





# SUSTAINABILITY OF LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS

Current World Population

**7,721,748,218**

[view all people on 1 page >](#)

TODAY

Births today

**145,509**

Deaths today

**61,051**

Population Growth today

**84,458**

THIS YEAR

Births this year

**82,270,284**

Deaths this year

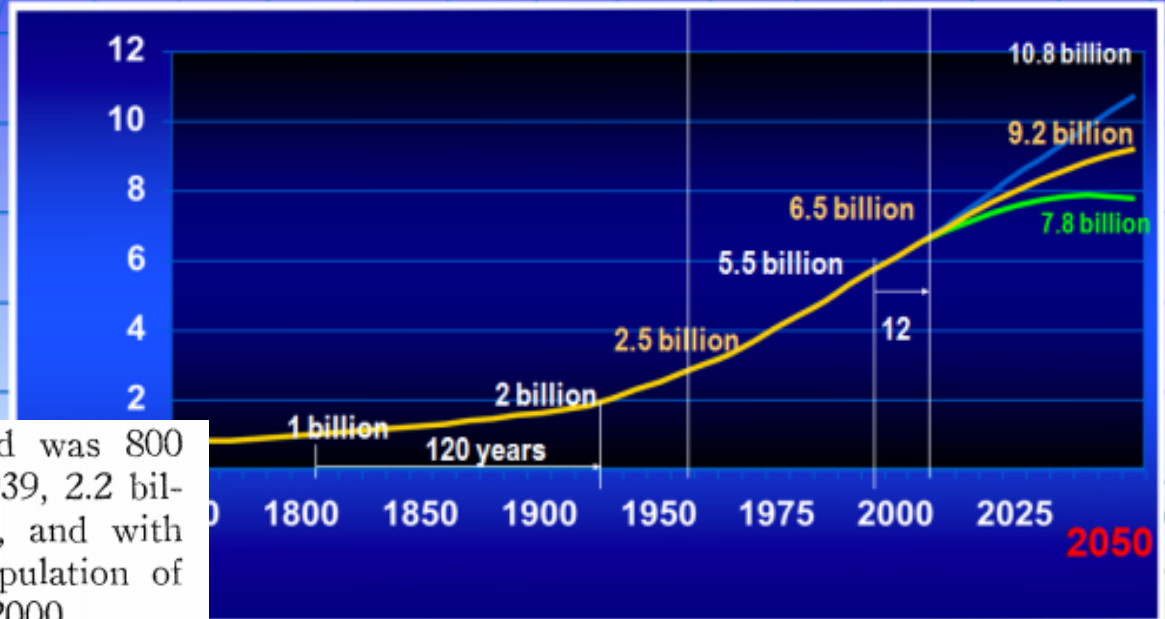
**34,517,982**

Population Growth this year

**47,752,302**

## World population growth: 1750-2050

Billions



United Nations Population Division

In 1830, the population of the world was 800 million; in 1900, 1.6 billion; and in 1939, 2.2 billion. At the present rate of increase, and with the spread of medical science, the population of the world will be 4 billion by the year 2000.

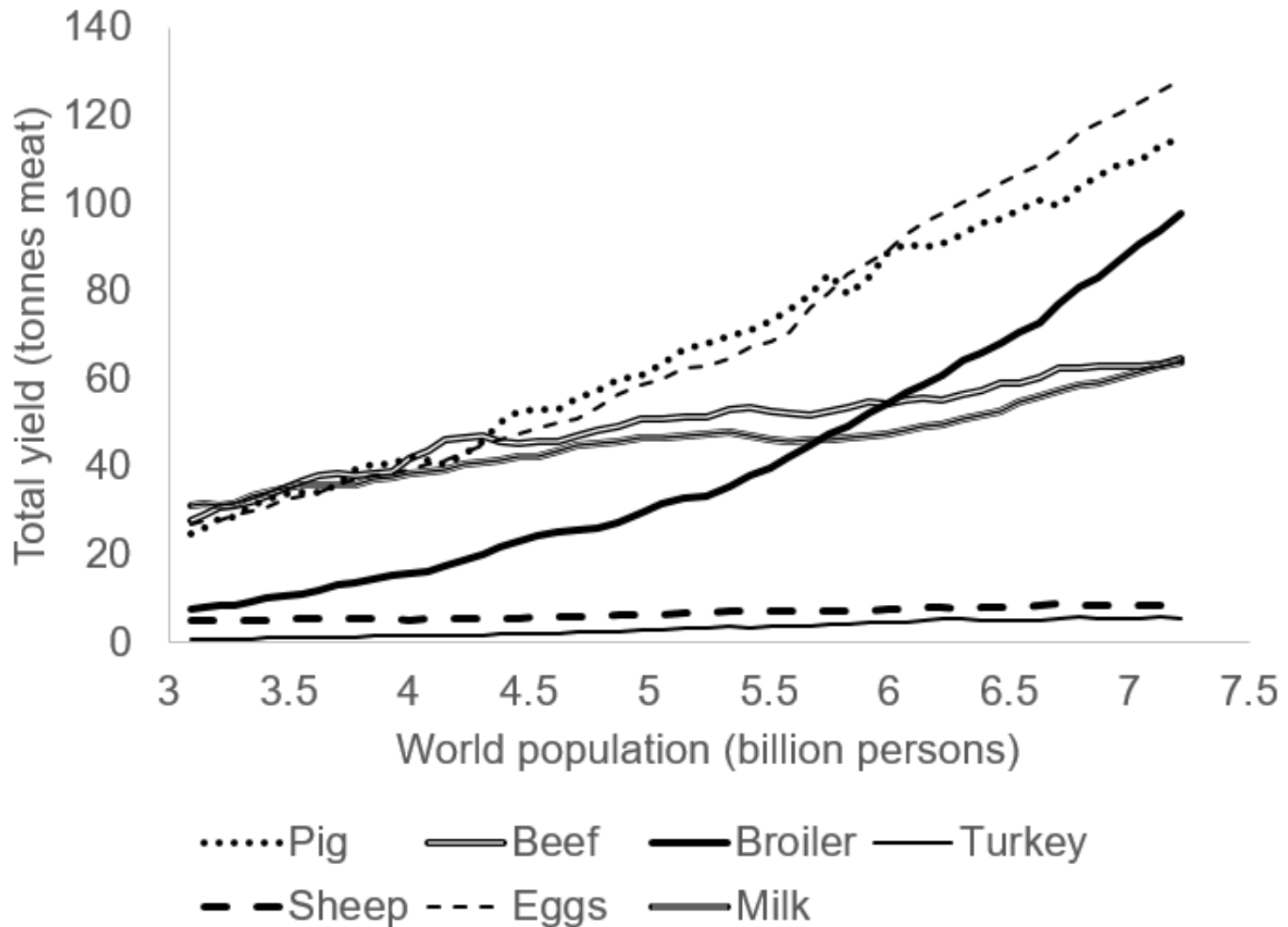
Is this a pleasant prospect? Not when we remember that a surplus of food has never existed in the world, that to provide everyone with a diet of 2,600 calories a day during the next twenty-five years the world's food production will have to be doubled. This does not seem possible when there are only 4 billion acres of land that can be used for food production by present methods, and when 2.5 acres of farm land are required to produce an adequate diet for one person. This serious situation

