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RESEARCH SUMMIT

SHAPING THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY
IN ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

 FIVE
RIVERS
CATTLE FEEDING

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Photo credit:
Mary Neilberg
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Joyce McConnell *President, CSU*

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*Mike Thoren
President & CEO,
Five Rivers*



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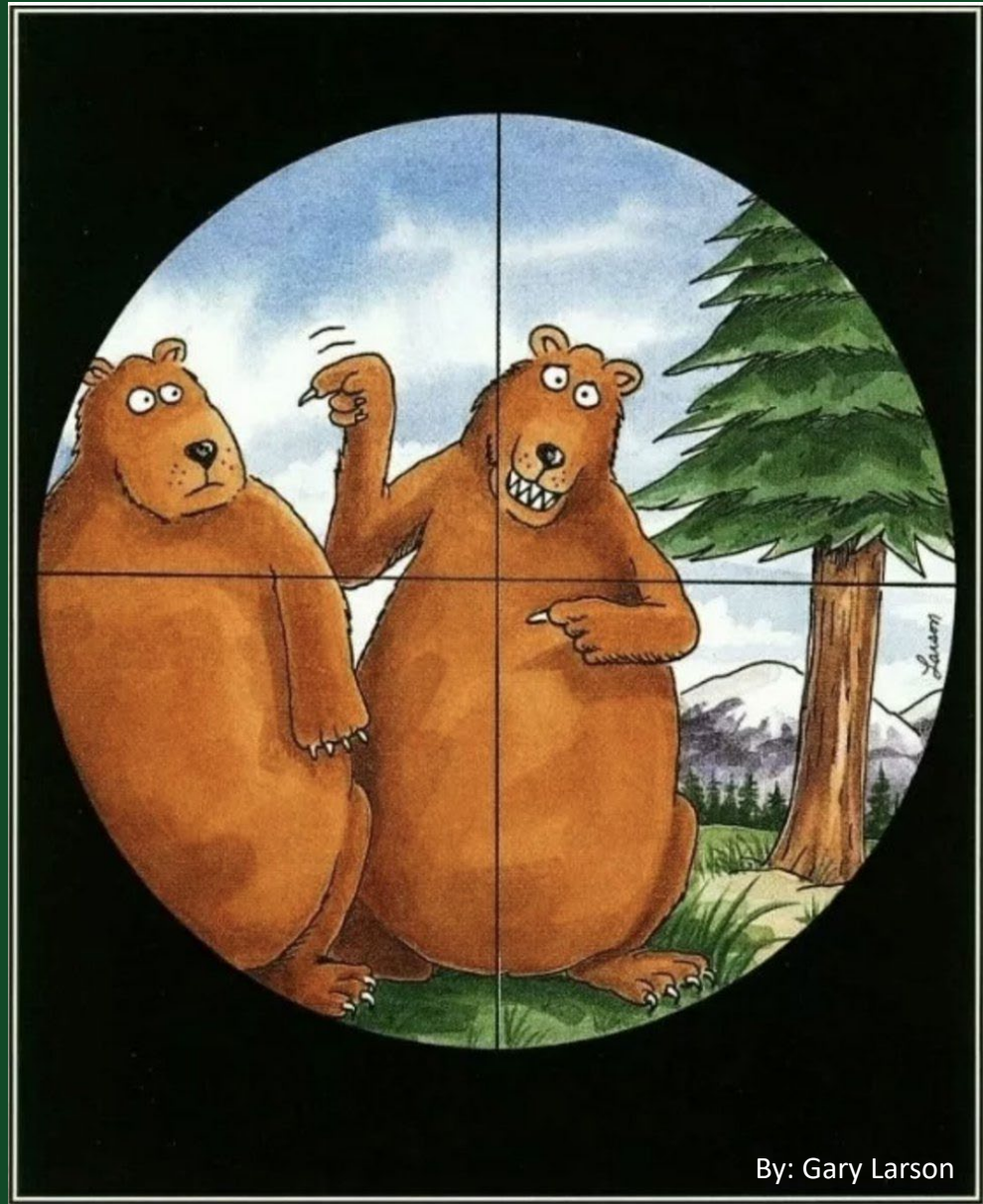
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By: Gary Larson

"Bummer of a birthmark, Hal."

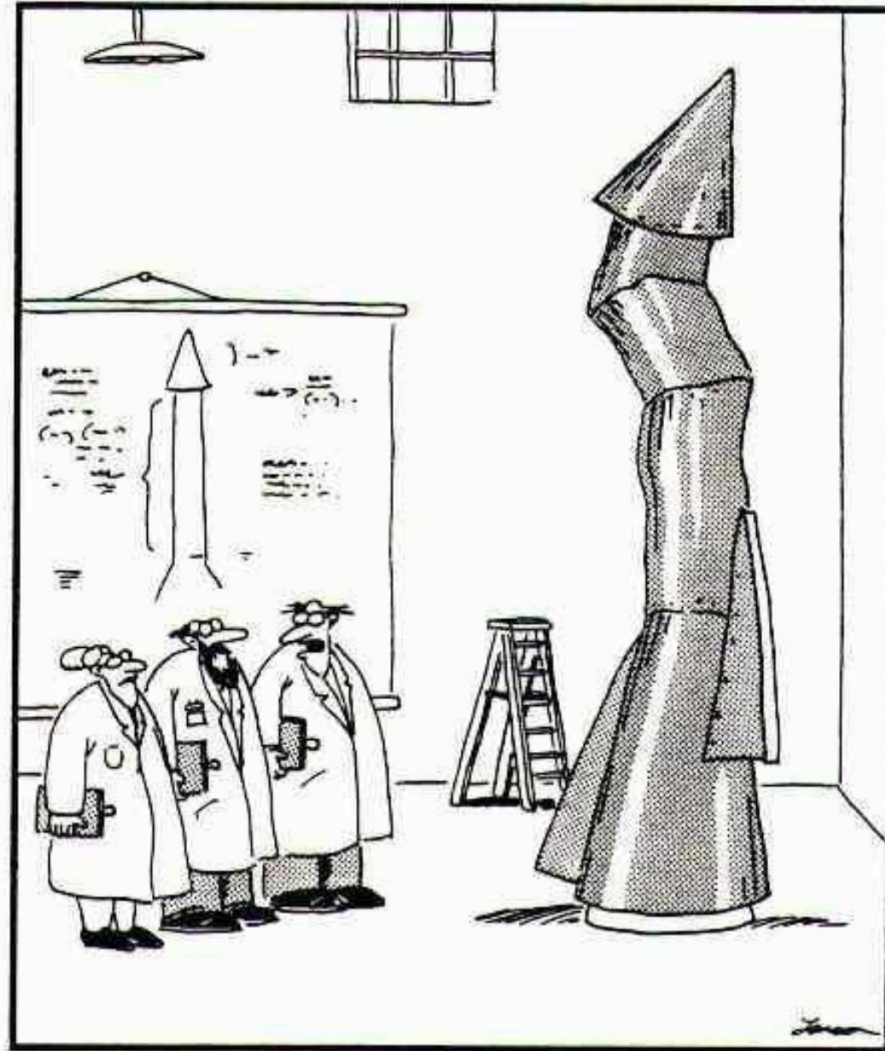


By: Gary Larson



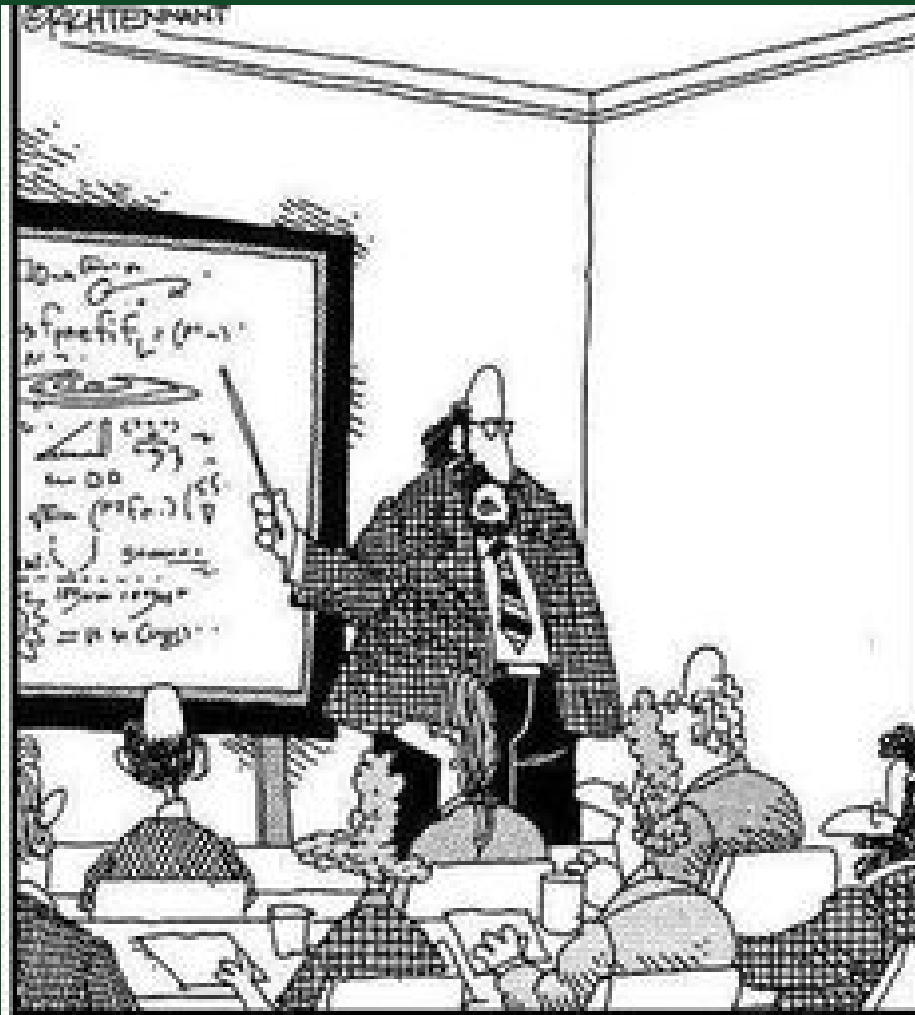
By: Gary Larson

"And see this ring right here, Jimmy? . . . That's another time when the old fellow miraculously survived some big forest fire."



"It's time we face reality, my friends. ...
We're not exactly rocket scientists."

By: Gary Larson



"Along with 'Antimatter,' and 'Dark Matter,' we've recently discovered the existence of 'Doesn't Matter,' which appears to have no effect on the universe whatsoever."

By: Rich Tennant



Laboratory peer pressure

By: Gary Larson



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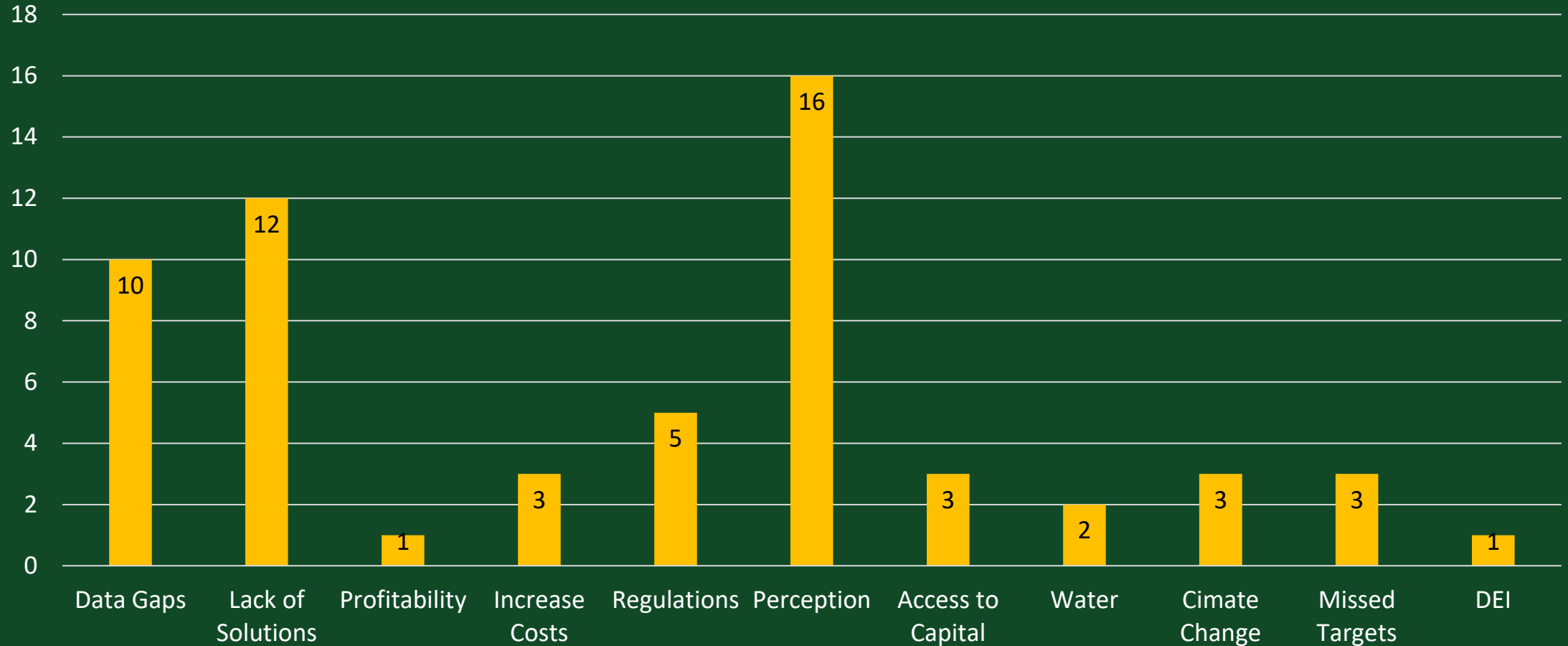
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What is your companies biggest risk related to sustainability?



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*Dr. Sara Place
Chief Sustainability
Officer, Elanco
Animal Health*

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December 1, 2021

Sustainability in Livestock Systems: What we know about the Power of Perception

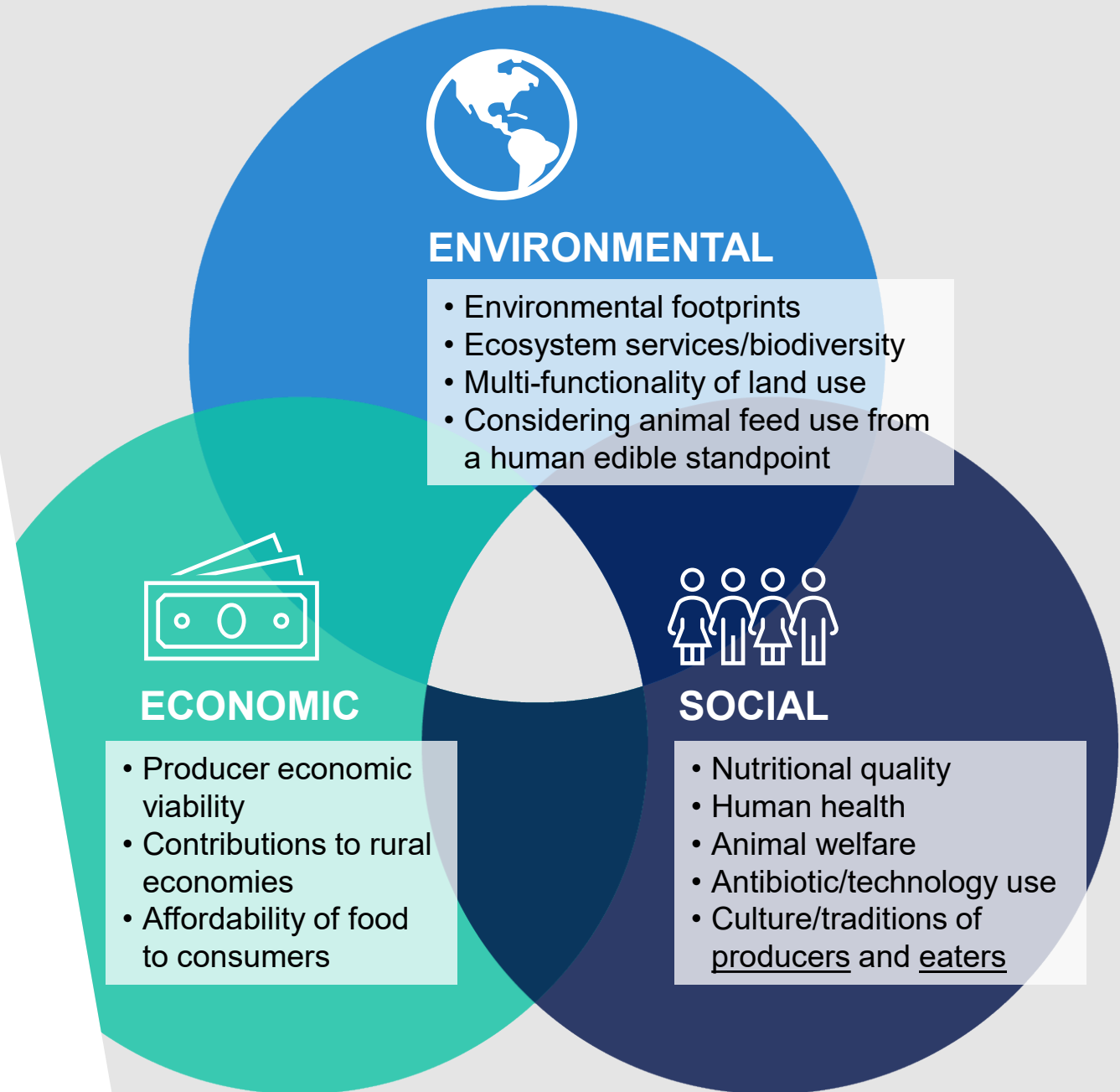
ElancoTM

Sara Place, PhD
Chief Sustainability Officer

Sustainability is complex & full of value judgments, yet the issue that dominates today is climate change

Questions that society is asking:

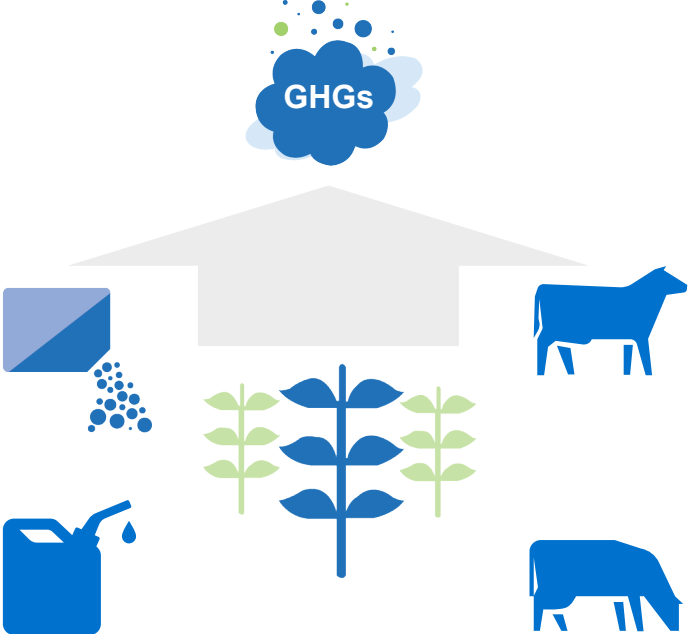
- What should we be eating?
- How should food be grown/produced?
- Can beef/dairy be a part of a sustainable diet?



Simple reality: We can achieve progress on the supply side or the demand side

It's up to the cattle industry to determine if supply side alone can achieve societal expectations. We have knowledge gaps, economic barriers, and implementation challenges ahead

Supply & production improvements



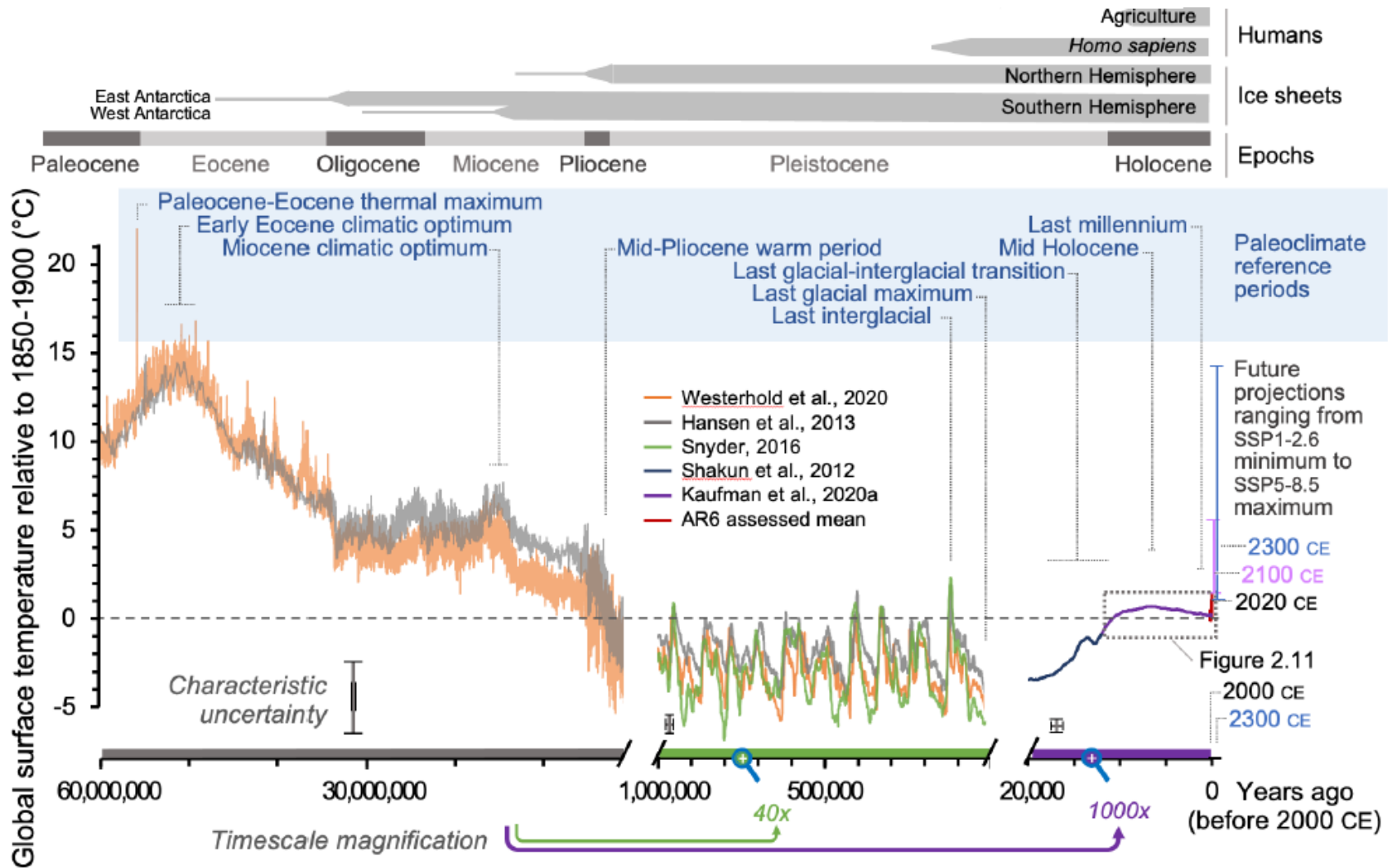
Demand reduction: reduced growth and/or shrinking industry





Climate in Context

Earth's Recent Surface Temperature History



Cross-Chapter Box 2.1, Figure 1: Global mean surface temperature (GMST) over the past 60 million years relative to 1850-1900 shown on three time scales.

