Issue 1

Apples start to oxidize almost immediately after they have been sliced and exposed to air. This causes them to turn brown and a little mushy. The brown color is unappetizing and consumers often throw the apples away rather than eating them. This results in wasted food.



Issue 2

Children in Africa can suffer from malnutrition and poor diets. They do not receive enough fruits and vegetables in their diet that provide a wide range of nutrients, and blindness can result from vitamin A deficiency. Rice is one of the staples of their diet which is an excellent source of calories.



Issue 3

Weeds in soybean and cotton fields compete for water, nutrients, and sunlight that the soybeans and cotton need to grow. Because they are broadleaf plants (same leaves as the weeds) farmers can't spray herbicides while the plants are growing. This results in a significant reduction in crop yield.



Issue 4

Papayas are susceptible to a disease called papaya ringspot virus (PRSV). This virus deforms fruit of young plants and can prevent the plant from producing fruit at all. The virus is spread by insects and cannot be contained. Papaya production in Hawaii was nearly destroyed because of this virus.



Issue 5

Potatoes can be bruised by impact and pressure during harvest and storage. This results in black spots on the potato. Consumers will not purchase discolored potatoes and potatoes with these black spots are thrown away. This results in food waste.



Issue 6

The corn borer is a moth that lays eggs on corn plants. When the eggs hatch, the larva that looks like a small worm eats the corn plants and can cause millions of dollars of damage to the corn field.