*The Scientific Monthly*, Vol. 68, No. 2 (Feb., 1949), pp. 118-121

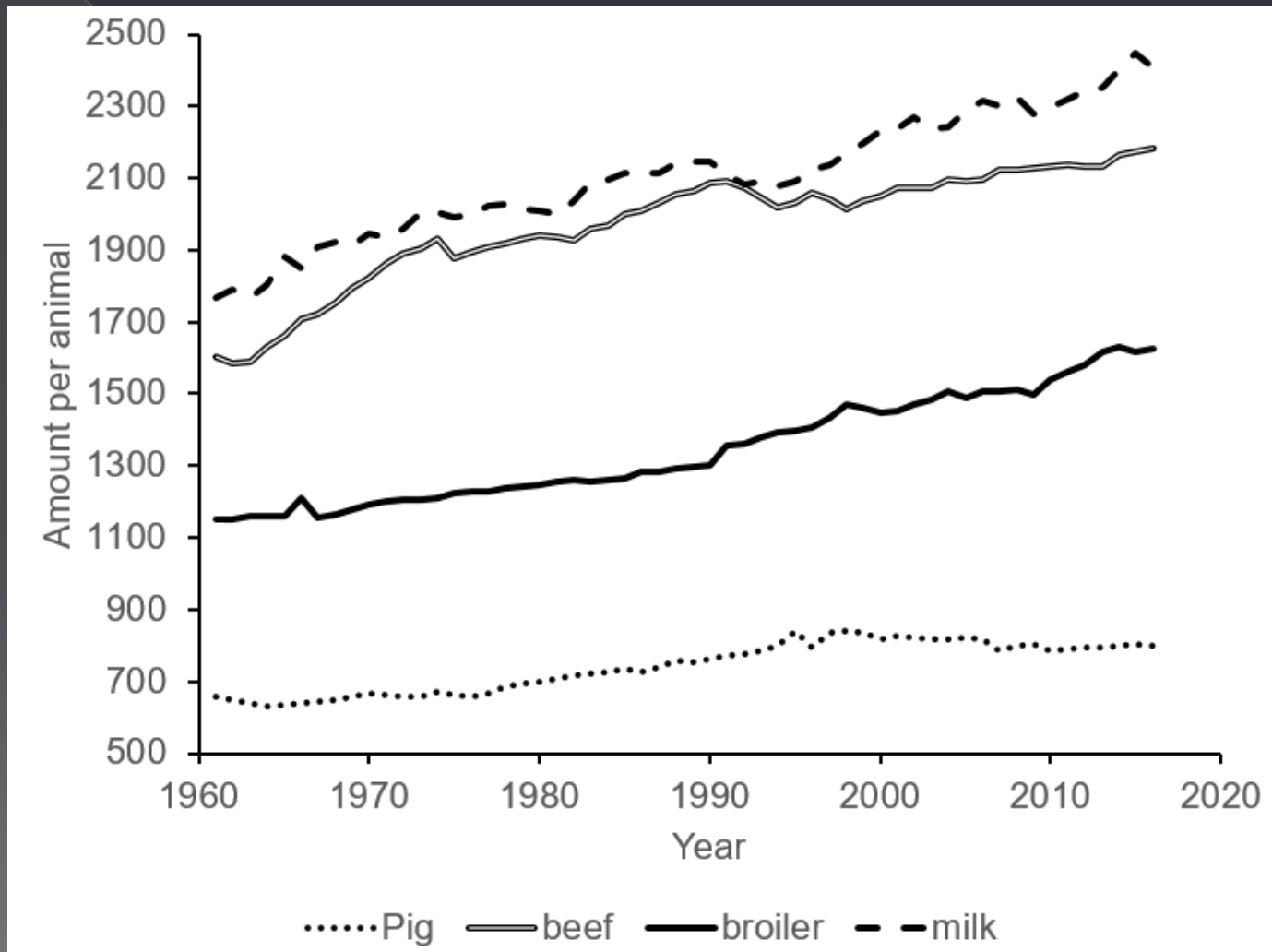
MEDICAL RESEARCH: OPERATION HUMANITY