Greenhouse effect keeps global average temperature at ~57 °F.

Without the greenhouse effect, global average temperature would be less than 0°F.



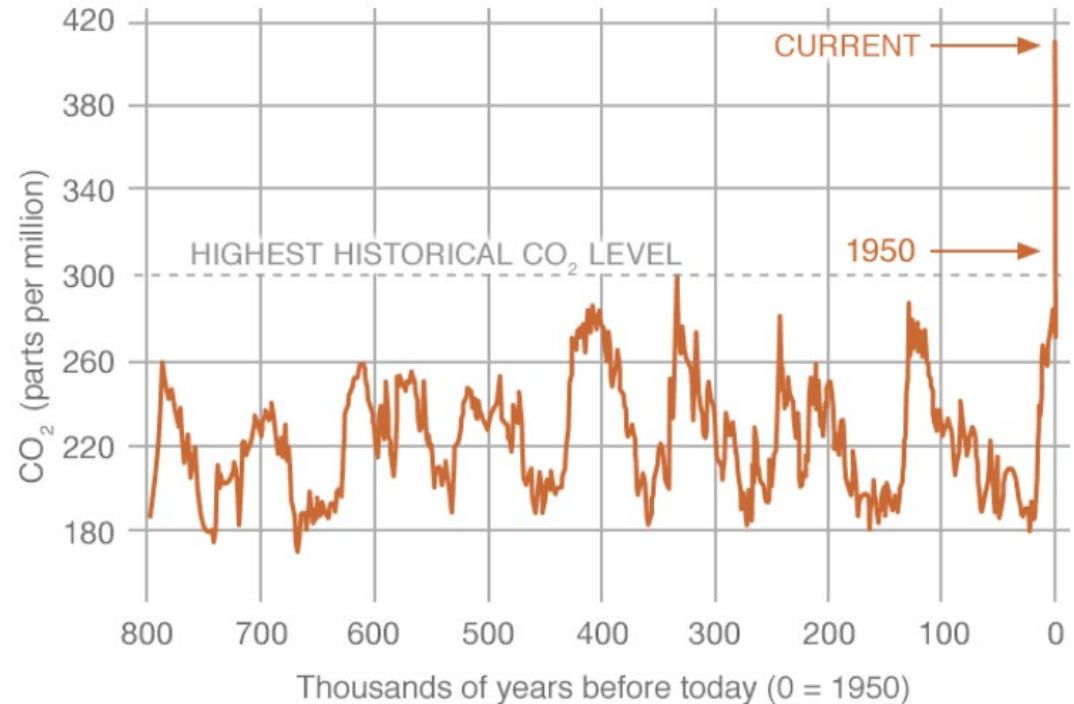
Available at: https://climate.nasa.gov/climate_resources/188/graphic-the-greenhouse-effect/

Carbon dioxide (CO₂) concentrations within the atmosphere have increased rapidly in the past few decades

“Over the past 171 years, human activities have raised atmospheric CO₂ concentrations by 48% above pre-industrial levels found in 1850. This is more than what had happened naturally over a 20,000 year period (from the Last Glacial Maximum to 1850, from 185 ppm to 280 ppm).”

PROXY (INDIRECT) MEASUREMENTS

Data source: Reconstruction from ice cores.
Credit: NOAA

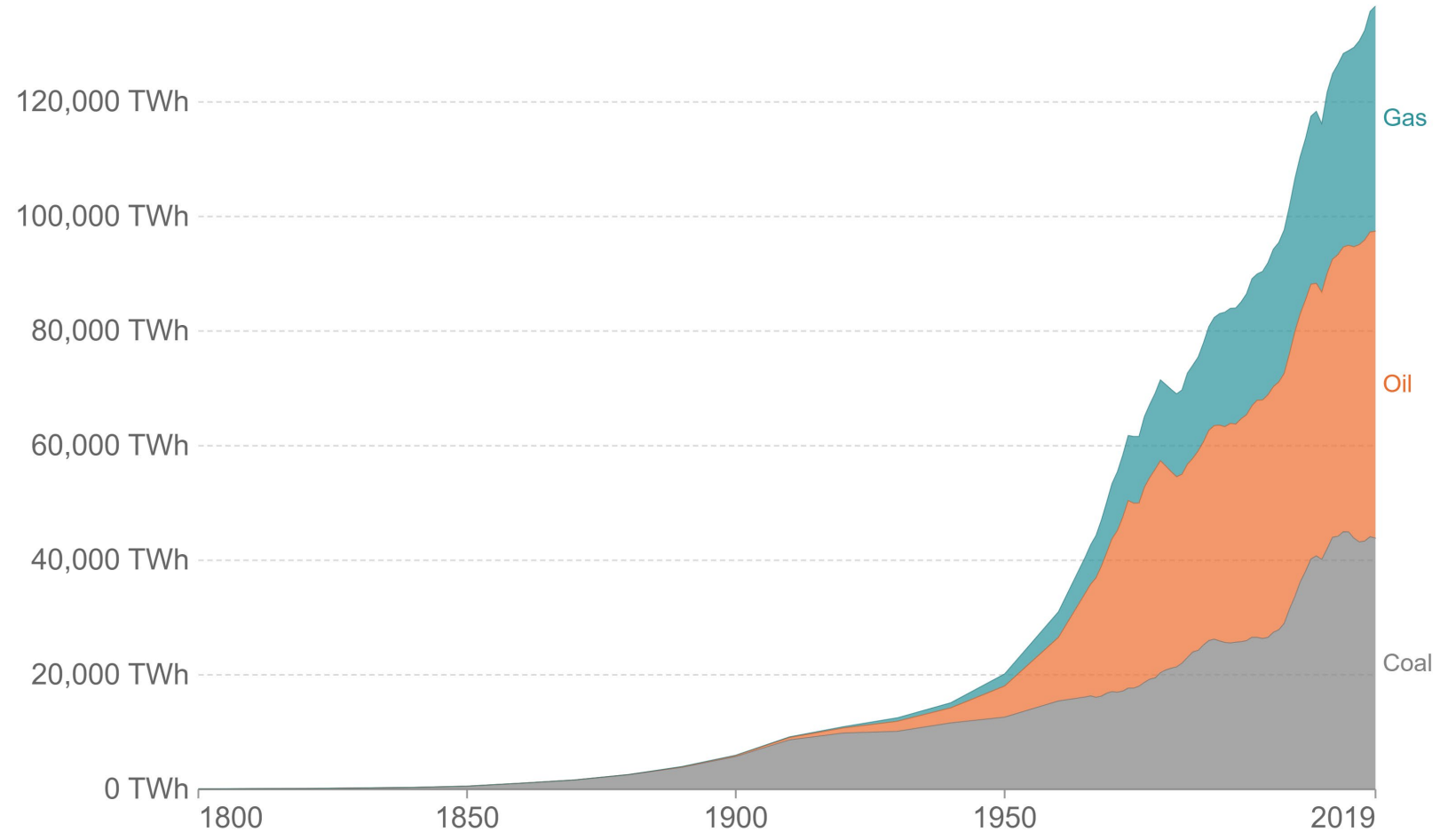


Available at: <https://climate.nasa.gov/vital-signs/carbon-dioxide/>

Global Fossil Fuel Consumption

Our World
in Data

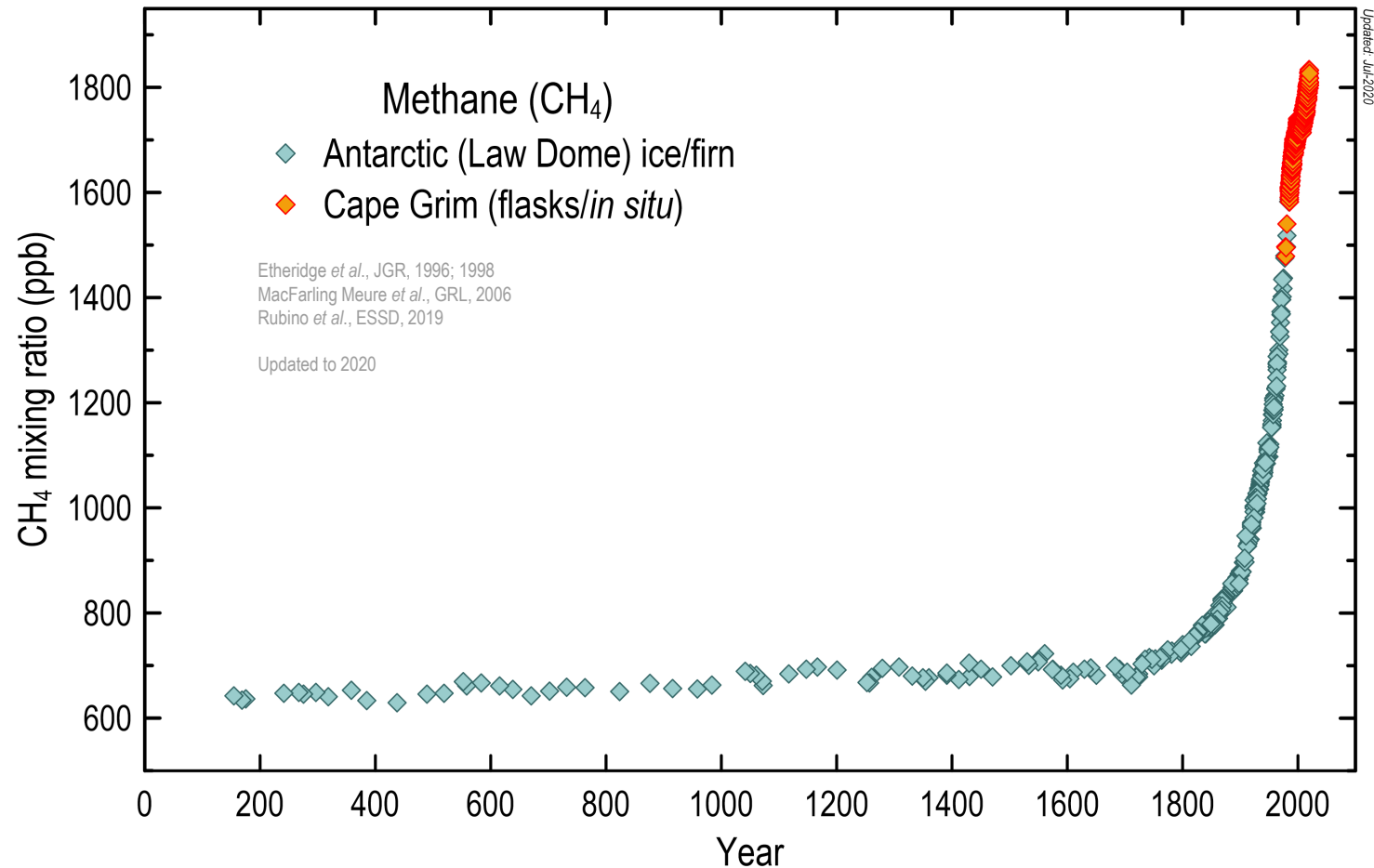
Global primary energy consumption by fossil fuel source, measured in terawatt-hours (TWh)



Source: Vaclav Smil (2017), Energy Transitions: Global and National Perspective & BP Statistical Review of World Energy
OurWorldInData.org/fossil-fuels/ • CCBY

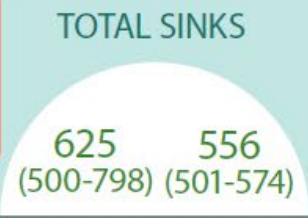
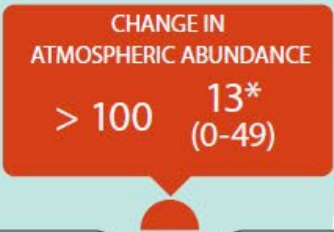
Available at: <https://ourworldindata.org/fossil-fuels>

Methane (CH₄) is the second most important anthropogenic GHG and has also increased atmospheric concentrations since the Industrial Revolution (up 150% since 1750)



GLOBAL METHANE BUDGET 2008-2017

Bottom-up view (BU) Top-down view (TD)



128 (113-154) 111 (81-131)



Fossil fuel production and use

206 (191-223) 217 (207-240)



Agriculture and waste

30 (26-40) 30 (22-36)



Biomass and biofuel burning

149 (102-182) 181 (159-200)



Wetlands

222 (143-306) 37 (21-50)



Other natural emissions
Inland waters, geological, oceans, termites, wild animals, permafrost, vegetation

595 (489-749) 518 (474-532)



Sink from chemical reactions in the atmosphere

30 (11-49) 38 (27-45)



Sink in soils

EMISSIONS AND SINKS

In teragrams of CH₄ per year (Tg CH₄ / yr) average over 2008-2017

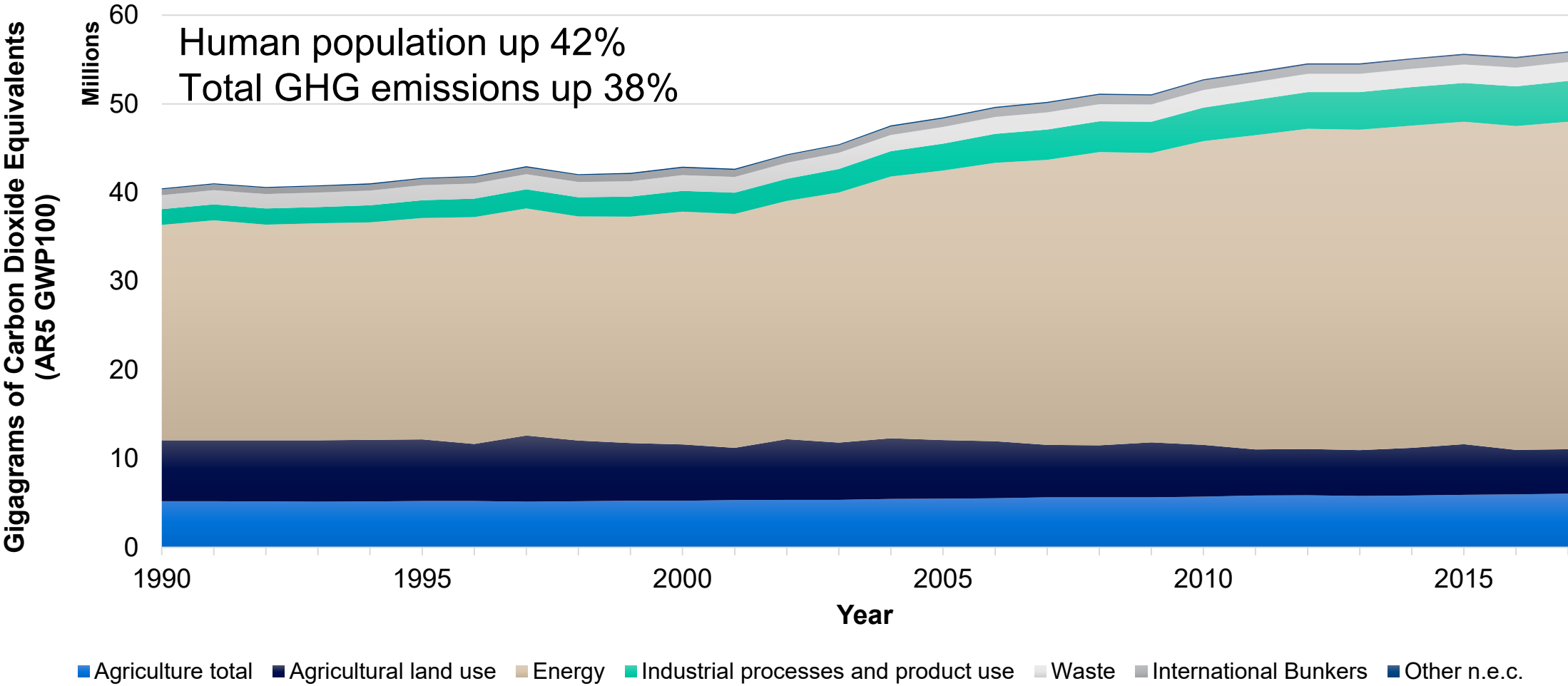
The observed atmospheric growth rate is 18.2 (17.3-19) Tg CH₄ / yr. The difference with the TD budget imbalance reflects uncertainties in capturing the observed growth rate.

- Anthropogenic fluxes
- Natural fluxes
- Natural and anthropogenic fluxes



Greenhouse Gas Emissions in Context

Global Greenhouse Gas Emissions Trends, 1990 - 2017

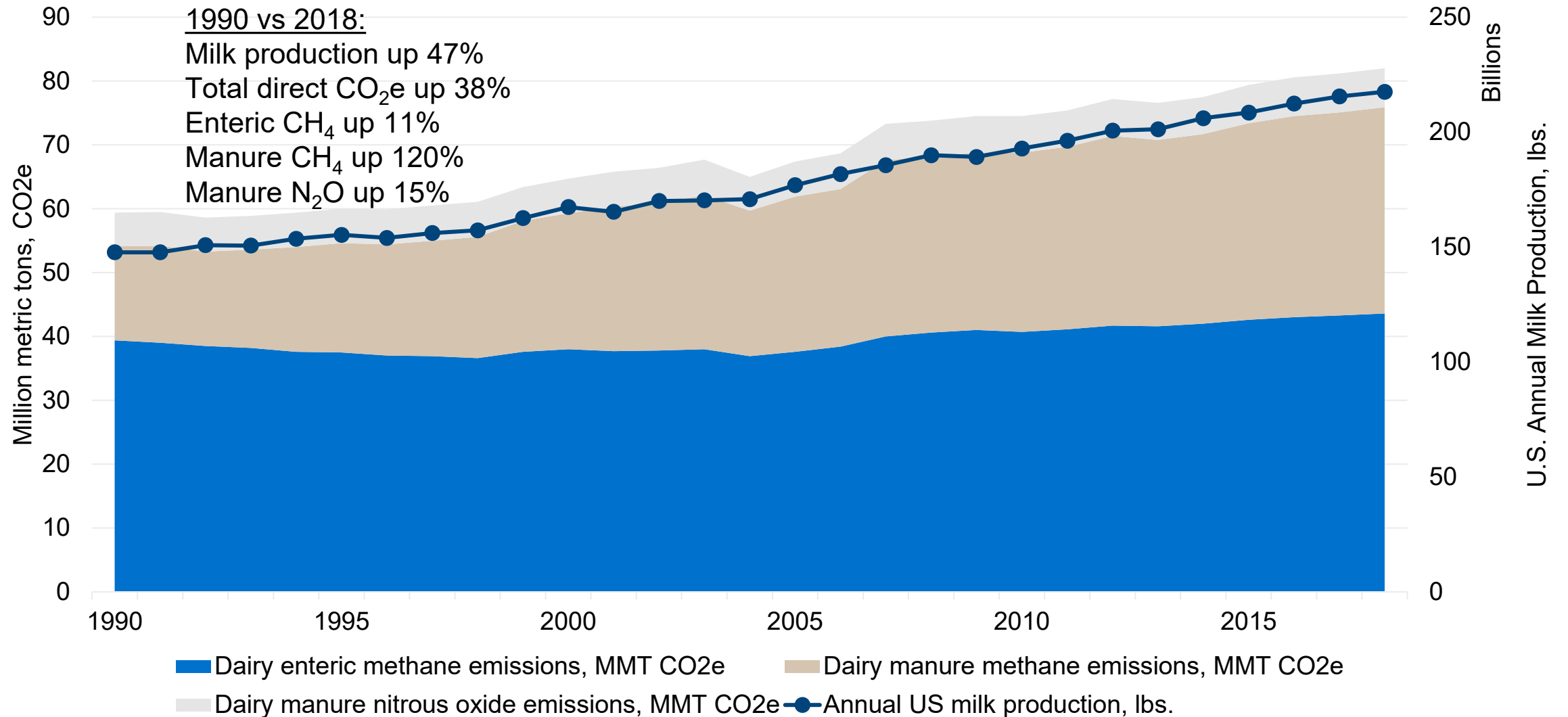


Data from U.S. EPA GHG Inventory

US Dairy Emissions

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Direct US dairy GHG emissions in CO₂e and milk production



Key areas to impact on reducing GHG emissions from dairy cattle production

- Feed production
 - Reduce emissions, increase soil C
- Enteric methane emissions
 - Direct
 - Indirect
- Manure emissions
 - Renewable energy opportunities
- Reduce fossil energy use

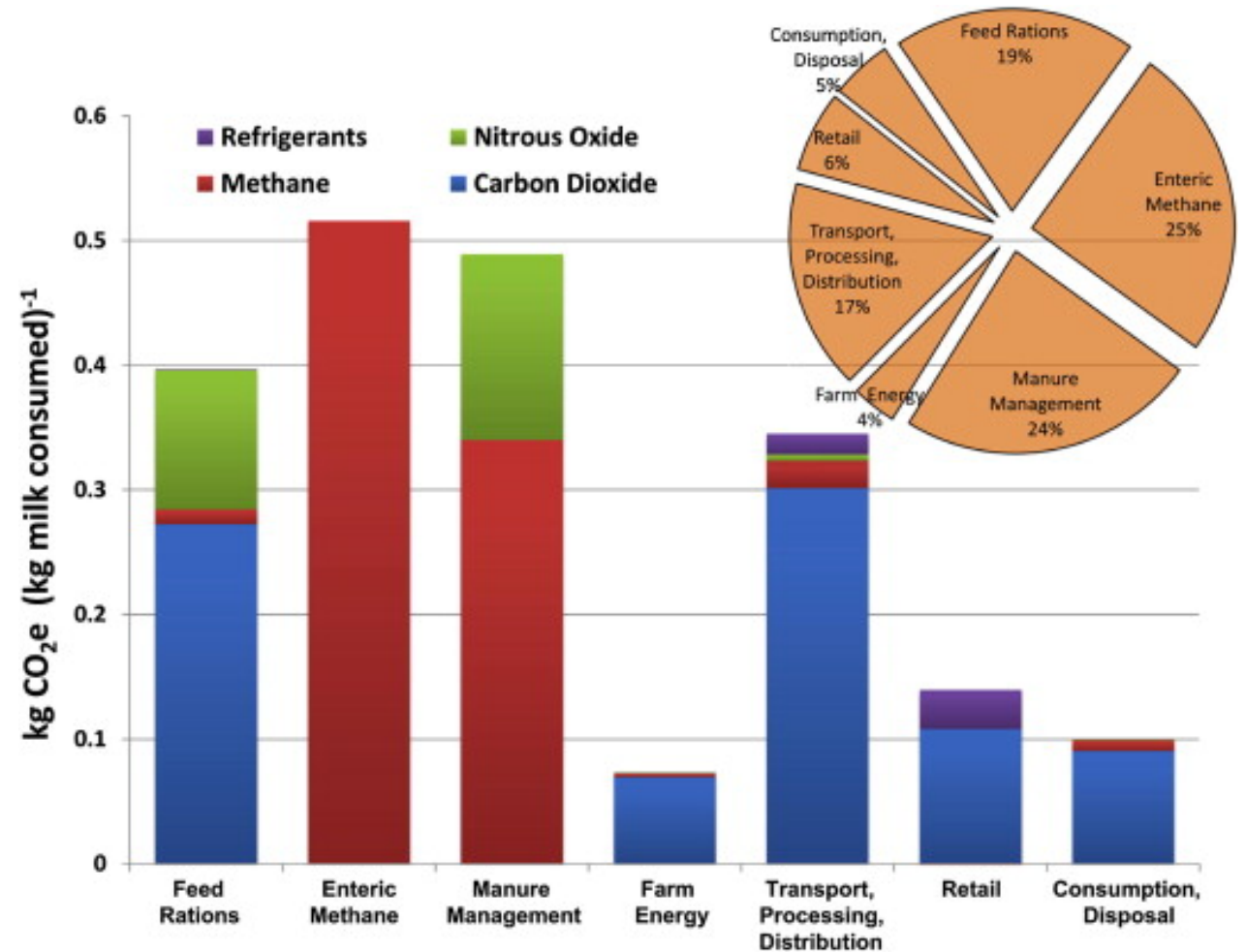


Fig. 6. Supply chain contribution to carbon footprint of 'generic' milk. Generic milk refers to regional-production-weighted (raw milk input) and purchase-volume-weighted (milk fat content) average milk consumed in the US during 2007. Note that fuels, fertilizer, and milling are included in the feed stage. In addition, there is a 12% product loss accounted in retail, and an additional 20% wasted product in the consumption phase.

