

## Lesson 1

# Crops: Growing Problems





# Monoculture



# Monoculture



# Ecological Impacts

Potential ecological impacts of industrial crop production:

- Soil erosion
- Decrease in bee populations
- Emergence of pesticide-resistant weeds
- Aquatic dead zones
- Depletion of phosphorous and fossil fuels
- Depletion of groundwater

The 1930s Dust Bowl demonstrated the devastating potential of soil erosion. See the *Crop Production* primer for details. Photo credit: NOAA, 1935. Public domain.