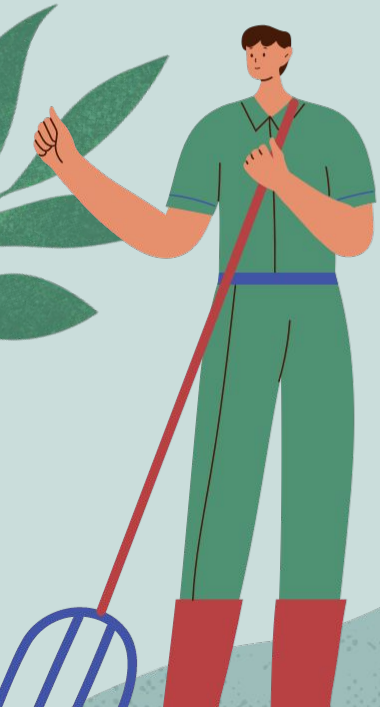


Farming: Deforestation

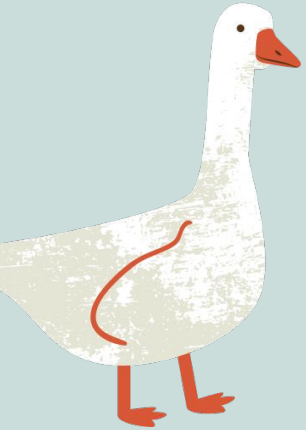
FARM FOREST





Common NARRATIVE

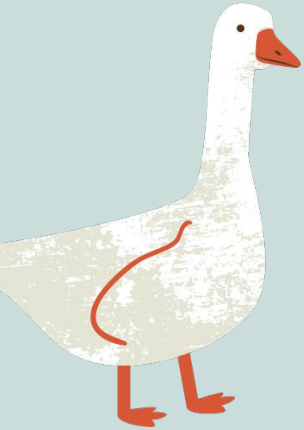
- Agriculture is widely blamed for deforestation
- Industrial farming and livestock seen as major contributors
- Media focus on Amazon and tropical forest loss
- Dominant narrative: "Ag = Forest Killer"





FRAMING THE QUESTION

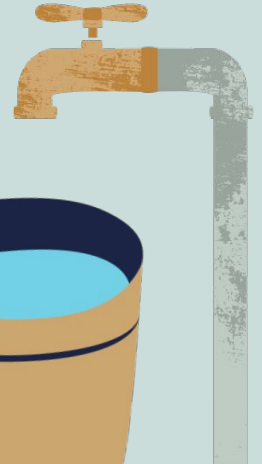
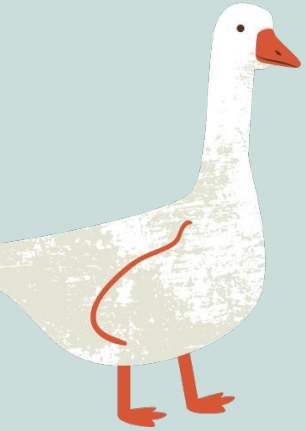
- Does agriculture actually *cause* deforestation?
- Let the data speak





DATA SOURCES

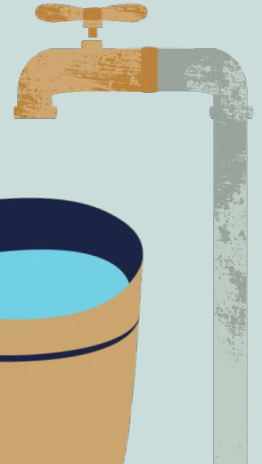
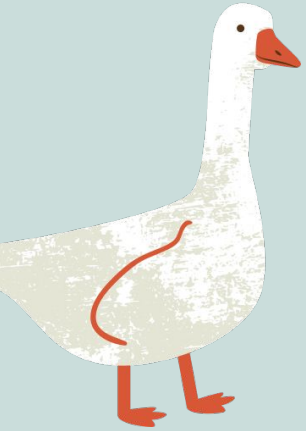
- World Bank Open Data
- Forest area (% of land area)
- Agricultural land (% of land area)
- Years: 1991-2022
- Global and country-level data
-

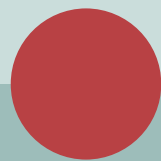




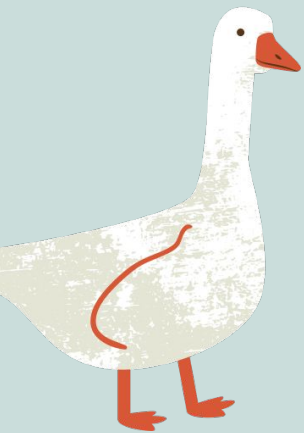
GLOBAL LAND USE TRENDS

- Forest cover: relatively stable
- Agricultural land: mild changes
- No clear inverse relationship
- Trend suggests coexistence

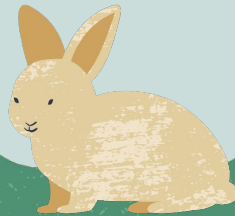




DEMO

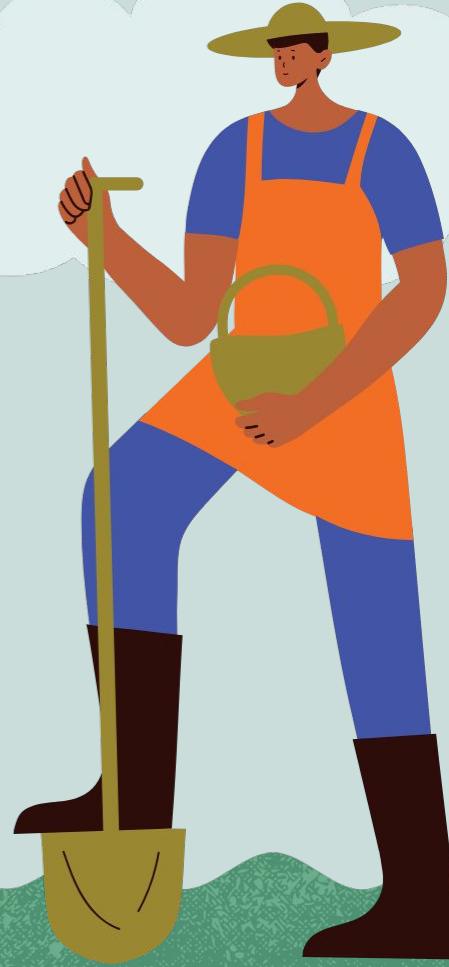
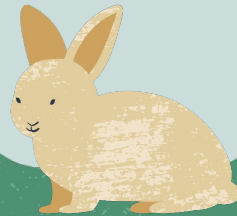


**SO AGRICULTURE HAS
NOTHING TO DO WITH
IT!**





WRONG





CASE STUDIES

- Sierra Leone
- Mozambique
- Malawi





AGRICULTURE

- Agriculture *can* still contribute to deforestation
- Especially in biodiverse regions with weak land regulations
- Slash-and-burn, cattle ranching, and monoculture expansion are ongoing threats
- Need to distinguish between sustainable and destructive practices

<https://www.worldwildlife.org/threats/deforestation-and-forest-degradation>





THANKS Q/A