Thoma et al., 2013. Greenhouse gas emissions from milk production and consumption in the United States: A cradle-to-grave life cycle assessment circa 2008. *Int. Dairy J.* 31(Suppl. 1): S3-S14.

Data from U.S. EPA GHG Inventory

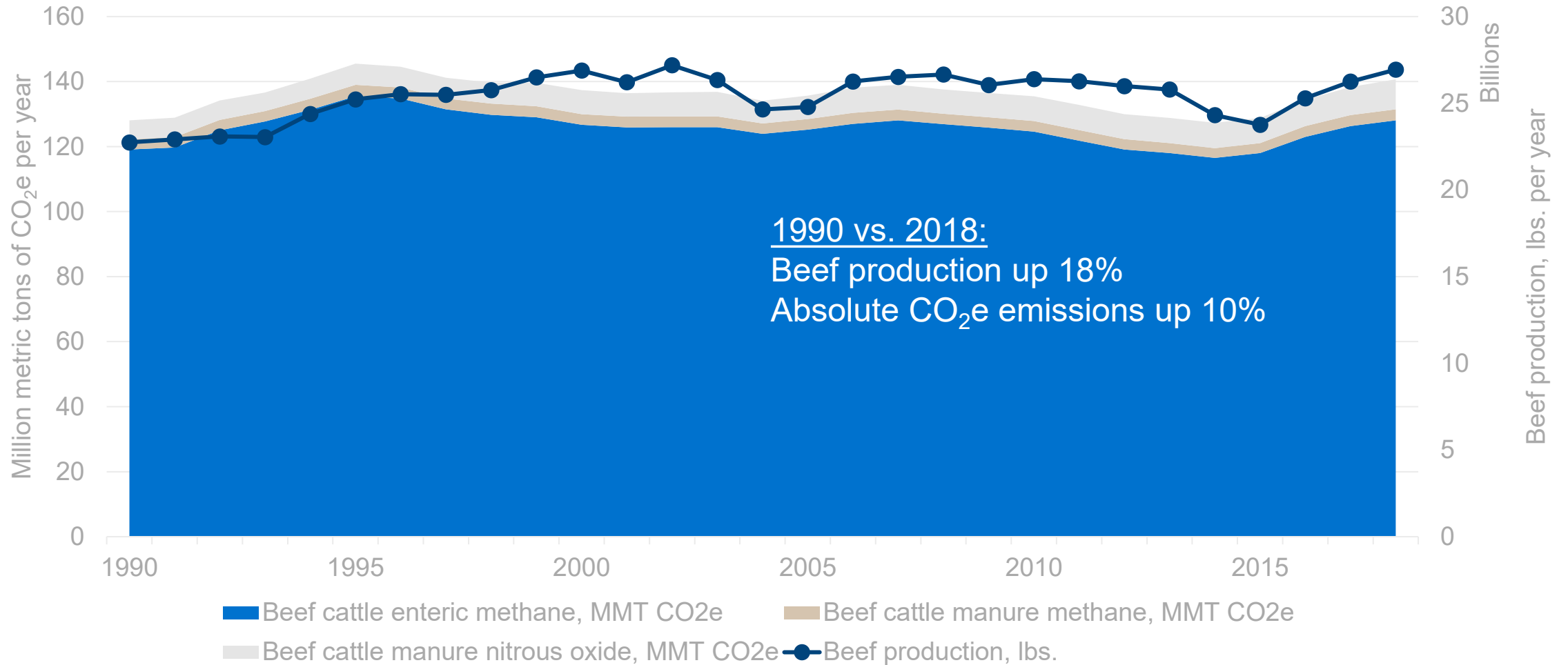
US Beef Emissions

Elanco

TM



Direct US beef GHG emissions in CO₂e and beef production



The Climate Balance Sheet for US Beef Cattle Production

EMISSIONS SOURCES (% OF TOTAL¹):

Enteric methane emissions (56%)

- Cow-calf production = 77% of enteric methane emissions
- Opportunities: improved production efficiency, reduced mortality, increased digestibility of feedstuffs, new innovations to inhibit methane

Feed/soil emissions (24%)

- Mostly soil nitrous oxide
- Opportunities: improvements in crop yields, optimized fertilizer use, integration of cattle & crops

Fossil fuel & input emissions (17%)

- Equipment, fertilizer, electricity, lime
- Opportunities: energy efficiency, optimized fertilizer use

Manure emissions (3%)

- Manure nitrous oxide & methane
- Opportunities: Manure management strategies and innovations customized to operations (e.g., composting, anaerobic digestion where relevant)

¹Rotz, CA, Asem-Hiablie, S, Place, S, Thoma, G. Environmental Footprints of Beef Cattle Production in the United States. Agricultural Systems [Internet]. 2019 Feb [cited 2020 Aug 13]. 169:1-13. <https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0308521X18305675>

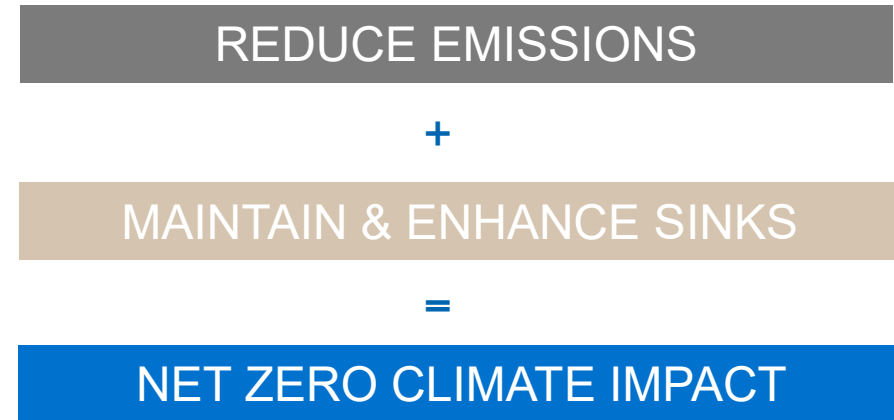
CARBON SEQUESTRATION:

Pasture and rangelands

- Opportunities: Maintain soil C stores, increase soil where possible via management & re-establishment on degraded/highly erodible croplands

Row crops fed to cattle

- Opportunities: increase no-till/reduced tillage, cover crops, integration with cattle & other livestock





US Cattle Emissions

- **Both beef and dairy are dominated by methane (enteric + manure)**
- **Critically important to understand the implications of different climate metrics & how different metrics relate to climate goals**

Accounting for Short-lived GHG Emissions Separately to Better Link Emissions to Warming



Net zero for agriculture

Oxford Martin Programme on Climate Pollution



August 2019

To design effective policies to stop global warming, we need to know the impact of different measures on temperature. This has long been a challenge for action involving short-lived climate pollutants such as methane. CO₂-warming-equivalent (CO₂-we) emissions provide a simple but accurate way of assessing the global temperature outcomes of different mitigation options, avoiding well-known problems arising from the use of conventional CO₂-equivalent (CO₂-e) emissions.

Article | [Open Access](#) | Published: 04 September 2019

Improved calculation of warming-equivalent emissions for short-lived climate pollutants

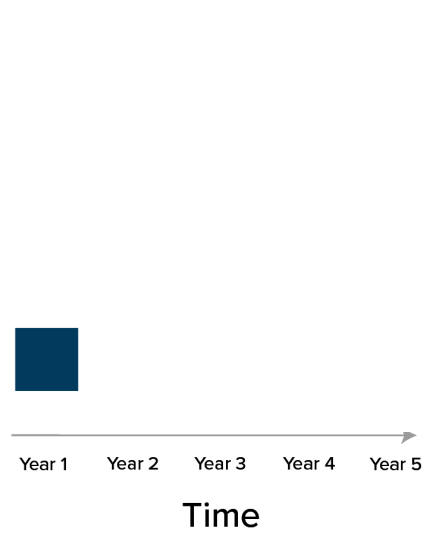
Michelle Cain [✉](#), John Lynch, Myles R. Allen, Jan S. Fuglestedt, David J. Frame & Adrian H Macey

npj Climate and Atmospheric Science **2**, Article number: 29 (2019) | [Cite this article](#)

2813 Accesses | **64** Altmetric | [Metrics](#)

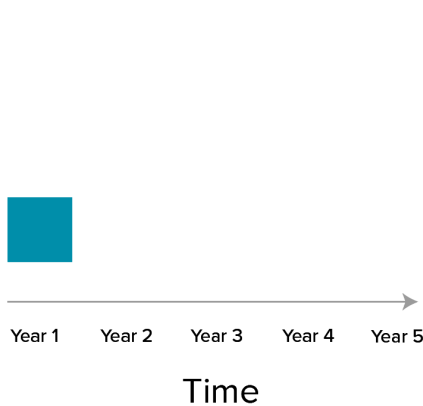
■ = Pulse of CO₂

Stock Gas
Carbon dioxide (CO₂)
Atmospheric Concentration



■ = Pulse of CH₄

Flow Gas
Methane (CH₄)
Atmospheric Concentration



Stock gases will accumulate over time, because they stay in the environment.

****If**** emissions and sinks are in balance

Flow gases will stay stagnant, as they are destroyed at the same rate of emission.

Based on research by Myles R. Allen, Keith P. Shine, Jan S. Fuglestedt, Richard J. Millar, Michelle Cain, David J. Frame & Adrian H. Macey. Read more here: <https://rdcu.be/b1t7S>

The “So-what” of New Climate Metrics for Short-lived Gases

Better reflects reality of how emissions impact temperature

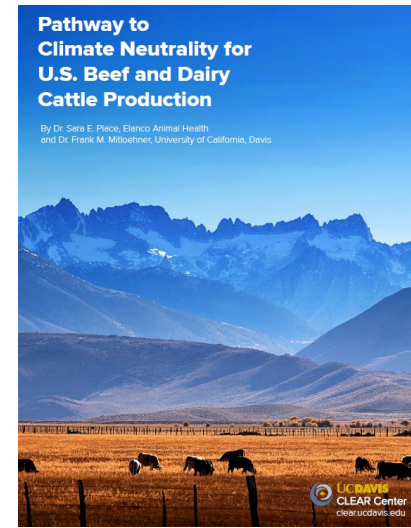
- This is what we actually care about

Highlights that methane emissions do not have to be zero to reach “climate neutrality”

- Climate neutrality defined here as not contributing to additional warming or achieving net zero warming

Important for beef/cattle as methane is the largest GHG in profile

- But, it’s not the only GHG associated with cattle production!



If the Goal is Climate Neutrality for US Cattle, *What Could that Look Like?*

Assumptions in Scenario to Reach Climate Neutrality for Beef

Item	2020	2050	% change from 2020
Total non-dairy cattle, Jan. 1	79,766,700	79,549,600	-0.3%
Beef production, billion lbs.	27.1	31.2	+15%
Beef cattle enteric CH ₄ , Tg CO ₂ e ¹	175.5	136.0	-23%
Feedlot cattle enteric CH ₄ /d, g/hd	127	96	-24%
Beef cow enteric CH ₄ /d, g/d	262	204	-22%
Indirect GHG emissions, Tg CO ₂ e ¹	101.4	72.3	-28%
Carbon footprint, kg CO ₂ e/kg beef carcass ^{1,2}	23.72	15.70	-34%
Total GHG emissions, Tg CO ₂ e ¹	291.3	222.4	-24%

¹Carbon dioxide equivalents (CO₂e) using GWP100 values of 34 and 298 for methane and nitrous oxide, respectively

²The carbon footprint here does not allocate emissions to or from dairy cattle, but rather only accounts for enteric and manure emissions directly attributed to non-dairy cattle within the U.S. EPA GHG inventory. For comparison, Rotz et al. (2019) found a U.S.-wide carbon footprint for beef cattle production of 21.3 kg CO₂e/kg carcass weight using GWP100 values of 28 and 265 for CH₄ and N₂O, respectively. The 2020 footprint reported here would be 21.04 kg CO₂e/kg carcass weight using those GWP100 values

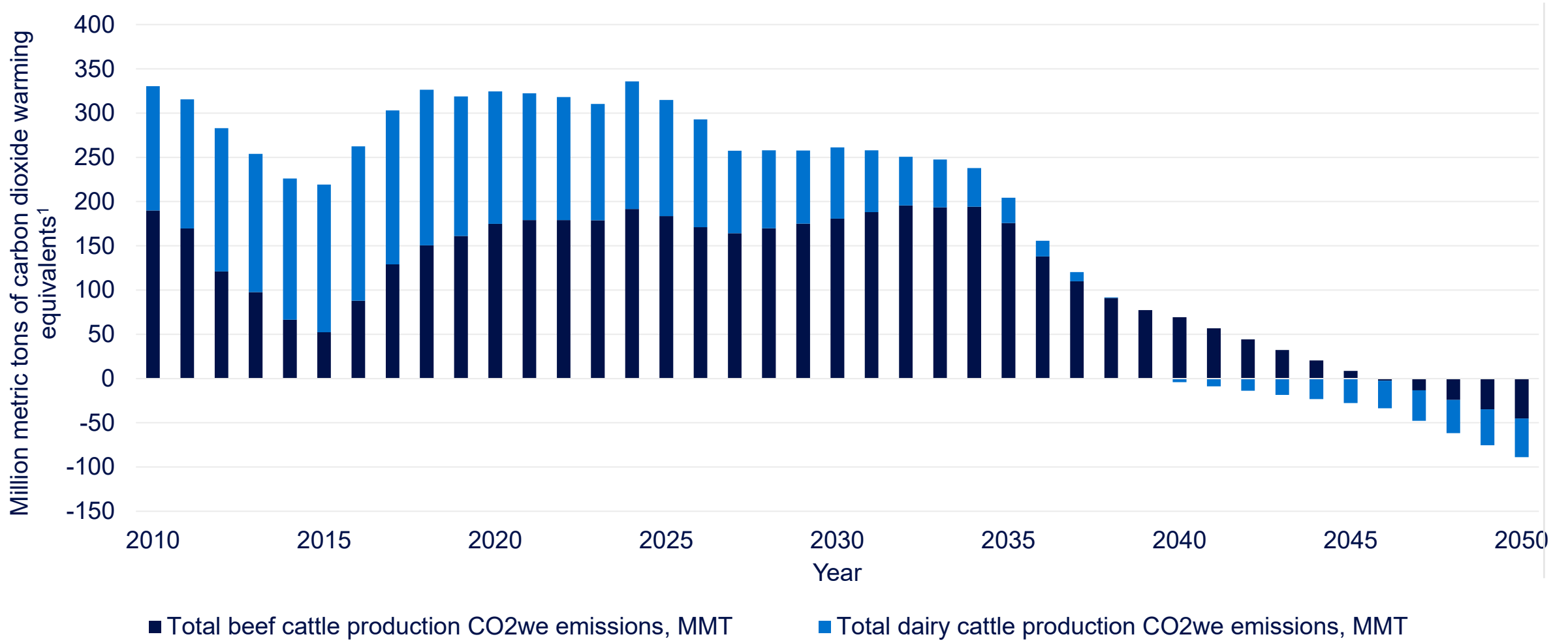
Assumptions in Scenario to Reach Climate Neutrality for Dairy

Item	2020	2050	% change from 2020
Total dairy cows, Jan. 1	9,342,600	9,440,000	+1%
Milk production, billion lbs.	223.2	332.3	+49%
Dairy cattle enteric CH ₄ , Tg CO ₂ e ¹	58.8	48.3	-18%
Manure CH ₄ emissions, Tg CO ₂ e	43.4	30.0	-31%
Dairy cow enteric CH ₄ /d, g/d	404	311	-23%
Indirect GHG emissions, Tg CO ₂ e ¹	23.6	16.9	-28%
Carbon footprint, kg CO ₂ e/kg milk ^{1,2}	1.30	0.67	-48%
Total GHG emissions, Tg CO ₂ e ¹	131.7	101.2	-23%

¹Carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) emissions are calculated using the 100-year global warming potentials of 34 and 298 for methane (CH₄) and nitrous oxide (N₂O), respectively

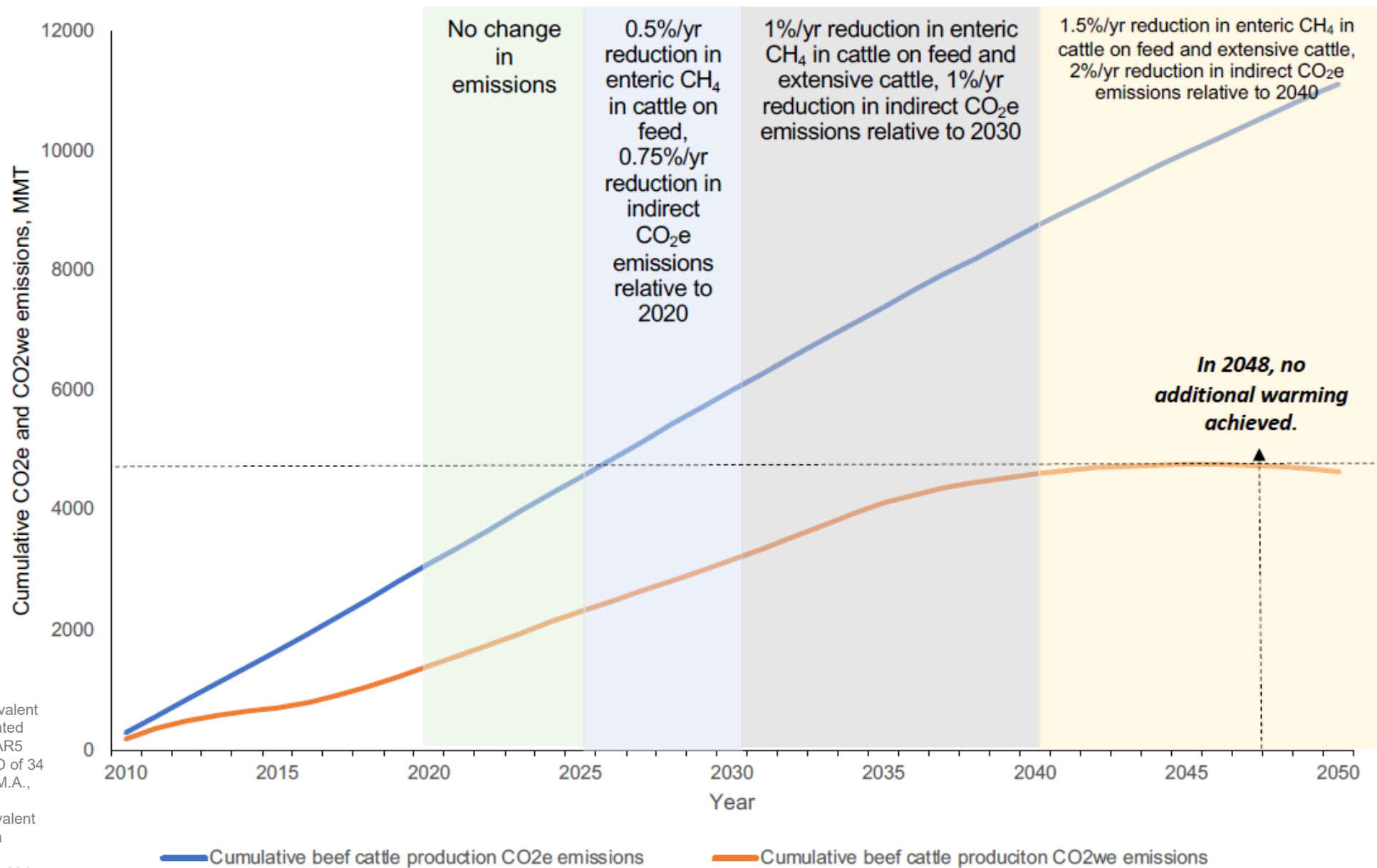
²The cradle-to-farm gate estimated here does not allocate any enteric and manure emissions from dairy cattle in the EPA GHG inventory to beef production. For comparison, a recent footprint analysis from Capper and Cady, 2020 estimated a dairy cattle footprint of 1.7 kg CO₂e/kg milk using GWP100 values of 34 and 298 for CH₄ and N₂O, respectively. Thoma et al. (2013) reported a cradle-to-farm gate U.S. dairy average of 1.23 kg CO₂e/kg fat-and-protein corrected milk (FPCM) using the GWP100 values of 25 and 298 for CH₄ and N₂O, respectively. Rotz et al. (2021) reported a U.S. dairy footprint of 1.01 kg CO₂e/kg FPCM using the GWP100 values of 28 and 265 for CH₄ and N₂O, respectively.