ANDREW C. IVY

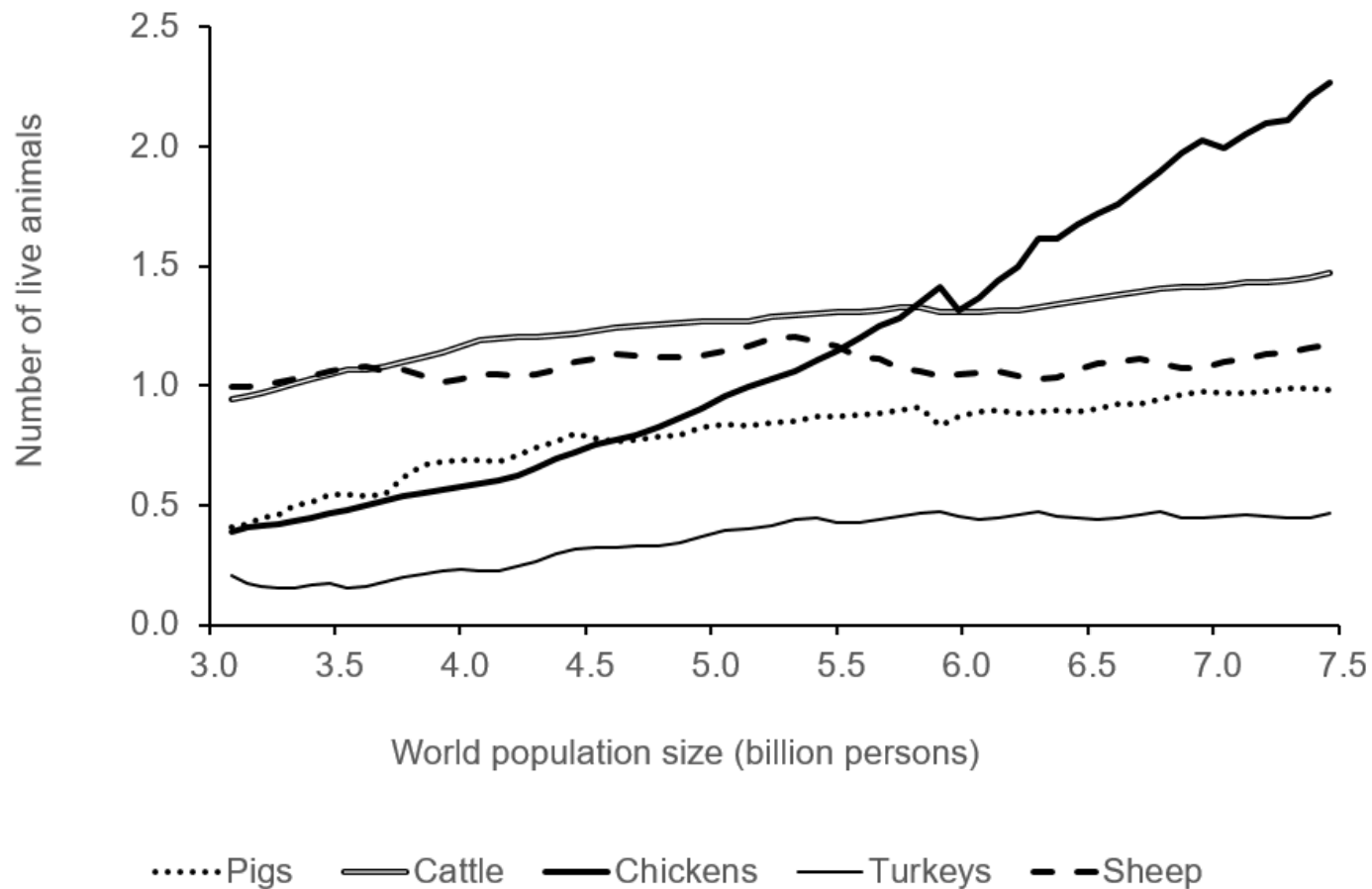
# SUSTAINABILITY OF LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS



