

VEGANISM & BIODIVERSITY



ANIMAL AGRICULTURE IS THE LEADING CAUSE OF BIODIVERSITY LOSS

Biodiversity — short for biological diversity — is the variety of all living things and the way they interact. Ecosystems depend on biodiversity to maintain balanced systems of life.

Animal agriculture is the primary driver of biodiversity loss worldwide. The Center for Biological Diversity reports that thirty to fifty percent of the world's species will be functionally extinct by 2050.

"The consumption of animal-sourced food products by humans is one of the most powerful negative forces affecting the conservation of terrestrial ecosystems and biological diversity. Livestock production is the single largest driver of habitat loss, and both livestock and feedstock production are increasing in developing tropical countries where the majority of biological diversity resides." (Machovina et al.)

THE SOLUTION IS TO CONSUME FEWER ANIMAL PRODUCTS

"Global dietary patterns need to move towards plant-based diets, mainly due to the disproportionate impact of animal agriculture on biodiversity, land use, and the environment." (<u>UNEP</u>)

You can take action! The first step to protecting biodiversity is to stop habitat destruction and land degradation, the primary driver of which is animal agriculture. Make your next meal vegan!