

# VEGANISM

## IS ENVIRONMENTALISM

*Veganism (n.) – a lifestyle and diet that seeks to exclude the use of animals for any and all purposes*

**Animal agriculture is the leading cause of species extinction, ocean dead zones, water pollution, and habitat destruction.**

“What’s the Problem?” United States Environmental Protection Agency. <http://www.epa.gov/region9/animalwaste/problem.html>  
“Livestock’s Long Shadow: Environmental Issues and Options.” Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2006. <http://www.fao.org/docrep/010/a0701e/a0701e00.htm>

**Animal agriculture is responsible for more greenhouse gas emissions, than all transportation combined.**

Fao.org. Spotlight: Livestock impacts on the environment. <http://www.fao.org/ag/magazine/0612sp1.htm>

**Livestock and their byproducts account for 51% of all worldwide greenhouse gas emissions.**

Goodland, R Anhang, J. “Livestock and Climate Change: What if the key actors in climate change were pigs, chickens and cows?” WorldWatch, November/December 2009. Worldwatch Institute, Washington, DC, USA. Pp. 10–19. <http://www.worldwatch.org/node/6294>

**Growing feed crops for livestock consumes 56% of water in the US.**

Jacobson, Michael F. “More and Cleaner Water.” In Six Arguments for a Greener Diet: How a More Plant-based Diet Could save Your Health and the Environment. Washington, DC: Center for Science in the Public Interest, 2006. <http://www.cspinet.org/EatingGreen/pdf/arguments4.pdf>

**One hamburger requires 660 gallons of water to produce (the equivalent of 2 months’ worth of showers).**

Catanese, Christina. “Virtual Water, Real Impacts.” Greenversations: Official Blog of the U.S. EPA. 2012. <http://blog.epa.gov/healthywaters/2012/03/virtual-water-real-impacts-world-water-day-2012/>

**1,000 gallons of water are required to produce 1 gallon of milk.**

“Water trivia facts.” United States Environmental Protection Agency. [http://water.epa.gov/learn/kids/drinkingwater/water\\_trivia\\_facts.cfm#\\_edn11](http://water.epa.gov/learn/kids/drinkingwater/water_trivia_facts.cfm#_edn11)

**Livestock covers 45% of the earth’s total land.**

Thornton, Phillip, Mario Herrero, and Polly Ericksen. “Livestock and Climate Change.” Livestock Exchange, no. 3 (2011). <https://cgspace.cgiar.org/bitstream/handle/10568/10601/IssueBrief3.pdf>

**A farm with 2,500 dairy cows produces the same amount of waste as a city of 411,000 people.**

“Risk Assessment Evaluation for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations.” U.S. Environmental Protection Agency – Office of Research and Development. 2004.  
<http://nepis.epa.gov/Exe/ZyPURL.cgi?Dockey=901V0100.txt>

**3/4 of the world’s fisheries are exploited.**

“Overfishing: A Threat to Marine Biodiversity.” UN News Center. <http://www.un.org/events/tenstories/06/story.asp?storyid=800>  
“General Situation of World Fish Stocks.” United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO).  
<http://www.fao.org/newsroom/common/ecg/1000505/en/stocks.pdf>

**For every 1 pound of fish caught, an average of 5 pounds of unintended marine species are caught and discarded as by-kill.**

“Discards and Bycatch in Shrimp Trawl Fisheries.” UNITED NATIONS FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION (FAO).  
<http://www.fao.org/docrep/W6602E/w6602E09.htm>

**Animal agriculture is responsible for 91% of Amazon destruction.**

Margulis, Sergio. Causes of Deforestation of the Brazilian Rainforest. Washington: World Bank Publications, 2003.  
<https://openknowledge.worldbank.org/handle/10986/15060>

**130 times more animal waste than human waste is produced in the US – 5 tons of animal waste is produced for every person.**

Animal agriculture: waste management practices. United States General Accounting Office. <http://www.gao.gov/archive/1999/rc99205.pdf>

**Land required to feed 1 person for 1 year:**

**Vegan: 1/6th acre**

**Vegetarian: 3x as much as a vegan**

**Meat & Dairy Consumer: 18x as much as a vegan**

“Our food our future.” Earthsave. <http://www.earthsave.org/pdf/ofof2006.pdf>

**Each day, a person who is vegan saves 1,100 gallons of water, 45 pounds of grain, 30 sq ft of forested land, 20 lbs CO2 equivalent, and one animal’s life.**

“Water Footprint Assessment.” University of Twente, the Netherlands. <http://www.waterfootprint.org>



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