

Issue

1

Apples start to oxidize almost immediately after they have been sliced and exposed to air. This causes them to turn brown and a little mushy. The brown color is unappetizing and consumers often throw the apples away rather than eating them. This results in wasted food.



Issue

2

Children in Africa can suffer from malnutrition and poor diets. They don't get enough fruits and vegetables in their diet that provide a wide range of nutrients. A deficiency of vitamin A can result in blindness. Rice is one of the staples of their diet which is an excellent source of calories.



Issue

3

Global warming has caused rising sea levels. Lowlands of southeast Asia are experiencing an increase in the salinity of their soil from ocean water flooding and underground salt water seepage. Rice crops cannot grow in the salty soil resulting in poor yields and crop failure. Rice is a staple crop and is essential to feeding the local population.



Issue

4

Wheat naturally grows on a tall shaft. But the taller the shaft, the weaker it is. A strong wind storm can easily blow down standing wheat which is heavy from the seeds on top. Once blown down, the wheat doesn't recover and cannot be harvested. The crop is lost.



Issue



Potatoes can be bruised by impact and pressure during harvest and storage. This results in black spots on the potato. Consumers will not purchase discolored potatoes and potatoes with these black spots are thrown away. This results in a lot of food waste.



Issue



The corn borer is a moth that lays eggs on corn plants. When the eggs hatch the larva that looks like a small worm eats the corn plants and can cause millions of dollars of damage to the corn field.



Issue

7

Papayas are susceptible to a disease called the papaya ring spot virus. This virus deforms fruit of young plants and can prevent the plant from producing fruit at all. The virus is spread by insects and cannot be contained. Papaya production was cut in half because of the virus.



Issue

8

Weeds in soybean and cotton fields compete for the water, nutrients, and sunlight that the soybeans and the cotton need to grow. Because they are broadleaf plants (same as the weeds) farmers can't spray herbicides while the plants are growing. This results in a significant reduction in crop yield.

