Benefits of Aquaponics

ANACOSTIA AQUAPONICS

Problems of the Food System	Aquaponics
Emissions from long food transport	No soil needed, can be practiced in urban areas, vertically, and on rooftops. Can grow more densely than soil.
Petrochemical use to produce industrial agriculture fertilizers and pesticides	No industrial fertilizer needed, just fish food. Industrial pesticides would harm aquaponic ecosystem.
Fertilizer runoff, aquatic dead zones	Closed-loop system, no fertilizer runoff.
Antibiotic resistance	Cannot use antibiotics, it would kill the biofilter
Drought, water scarcity	**90% less water** than traditional soil agriculture
Excessive land use, resource use, biodiversity loss, and soil erosion	Can grow more densely, and in urban areas, cutting down on land needed to produce food. Can grow fish in urban areas. Fish has a very efficient feed conversion ratio to produce protein.
Economic consolidation and job loss	Can grow food in urban areas, bring back jobs that were lost from mechanized mega-farms.

Continuing population growth and urbanization are projected to add 2.5 billion people to the world's population by 2050. *(United Nations)*