



Jack Kelly Clark

Pressures to urbanize reach the Central Valley

With Central Valley population growing 30% in the last decade, pressures to urbanize are increasingly apparent. Urbanization increases at the expense of agricultural systems. It directly competes with agriculture for space (usually prime land) and other resources traditionally associated with agricultural activity (water, air, labor, and infrastructure investments). All urban development is irreversible, leading to permanent loss of agricultural land. See story on page 10.