

# World Foodland Map

## World Map Based on Agricultural Capability

POPULATION  
ENVIRONMENT

Ver 1.0



In the map above, a country's size is based on the agricultural productivity of its entire land mass relative to that of the USA. All countries shrink or expand depending on their Size Factor\*.

### Resources not Size

The map of the world changes dramatically when the size of the countries is based on agricultural potential not actual geographic size. It is obvious that space does not equal resources. In the map above, we have maintained the outline of the various countries but have based their sizes on the Size Factor\*. The U.S.A. was used as the reference and kept the same size while all other countries were varied accordingly.

Why did Canada shrink so much? Despite being the second largest country in the world, only 7% of Canada's land is suitable for agriculture. In addition, Canada's agricultural lands are only about half as productive as those of the U.S. and about 1/3 as productive as those of Britain or France due to our harsher climate and poorer soil.

When looking at the issue of food production and the population that can be sustained, Canada's size is misleading. Of Canada's food producing regions, only the Prairies is a net food exporter. This is the area considered to be the most sensitive to climate change. Meanwhile, in the east, our highest quality foodland is being taken out of production by urban expansion and poor soil conservation measures.

The Soviet Union, Africa, Canada and Australia reduce significantly from their geographic sizes while Greenland almost disappears. Since Canada has only 10% of the agricultural potential of the U.S., Canada's size was reduced by 90%. The United Kingdom was increased in size by 137%, India by 98% and Europe by approximately 191%. Not all countries were resized individually. Latin America, Africa and Europe were resized as continents to maintain the legibility of the map.

	Relative to U.S.A.	
	Total Food Output	Agricultural Productivity for Country as a Whole (Size Factor)
Canada	0.10	0.10
United Kingdom	0.06	2.37
France	0.22	3.64
China	1.13	1.11
USSR	0.75	0.31
Africa	---	0.40
Asia	---	1.45
Europe	---	2.91
South America	---	0.50
United States	1.00	1.00

\* Size Factor - The productivity of the entire country. The higher the number, the more productive the land.

1.00 means that the country produces the same amount of food on a given amount of land as does the U.S. and therefore the country will not change from its actual geographic size.

Greater than 1.00 indicates more output per acre and a larger size and lower than 1.00 indicates lower output and a correspondingly reduced size.

**Total Food Output = Total food produced (not consumption) compared to U.S. output**



## The Issue is not Space or Size but Productivity and Sustainability

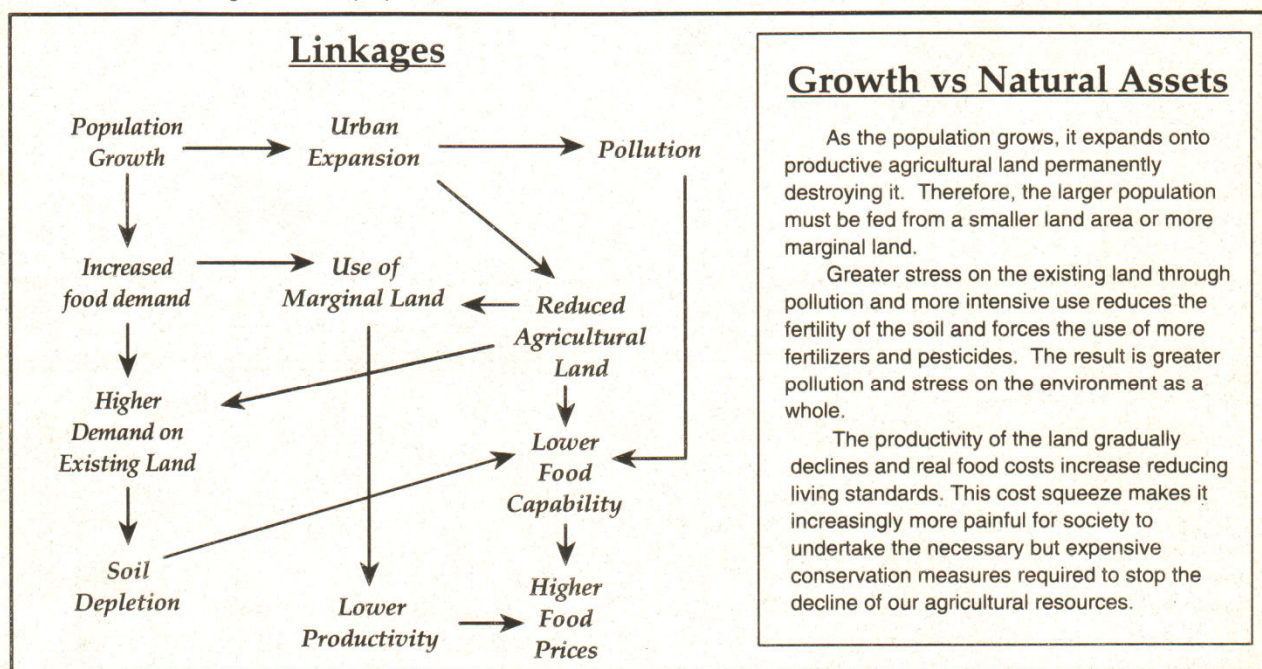
Canada has long been thought of as having the capacity to support a much greater population. We certainly have the space to do so. But space does not necessarily mean productive capability. In Canada's case, over 90% of the land is unsuitable for agricultural activity of any kind (see AGRICULTURAL LANDS and SOIL). The land that can produce food, can do so only at a significantly lower rate than many other areas of the world.

Canada's soil assets are quite limited and vulnerable to erosion and nutrient loss. We have not managed our agricultural assets well, as our continued large losses to urban expansion and erosion prove. In the past, large areas clearly unsuited for sustained agriculture have also been ploughed and then abandoned, inflating to 65% the proportion of farmland

which has been lost in eastern Canada over the past 40 years. Currently we are degrading our foodland in virtually every part of the country by means ranging from air pollution to mining of the soil. The pressure we are currently putting on our agricultural land is unsustainable.

## Lost Potential

It is difficult to specify the rate of the decline of Canada's agricultural potential but it is clear that our degradation of the land is continuing unabated. If Canada is to achieve agricultural sustainability, we will have to recognize the limited potential of our land and take steps to preserve and rebuild this critical resource. Canada has always been a net food exporter but will become a net food importer as our population reaches 31 million without even accounting for climate change or any effort to achieve sustainability. Who is going to export food to us?



## Aims and Objectives



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To establish a population policy for Canada based on the sustainable environmental and economic potential of the country.

To develop awareness of the strong linkages between human numbers, human activity and the environment and human well-being.

To make it clear that Canada is no longer an untapped frontier capable of accommodating a larger population but a nation with a declining environment that must now work toward long term solutions for its environmental and economic problems.

Population and environmental problems must be dealt with in the nations in which they occur.

Canada contributes disproportionately to global environmental degradation. Canadians must reduce their consumption of natural resources as rapidly as possible to levels that can be sustained by our diminishing environment.

**Please help us to establish a stable population and an environment strategy for Canada. Annual Membership is \$20.00.**