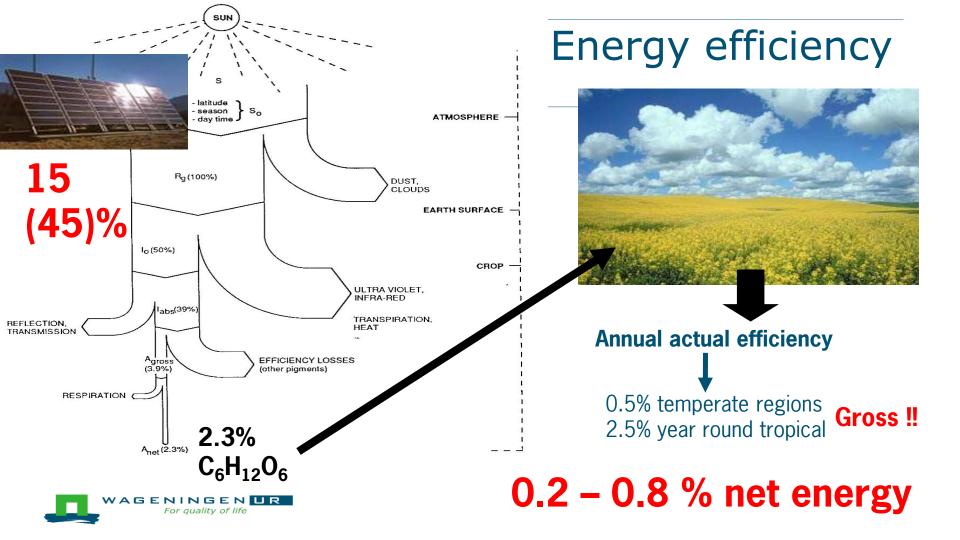
Agro-ecological principles and biofuels

Prem S. Bindraban Director ISRIC-World Soil Information Researcher Agro-system Research

2013 Stakeholders Conference – Bioeconomy Days "Bioeconomy in the EU: achievements and directions for the future" Dublin, 14-15 Febr 2013







Basic production ecological principles

efficiency GROSS

Radiation use



efficiency GROSS 0.5% temperate 2.5% year round

Radiation use

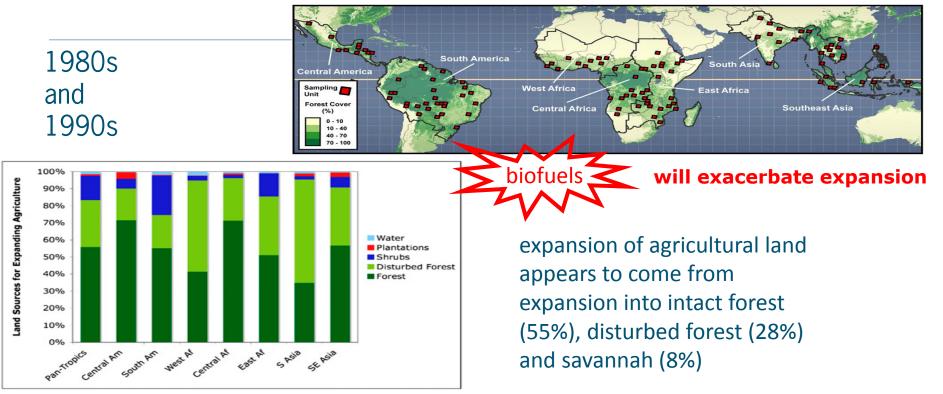
First & second generation!

- water
- + water water
- nutrients nutrients + nutrients + nutrients

+ water



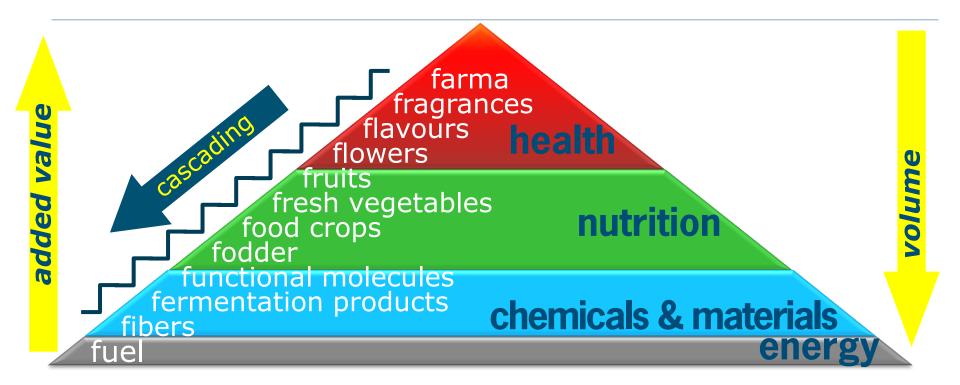
Ultimate expansion into forests and savanna



H. K. Gibbs, et al., 2010. Tropical forests were the primary sources of new agricultural land in the 1980s and 1990s. PNAS, 107 (38) 16732–16737.



From Food to Fashion (RR's 12 F's)





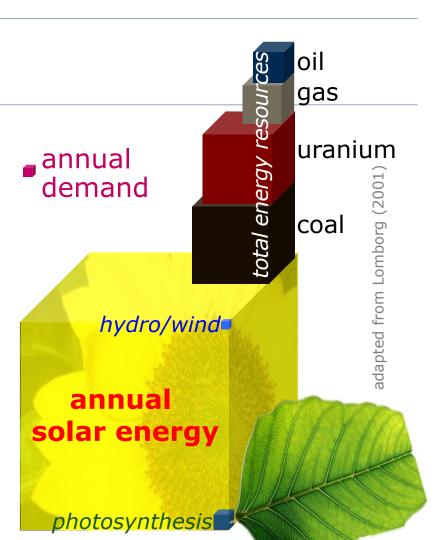
Solar energy

Enormous potential, but ...

- Biology inefficient to fix solar energy
- 10% of all tranport fuels needs 26% or all crop production!
- Totality of world's crops would produce 13% of world's primary energy (9% when efficiencies in appropration included)

(V0 version HPLE report Biofuels and Food Security: www.fao.org/cfs/cfs-hple)





We have a food problem !



We have no energy problem !





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