Climate Neutrality for US Beef & Dairy Cattle Production by 2044



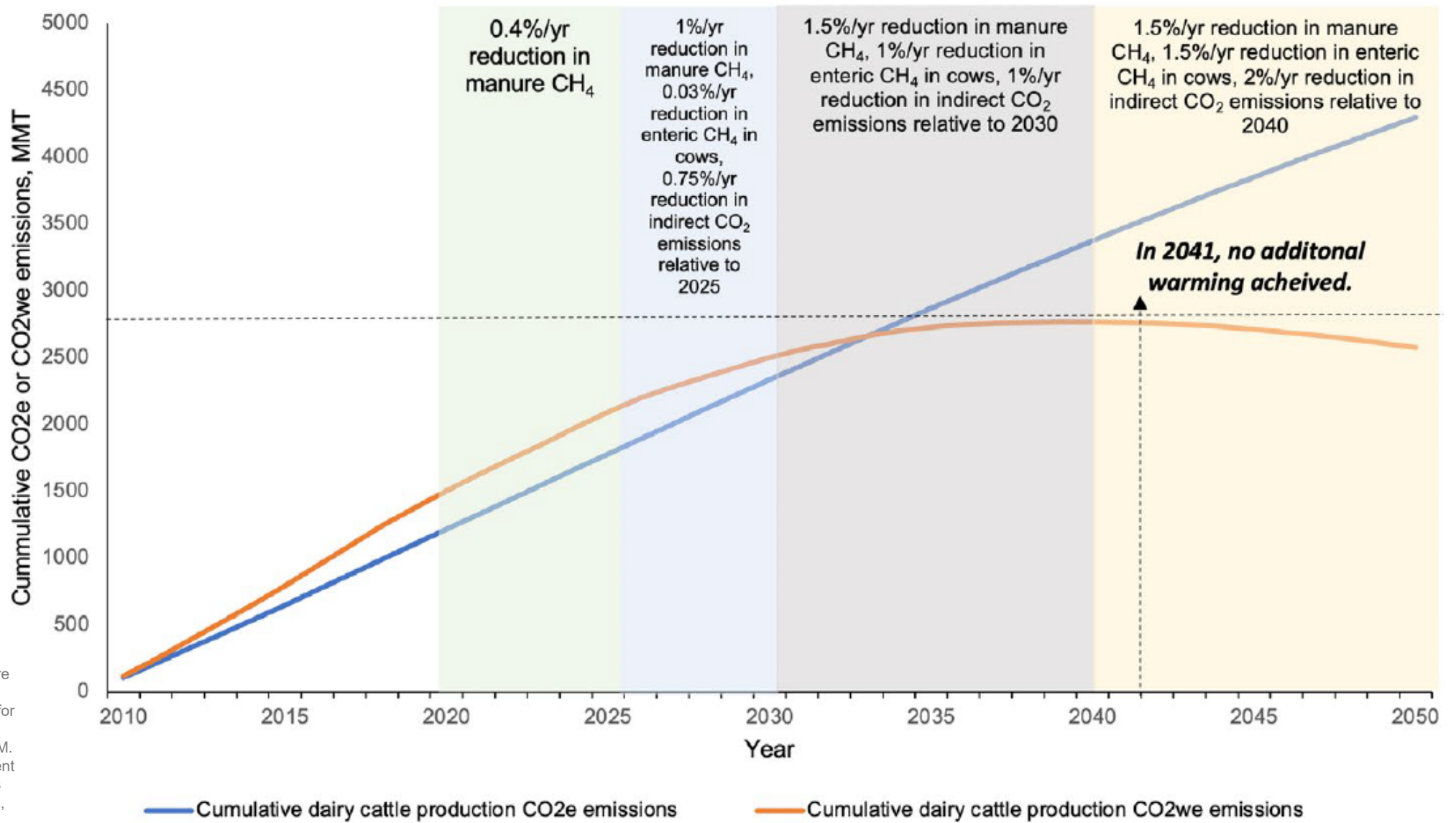
¹Carbon dioxide warming equivalent (CO₂we) emissions are calculated using 20-year time horizon & AR5 GWP100 values for CH₄ & N₂O of 34 and 298, respectively. Smith, M.A., Cain, M. & Allen, M.R. Further improvement of warming-equivalent emissions calculation. npj Clim Atmos Sci 4, 19 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41612-021-00169-8>





¹Carbon dioxide warming equivalent (CO₂we) emissions are calculated using 20-year time horizon & AR5 GWP100 values for CH₄ & N₂O of 34 and 298, respectively. Smith, M.A., Cain, M. & Allen, M.R. Further improvement of warming-equivalent emissions calculation. npj Clim Atmos Sci 4, 19 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41612-021-00169-8>

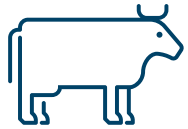
Figure 6. Cumulative carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) or carbon dioxide warming equivalent (CO₂we) for US beef cattle production from 2010 to 2050 for the case study scenario. Assumed changes in emissions by time period are indicated on the graph. The point at which annual CO₂we emissions do not add to further warming is indicated on the graph.



¹Carbon dioxide warming equivalent (CO₂we) emissions are calculated using 20-year time horizon & AR5 GWP100 values for CH₄ & N₂O of 34 and 298, respectively. Smith, M.A., Cain, M. & Allen, M.R. Further improvement of warming-equivalent emissions calculation. npj Clim Atmos Sci 4, 19 (2021). <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41612-021-00169-8>

Figure 7. Cumulative carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e) or carbon dioxide warming equivalent (CO₂we) for U.S. dairy cattle production from 2010 to 2050 for the case study scenario. Assumed changes in emissions by time period are indicated on the graph. The point at which annual CO₂we emissions do not add to further warming is indicated on the graph.

What Would Be Needed To Reach Climate Neutrality While Maintaining Herd and Production Growth



Need to reduce emissions per head, not just per lb. of beef & milk



Enteric methane is a major “lever” to pull for beef:

- Genetics (feed intake, methane directly)
- Feed additives, feeding strategies
 - Challenge how to deliver to grazing cattle where ~82% of the methane emissions come from?
- Other innovations (e.g., vaccine?)

High penetration of US cattle enteric mitigation

\$556 million value in dairy & fed cattle, \$973 additional value in extensive cattle @ 70% market share & \$40/t

	Fed beef cattle	Extensive beef cattle	Dairy cows	Dairy heifers	Total
Total enteric CH ₄ , MMT CO ₂ e ¹	17.0	112.1	34.5	8.8	172.3
Market share	70%	70%	70%	70%	
% reduction in enteric CH ₄ per head	34%	31%	33%	31%	-38 MMT
Total value @ \$40/t CO ₂ e, USD	\$161 million	\$973 million	\$319 million	\$76 million	\$1.53 billion
	\$0.06/lb. of beef carcass weight ²		\$0.26/cwt milk ²		

¹Using GWP100 value for methane of 25, source: US EPA GHG Inventory for year 2019. Available at:

<https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2021-04/documents/us-ghg-inventory-2021-annexes.pdf>

²Using 2019 beef & milk production as base production from USDA-NASS Quick Stats database

What Would Be Needed To Reach Climate Neutrality While Maintaining Herd and Production Growth

Unlikely reducing enteric methane will get cattle production to climate neutrality alone, so need other reductions and/or increase C sinks

Other reduction examples:

- Reducing feed emissions (e.g., soil N₂O emissions)
- Reducing energy/fuel emissions

Carbon sequestration

- Potential to increase is likely highly dependent upon climate & land's prior use
- **Consideration: if carbon sold as an offset to buyers outside supply chain, can beef or dairy claim as well??**

Bottom Line

Climate neutrality for beef & dairy cattle production in the USA is likely possible and technically feasible

- But, it requires new innovations

We cannot lose focus of other aspects of sustainability

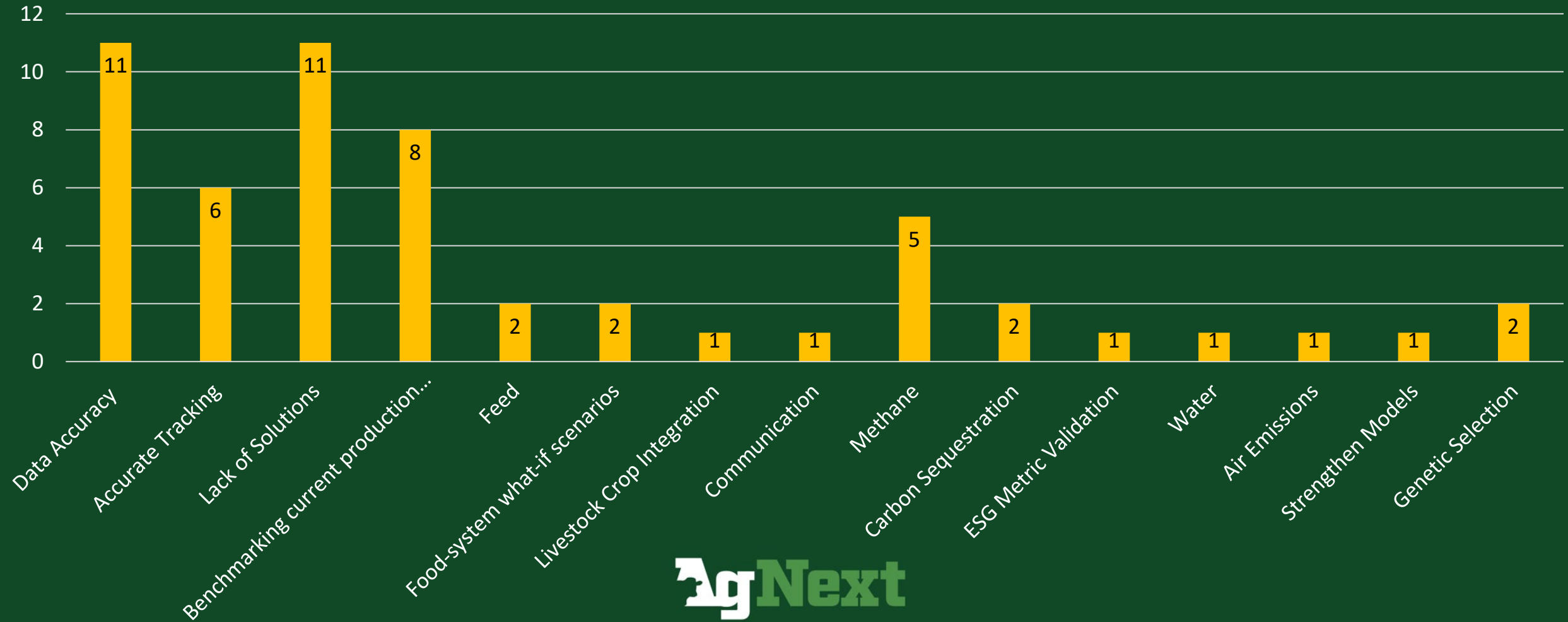
- First and foremost, need economic viability
- Cattle production is critical source of nutrition & ruminant benefits to sustainability are substantial (optimum land use, upcycling, wildfire suppression, etc.)

Societal perceptions are driving conversation & expectations are high

- Future pathways to tangibly achieve action are needed
- Gaps to fill in knowledge, implementation, economic feasibility, and people!

Thank You

What do you think the research gaps are in sustainability?



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Terry Fankhauser



Dr. Greg Thoma



Dr. April Leytem



Dr. Kristin Hales

*Panel:
Innovative
Solutions &
Research
Gaps*



Dr. Justin Derner



Dr. Brent Auvermann

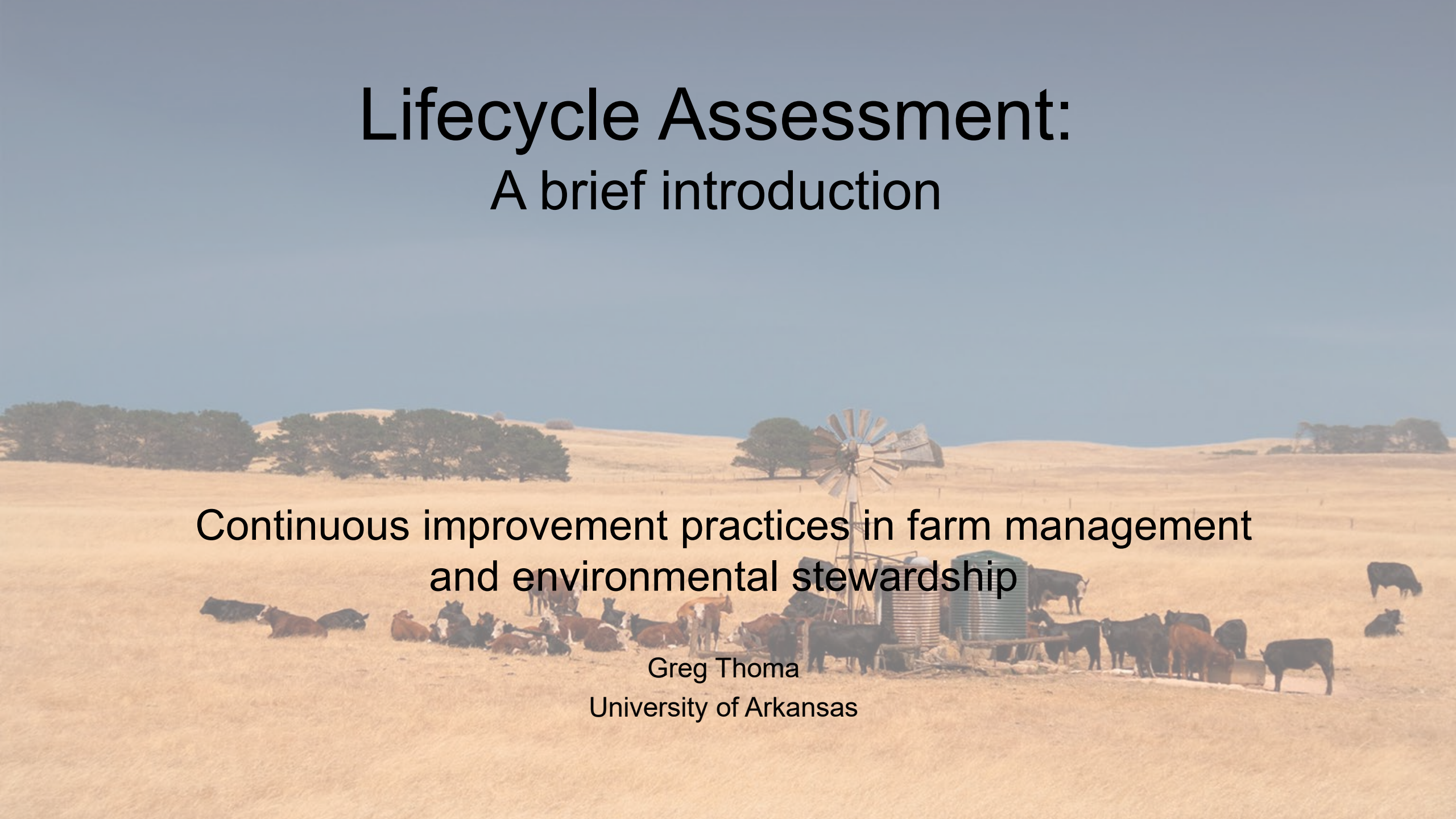


Dr. John Ritten

Lifecycle Assessment: A brief introduction

Continuous improvement practices in farm management
and environmental stewardship

Greg Thoma
University of Arkansas

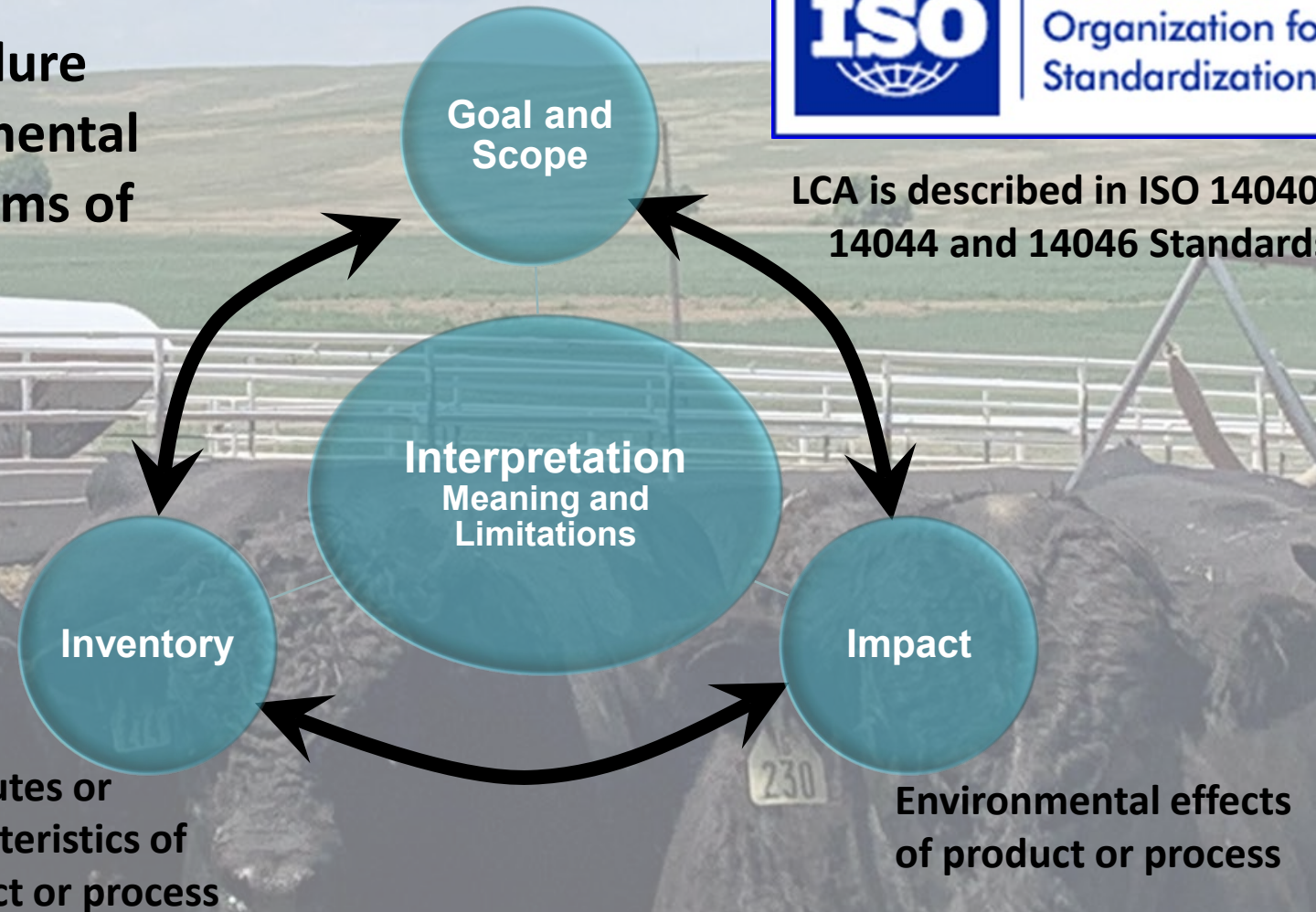


LCA & Sustainability

Manage What You Measure

What? LCA is a multi-step procedure for calculating the lifetime environmental impact of a product or service in terms of a standardized unit of measure, the functional unit (FU).

- **Why?**
- Product Development / Improvement
 - Selection of best materials or process options (e.g., conservation)
- Identification of 'hotspots' for innovation
- Benchmarking
- Product labels / marketing
- Strategic planning
- Inform public policy



LCA is described in ISO 14040, 14044 and 14046 Standards

LCA Modelling

- **Functional unit (FU)**

- **System boundaries**

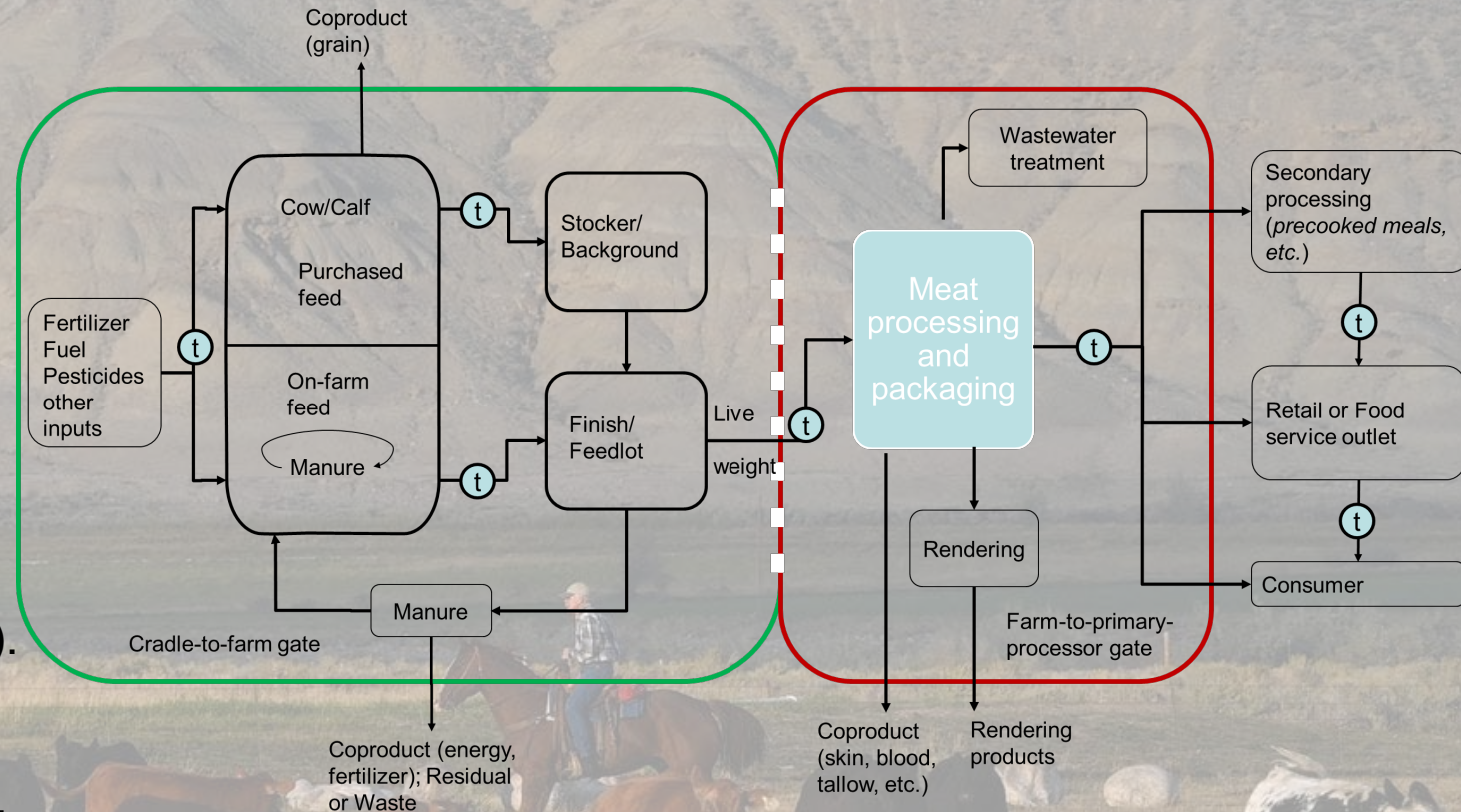
what is included (accounting/legal?).

- **Life Cycle Inventory**

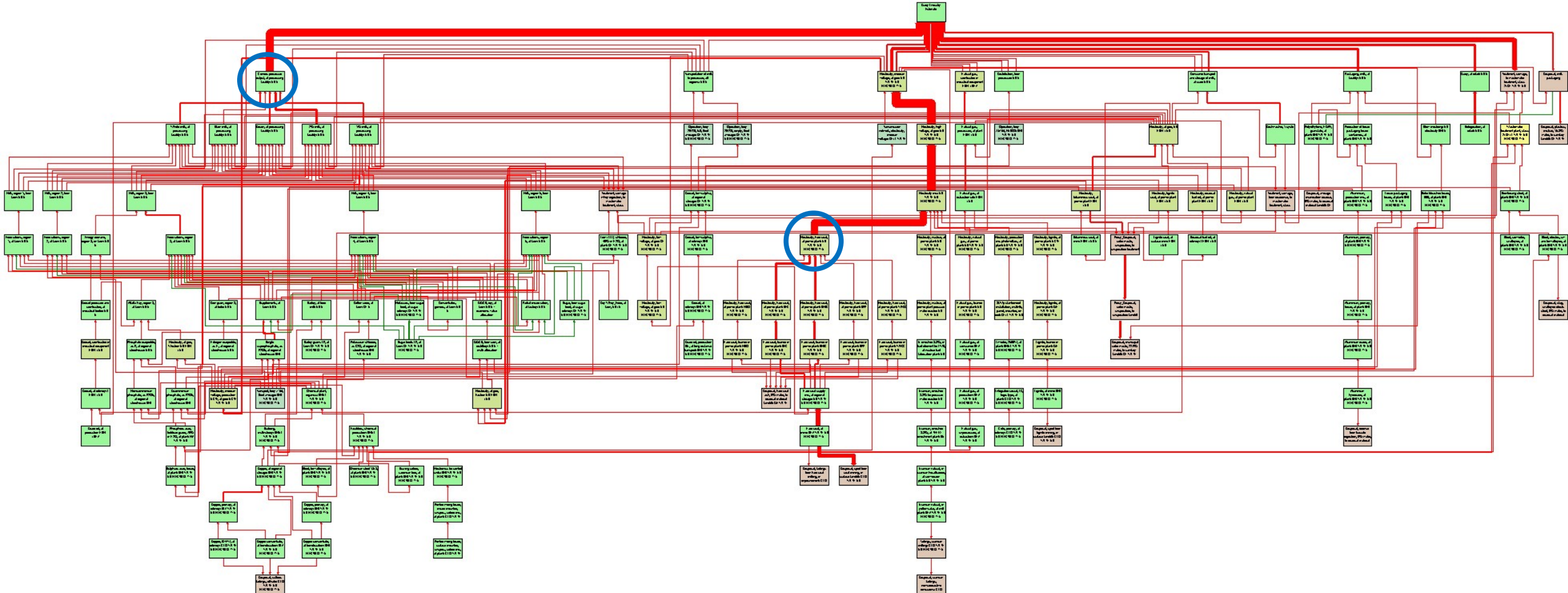
- extraction of raw resources, primary and secondary production processes, distribution, retail, consumption and EoL.