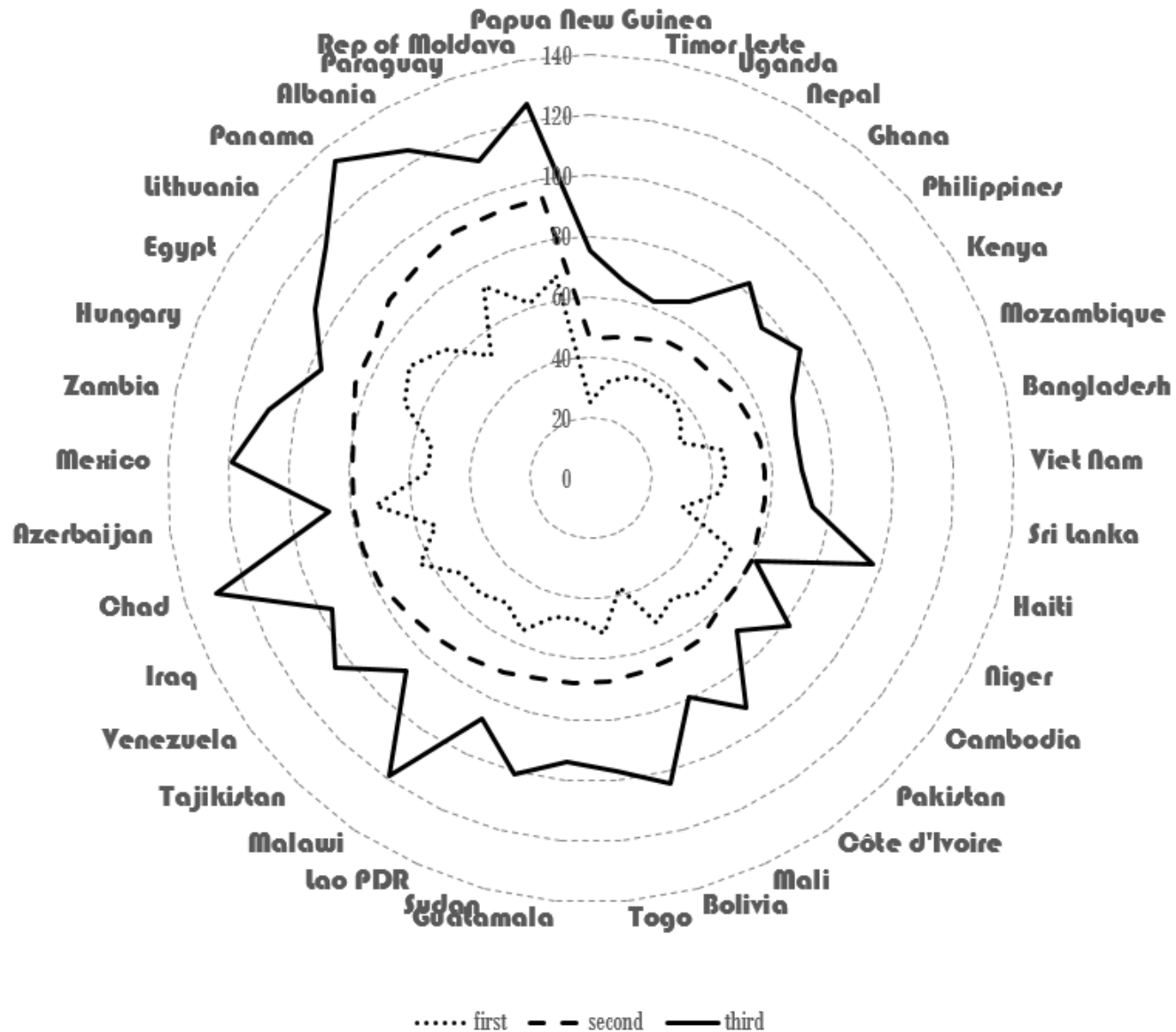
# SUSTAINABILITY OF LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS



# SUSTAINABILITY OF LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS



# SUSTAINABILITY OF LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS



# SUSTAINABILITY OF LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS

Demand ↑ = land use ↑

Currently: ~ 30% total land surface  
~ 70% agricultural land (+ feed crops)

Clearing land = release of carbon held in trees  
☞ (Brazil, India, Indonesia)



## Tropical Deforestation and Climate Change

Edited by Paulo Moutinho & Stephan Schwartzman

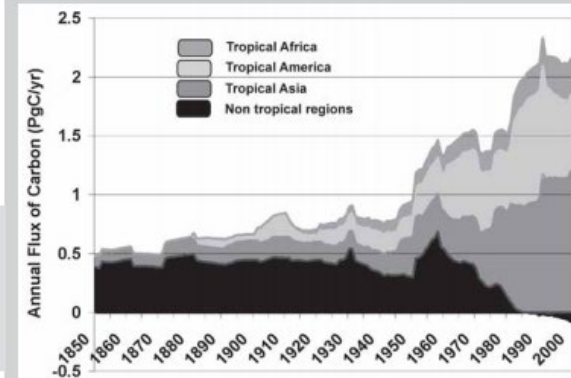


FIGURE 1. Annual emissions of carbon from changes in land use over the period 1850 to 2000. Essentially all of the emissions were from tropical countries in the 1990s, nearly half from tropical Asia.

# SUSTAINABILITY OF LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS

Demand ↑ = **water** use ↑

**Table 2. Estimated amount of water required to produce crops and livestock.**

<b>Crop or livestock</b>	<b>Water required (liters per kilogram)</b>
<b>Crop</b>	
Soybeans	2000
Rice	1600
Sorghum	1300
Alfalfa	1100
Wheat	900
Corn	650
Potatoes (dry)	630
Millet	272
<b>Livestock</b>	
Broiler chicken	3500
Pig	6000
Beef cattle	43,000
Sheep	51,000

*Source: Pimentel and colleagues (2004).*



# SUSTAINABILITY OF LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS

Demand ↑ = energy use ↑

Pimentel et al. (2004): kcal fossil energy/kcal animal protein

Table 13. Grain and forage inputs per kilogram of animal product produced, and fossil energy inputs (kcal) required to produce 1 kcal of animal protein.

