

REASONS FOR CONCERN ABOUT LOSS OF AGRICULTURAL LAND

1. Losses of approximately 10,000 acres per year of high quality agricultural land in the best climates on the best soils.
2. There is less than 3% of the land area of B. C. west of the Rocky Mountains suitable for cultivated agriculture.
3. Approximately 1/100th of the land area of the province has a climate suitable for the production of tree fruits and grapes,
4. Agriculture makes a significant contribution to the provincial economy through basic returns to the farmer, multiplier effects of wholesale, retailing, servicing etc., as well as providing economic diversity for the province.
5. International concerns:
 - world wheat shortage.
 - beef shortages and price problems.
 - California and Mexico populations will eventually need all their food producing land for their own ever-expanding populations.
 - Recent America embargos on some food products likely indication of future things to come.
 - English and French speaking population of North America is approximately 6% of the world's population yet it consumes 30% of the world's resources. The new affluence of Western European, Eastern European and Asiatic peoples is creating increasing pressures on the world's food supplies.60,000,000 more mouths to feed in the world every year!