

## **AND WE TRUST MODELS TO FORECAST WEATHER FOR 2050?**

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<http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/sci/tech/7220807.stm>

The study used computer models to assess the impact of climate change on farming in 12 world regions where the bulk of the world's malnourished people live. This included much of Asia, sub-Saharan Africa, the Caribbean and Central and South America.

"To identify which crops in which regions are most under threat by 2030, we combined projections of climate change with data on what poor people eat, as well as past relationships between crop harvests and climate variability," Dr Lobell explained.

All the models agree that there will be adverse effects on maize in southern Africa and rice in South-East Asia, but the picture is less certain in other areas such as parts of West Africa where it is unclear how global warming will impact the local climate.

"For these regions, you get half of the climate models telling you it's going to get wetter and the other half giving you the opposite," said Dr Burke.

"As a result, our study raises the potential for very bad impacts in these regions but with much less certainty than in other regions."

<http://www.junkscience.com/ByTheJunkman/20080131.html>

Will global warming increase hurricane activity? Two studies published in the last week arrived at opposite conclusions.

A link between warmer sea surface temperatures and increased North Atlantic hurricane activity "has been quantified for the first time," according to a study by University College London researchers that was published in *Nature* (Jan. 30).