

## Viewpoint: 'He overlooks complexity' — Will King Charles promote his cult organic farming views and reject agricultural biotechnology?

King Charles didn't discover his penchant for sustainability all by himself. After Charles met the [Indian anti-globalization activist and environmental advocate Vandana Shiva](#), his focus shifted from raising awareness about climate change to advocacy for more extreme measures. Shiva has [repeatedly come under fire for her unorthodox claims and methods](#).

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Whether or not Charles [used to run an organic farm](#) that practiced hand-weeding ought not to matter in British politics, except that it does.

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The policies that Charles supports would fundamentally change the global farming system, causing significant disruptions. Despite innovation in the field of organic agriculture, the practice yields less food than conventional methods, an average [43 percent to 72 percent less](#). When researchers modeled a 100 percent adoption scenario of organic practices in England and Wales, and they found that it [would actually increase carbon dioxide emissions](#) because more natural resources are required to produce the same amount of goods.

Charles' views on farming stand in contrast with the UK Parliament's priorities. The House of Commons is considering a bill that would allow genetic engineering in crops. Such a move would be one of the more notable breaks from EU policy, in which legislation prevents the use of modern gene-editing technology.

[\*\*This is an excerpt. Read the original post here\*\*](#)