LOSS OF TROPICAL RAINFORESTS

*Reasons for Deforestation*

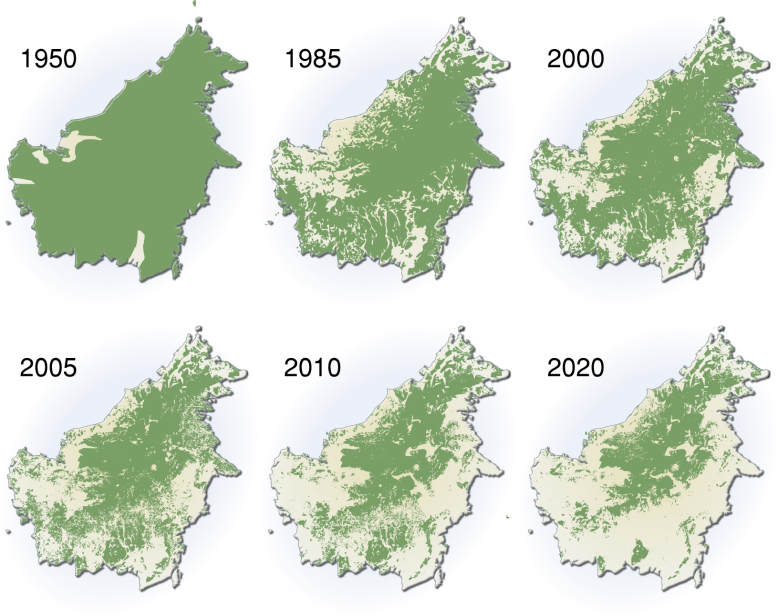
**Oil Palm Plantations**- (Especially in Malaysia) The huge increase in demand in the last 10 years for oil palm has said to be the largest threat to biodiversity in these areas.

**Logging and Mining** – Both legal and illegal logging cause destruction to rainforests, especially on Borneo and in Brazil; this is because the decreasing supply of timber is slowly pushing up it’s price, therefore meaning that the land is only worth as much as it’s timber production capabilities.

**Agriculture** – Especially in South America has caused the destruction of many rainforests areas; this is due to the high demand of produce from the ‘West’, especially farming of livestock, mainly by fast food chains such as McDonalds and super market chains that have a high demand for meat.

**Migration** – The overcrowding of areas, such as Bali and Java caused to Indonesian government to move people to Kalimantan. Through encouraging people to move, they had to destroy areas of the forest for not only residential areas but also as the government had promised plots of land to farmers, therefore causing further destruction of the forest.

One and half acres of rainforest are lost every second.



Rainforests are being destroyed because the value of rainforest land is perceived as only the value of its timber.

Rainforests once covered 14% of the Earth’s land surface; now they only cover 6%