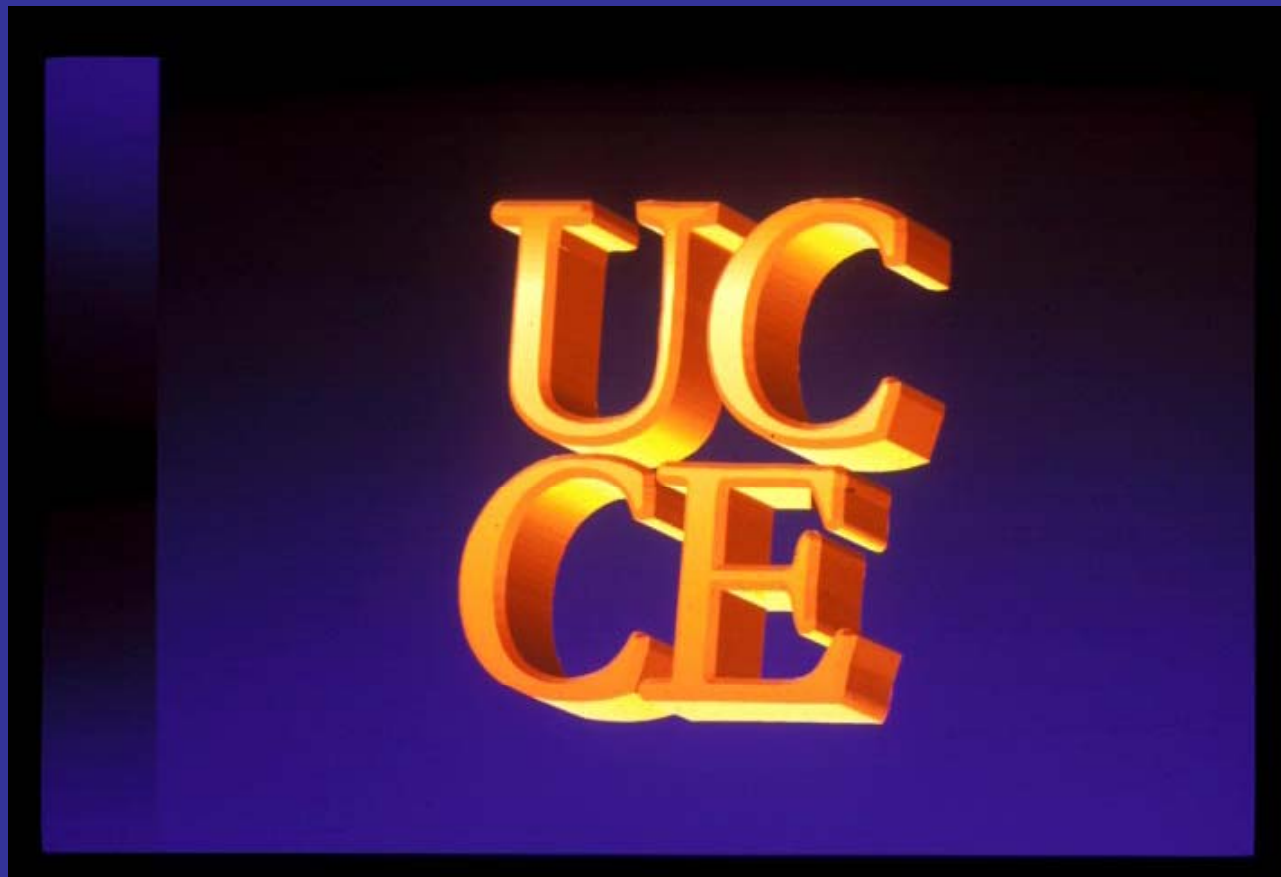


Land Use Issues in the CV

Maxwell Norton
UC Cooperative Extension



UC Cooperative Extension:

A cooperative effort of
University of California, County of Merced & USDA

USDA provides Land Grant Universities funding to conduct
extension and research.

