



Regenerative Agriculture: Sustainability in Farming



The practices of farming have evolved over time and many believe that adopting a change to modern farming techniques can help combat climate change. Regenerative agriculture has been a top trend in the farming industry for several years. The practice adopts alternative methods for producing food with an end goal of decreasing—or even resulting in net positive—environmental and social impacts on the world.

WHAT IS REGENERATIVE AGRICULTURE?

- » Regenerative agriculture is a set of practices aimed at humane, sustainable farming and distribution to build upon natural synergies across farming activities in an effort to improve efficiency and effectiveness in an environmentally and socially conscious manner. These efforts can take many forms but primarily focus on three areas farming, livestock and distribution models.

FARMING

- » Eliminate tillage and minimize soil disturbance to avoid erosion.
- » Crop selection and rotation

LIVESTOCK

- » Animal conservation and restoration

DISTRIBUTION MODELS

- » Eat Local Movement

LEGAL & REGULATORY DEVELOPMENTS

- » *Legislation and Government Support* - Governments have started supporting efforts and offering subsidies to adopt more environmentally friendly farming practices, such as those used in regenerative agriculture.
- » *Environmental Credits* - Often, governments and private companies offer environmental credits for pollution reduction efforts (air, energy, water) to help promote these and similar practices.
- » *Properly Advertising Products* - To avoid similar litigation matters suffered by the organic food movement, special care and guidelines should be followed. Especially when dealing with certification standards, food labels and offering scientific proof.
- » *Reducing Foodborne Illness* - Regenerative agriculture may also reduce the risk of regulatory backlash and class action lawsuits as local distribution networks minimize the likelihood and scope of contamination outbreaks.
- » *Labor Considerations* - Increased pay and benefits help to improve the lives of farm workers. In addition, limiting hours worked or ensuring that a farm is staffed at a level where employees may take advantage of a strong time-off plan are common ways to improve worker morale and health.

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ADDITIONAL RESOURCE:

<https://www.perkinscoie.com/en/news-insights/regenerative-agriculture-sustainability-in-farming.html>