

I would like to see California agriculture become much more organic, wildlife friendly, biodiverse, and sustainable by 2030. It's imperative that agriculture must protect ground water from pollution from ag chemicals and reduce the use of fossil fuels to improve air quality.

The biggest challenge to achieving those goals is the loss of prime farmland near population centers to development. Another significant obstacle is the promotion of corporate farming through governmental subsidies and non market-based water pricing.

By 2030, a majority of consumers will have realized that organic foods promote personal health and environmental health, and the demand for locally grown crops will increase significantly.

A "must have" in an ag vision is legislative support for farmland protection and environmental improvements in the way our food is produced. This could come through zoning, diversion of subsidies from corporate farming to community based farming, and increased taxation of environmentally damaging inputs.

-David & Barbara Klasson