UC agreement with counties:
County provides: office, car, secretary, phone, etc.

UC provides:
Farm Advisors
4-H Youth Advisors
Nutrition, Family & Consumer Science Advisors
who are **academic** appointees.

Mission:

Extend research-based information from UC, USDA, other colleges & private sources to tax payers.

My responsibility:

Develop an ***educational*** program to extend information to target audiences, be a resource to local citizens and other agencies.

Develop a ***research*** program that addresses problems and issues that are important to our region.

Headquarters: Oakland
Merced County office at Ag Center near airport.

No direct affiliation with any of the campuses
Programmatic support from Davis, Berkeley and Riverside

Some research collaboration with UC Merced

Programs:

Agriculture, Natural resources management
IPM and biological control
Family and consumer science Nutrition education
4-H & Youth Development
Public policy education, Master Gardeners



Only about 25% of California's land is in some type of agriculture.

About 50% is open pasture and range, about 39% is croplands remainder is woodlands and other categories.

<10% of the state is croplands

California is a major importer of feed grains from the rest of the United States producing only about 0.5% of the nation's corn

CA major user of ethanol - 14% of nation's total

CA produces <2% of the nation's ethanol mainly from corn shipped from the Midwest

Executives Urge Action to Cut Dependence on Foreign Oil

By MATTHEW L. WALD

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12 — More than a dozen prominent business executives and retired military officers, including the chairman of FedEx and a former commandant of the Marine Corps, are lobbying Congress and the White House to undertake a comprehensive campaign to reduce reliance on imported oil.

The group, which includes top executives from the chemical, trucking and airline industries, wants much tougher fuel economy standards, not only on cars and sport utility vehicles, but also on heavy trucks, which some of the companies use. They want increased drilling offshore and within the United States, a much harder push for ethanol and other biofuels, and other changes that would permanently reduce the importance of oil as a strategic commodity and an economic force.

While the group, called the Energy Security Leadership Council, has embraced no startling new ideas, it hopes that evidence of broad support from business and military leaders will add the weight needed to get its proposals adopted.



Marilynn K. Yee/The New York Times

Frederick W. Smith, the founder and chief executive of FedEx, is part of a group that wants much tougher fuel economy standards for vehicles.

tails on Wednesday, to start a television and print ad campaign and to begin meeting with Congressional leaders and White House officials.

The other co-chairman is Gen.

It would allow delays in improvements if 4 percent was "technically infeasible, unsafe or not cost-effective for a given year." Although the current standard for light trucks has

plants to other fuels.

The report also recommends recruiting other countries that rely on imported oil to help defend oil operations around the world.

But it rejected the concept of energy independence in favor of a goal of reducing the amount of oil per unit of economic output. There is broad consensus that the country should rely less on imports — President Bush, in his last State of the Union speech, said that America was "addicted to oil" — but Congress has taken no steps toward that goal.

Even before the unveiling of the plan, the organizers have lined up generalized support, if not specific endorsement, from elected officials.

Representative Steny H. Hoyer, the Maryland Democrat who will be the House majority leader in the new Congress, said, "When prominent C.E.O.s and military leaders get together to advocate an issue as important as energy security, people listen."

Senator Joseph I. Lieberman, the Connecticut Democrat who won reelection this fall as an independent, said the panel's composition had

Contributions of farmlands:

- ☀ Economic engine for region
- ☀ Employment on and off the farm
- ☀ Ag exports important for employment and reducing US trade deficit
- ☀ Open space
- ☀ Some environmental benefits
- ☀ Roles in water recharge and storage

Between 16% and 19% of California's
ag production is exported
to international markets

ag exports were valued at >\$6B

For each billion in ag exports
27,000 jobs are created in the state.

\$1 in exports \Rightarrow \$1.40 in economic activity

University of California Agricultural Issues Center

In the CV, ag accounts for 21% of all income and 24% of all jobs

Ag production & processing generates 22.2% of regional economy's value added.