Livestock	Grain (kg)	Forage (kg)	kcal input / kcal protein
Lamb	21	30	57:1
Beef cattle	13	30	40:1
Eggs	11	--	39:1
Grass-fed beef cattle	--	200	20:1
Swine	5.9	--	14:1
Dairy (milk)	0.7	1	14:1
Turkeys	3.8	--	10:1
Broilers	2.3	--	4:1

From: Pimentel, D. 2004. Livestock production and energy use. In, *Encyclopedia of Energy*, Matsumura, R. (ed.), Elsevier, San Diego, CA. pages 671-676.

# SUSTAINABILITY OF LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS

Demand ↑ = emissions and waste ↑

Gerber et al. (2013):

44% methane (ruminants)

53% nitrous oxide (manure)

5% carbon dioxide

👉 Global warming, acidification and eutrophication of ecosystems

## SUSTAINABILITY OF LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS

WorldWatch Institute (2004): “The human appetite for animal flesh is a driving force behind virtually every major category of environmental damage now threatening the human future: deforestation, erosion, fresh water scarcity, air and water pollution, climate change, biodiversity loss, social injustice, the destabilization of communities and the spread of disease”

# WORLD•WATCH

VISION FOR A SUSTAINABLE WORLD

# M E A T

## Now, It's Not Personal!

But like it or not, meat-eating is becoming  
a problem for everyone on the planet.

# SUSTAINABILITY OF LIVESTOCK SYSTEMS

## Solutions:

1. More plant-based, less meat-based diets
2. Livestock intensification (optimal farming)
3. Improved animal robustness (suboptimal farming)



## THIS PRESENTATION:

1. Sustainability of livestock systems
2. Livestock intensification (optimal farming)
3. Improved animal robustness (suboptimal farming)
4. Prospects for sustainable livestock production

## THIS PRESENTATION:

1. Sustainability of livestock systems
2. Livestock intensification (optimal farming)
3. Improved animal robustness (suboptimal farming)
4. Prospects for sustainable livestock production

# LIVESTOCK INTENSIFICATION

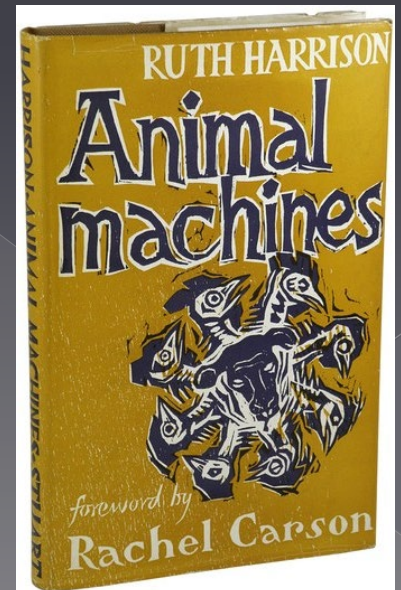
Closing the “**yield gap**” = realized – attainable production

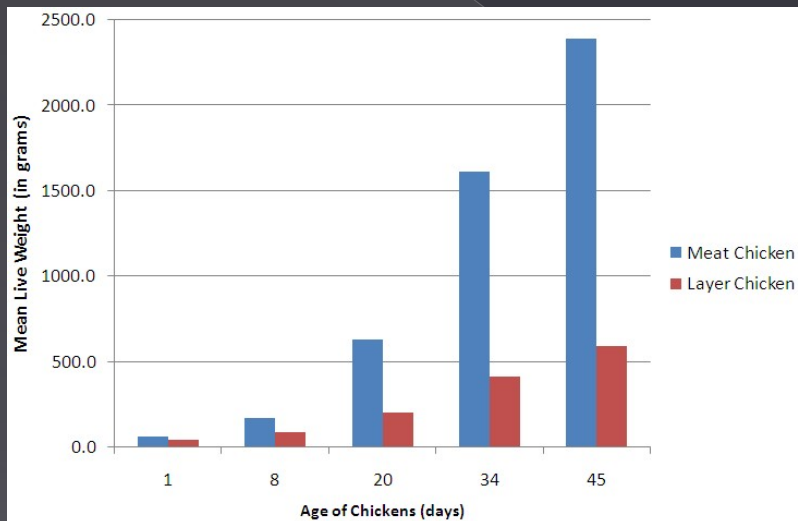
Attainable = technology, water, nutrients, land, biodiversity, labor

Not realized = accessibility, market influence, knowledge

Livestock intensification  
 (“Animal Machines” 1964)

