



# Impacts and consequences

You are now going to investigate some of the potential impacts of strawberry farming in Spain.

## Task 1

To start you off, see if you can match the following statements with the consequences which might result from them...

Statement		Possible consequence
Migrant workers used for labour		It provides jobs
Thousands of strawberries are exported		Natural forest is cleared and fragile environments can be affected
Land is needed to grow the strawberries		Local people become annoyed that jobs are being given to 'foreigners'
It's labour-intensive - lots of people are needed		This puts pressure on water resources
It's this region's main industry		Transportation costs and pollution
Irrigation is vital to production		Plastic packaging is non-biodegradable and therefore very polluting
Pests must be controlled		It boosts the local economy
The perishable fruit is packaged for transportation		There are worries over chemical pollution

How did you do? Check with your teacher before moving on...

## Task 2

You are now going to investigate these issues in a bit more detail, by looking at the impacts of strawberry farming on the Coto de Doñana wetlands National Park, a World Heritage Site in the Huelva region of Spain.

Firstly, use the following websites to find out a bit of information about where the park is, what it's like and why it's important:

1. [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Do%C3%B1ana\\_National\\_Park](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Do%C3%B1ana_National_Park)
2. [www.andalucia.com/environment/protect/donana.htm](http://www.andalucia.com/environment/protect/donana.htm)

Write some notes into the table below:

<b>Location</b>	<b>What it's like, e.g. size, type of landscape, ecosystems, how it's protected</b>	<b>Why it's important, e.g. ecosystems, birds and wildlife examples</b>

Next, you will find out how strawberry production is affecting this fragile part of Spain. Use the following websites to find out some information and write a list of facts in the space below...

1. [www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/how-the-thirst-for-strawberries-is-draining-spains-precious-water-436317.html](http://www.independent.co.uk/news/world/europe/how-the-thirst-for-strawberries-is-draining-spains-precious-water-436317.html)
2. <http://news.bbc.co.uk/2/hi/europe/6460767.stm>
3. [www.panda.org/wwf\\_news/?155441/New-plan-to-save-Doana-highlight-of-global-wetlands-celebration](http://www.panda.org/wwf_news/?155441/New-plan-to-save-Doana-highlight-of-global-wetlands-celebration)

Finally, imagine that you are an environmentalist who is concerned about the future of the National Park. Using the research you've carried out, your task is to write a speech to convince others of your view that strawberry cultivation is damaging this fragile environment, and saying what you think should be done about the issues.

Some useful hints...

- Start by introducing the Park, saying where it is, what it's like and why it's important.
- Describe how strawberry farming is affecting the ecosystem, with some facts.
- Explain why this is a problem and why something needs to be done
- Conclude by stating exactly what you think should be done, and why.