Employment multiplier for ag production & processing is 1.91 which means for every ag job .91 additional jobs were created

FOSTER FARMS
ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICES

94111

Dole Frozen Foods, Atwater



Sierra Cascade near Ballico



Central CA Tomato Growers – Merced Airport



Companies that provide **transportation and distribution** to wholesalers and retailers

Wholesale and retail **distributors**
(Save Mart, McLane Pacific)



Food
Fiber
Flowers & foliage
Forage

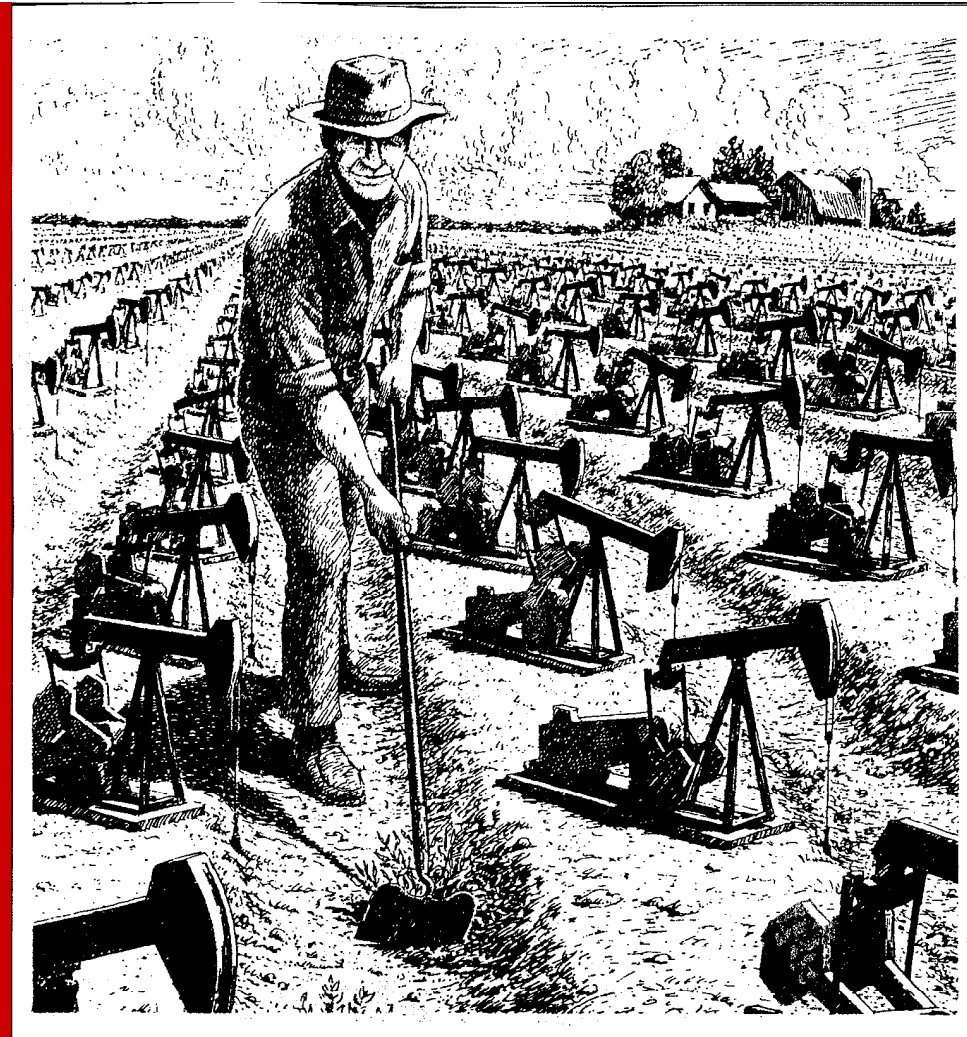
Fuel

Petroleum replacements:

Acre of corn in every tank?