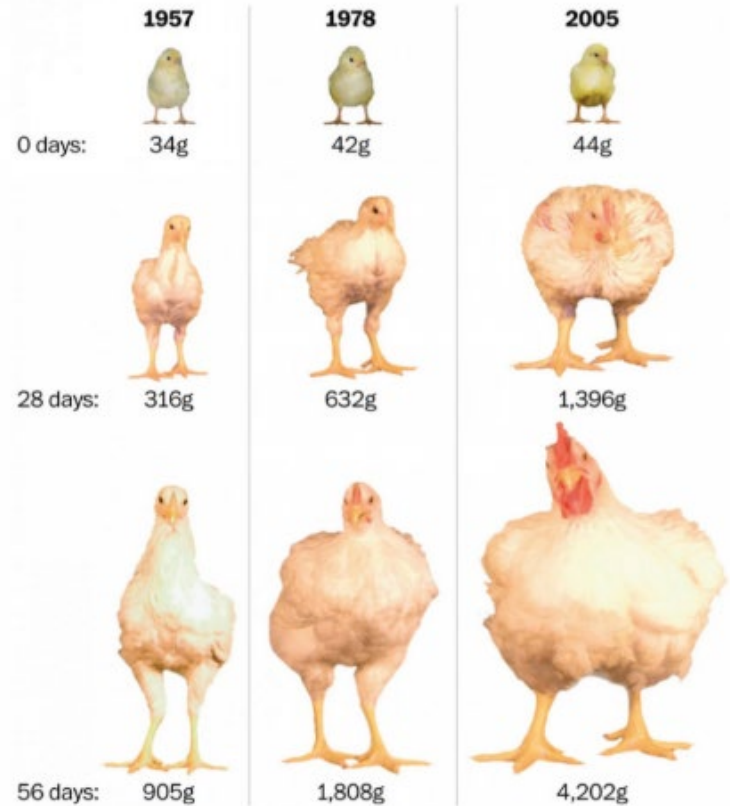
Large production units + best genetics





## Raising bigger chickens

The size of commercially raised broiler chickens has increased.



Note: 1,000 grams equal 2.2 pounds

Source: University of Alberta Meat Control

THE WASHINGTON POST



# LIVESTOCK INTENSIFICATION

Resource allocation: output  inputs

Resources (R) allocated to processes add to give the total amount of resources consumed

$$R \text{ (Total)} = R \text{ (Maintenance)} + R \text{ (Production)} + R \text{ (Reproduction)} + R \text{ (Rest)}$$

Rest = Activity + Other + 'Buffer' (reacting to stress & pathogens)

Closing the yield gap  Increased quantity/-lity inputs?

# LIVESTOCK INTENSIFICATION

Precision livestock farming (2004)

Real-time monitoring and control systems

- Production, reproduction, health
- Blood parameters, sweat, saliva, body T, behavior, stress, sound, analytes, viruses + pathogens

👉 Individualistic approach

👉 Sustainable intensification ↑

# LIVESTOCK INTENSIFICATION

Increased quality:

☞ Highly productive crops = potential human-edible food

Worldwide: 33% cereal, 74% maize, 83% soybean

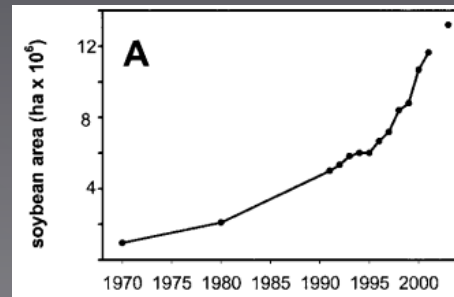
☞ Sourcing from international markets

Soybean: EU mayor importer (>95%)

Market share: 31% USA, 31% **Brazil**,

19% **Argentina**

☞ **Sustainability ↓**



1. Sustainability of livestock systems
2. Livestock intensification (optimal farming)
3. Improved animal robustness (suboptimal farming)
4. Prospects for sustainable livestock production



# IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS

## Reaction Norm (Woltereck, 1909)

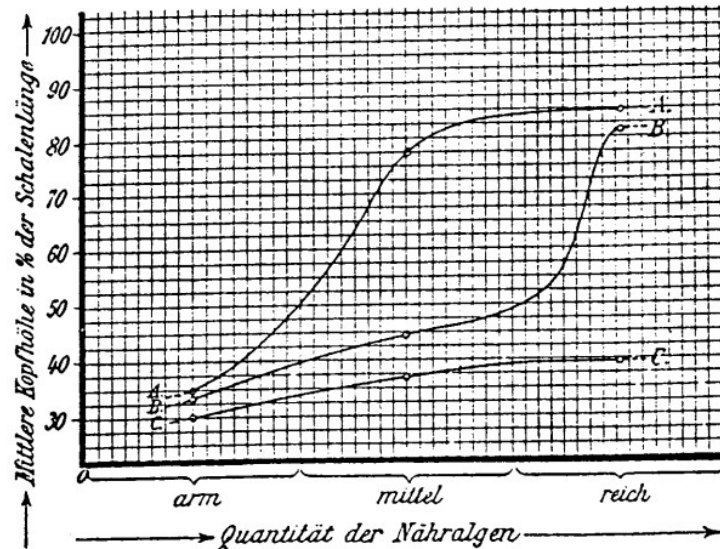
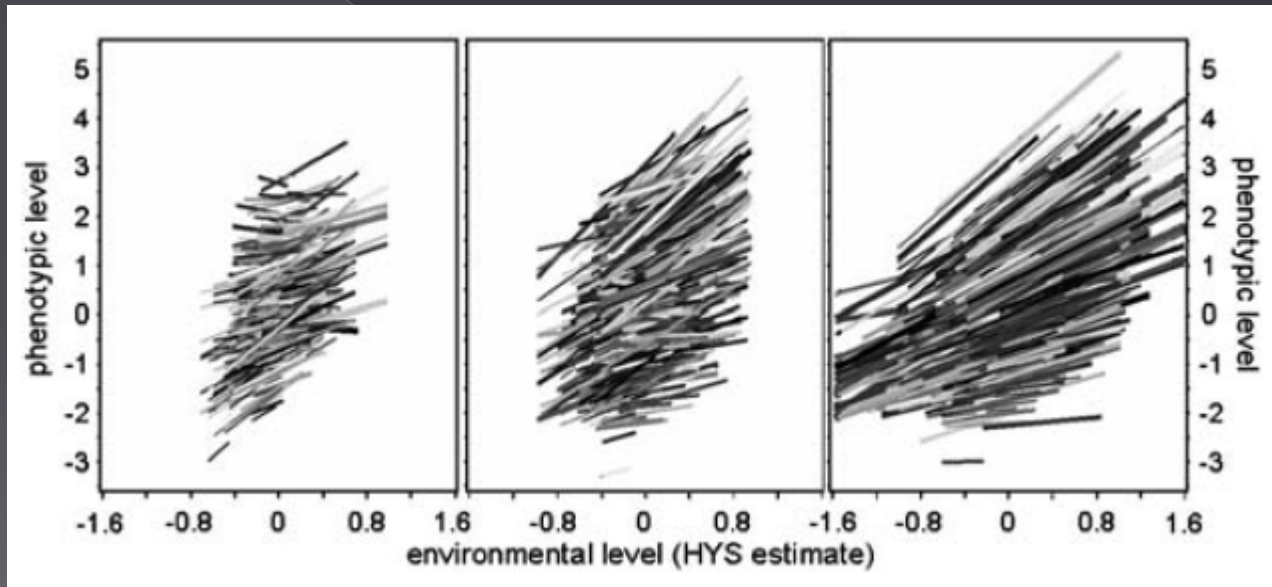