- **Life Cycle Impact Assessment (LCIA)**

- ‘collapses’ the inventory to a manageable set of environmental impacts (e.g., carbon or water footprint)



Some Connections are More Important



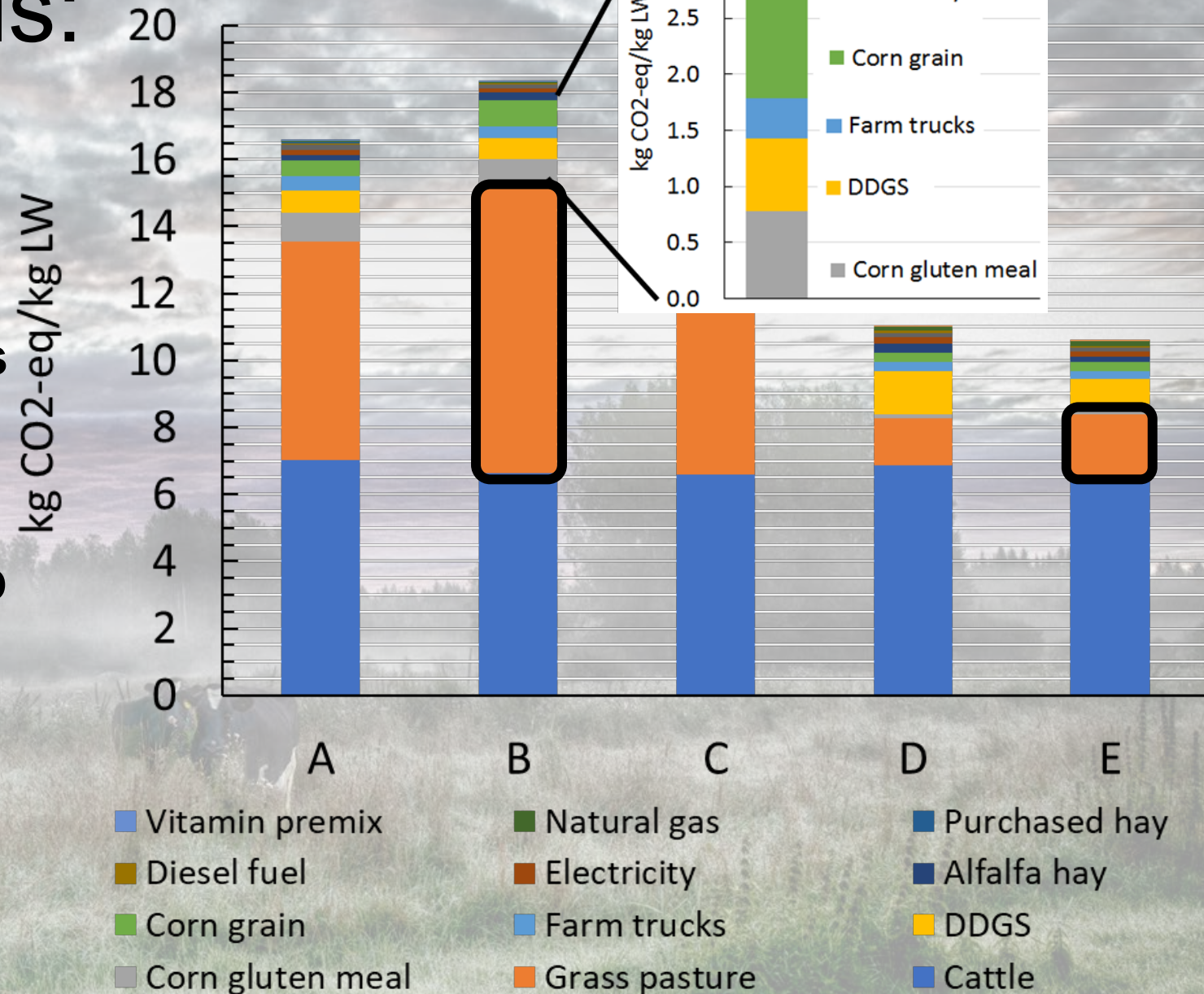
Leverage points for improvement

Contribution analysis: location matters

- Matched farm size and practices
Differences driven mainly by
pasture-related emissions

- Farm B pasture emits ~8X more N₂O per ha than Farm E

- Pasture includes resource use associated with maintenance and emissions resulting from deposited manure and fertilizers



Limitations

- **Incomplete assessment of:**
 - Biodiversity
 - Soil health
 - Land use / Land use change (especially with regard to urban/peri-urban locations)
- **Continually improving input data/system descriptions**

Quantification of Greenhouse Gas Emissions from the System

April Leytem

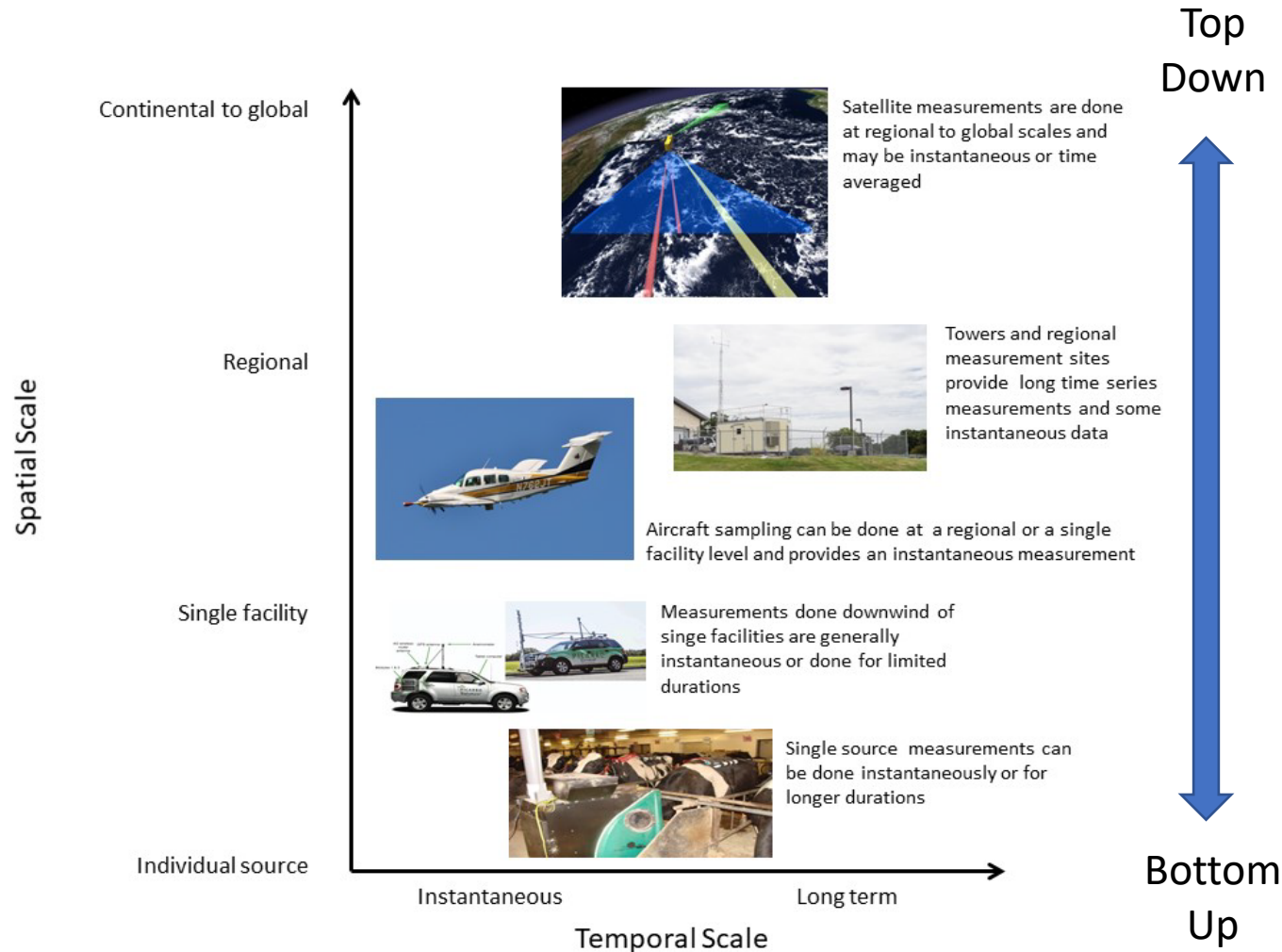
USDA-ARS, Kimberly, ID



Approaches for Measurements

Top down estimates include emissions from all sources but may have difficulty in attributing emissions to specific sources or source categories.

Bottom up methods provide information about the magnitudes and patterns of emissions from specific sources.



Top Down:

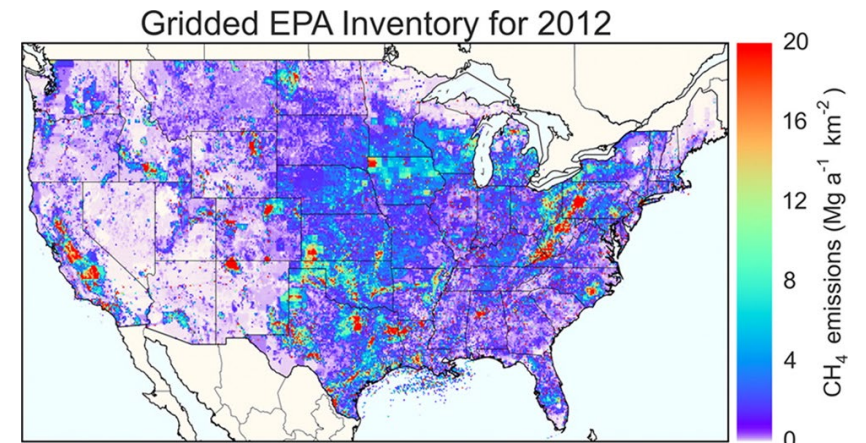
- Remote observatories
- Towers
- Aircraft mass balance
- Aircraft remote sensing
- satellite

Bottom Up:

- point source
- Enclosure (chamber)
- Micrometeorological
- Perimeter facility line
- External tracer
- Inverse dispersion
- Facility scale aircraft/drone

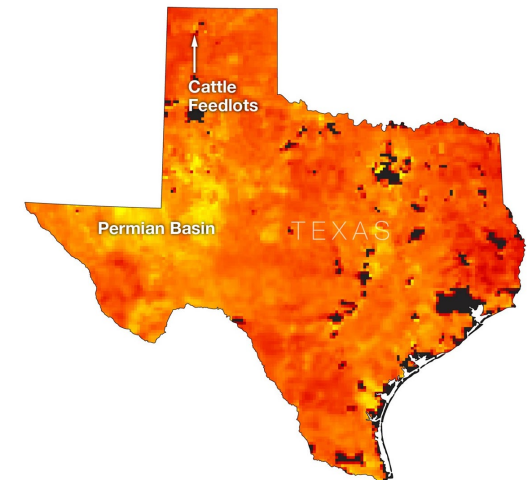
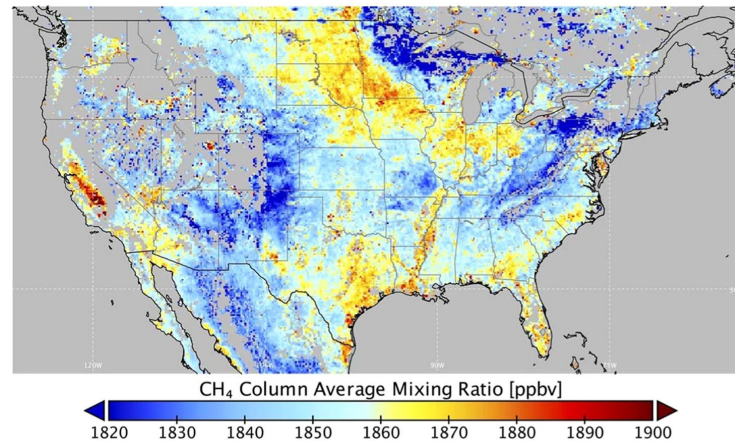
What is the Question/Purpose?

- Baseline emissions – accuracy
- Verification of mitigation – how do we know solutions are working
- Farm scale vs. National Inventory



Things We Have to Consider

- Where do we draw the box? (individual source, facility, regional, national)
- How do we capture variability? (animal to animal/management, daily, seasonal, spatial)



Ultimately the goal is to improve models as we can't make measurements on every farm.

Challenges Related to Quantifying GHG Emissions

Methane

- Measurement of enteric methane in rangeland cattle
 - Need to be able to better predict forage intake and quality
- Methane emissions from manure storage/treatment
- Efficacy of enteric methane mitigation at the herd level and at longer time periods



Nitrous Oxide

- Measurement of N₂O on rangeland/feedlots/manure storage
- Better emission factors for feed production

Technology

- Instruments with high sensitivity and fast data capture
- Improvement of satellite retrievals/algorithms

Modeling/Inventory

- Improved process-based models for estimating system GHG budgets etc.
- Better activity data





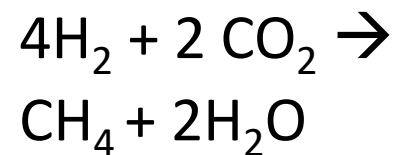
Methane Mitigation Strategies

Kristin Hales

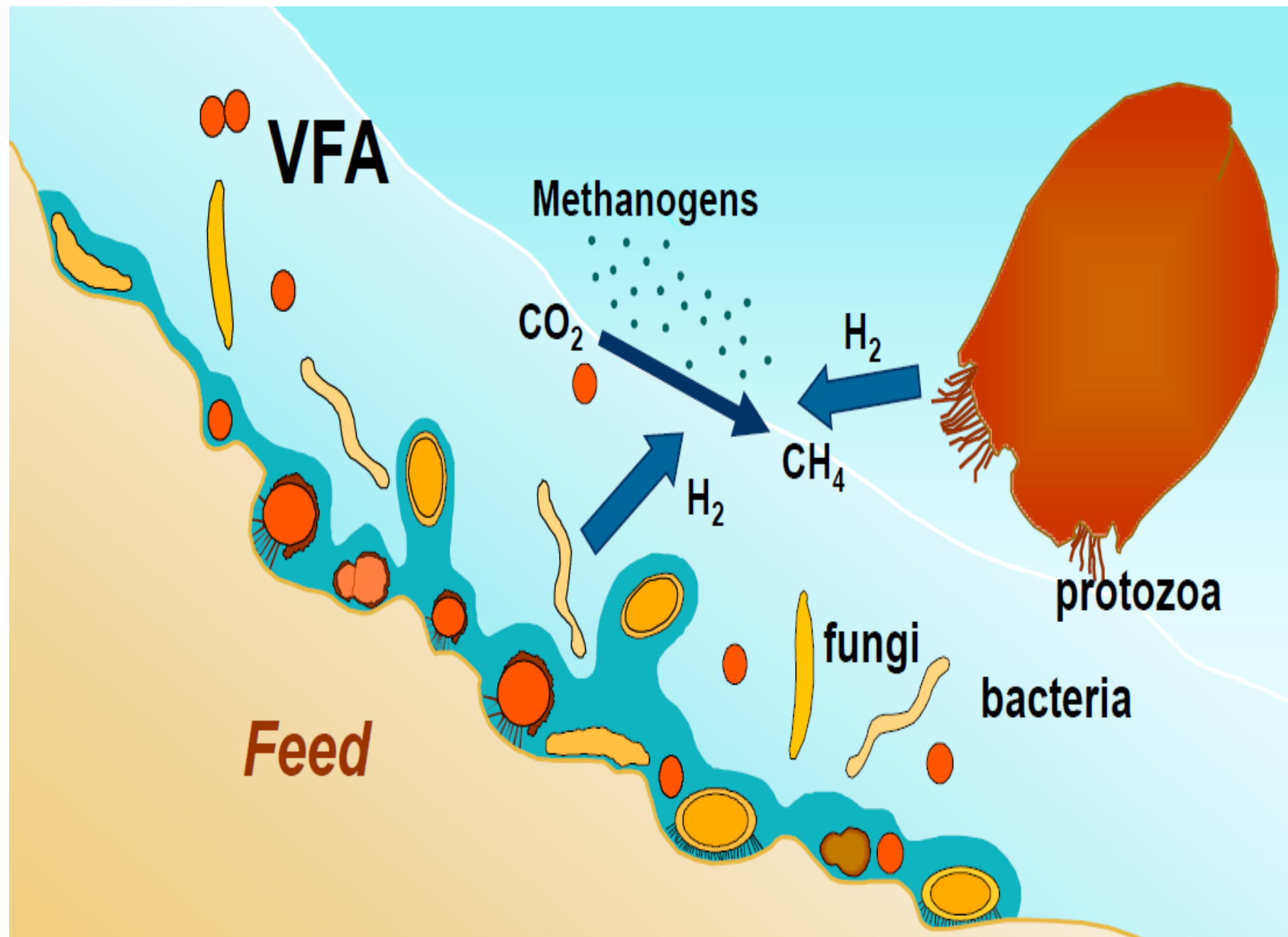
Department of Animal and Food Science

Texas Tech University

- Methane (CH₄) production is a microbially driven process to remove hydrogen from the rumen



- 2 to 12% of intake energy is lost as CH₄
- 6 to 10% on forage-based diets
- 2.5 to 4% on grain-based diets



Expressing Methane Production

- Total Production (grams/day, liters/day)
 - Mainly influenced by intake
 - Positively correlated to production
- Methane Yield (grams/kg DMI, % of intake)
Describes CH₄ per unit of intake
 - Decrease as feeding level or intake increase
 - Biologically more correct than total CH₄
- Methane Intensity (grams/unit of product, grams/kg of red meat yield)
 - Mainly influenced by production level
 - Practical target to reduce CH₄ per unit of product
 - Life cycle analysis, takes longevity into account

GHG

$$\text{efficiency} = \frac{\text{kg meat/milk}}{\text{ton of CH}_4 \text{ produced}}$$

 **CAUTION**

Use the correct
denominator!

GHG production
should be viewed
as an investment!

	Seaweed	3-NOP	Nitrate	Genetic Selection	Vaccine	Management Strategies
Animal production	↓	Little change	Little change	??	??	↑
Methane, g/day	↓	↓	↓	Unlikely, not directly	Success unknown	↓
Methane, g/kg HCW	↓	↓	↓	??	??	↓
Long term monitoring	147 days	115 days	90 days	Early stages	??	Life cycle analyses ongoing
Status	Lack of largescale cultivation of seaweed	Not FDA approved in U.S.	Experimental, acclimation is critical	Research ongoing	Research ongoing	Research ongoing
Scalability	Unlikely to be successful, decreases in HCW (20 lb)	Unknown	Unlikely to be successful, may increase N ₂ O	Unknown	Unknown	Ongoing for 30+ years

Technologies to Decrease Enteric Methane

Diet Optimization

- Increase starch concentration
- Added fat
- Grain processing
- Grasses vs. legumes
- Increase forage quality

Genetic Selection

- High vs. low CH₄ production
- Selection for efficiency

Microbiome Manipulation

- Alter rumen to decrease CH₄
- Vaccine

Management Strategies

- Technologies that increase growth and carcass weight
 - Ionophores, implants, β -agonists
- Decrease days on feed
- Increase reproductive efficiency of cow herd
 - Decrease open cows
 - Increase longevity of mature cows
 - Moderate cow size and mature wt

Are these mitigation strategies additive?

