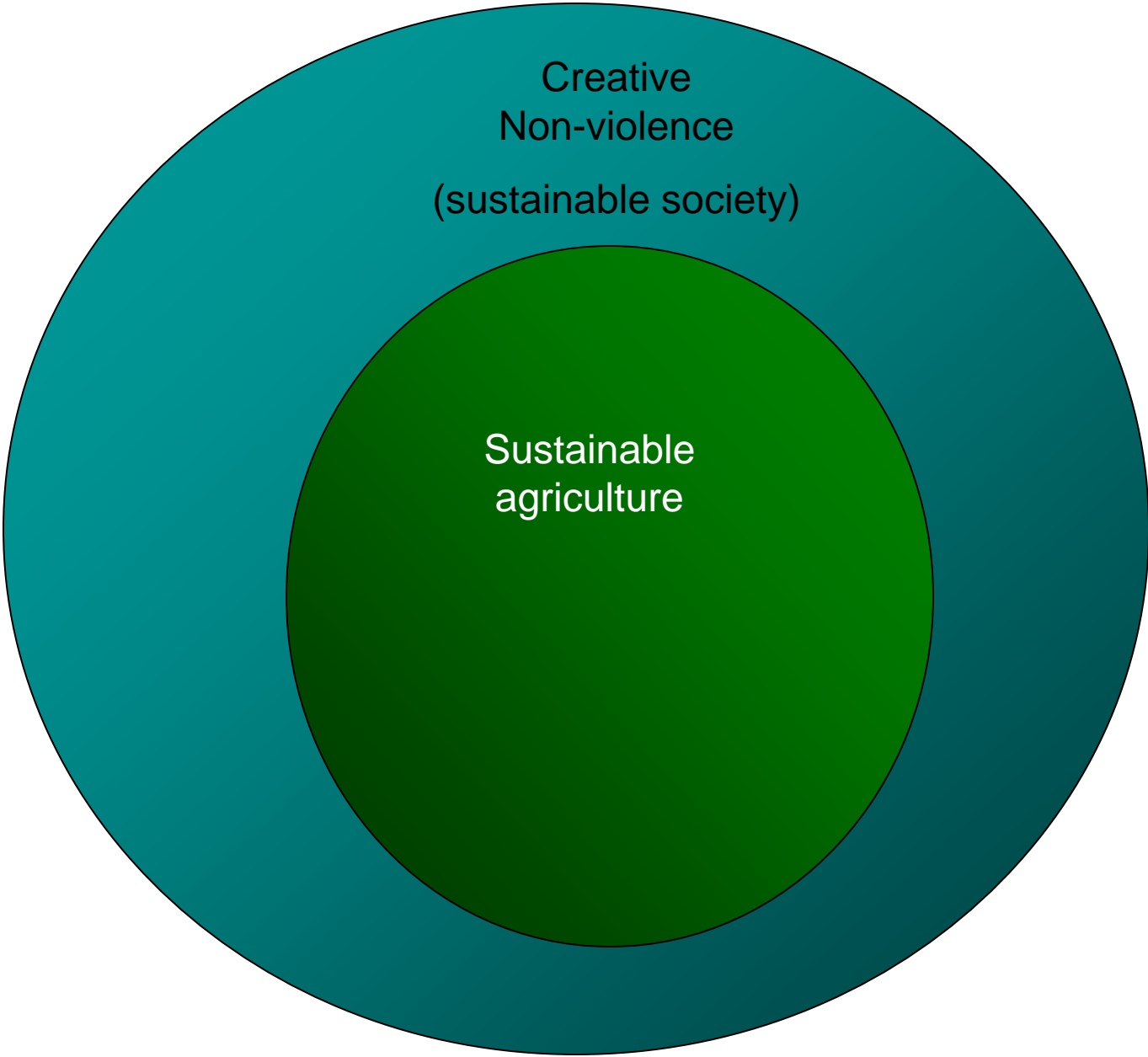


The Horror of Genetically Engineered Food

**Shopping for True Food:
Greenpeace Publishes Nation's First
Comprehensive List of GE Foods**

Food product labeling issues:

- Limited labeling (no country of origin, GM, etc.)
- No individual animal tracking. Recalls include tons of product, often late.
- Residues allowed (safe risk theory)
- Irradiation for meat, arsenic in chicken, and now carbon monoxide as a meat color enhancer are allowed.
- Organic label assures no GM, irradiation, minimal to no residue on food because none used for growing or processing.
- Organic certification requires individual tracking of animal products and crops from fields.
- Other labels can be added – “beyond organic,” bio-dynamic, locally grown, etc.
- Organic labels mean the same thing world-wide, due to cross compliance with IFOAM standards.



Principles of Creative Non-violence

- Creative Nonviolence acknowledges, repairs, and transforms the ***infinite relatedness and unity of all life***.
- Injustice depends on either active or passive support (resulting from silence, indifference or fear) of the majority. Creative nonviolence is the process of transforming this support for injustice by ***mobilizing and unleashing nonviolent people power***.
- Each of us has a piece of the truth and the un-truth. Creative ***Nonviolence seeks the truth rather than the conquest of one side over another***.
- Creative Nonviolence is the process of transforming Us vs. Them thought and action.

Principles of Creative Non-violence (cont.)

- Creative nonviolence unifies rather than threatens; ***integrates rather than fragments*** and destroys; draws us closer rather than excluding and separating; and challenges all double standards.
- Creative Nonviolence recognizes that ***each of us has tendencies toward both violence and love***. Creative nonviolence fails when it is arrogant or self-righteous, especially when it claims to be free of violence, or when it asserts that only others are violent.
- Creative Nonviolence disputes the claim that violence establishes peace, justice and order in any just and lasting way.
- Creative Nonviolence pursues its goal, *not* with passivity or retaliation, but with ***creative engagement and loving resistance***. It willingly faces the consequences of its engagement and resistance.