Figure 2. Phenotype curves for females of three pure lines of *Hyalodaphnia cucullata*. This is Figure 12 from Woltereck (1909: p. 139). *Abscissa*: nutrient level; *ordinate*: relative head height. A: strain from Moritzburg; B: from Brosdorf; C: from Kospuden. All strains were grown at a constant intermediate temperature and were from a “middle generation” of parthenogenesis. The curves show non-uniform variation between pure lines.



## IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS

Reaction norms (progeny tested across a wide environmental range)



## IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS

Knap (2005): “the ability to combine a high production potential with resilience to stressors, allowing for unproblematic expression of a high production potential in a wide variety of environmental conditions”

“Sustainable breeding goals combine robustness traits with production traits, balancing production potential with environmental sensitivity”

👉 Animals are required to produce in wide variety of environmental conditions 👉 temperature, nutrients

# IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS: HEAT STRESS

Periods: TN1, **HS1**, TN2, **HS2**, TN3, **HS3**, TN4



## Effects of Diet and Genetics on Growth Performance of Pigs in Response to Repeated Exposure to Heat Stress

Wendy M. Rauw<sup>1,2\*</sup>, E. Johana Mayorga<sup>2</sup>, Soi Meng Lei<sup>2</sup>, Jack C. M. Dekkers<sup>2</sup>, John F. Patience<sup>2</sup>, Nicholas K. Gabler<sup>2</sup>, Steven M. Lonergan<sup>2</sup> and Lance H. Baumgard<sup>2</sup>

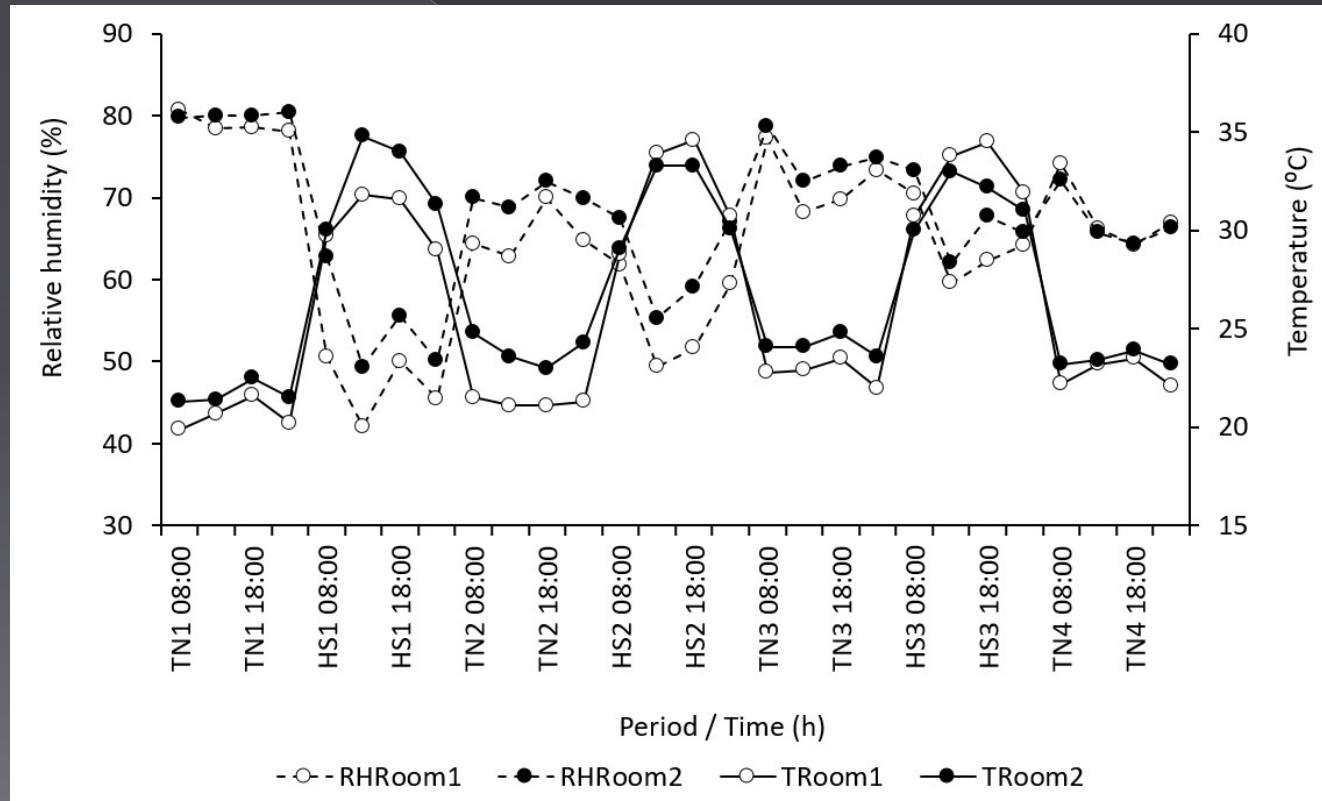
<sup>1</sup> Departamento de Mejora Genética Animal, Instituto Nacional de Investigación y Tecnología Agraria y Alimentaria, Madrid, Spain, <sup>2</sup> Department of Animal Science, Iowa State University, Ames, IA, United States