Carbon Sequestration and Rangelands: State of the Science and Opportunities

Justin Derner

Justin.Derner@usda.gov



Characteristics of Rangelands

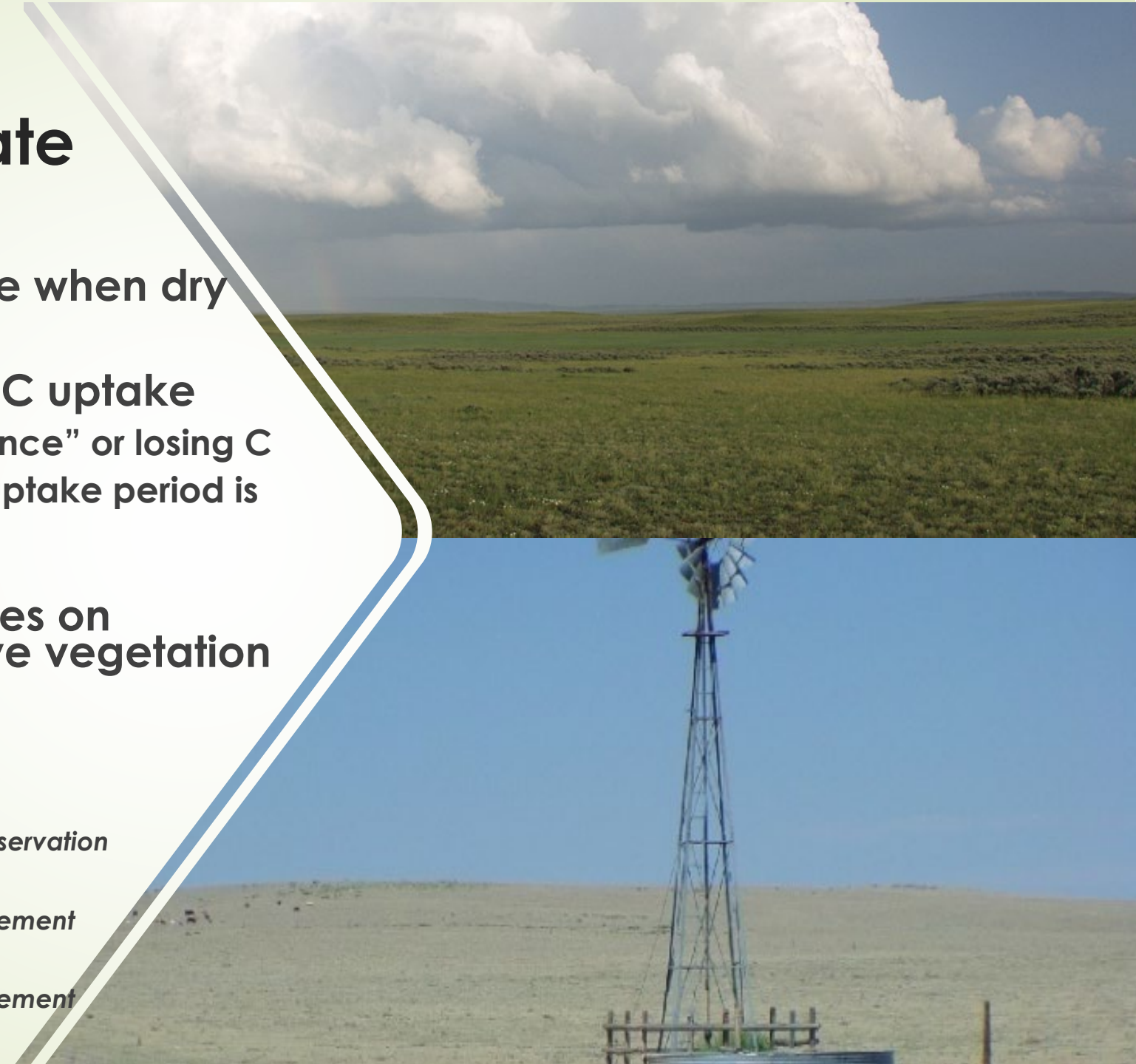
- ▶ High degree of spatial and temporal variability
- ▶ Ecosystem C storage mostly in soil organic matter
- ▶ Slow vegetation change
 - ▶ Decadal scales
- ▶ *Porensky et al. 2016*
Journal of Applied Ecology
- ▶ *Porensky et al. 2017*
Rangeland Ecology & Management



Influences of Weather/Climate

- ▶ Sink when wet; source when dry
- ▶ 2-4 months period of C uptake
 - ▶ Rest of year is “in balance” or losing C
 - ▶ Management during uptake period is critical
- ▶ Low sequestration rates on rangelands with native vegetation

- ▶ *Sanderson et al 2020*
Journal of Soil and Water Conservation
- ▶ *Morgan et al. 2016*
Rangeland Ecology & Management
- ▶ *Svejcar et al. 2008*
Rangeland Ecology & Management



Influences of Grazing

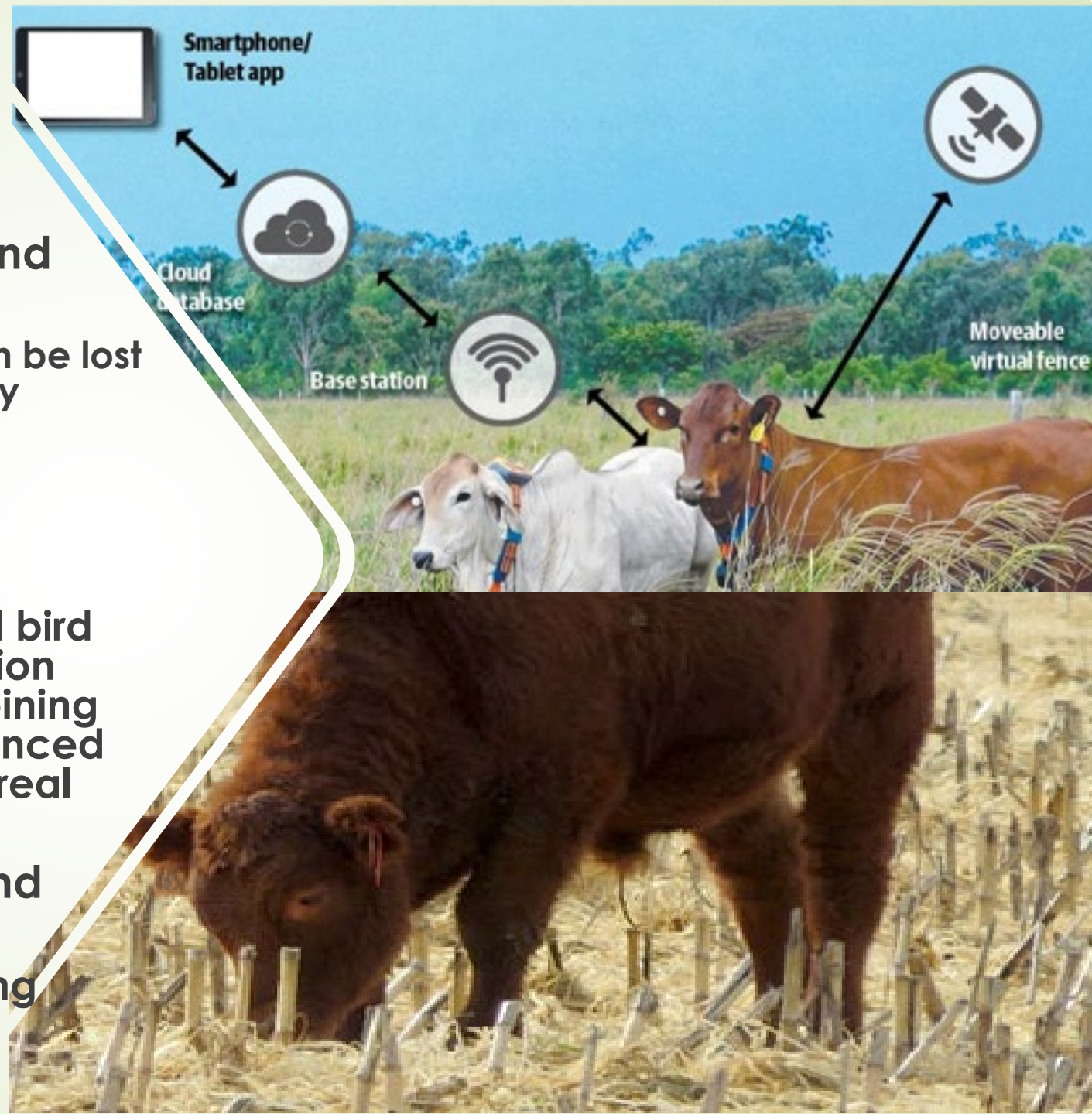


- ▶ **Global synthesis of grazing effects: highly variable**
 - ▶ *Milchunas and Lauenroth 1993 Ecological Monographs*
 - ▶ *McSherry and Ritchie 2013 Global Change Biology*
- ▶ **No grazing effect after 80 years in shortgrass prairie**
 - ▶ *Derner et al. 2019 Ecosystems*

Opportunities

Sanderson et al. 2020
Journal of Soil and Water Conservation

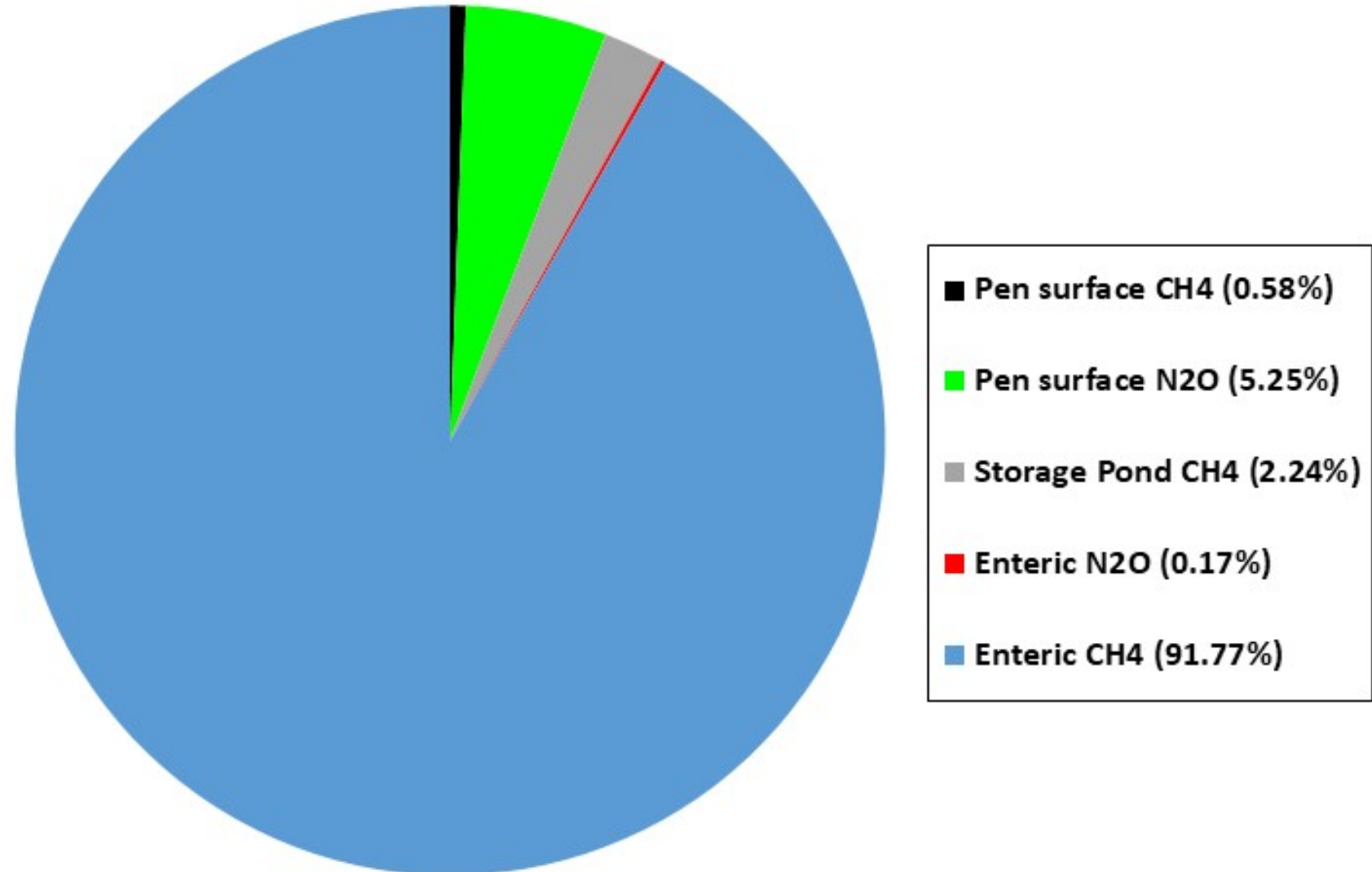
- **Keep rangelands intact and minimize losses**
 - Large amounts of soil C can be lost when rangelands are poorly managed or converted.
- **Emphasize adaptive management**
 - Co-provide vegetation heterogeneity, grassland bird habitat, and fuels reduction outcomes through combining virtual herding with advanced remote sensing for near-real time forage conditions.
- **Restore prior cultivated and degraded lands**
 - Integrate livestock grazing and cropping systems.



Brent W. Auvermann, Professor
and Center Director
Amarillo, TX

Relative Contributions to Feedyard CO₂e Emissions

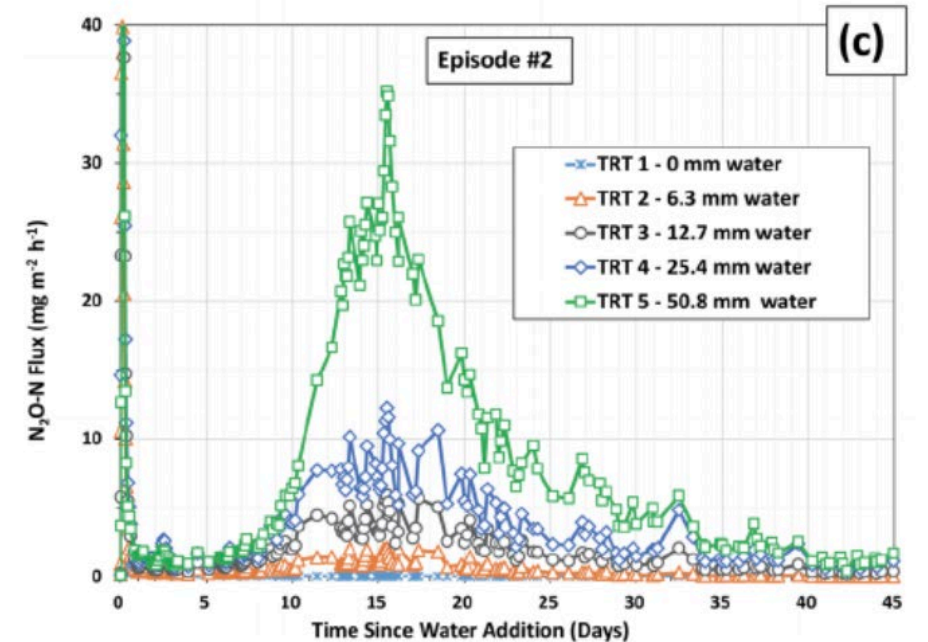
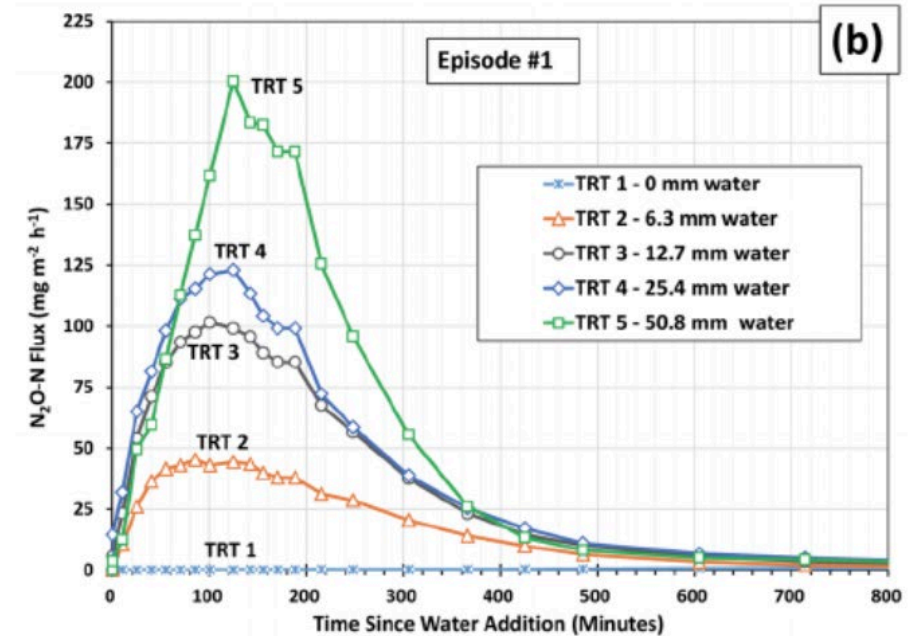
Parker *et al.* (2021), *Transactions of the ASABE* 64(6):1781-1794



In Vitro: Two Distinct Peaks

Parker *et al.* (2017), *JEQ* 46(4):733-740

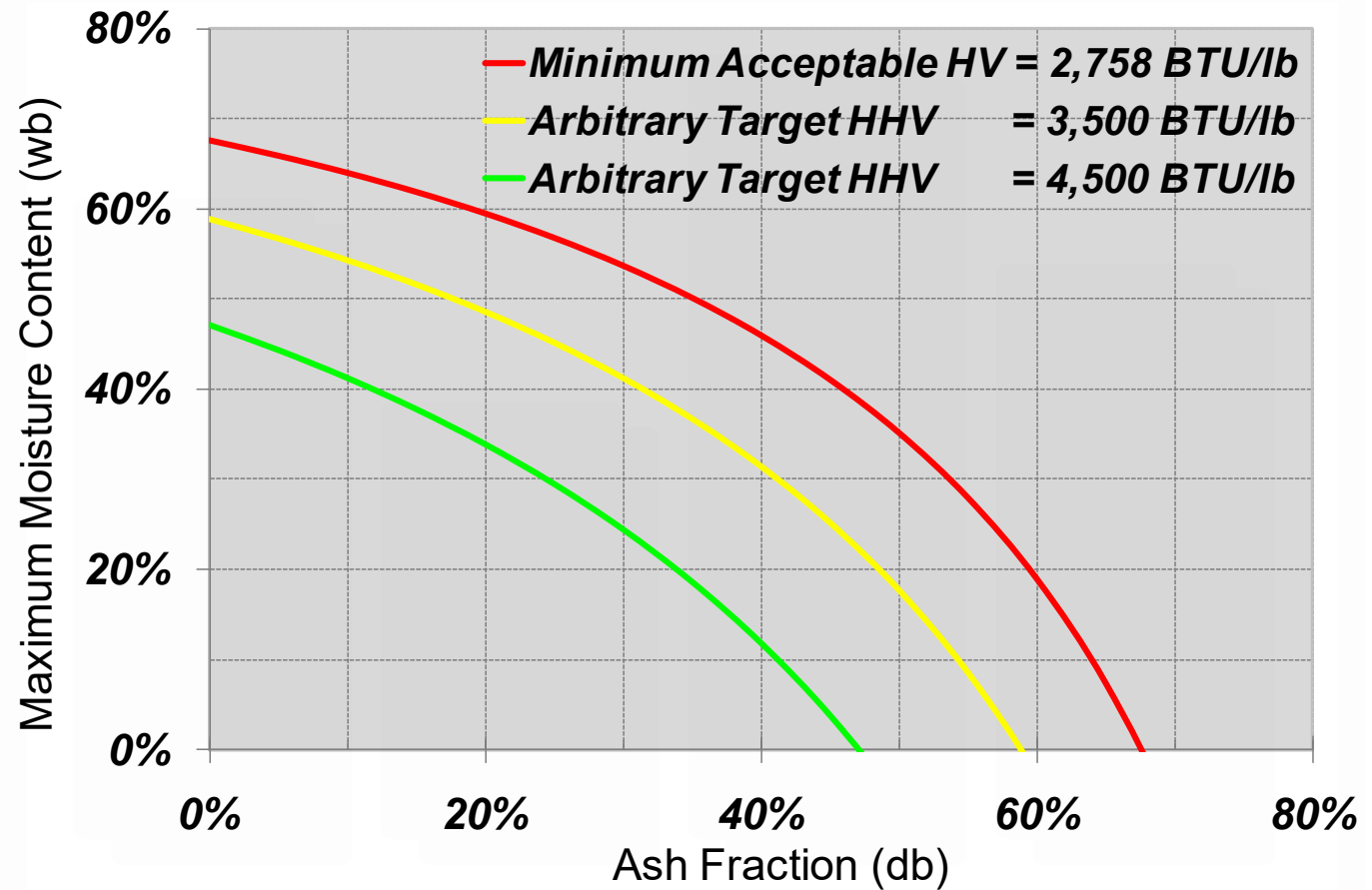
- Peak #1
 - 2-6 hours after sim. rainfall
 - Low cumulative mass emitted
- Peak #2
 - 10-35 days after sim. rainfall
 - High cumulative mass emitted
- If we need to reduce N₂O from the corral surface...?



Biomass Energy

A Cautionary Tale...*and* an Opportunity

- If carbon markets in some form are here to stay, however...
- Upper limit* on fuel value of feedyard manure: ~8,500 Btu/lb (DAF)
 - Water and ash are manure pollutants
 - DAF suggests advanced management approaches
 - Corral-surface management – keep it DAF!
 - Novel housing systems – keep it DAF!



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ENVIRONMENT

SOMETHING IN THE AIR

In the Texas Panhandle, which produces a fifth of the U.S. beef supply, communities are being choked by fecal dust from nearby feedlots. The state's regulatory agency isn't doing anything about it—and it's about to get a whole lot worse.



by **CHRISTOPHER COLLINS**

FEBRUARY 3, 2020, 6:00 AM, CST

A version of this story ran in the January / February 2020 issue.

“We’re just against feedyards that can’t take care of their dust or their smell. *It should stop at their fence line.*”

- A neighbor

The need to think about system-wide, scalable solutions

John Ritten

Ag and Applied Economics

University of Wyoming



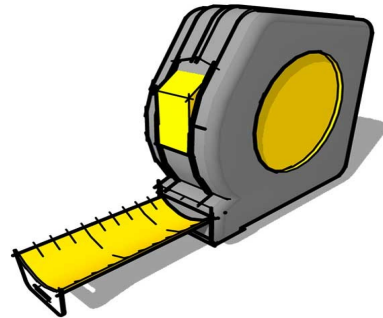
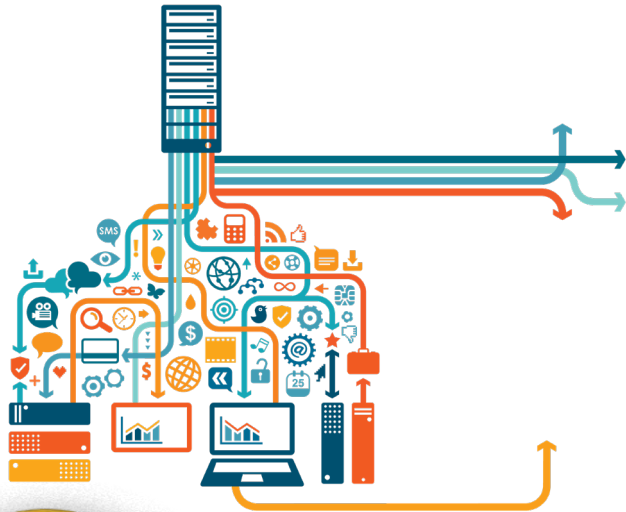
UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

Don't let GHG distract existing goals –
Need to find *synergistic* solutions

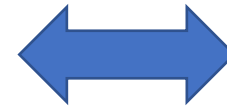


Need to find Scalable, System-Wide Solutions

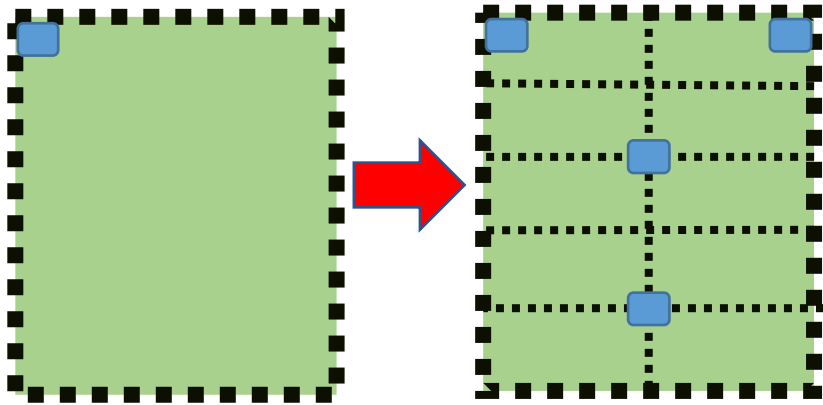
Focus needs to be from cradle to plate -
We need to coordinate and integrate



We will only *manage* what we *measure*. Need to spend time understanding systemic trade-offs!



Unintended Consequences *Across the Supply Chain*



-\$127,000 NPV over 35 years for Cow/calf operation, Dyer et al., 2021

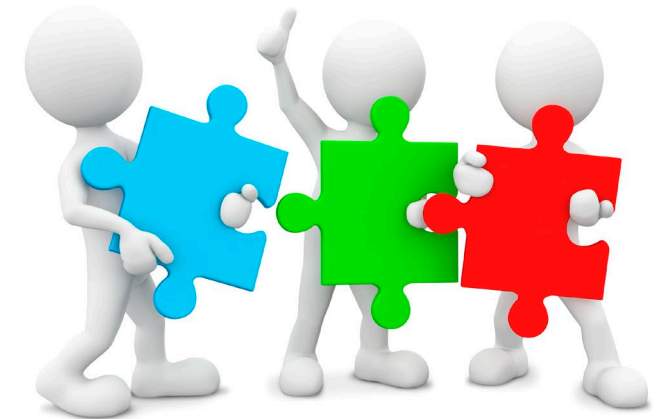
\$2,000 - \$36,000 increase in infrastructure costs, **\$8 - \$210 per steer**, Windh et al., 2019



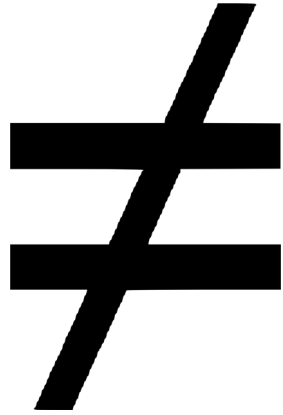
Tech may help, but we're not ready yet—
Fousti et al., 2021

We need to understand the impacts to **OUR** suppliers and customers

Correlation $\sim .5$ for RFI in sheep when comparing grain- and forage-based diets - Ellison et al., *currently in review*



BEEF as a BRAND!



