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THREAT TO NATION'S FOOD

Britain's food supply is at risk from global meltdown that could be even more catastrophic than a collapse of the financial system.

This is the claim of a hard-hitting new book from award-winning environmental writer Graham Harvey. In it he charts the steady run-down of the nation's own natural resources as food production has been shifted "off-shore".

In place of a secure food supply, Britain now depends for its survival on globally-traded grains, which require massive inputs of oil energy. In a world of mounting political, economic and climatic instability, it's a food system that has become dangerously vulnerable to break-down.

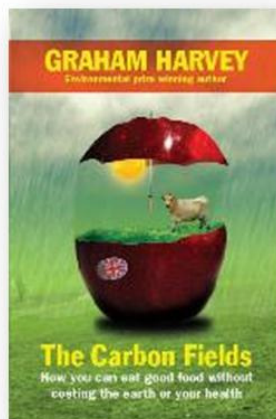
In his book Harvey makes an urgent plea for the renewal of Britain's greatest resource – once the foundation of the nation's wealth and prosperity. By making use of this "forgotten treasure" the people of these islands could enjoy healthier foods and greater food security.

"Last time we faced a threat to our food supply our wartime leader Winston Churchill was able to call on farmers to help save the nation," says Harvey. "Today they'd be unable to do this even if they wanted to. This is because the world-beating crop that was once the basis of our food supply has been badly damaged by neglect and misuse.

"In an unstable world we can no longer afford to take this risk. It's time to bring our food production back home by making use of this great natural asset."

Called *The Carbon Fields*, the book proposes a radical new food system that would fight climate change even as it provided the nation with a secure supply of health-giving foods. Yet these foods would be neither expensive nor niche products. In fact many would be cheaper than their nutritionally-inferior equivalents are today.

"What we badly need is a food and farming revolution," says Harvey. "But unlike the GM revolution planned by the biotech industry, this one would be based on tried and trusted technologies that we know will work."



- *The Carbon Fields* by Graham Harvey is published in October 2008. For review copies please contact Will Barnard at Grassroots, Ph. 07866 747688, e-mail William.barnard@grassrootsfood.co.uk
- For more info and author interviews please contact Will or Kay at Grassroots, Ph. 01278 683066, e-mail Kay@grassrootsfood.co.uk
- Graham Harvey won the BP Natural World Book Prize for *The Killing of the Countryside*.

The Carbon Fields **How our countryside can save Britain**

Find out more at: www.grassrootsfood.com