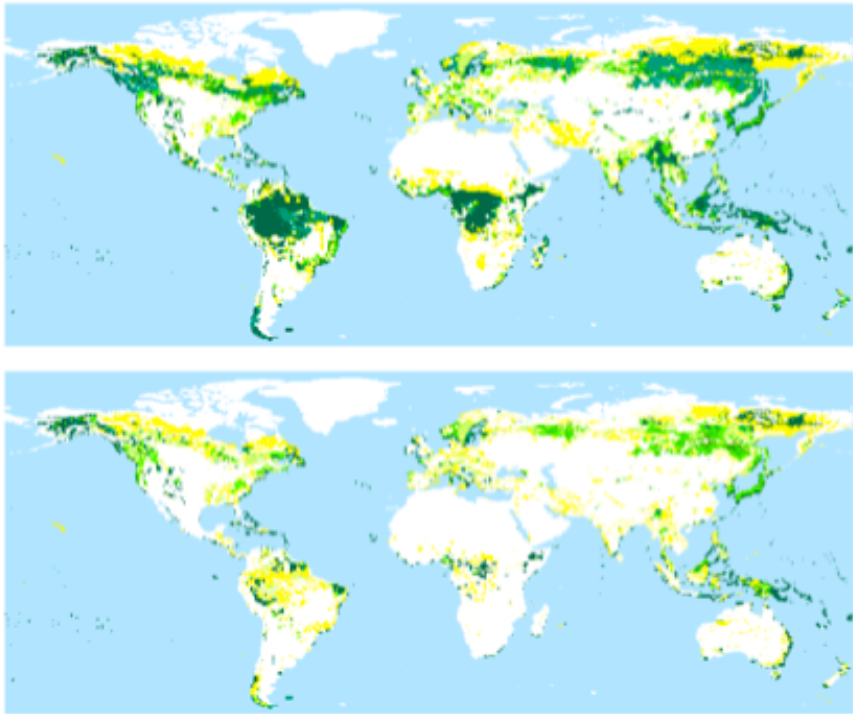


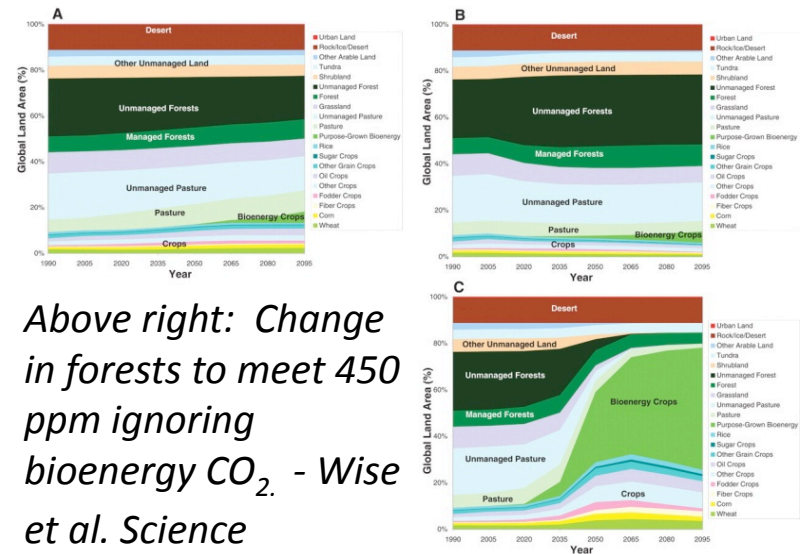
# Fixing a Critical Climate Accounting Error

*Science* 326:527-528 (2009)

Accounting rules for emissions limits under the Kyoto Protocol, the EU's ETS, and climate bills in the U.S. exempt CO<sub>2</sub> from burning biomass regardless of its source. IPCC guidance would exempt this CO<sub>2</sub> only if emissions from land use are equally limited. Several studies estimate that this rule creates large false incentives to clear forests for bioenergy, releasing large quantities of carbon.



*Left: Change in natural forest between 2000 and 2050 based on economic forces if CO<sub>2</sub> from bioenergy is exempted - Melillo et al., Science Express (Oct. 23, 2009)*



*Above right: Change in forests to meet 450 ppm ignoring bioenergy CO<sub>2</sub>. - Wise et al. Science 324:1183 (2009)*