Most consumers don't know which 'brand' of beef they are buying

Can't sacrifice one sector – '**BEEF**' is ALL sectors

Need to understand incentives
ACROSS the supply chain



Legislation can provide needed regulatory framework – questions around: baselines, additivity or maintenance, outcomes vs practices, time and who takes on risk



Thank You!



- John Ritten
- University of Wyoming
- Department of Ag and Applied Economics
- john.ritten@uwyo.edu





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SHAPING THE FUTURE OF SUSTAINABILITY
IN ANIMAL AGRICULTURE

 FIVE
RIVERS
CATTLE FEEDING

Presenting today



Clinton van der Spuy
Head of Risk Management,
Financial Markets



Tom Bailey
Senior Analyst, Consumer
Foods & Food Service



Tierney Seidel
Sustainable Capital
Markets



ESG and Sustainable Lending Revolution

Where is this moving in the future?



Who is Rabobank



Here today



Clinton van der Spuy
Head of Risk Management,
Financial Markets



Tom Bailey
Senior Analyst, Consumer
Foods & Food Service



Tierney Seidel
Sustainable Capital
Markets



What is Sustainable Lending?

Use of Proceeds

GREEN BOND/LOAN
SOCIAL BOND/LOAN
SUSTAINABILITY BOND/LOAN

KPI-Linked

SUSTAINABILITY-LINKED BOND/LOAN

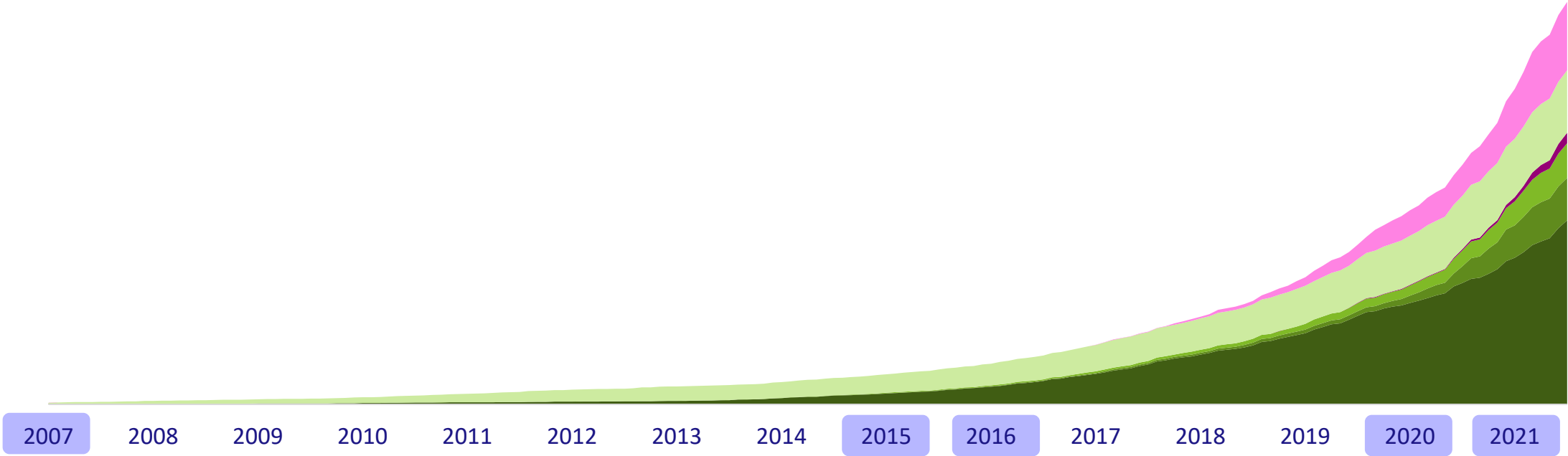


Best Practices

- SUSTAINABILITY-LINKED, GREEN AND SOCIAL LOAN PRINCIPLES
- GREEN, SOCIAL, SUSTAINABILITY, SUSTAINABILITY-LINKED BOND PRINCIPLES
- EU GREEN BOND STANDARD AND EU TAXONOMY



Market Evolution



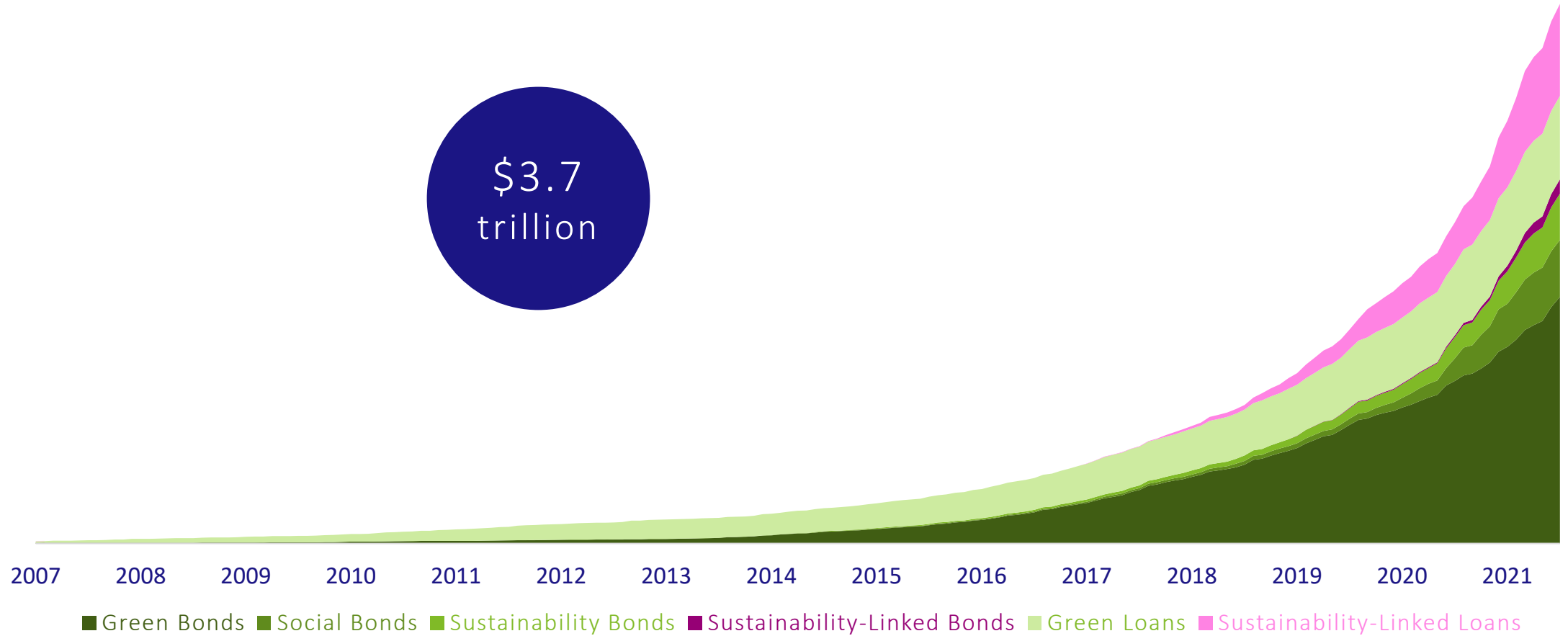
■ Green Bonds ■ Social Bonds ■ Sustainability Bonds ■ Sustainability-Linked Bonds ■ Green Loans ■ Sustainability-Linked Loans



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Source: Bloomberg NEF

Where are we now



\$3.7
trillion

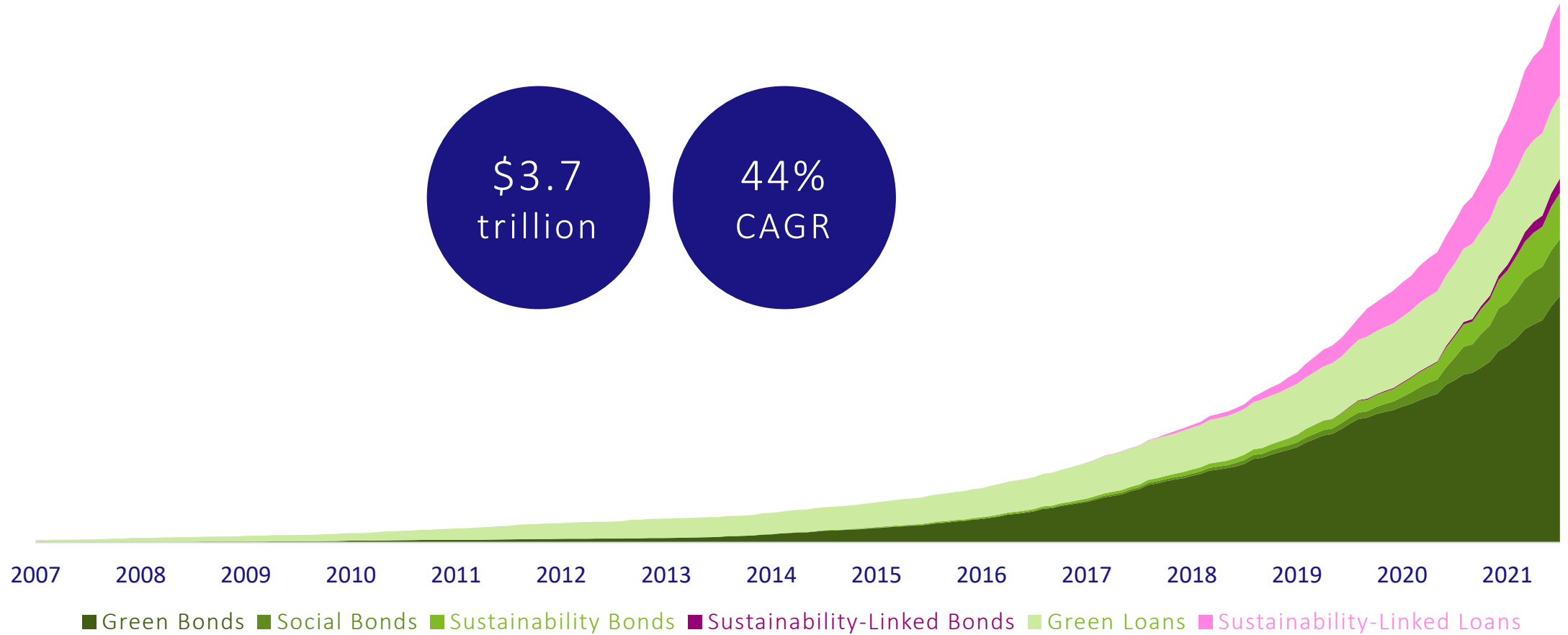
■ Green Bonds ■ Social Bonds ■ Sustainability Bonds ■ Sustainability-Linked Bonds ■ Green Loans ■ Sustainability-Linked Loans



Where are we now

\$3.7 trillion

44% CAGR



2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021

■ Green Bonds ■ Social Bonds ■ Sustainability Bonds ■ Sustainability-Linked Bonds ■ Green Loans ■ Sustainability-Linked Loans

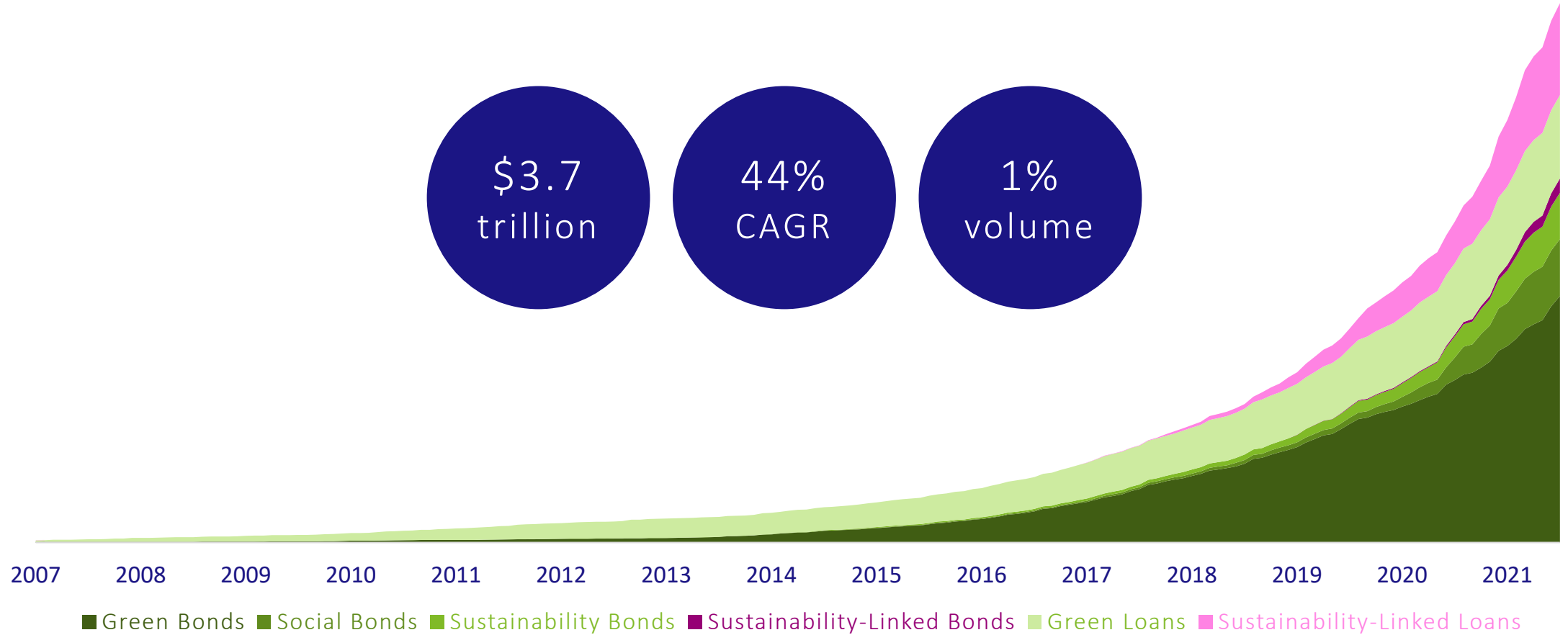


Where are we now

\$3.7 trillion

44% CAGR

1% volume

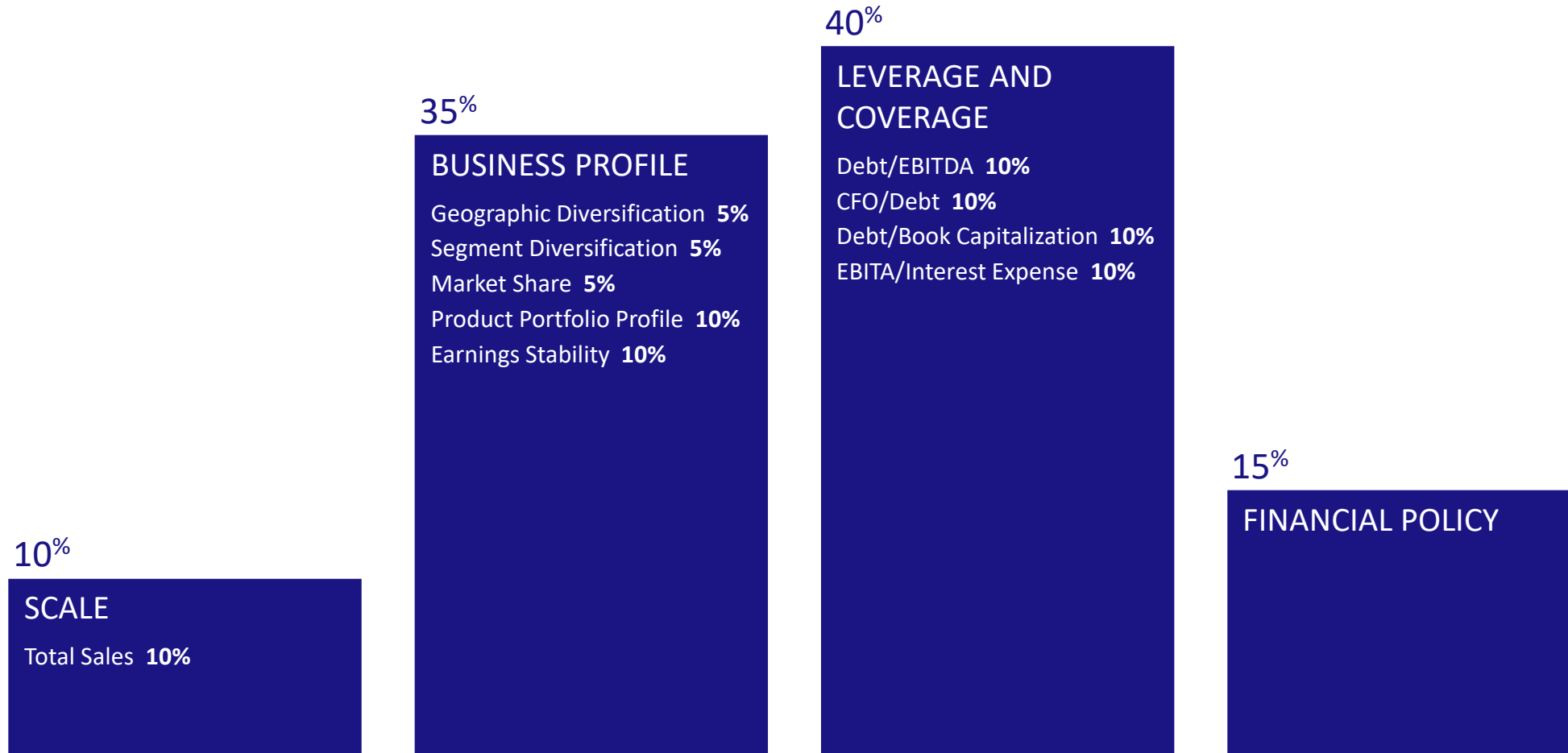


2007 2008 2009 2010 2011 2012 2013 2014 2015 2016 2017 2018 2019 2020 2021

■ Green Bonds ■ Social Bonds ■ Sustainability Bonds ■ Sustainability-Linked Bonds ■ Green Loans ■ Sustainability-Linked Loans



Existing risk frameworks...



...need to integrate ESG factors

(especially climate risks)

Physical risks (acute & chronic)

Transition risks



...need to integrate ESG factors

(especially climate risks)

Physical risks (acute & chronic)

E.g.,



Flooding



Drought



Sea Level Rise



Heat Stress

Transition risks



...need to integrate ESG factors

(especially climate risks)

Physical risks (acute & chronic)

E.g.,



Flooding



Drought



Sea Level Rise



Heat Stress

Transition risks

E.g.,



Policy



Technology



Market



Reputation



...need to integrate ESG factors

(especially climate risks)

Physical risks (acute & chronic)

E.g.,



Flooding



Drought



Sea Level Rise



Heat Stress

Transition risks

E.g.,



Policy



Technology



Market



Reputation



Core Elements of TCFD



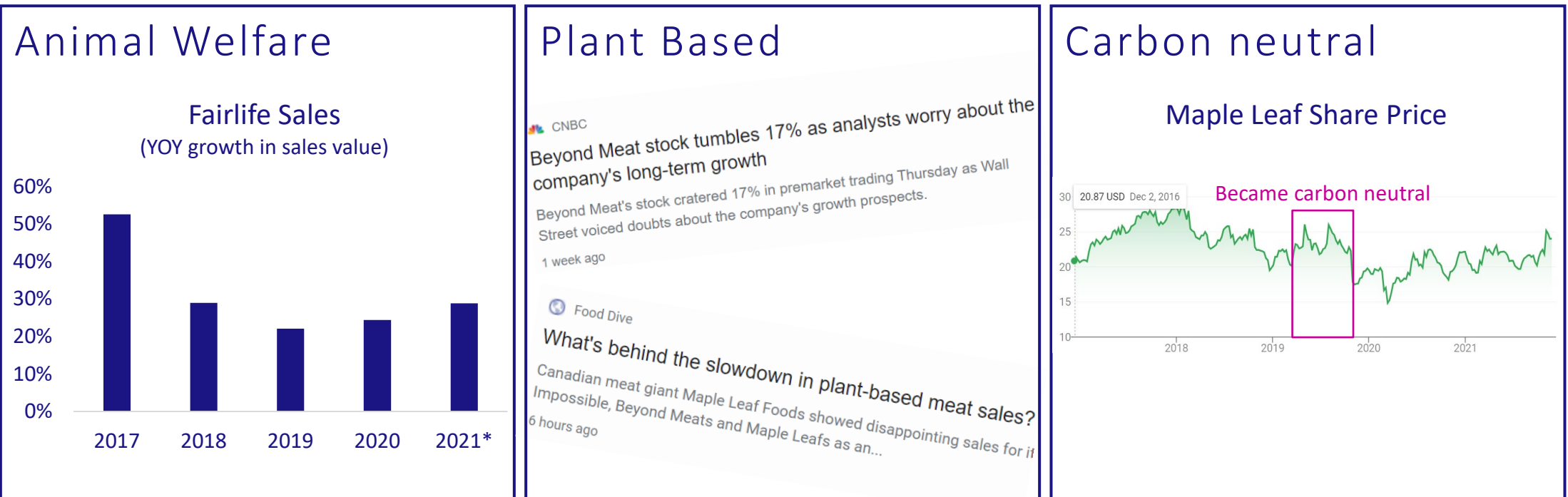
How are consumers thinking?



Rabobank

How are consumers thinking?

So far, they are more bark than bite...



Pressure to take action is coming from every angle

Governments and regulators

China's net-zero target is a giant step in fight against climate change

All countries can now build systems at costs no higher than for fossil fuels

Democrats Propose a Border Tax Based on Countries' Greenhouse Gas Emissions

Senators introduced a plan on Monday to tax iron, steel and other imports from countries without ambitious climate laws.

G20 ministers endorse carbon pricing to help tackle climate change

ECB president Christine Lagarde calls for mechanism that reflects 'true cost of carbon'

// EU's Fit for 55 package | 13 measures to reduce EU GHG emissions by 55% in 2030 over 1990 levels | carbon pricing expanding

Investors and banks

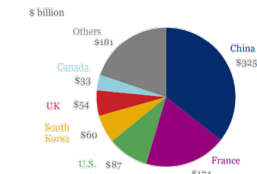
ECB presents action plan to include climate change considerations in its monetary policy strategy

8 July 2021

Key elements of the 2021 Biennial Exploratory Scenario: Financial risks from climate change

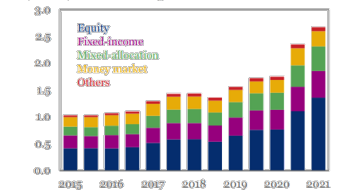
The 2021 Biennial Exploratory Scenario will explore the resilience of the UK financial system to the physical and transition risks associated with different climate pathways.