Generate electricity?

Bio-plastics?



Is a domestic source of food important?

Safer from: Chemical hazards
Biological hazards

Generally produced in a more environmentally friendly manner

Workers treated more humanely

Does farmland play a role in national security?

We are dependent on foreign sources for oil

Dependent on others for cooperation in the war on terrorism and other foreign policy objectives.

Can we be dependent on external sources for any of our critical food needs?

Seemingly small events can be disruptive to our economy.

How production farmland is lost:

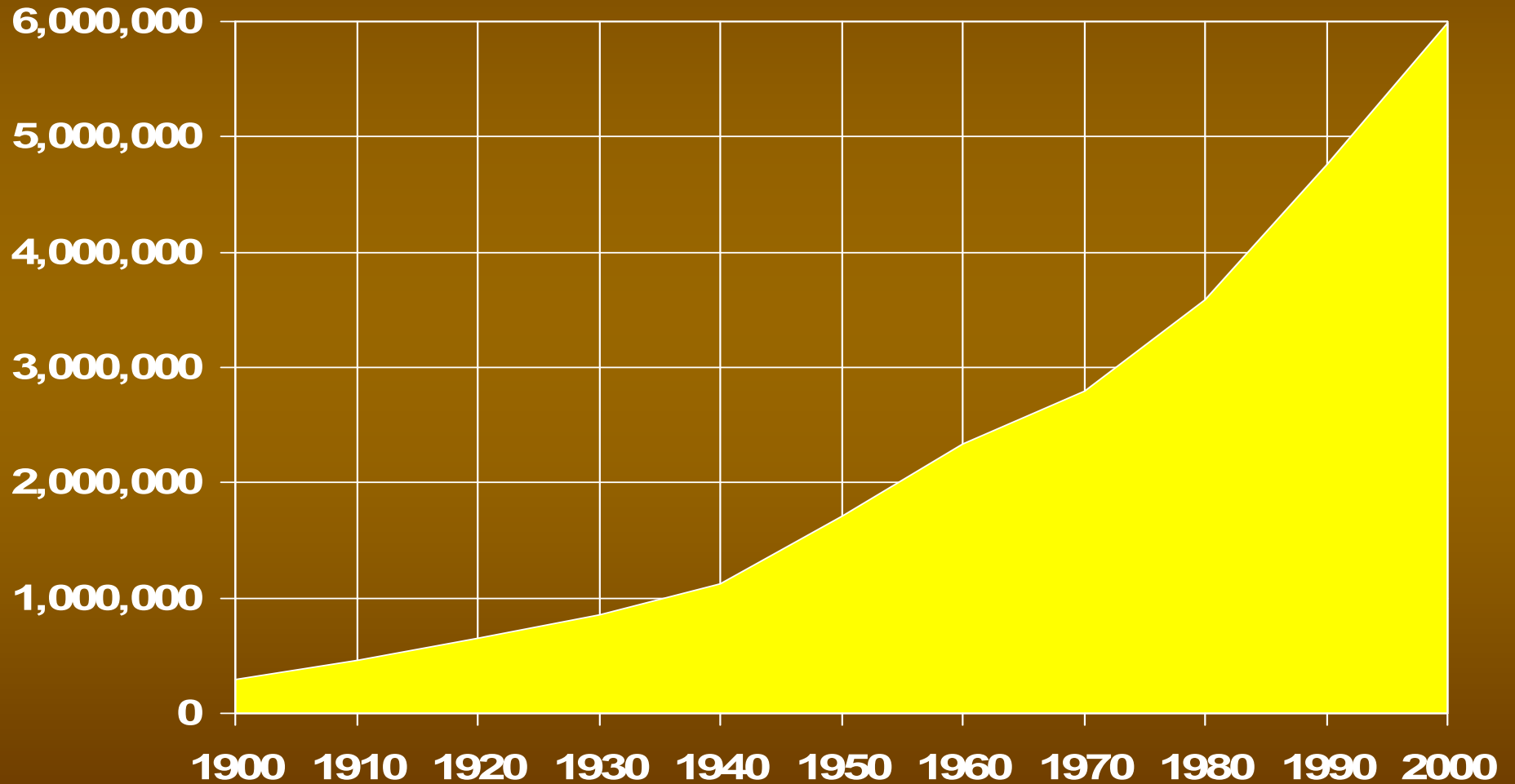
- 1. urban growth**
- 2. splitting up into ranchettes**
- 3. conflict with residential neighbors**
- 4. can't compete for water**
- 5. taken for wildlife reserves - or**

