

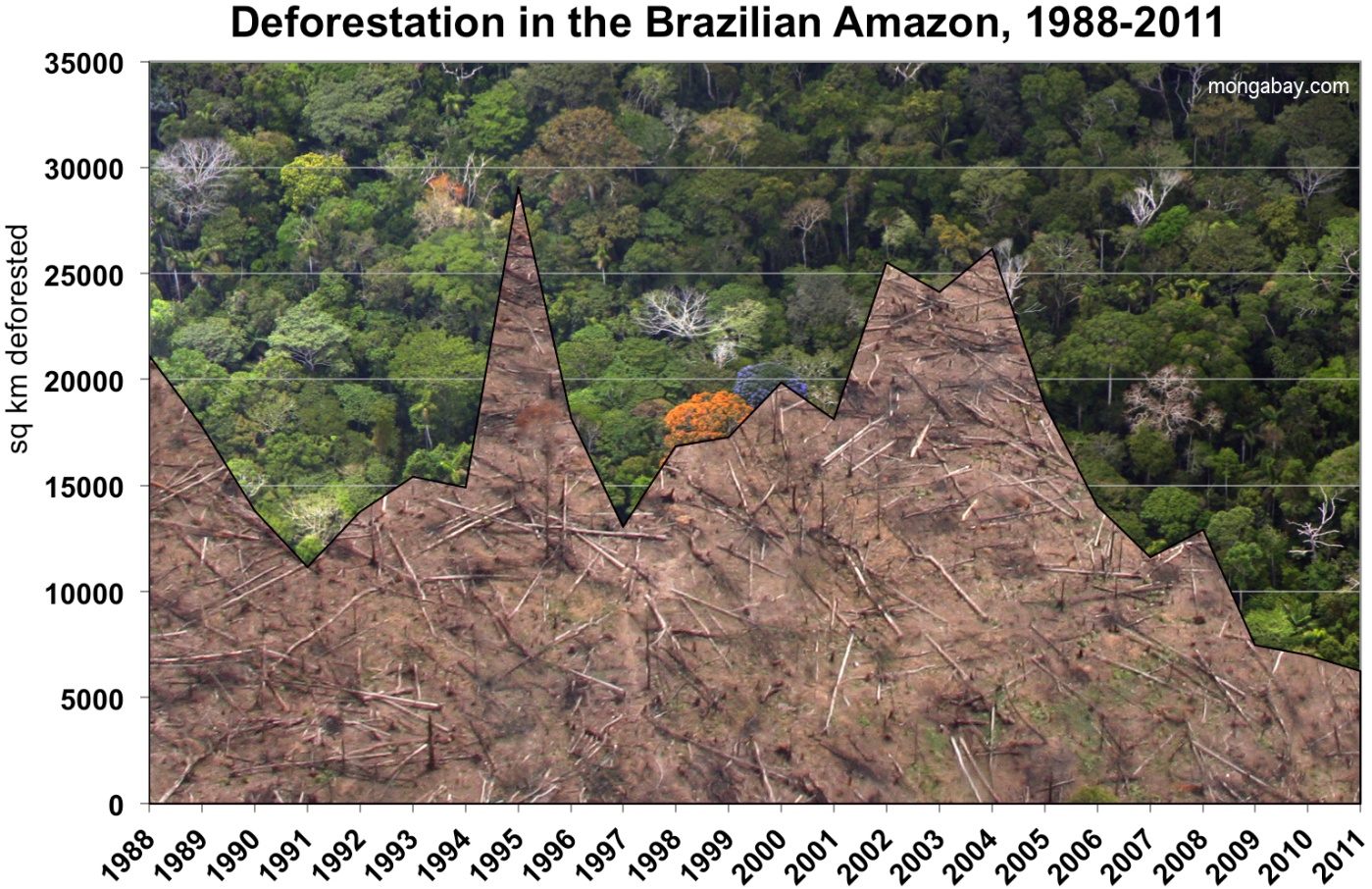
**Why?**

The main reasons for deforestation of the Amazon Rainforest would be for Cattle Pasture, the valuable hardwood, housing space and farming space. Farming space for soybeans in particular is a main cause for deforestation as Brazil is traditionally the second largest producer of soybeans in the world.

**Where?**

The Amazon Rainforest is the largest tropical rainforest in the world as it represents over half of the world’s remaining rainforest with approximately 1.4 billion acres of rainforest (5,500,000 kilometres square.

It is located over 9 nations in South America, with over 60% of the rainforest being in Brazil. The other 8 countries that the Amazon rainforest covers are Peru, Colombia, Venezuela, Ecuador, Bolivia, Guyana, Suriname and French Guiana.



**How Much?**

In Brazil alone 580,000 square kilometers (224,000 square miles) of Amazon forest has destroyed since 1980. Whilst the total amount of cleared Amazon rainforest has rose from 415,000 km² in 1991 to 587,000 km² in 2000. At 2007 rates, it was considered that in two decades the Amazon Rainforest would be reduced by 40%.The rate of deforestation is now slowing, and in 2011 deforestation figures were the slowest on record, although the forest is still shrinking.

Figure 2 a graph showing the deforestation history of the Amazon

Figure 1 showing the Amazon