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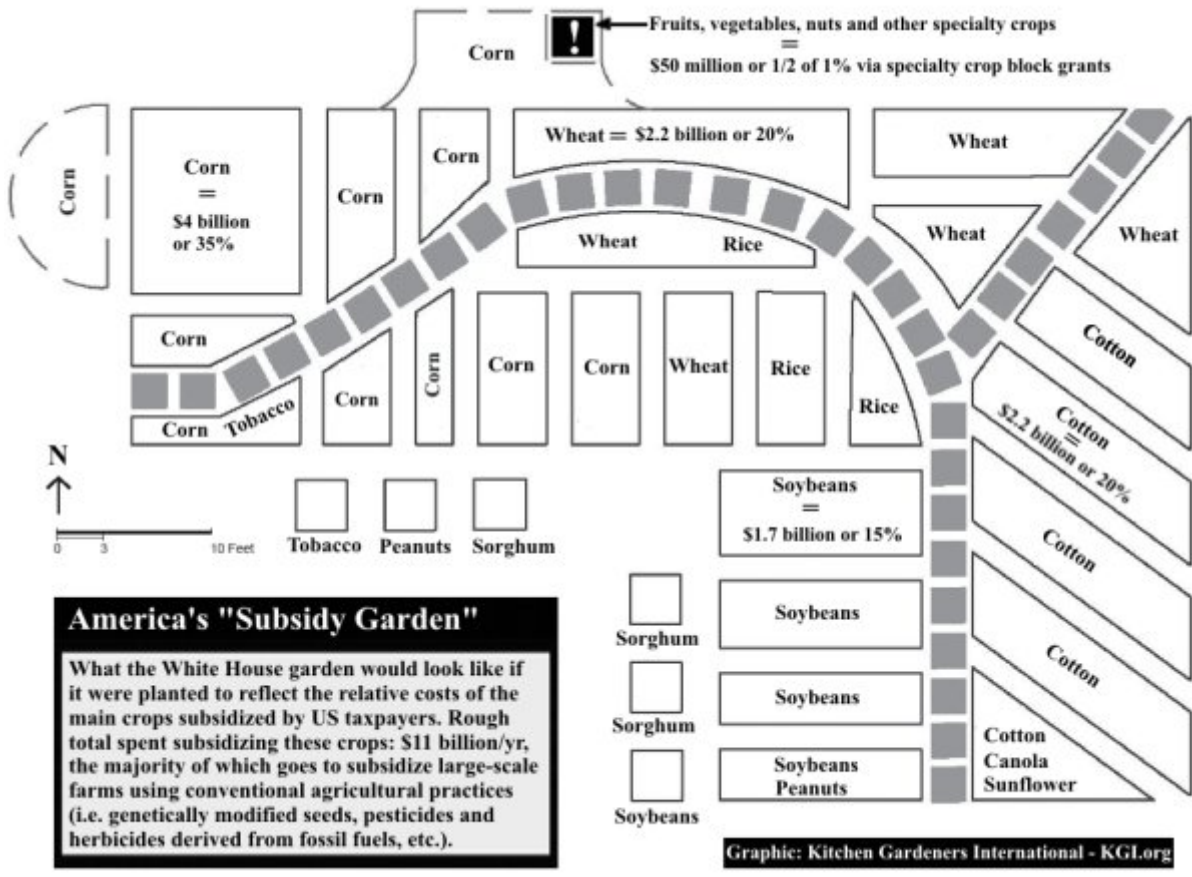


## **Which Garden Model Should We Be Showering with Our Taxdollars?**

Mon, 06/13/2011 - 06:55 -- Roger Doiron

I was really inspired by the diversity and nutritiousness of the crops planted in the White House kitchen garden this spring (see above) and thought it would be eye-opening - not to mention jaw-dropping - to see what the White House garden would look like if it were planted to reflect the relative importance of the crops that our taxdollars are actually supporting.

As you'll see, there's very little resemblance between America's Kitchen Garden and our "Subsidy Garden." I know that some will say that countries shouldn't be subsidizing agriculture at all, but the reality is that they are and, as long as they are, citizens should have a voice in how those subsidies are spent.



**America's "Subsidy Garden"**

What the White House garden would look like if it were planted to reflect the relative costs of the main crops subsidized by US taxpayers. Rough total spent subsidizing these crops: \$11 billion/yr, the majority of which goes to subsidize large-scale farms using conventional agricultural practices (i.e. genetically modified seeds, pesticides and herbicides derived from fossil fuels, etc.).

Graphic: Kitchen Gardeners International - KGI.org

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