Locking up large tracts of marginal land

→forces growth onto productive farmland

Central Valley Population 1900-2000

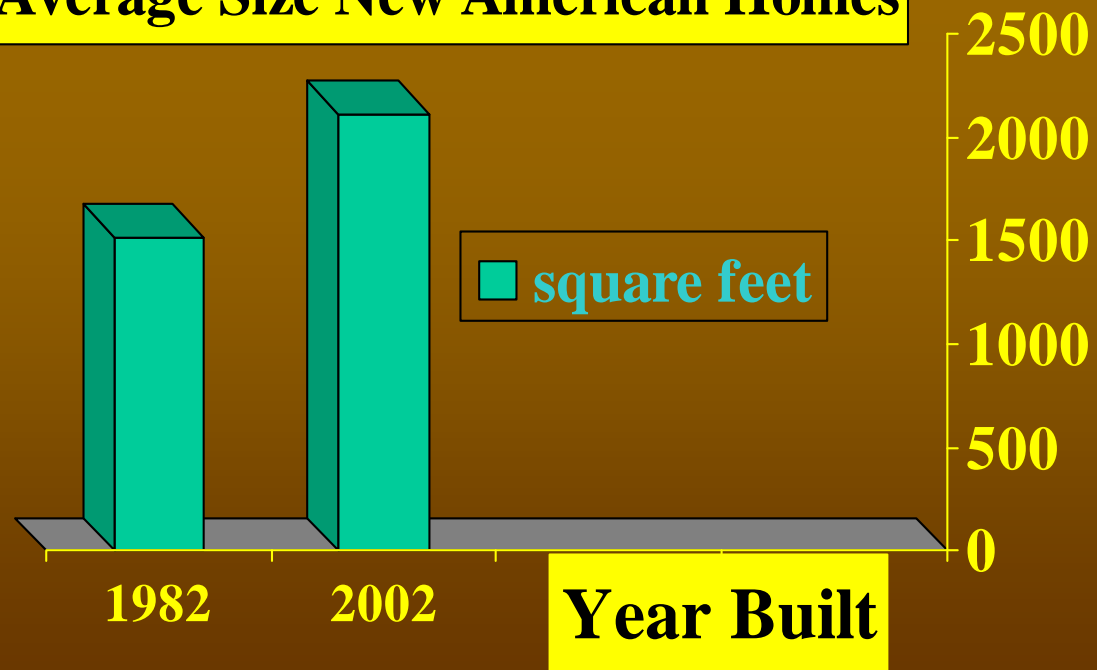
From: Public Policy Institute of California



Supersizing Our Homes



Average Size New American Homes



From:
Richard J. Jackson, MD, MPH
State Public Health Officer
California Department of Health Services





Shortages of irrigation of water reduce output of ag and food processors which has a significant negative effect on the regional economy.

WATER = JOBS

Water for food, fiber, forage and fuel
production

Agricultural processors typically need
> 1 Million gallons/day to operate

Some housing projects have been halted
while waiting for court rulings on water
issues.

Conversion to micro-irrigation is not always desirable from a groundwater recharge view.

Surface irrigation provides recharge for nearby cities.