Chart 4: The climate-aligned bond universe* has grown close to \$1 trillion in size



Source: IIF, Climate Bonds Initiative; *Non-ESG labelled bonds issued by companies that derive a significant portion of their revenue streams from climate-aligned activities AND finance activities that are identified as climate-aligned

Chart 1: The ESG fund universe has topped \$2.5 trillion

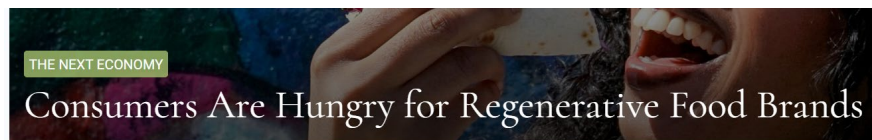


Source: IIF, Morningstar

Consumers

Nov 10, 2020, 12:00pm EST | 10,861 views

Sustainable Food Trends Will Become Center Of The Plate With Modern Consumers



Retailers

Press Release • JUL 11, 2020 (10:00 AM)
Ahold Delhaize to halve carbon emissions from operations and reduce value chain emissions in coming decade

Tesco commits to net zero emissions from its supply chain and products by 2050

24 September 2021

DIVE BRIEF

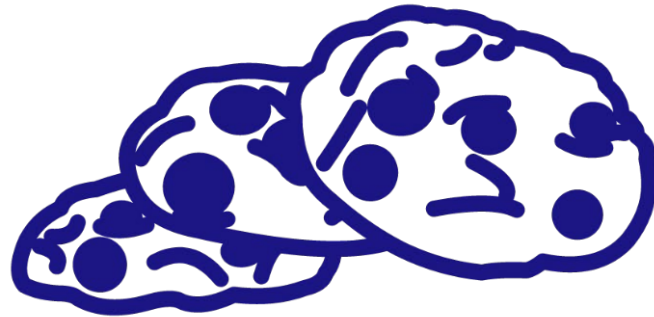
Ahold Delhaize moves up net-zero pledge

Published Nov. 15, 2021



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Three Scopes



Scope 1

Emissions from factory
boilers or company car

Scope 2

Electricity used in the
factory

Scope 3

Emissions from growing
sugar, wheat and cocoa,
from transportation to
supermarket, packaging
and waste



Scope 3

Recent Sustainability-Linked Bond



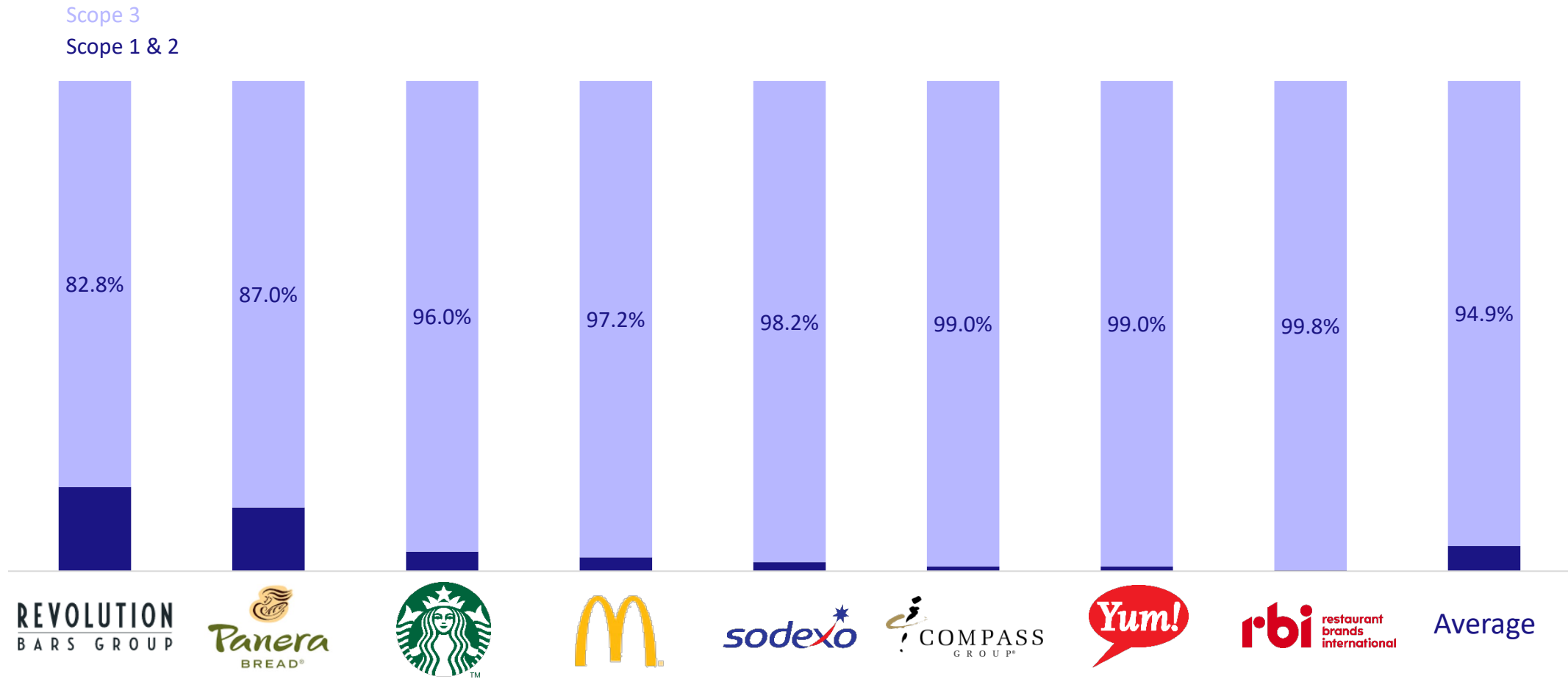
KPI:
Reduction of Scope 1
and 2 GHG Emissions

GHG protocol guidance
and accounting for Scope
3 interventions, like
regenerative agriculture,
are still in development



Scope 3

...accounts for more than 90% of emissions for consumer food companies



6 Strategies to Reduce Supply Chain Emissions

Alternative sourcing locations

Changing where materials are sourced for a lower GHG impact



Regenerative agriculture

Transitioning to a sustainable farming system that restores soil, encourages biodiversity, reduces GHG emissions



Product reformulation

Introducing new products or reformulating existing products using low-emission inputs



Innovation

Innovative inputs, such as methane-reducing feed additives, precision agriculture technologies and (plant-based) food innovation



Sustainable packaging

Reducing packaging or improving packaging's recyclability or biodegradability

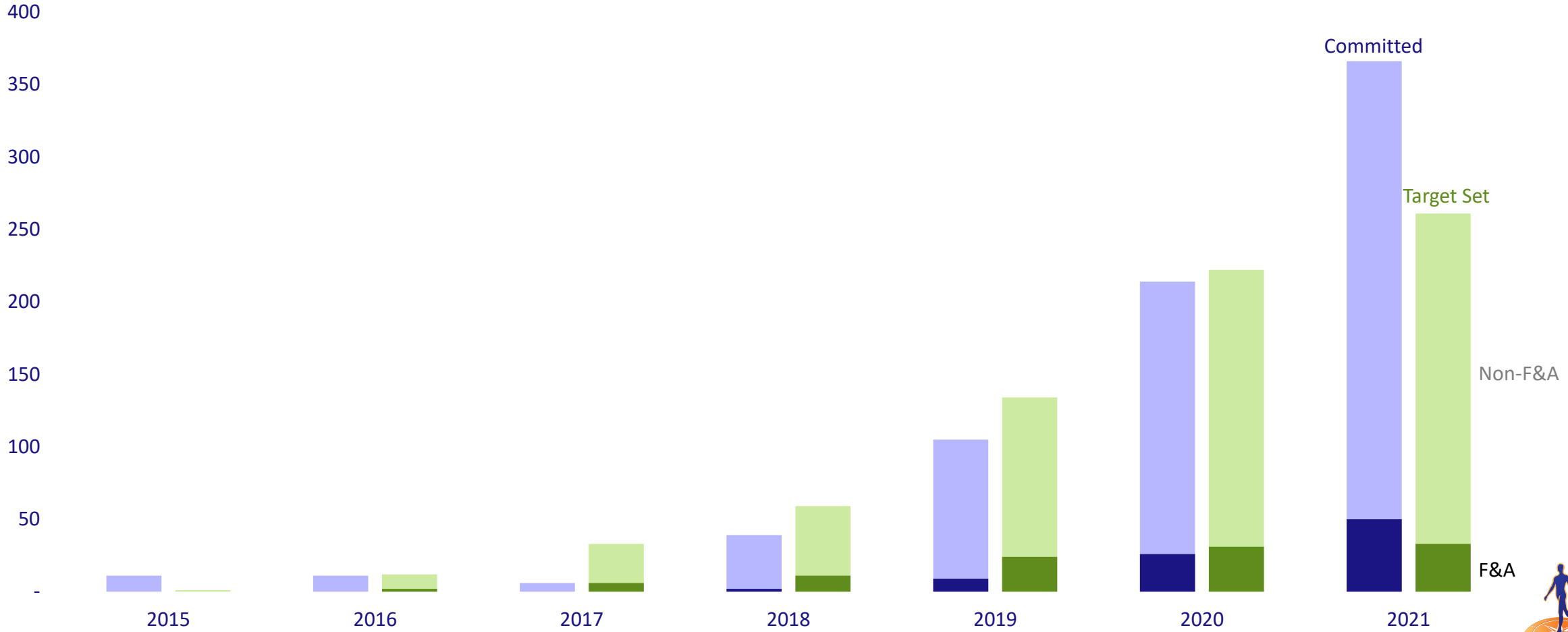
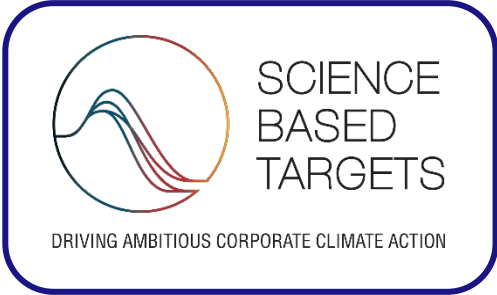


Offsetting

Complementary nature climate solutions (NCS) within supply chains or through carbon credits to achieve net zero



Scope 3 Target Setting



Concluding Remarks

Where is this moving in the future?





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 FIVE
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CATTLE FEEDING



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FOR ANIMAL AGRICULTURE**

*Looking toward the future : How do we build
consensus and fill gaps?*



Vision

Animal agriculture is a sustainable component of our global food system by providing economic, social and environmental benefits to Colorado, the Nation, and the world.



Mission

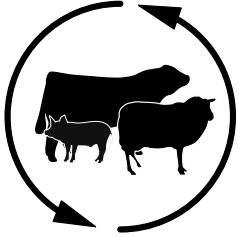
Identify and scale innovation that fosters the health of animals and ecosystems to promote profitable industries that support vibrant communities.

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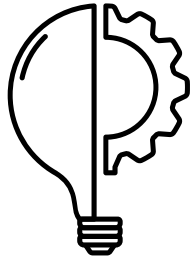
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Purpose



Lead scientific discovery by pushing boundaries of what we know is possible



Innovate and implement best practices



Convene critical conversations

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711 Ranch
James Henderson
CEO



Beatty Canyon Ranch
Steve Wooten
President, CEO



Beef Marketing Group
John Butler
CEO



Brackett Ranches
Kim Brackett
CEO



Five Rivers
Mike Thoren
President, CEO



**Veterinary Research &
Consulting, LLC**
Tom Portillo
Partner



Harper Livestock
Mike Harper
President, CEO



JBS USA
Cameron Bruett
*Head of Corporate Affairs
and Chief Sustainability
Officer*



LeValley Ranches
Robbie LeValley
CFO



Kraft Family Dairies
Mary Kraft
CFO



Safeway/Albertsons
Cathy East
*Vice President Procurement
Meat/Seafood/Deli*



**Veterinary Research &
Consulting, LLC**
Del Miles
Founder

Phased Cluster Hires 2021-2025

- **Population Health (2 positions)**
 - **Disease Epidemiologist**
- **Systems Modeling***
- **Feedlot Specialist***
- **Dairy Specialist***
- **Rangeland Scientist**
- **Cow Calf Population Health Management Specialist**

- **Animal Agriculture Law and Policy Specialist**
- **Environmental Impact Scientist**
- **Emerging Agriculture Technology Scientist**
- **Grazing System Specialist**
- **Nutritional Epidemiologist**
- **Emerging Infectious Disease Specialist**
- **Livestock Economist***



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~\$4.5M

Strategic Partnership



We will leverage talent, facilities, leadership, external funds and knowledge working alongside our industry partners to solve the worlds greatest challenges.



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The Partnership for Real-World Sustainable Solutions in Beef Cattle Production

We Need Your Partnership

Quantify greenhouse gas emissions. Data from production environments is limited and novel strategies are needed to accurately benchmark.

Develop scalable solutions for methane mitigation. Solutions must be economically feasible and practically applicable for producers.

Identify opportunities for carbon sequestration and maintenance across the landscape. Solutions for carbon sequestration and maintenance in regionally diverse grazing landscapes that include social and economic aspects are needed.

Develop practical solutions to mitigate other greenhouse gas and atmospheric pollutants. Novel strategies to reduce reactive nitrogen and carbon dioxide are needed.

Quantify improvements over time. Appropriate benchmarking, tracking improvements, and developing scenarios to predict transformational change is needed.

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~\$4.5M

Opportunities

Quantify greenhouse gas emissions. Accurate benchmarking and novel measurement strategies to more credibly document and understand emissions from cattle in their natural environments.

Develop scalable solutions for methane mitigation. Genetic selection, feed additives, technology, vaccines, with evaluation across sectors.

Identify opportunities for carbon sequestration and maintenance across the landscape. Matching grazing with forage growth, integrated livestock grazing cropping systems, linking heterogeneity and biodiversity outcomes in arid and semi-arid rangelands, precision herding combined with remote sensing and daily biomass metrics, and matching genetics to the environment.

Develop practical solutions to mitigate other greenhouse gas and atmospheric pollutants. Enhanced manure management, monitoring, and land application, manure-derived renewable fuels, displacing fossil fuels, nitrous oxide mitigation, and state frameworks for cost recovery.

Quantify improvements over time. Data base management, model improvement and iteration to ensure appropriate benchmarking and tracking of progress.

Infrastructure

- Most significant gap that we have is in infrastructure
- Leverage facilities
 - Texas Tech with Dr. Hales “fail fast and cheap” focused on innovation
 - CSU takes innovation with promise and evaluates scalability
- Extend network across a variety of landscapes to understand complexities, regional differences
 - Network of partner ranches to evaluate landscape differences and commonalities
 - Network of research and partner feedyards to evaluate system level performance
- Work back to a common metrics to measure and track progress
- Multi-disciplinary team with industry input and collaboration to identify scalable solutions



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Respiration Chambers

- Test methane mitigation strategies
 - Extremely accurate and precise
 - Whole animal nitrogen balance
 - Complete urine and fecal collections
 - Energetics
- ~\$300,000



Complete Nutrient Monitoring Pens

- Pen level mass balance pens
 - Measure N emissions as the residual of N intake and N from scrapped pen
- Individual animal enteric methane emission on a producer relevant scale
- Test dietary interventions, pen applications, and individual animal (genetics, health status, implant strategy, etc.).
 - How does stress or morbidity in one sector impact emissions and performance in the finishing phase?
- Complete life cycle monitoring to understand tradeoffs of management decisions in different sectors and its downstream impacts on performance and emissions
- Use the facility to improve the ability to measure pen level emissions and improve estimation of uncertainty in emissions
- ~\$600,000



Quantification and Tracking Progress

Quantify greenhouse gas emissions:

- Inventories lack accurate data “enteric methane is a black hole”
 - Strategies listed above will help
- Concentrated effort in grazing animals, emissions change daily based on diet, incredible variability in season and animal

Quantify improvements over time.

- IT infrastructure to track progress at scale
- Inclusive of data collection and data reduction

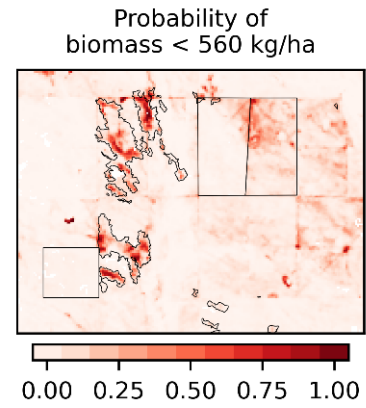
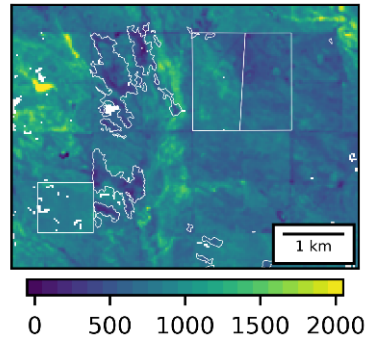
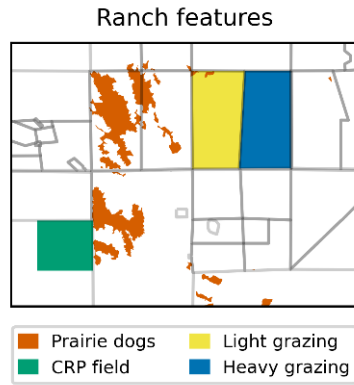
~\$1M



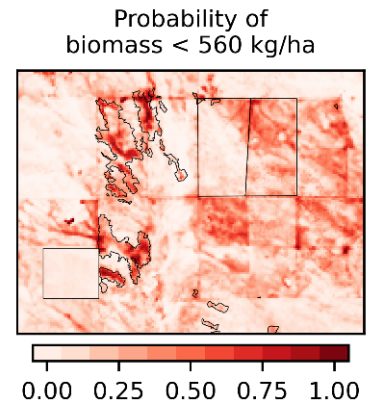
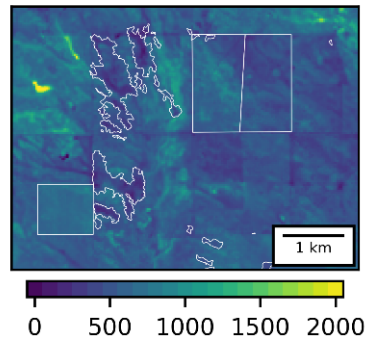
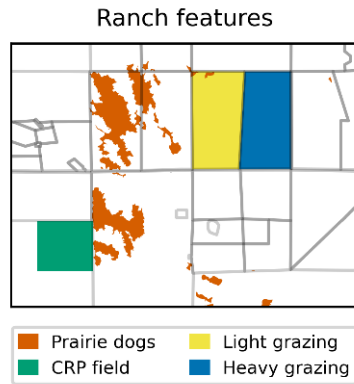
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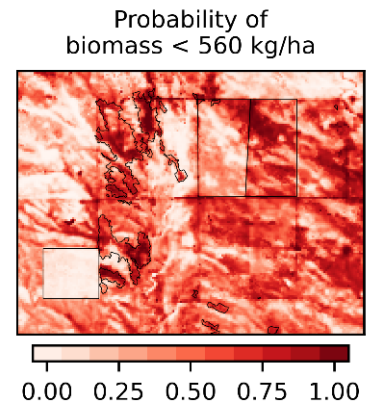
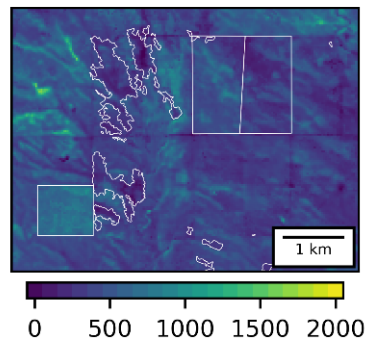
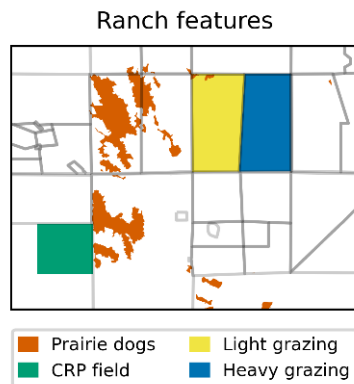
Jul 15, 2018



Aug 15, 2018

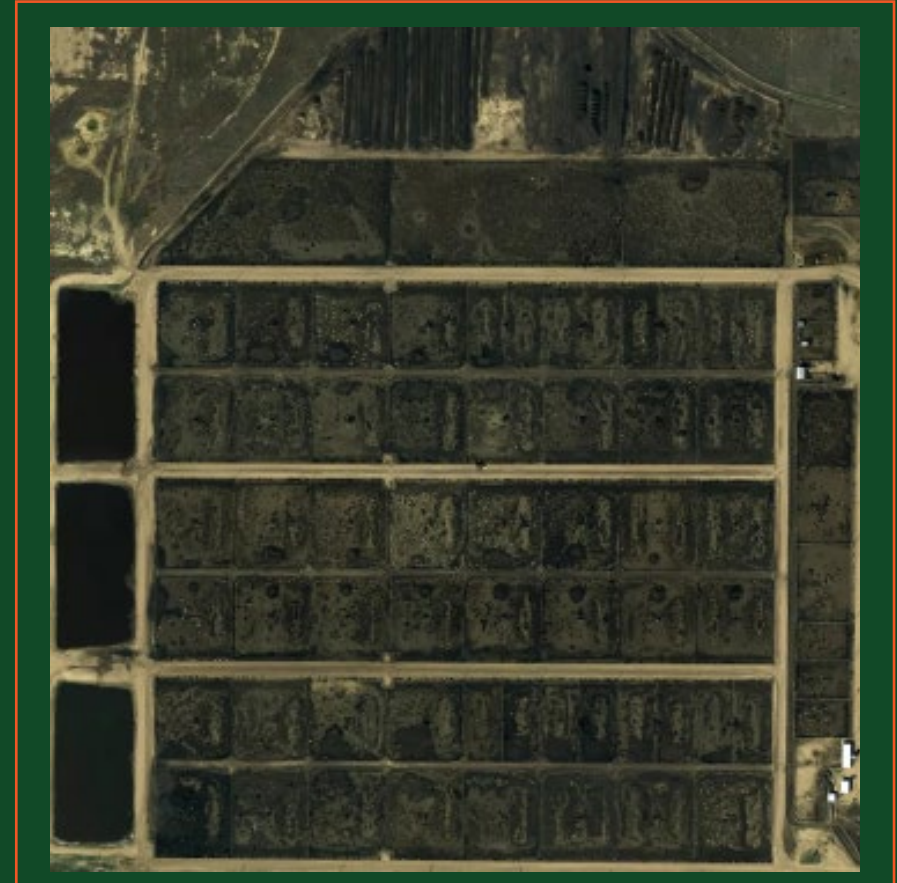


Oct 15, 2018



~\$500,000

Continual Measurement



Circular source area geometry to measure continuously. Compare management strategies at scale.

~\$2M

The Partnership for Real-World Sustainable Solutions in Beef Cattle Production

We Need Your Partnership

AgNext needs your support for infrastructure, identifying robust baseline measurements, and developing scalable solutions. **Our initial ask is to raise \$2.5M on our way to \$4.5M.**

Any contribution is significant and welcome.

For organizations that feel fully committed to what we are focused on and will accomplish we are offering a more formal and long-term option:

Principal Partner: Annual Commitment of \$100,000

Partner: Annual Commitment of \$50,000



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Thank you



@CSUAgNext



AgNext at Colorado
State University



@CSUAgNext

Kim.Stackhouse-lawson@colostate.edu

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