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Strengthening the weakest link in our food supply chain

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Today the entire world population exists on a thin layer of top soil that we are rapidly losing due in part to the success of agriculture. A mounting body of archetypical, forensic, and environmental evidence suggests that past civilizations have vanished due to their inability to adapt to the effects of sudden climate change, and we today are repeating their mistakes only this time on a global scale. During the past fifty years we have been witnesses to the loss of over 39% of our planet's topsoil. Today even our American farmers rely on over 70% of their soil fertility to come from artificial sources that require huge amounts of energy to produce. While we do manage to produce basic food using these artificial conditions, our current food chain model is perilously subject to interruption from sudden climate change events such as those we are seeing unfold in California. What has occurred in the past to now lost civilizations is playing out before our eyes all over the globe. In the past the damage to society's underpinning was confined to regional areas. Today any interruption to food supply chains impacts on a global scale. Remember, the so called "Arab spring" initially began as one man setting himself ablaze in a crowded marketplace over a food issue. Past civilizations have failed to adapt to rapidly changing climate effects; and those societies like the Mayans, Incans, American Indians, and certain Middle Eastern societies only speak today through the beautiful remains of their failed ruins. Will this be our plant's history of failing to adapt to changes in our global food chain?

Biography

Stephen Carr came from a background of economic and manufacturing to spent the last 20 years traveling to China and Africa. His work in helping emerging farmers, and improving their productivity, has brought him into contact with researchers in various industries, particularly those in Soil Science and Agronomy. Considered by most as the world's leading expert in the farming and construction practice of land imprinting, He is a popular speaker (former TED presenter), author of the upcoming book, "The Fantastically Successful Failure of Agriculture in Our Time", and is owner and CEO of International Soil and Water Renewables LLC.

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