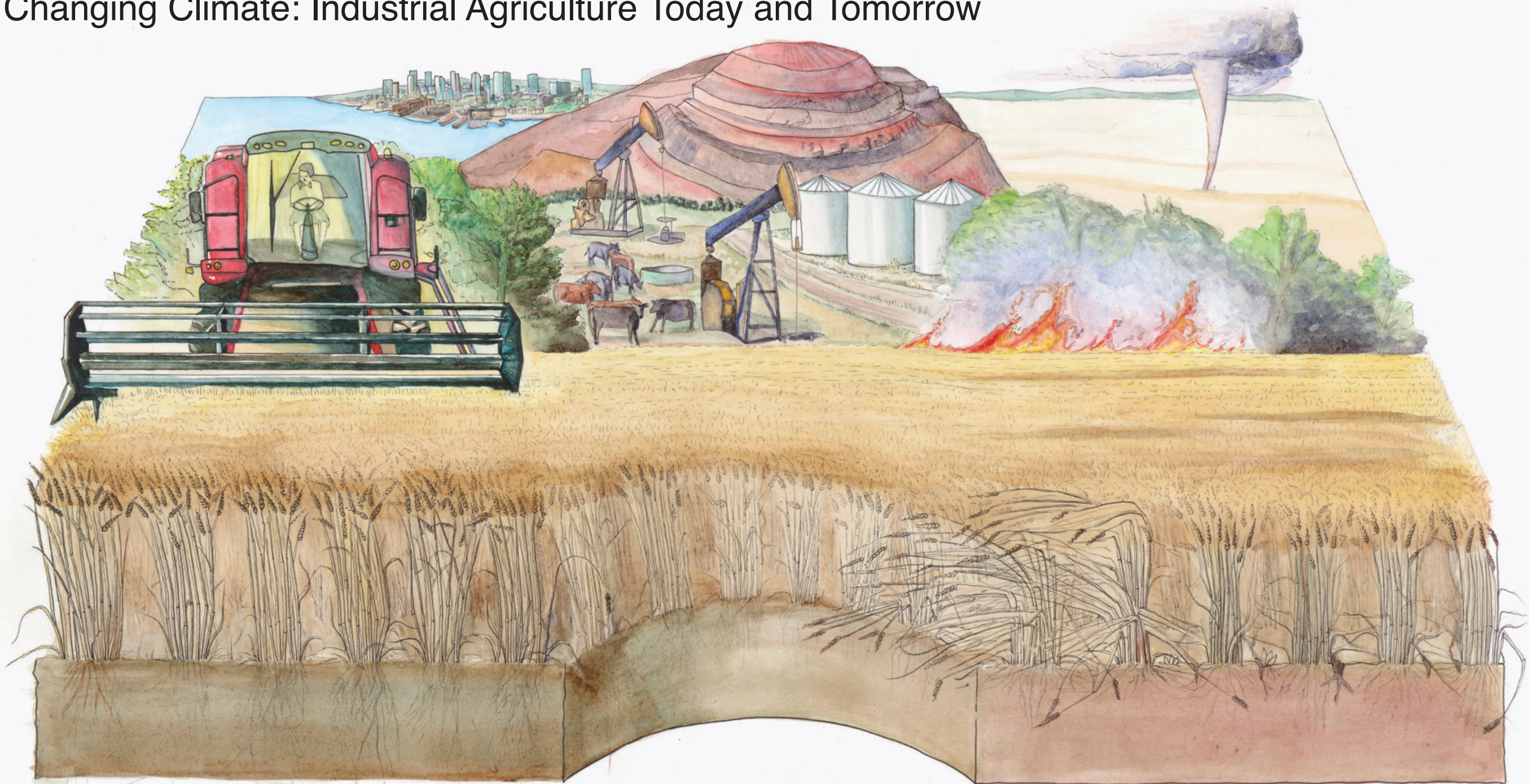


Industrial Agriculture

A Changing Climate: Industrial Agriculture Today and Tomorrow



Reliance on Fossil Fuels

Industrial Agriculture uses fossil fuels each step of the way in delivering food to the dinner table. Large machinery like combines burn fossil fuels for tilling, planting and harvesting. Minerals like phosphorus are mined and transported to factories where more fossil fuels are used to process these minerals into fertilizer, spread over crops each year. The demand for meat products is also added into the footprint of industrial agriculture. Raising animals for food emits much more greenhouse gases than raising crops. Finally, food is processed and transported inefficiently across the globe.

Inability to Predict

A changing climate means difficult planning for farmers. Farmers make bets each year when to harvest and plant. Shifting rain seasons, early t and intense heat waves makes it difficult for farmers to make these short-term decisions.

System Collapse

Droughts, fires, flooding, increased frequency and intensity of unusual weather events like tornados all threaten industrial agriculture. Because industrial agriculture operates on a global level, food security is a pressing issue. A damaged wheat crop from pest infestation in North America could mean food shortages across the globe.