

Biodiversity on farms and in landscapes – what is the best approach?

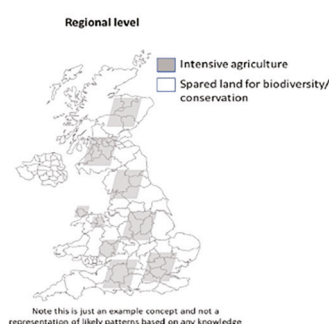
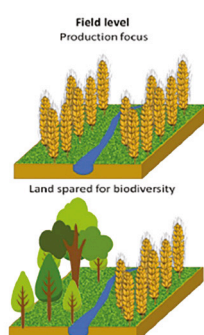
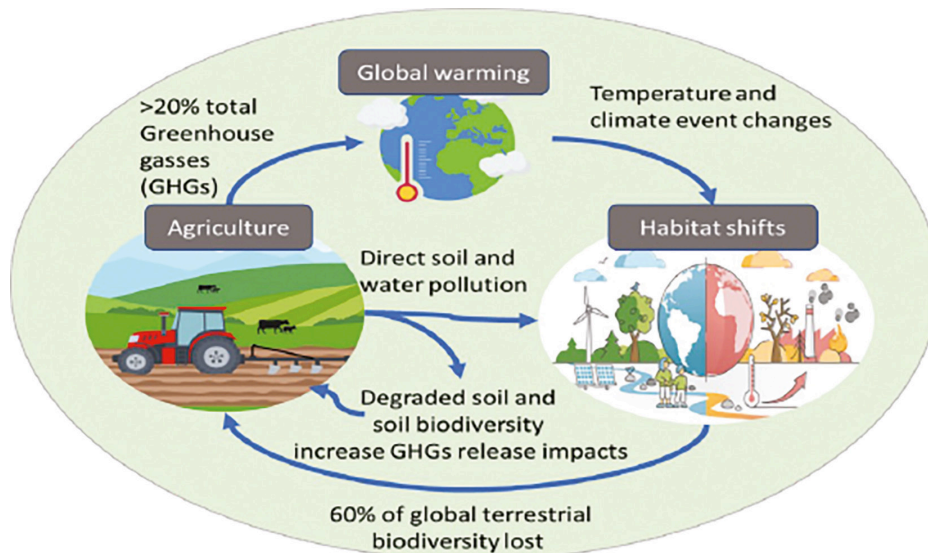
Maintaining and increasing our levels of **biodiversity** plays important roles in **global ecosystem functions, ecosystem services, mitigation and resilience to climate change and food security.**

Globally, more than 50% of land is farmland therefore agriculture has a big responsibility and opportunity

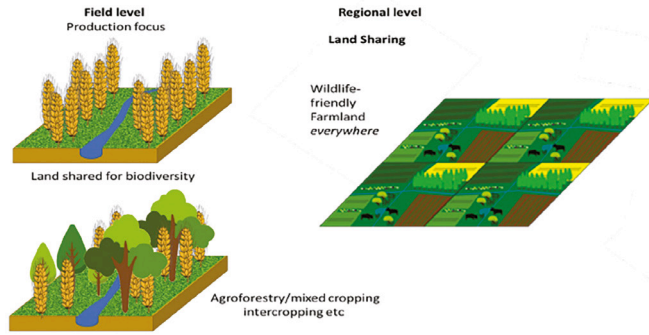
Farming practices can lead to **circular negative feedback loops** impacting **global biodiversity**
By **considering nature** via environmental strategies we, can **increase biodiversity and gain benefits**
Taking **species rich hotspots**, a step further is essential what occurs in **land sparing strategies**

LAND SPARING STRATEGIES involve taking species rich hotspots to greater extremes

The opposite strategy to this is **land sharing**



The opposite strategy to sparing is **LAND SHARING**



Diversify crops more locally adapted species	Species rich swards and hotspots	Mixed farming and mixed grazing
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Increase plant biodiversity -Increase insect / bird species -Diversification of habitats -Increase resilience to climate -Increase pollination source 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Increase plant biodiversity -Increase insect / bird species -Diversification of habitats -Increase pollination source -Natural biological controls -Increase resilience to climate -Sequester more CO₂ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Creates unique habitats -Can reduce fertiliser input -Increased resilience to disease -Soil health and fertility -Dung beetle food sources -Reduce emissions

Both these biodiversity strategies have pros and cons and could work better in different locations or work together in some areas

	Pros	Cons
Sharing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Shares labour and risk - Can work with little but often 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Complex management - Requires trial and error to reach a balance - Can impact conservation areas negatively
Sparing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Each area is managed separately - Less complex management - Self continuing with minimal input in spared areas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Intensive regions could be pollution hotspots - Ethical/aesthetics issues of intensive areas - Intensive production could lead to offshoring of impacts