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**“ INNOVATIVE AGRICULTURAL TECHNIQUES TO BOOST
ENTREPRENEURIAL SKILLS OF FUTURE FARMERS”**

FARMERS FOR FUTURE

**ERASMUS+ PARTNERSHIPS
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IEK KAVALAS, GREECE

How much does agriculture
pollute?

Pesticides and fertilisers

~~Pesticides and fertilisers used on crops fed to animals are a major contributor to land pollution. Inevitably, a portion of fertilisers washes into waterways along with eroded sediments and this can lead to the creation of dead zones that kill aquatic life.~~

Pesticides and fertilisers

Additionally, use of artificial fertilizers in place of manure can eventually deplete soils, making them lose their ability to hold water and makes them subject to erosion

Pesticides and fertilisers



Improper disposal of waste

With its vast size and scale the intensive farming industry is a major contributor of waste. The high concentration of livestock in factory farms inevitably results in a build-up of animal waste. When factory farms spray liquid manure onto fields, the amount of waste applied often exceeds what the crops can take up, leaving the rest to escape into the air or runoff into surface waters.

Improper disposal of waste



Improper disposal of waste

This improper collection and disposal of untreated animal waste can harm soil health local water supplies and human health. If antibiotic-resistant bacteria are present in manure, this can also spread to the wider environment with applied as manure.

Livestock & agricultural deforestation and logging

Livestock production already consumes 83% of global arable land and consequently there is a clamour to reallocate forests into agricultural land. It's estimated that between 1991-2005, 70% of deforestation in the Amazon Basin could be attributed to the beef industry. Meanwhile, global forests, once a crucial carbon sink, have been cut down at such an alarming pace that they are now a net contributor to GHG emissions.

Livestock & agricultural deforestation and logging



Habitat destruction and degradation

The earth loses about 18.7 million acres of forests per year and the agricultural industry's demand for more land is a key driver. About 80% of the world's plants and animals live in forests and are losing their habitats to deforestation

Habitat destruction and degradation



Introduction of chemicals to ecosystems, food chains and environments

In order to convert forests to agricultural land, the clear-cutting process utilises herbicides such as glyphosate, spraying it on the land as part of the site preparation, in order to kill off underbrush. After all trees and other plant life have been removed, the site is again saturated with chemicals. Mammals living in the forest invariably ingest these chemicals, which are then passed along through the food chain as a result of bioaccumulation.

Loss of natural resources



Loss of natural resources

Native forests with indigenous trees and plants are put under threat by clearcutting to create more agricultural land. Loss of these natural resources can also have negative consequences for medicinal research and affect the livelihoods of local populations that rely on the animals and plants in the forests for hunting, food and medicine.

Loss of natural resources





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