Principles of Creative Non-violence (cont.)

- ***Creative Nonviolence is nurtured and strengthened by community, relationship-building, ongoing education, and practice.***
- ***Creative Nonviolence is not a path toward an idealistic utopia but a process for envisioning, weaving, mending, and honoring the web of personal, interpersonal, social, global and ecological relationships.***

Pace e Bene Nonviolence Service

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<http://paceebene.org/principles-of-creative-nonviolence>

Principles of Sustainable Agriculture (Food Alliance Definition)

- Provide safe and fair working conditions.
- Ensure the safe and humane treatment of animals.
- Do not use hormone or antibiotic supplements
- Do not raise genetically modified crops or livestock.
- Reduce pesticide use and toxicity
- Protect water resources
- Protect and enhance soil resources
- Provide wildlife habitat
- Continually improve practices.
- *Reduce resource consumption through conservation and recycling*
- *Protect product integrity and nutritional value*
- *Ensure quality control and food handling safety*

• *Italics = required for sustainable food processing*



Positive Trends:

- Consumers are seeking local foods.
- KSU and others are responding with promotion and training programs;
 - “Growing Growers” in the KC metro area
 - “Willow Lake Student Farm” in Manhattan
 - The Kansas River Valley website.

www.kansasrivervalley.com

THE MORNING STAR BED & BREAKFAST



- Local businesses support local food.



Continue the discussion on a “wiki”.....www.farminginthedark.net

Farming in the Dark - A Discussion About the Future of Sustainable Agriculture

Home



Why have so many farmers had to take day jobs to support their farms and families? What can we do to create a more sustainable food system, and a more sustainable future?

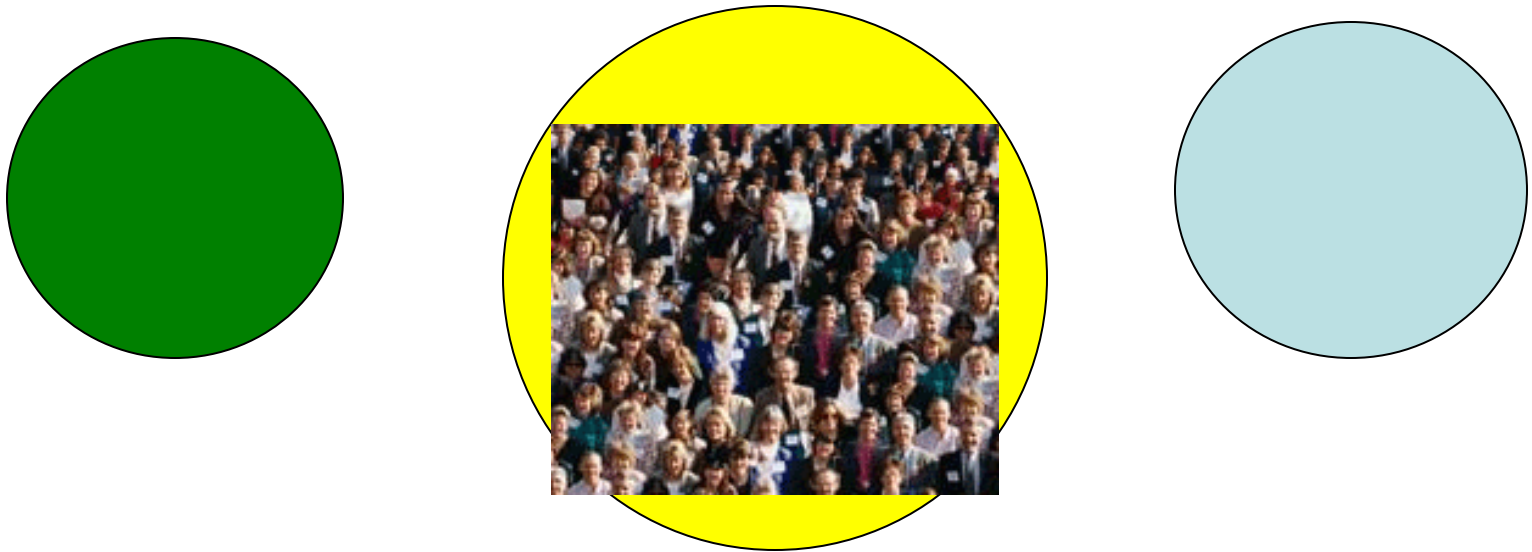
In this book, 15 farm families are interviewed and asked those questions. Many of the farms are organic, and all are practicing sustainable agriculture. Learn more about their farms, their lives, and how your food is grown. Interviews with three consumers; slow food movement advocates, an owner of a bed-and-breakfast, and a well-known chef add depth and another dimension to the farmers' points of



To order the book, click on image.

Conclusions:

- It is up to YOU to connect the dots....



SARE Definition?

The United States Congress defined sustainable agriculture in the 1990 Farm Bill. Under that law, the term sustainable agriculture means:

“An integrated system of plant and animal production practices having a site-specific application that over the long term will:

- 1) Satisfy human food and fiber needs.
- 2) Enhance environmental quality and the natural resource base upon which the agricultural economy depends.
- 3) Make the most efficient use of nonrenewable resources and on-farm resources and integrate, where appropriate, natural biological cycles and controls.
- 4) Sustain the economic viability of farm operations.
- 5) Enhance the quality of life for farmers and society as a whole.