

## REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE (regenerationinternational.org)

Regenerative agriculture is a conservation and rehabilitation approach to food and farming systems. It focuses on topsoil regeneration, increasing biodiversity, improving the water cycle, enhancing ecosystem services, supporting biosequestration, increasing resilience to climate change, and strengthening the health and vitality of farm soil. (Wikipedia definition)

Per Regeneration International website:

- What is Regenerative Agriculture? “Regenerative Agriculture” describes farming and grazing practices that, among other benefits, reverse climate change by rebuilding soil organic matter and restoring degraded soil biodiversity – resulting in both carbon drawdown and improving the water cycle.
- Why Regenerative Agriculture? The loss of the world’s fertile soil and biodiversity, along with the loss of indigenous seeds knowledge, pose a mortal threat to our future survival. According to soil scientists, at current rates of soil destruction (i.e. decarbonization, erosion, desertification, chemical pollution), within 50 years we will not only suffer serious damage to public health due to qualitatively degraded food supply characterized by diminished nutrition and loss of important trace minerals, but we will literally no longer have enough arable topsoil to feed ourselves. Without protecting and regenerating the soil on our 4 billion acres of cultivated farmland, 8 billion acres of pastureland, and 10 billion acres of forest land, it will be impossible to feed the world, keep global warming below 2 degrees Celsius, or halt the loss of biodiversity.
- How does it work? The key to regenerative agriculture is that it not only “does no harm” to the land but actually improves it, using technologies that regenerate and revitalize the soil and the environment. Regenerative agriculture leads to healthy soil, capable of producing high quality, nutrient dense food while simultaneously improving, rather than degrading land, and ultimately leading to productive farms and healthy communities and economies. It is a dynamic and holistic, incorporating permaculture and organic farming practices, including conservation tillage, cover crops, crop rotation, composting, mobile animal shelters and pasture cropping, to increase food production, farmers’ income and especially, topsoil.
- Regenerative Agriculture Practices include: aquaculture, agroecology, agroforestry, biochar, compost, holistic planned grazing, No-till, pasture cropping, perennial crops and silvopasture (combining trees, livestock and forage crops on the same land for multiple benefits).
- A global shift to Regenerative Agriculture can:
  - **Feed the world:** Small farmers already feed the world with less than a quarter of all farmland. > [Read the GRAIN Report](#)
  - **Decrease GHG emissions:** A new food system could be a key driver of solutions to climate change. The current industrial food system is responsible for 44 to 57% of all global greenhouse gas emissions. > [Read the GRAIN Report](#)
  - **Reverse climate change:** Emissions reduction alone is simply inadequate. Luckily, the science says that we can actually reverse climate change by increasing soil carbon stocks. > [Read the Rodale Institute Report](#)