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| The use of fertilisers is increasing, but the quality of the soil and water is declining | The use of pesticides is on the increase but the effectiveness of these pesticides is decreasing | The increases in yields may not be sustainable, the rate of grain in total production is slowing down and the rate of per capita production is now declining. |
| Food may have a shorter shelf life and may look more blemished | farming improves the soil quality which reduces nutrient and water loss | Countries that are poor rely on outside assistance and cannot afford to buy enough fertilisers to achieve high crop yields. |
| Farms do not produce as many crops as intensive methods which means that the price is increased. | There is an increase in crop diversity which break up disease and pest cycles | The produce is pesticide free and produced in a sustainable way |
| Farming methods use manures - this can lead to bacterial contamination of produce | crop type, appropriate season and soil match more closely so less energy is wasted | The choice of crops (especially those that are out of season) may be limited |
| Countries that are poor rely on outside assistance and cannot afford to buy enough fertilisers to achieve high crop yields | It has been a direct factor in the increase in crop productivity to feed the increasing population | yields are lower and more land is required for the same output |
| The cost of food has also declined and more food is traded globally | Grain production has tripled within the last 50 years. This also has reduced world hunger | It has increased the crop yields to 3 or 4 times those produced by the more extensive (low-input) methods. |