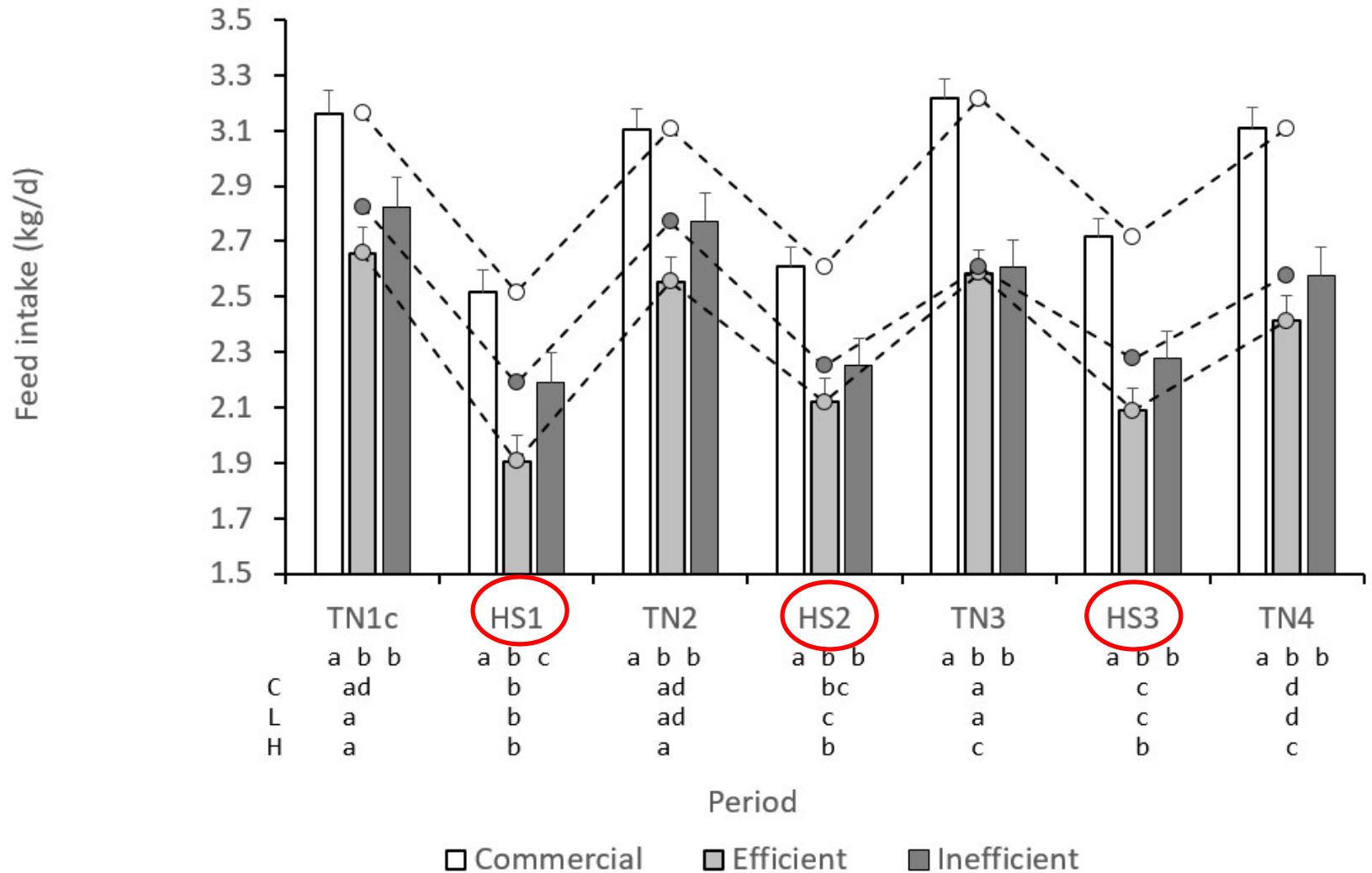


# IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS: HEAT STRESS

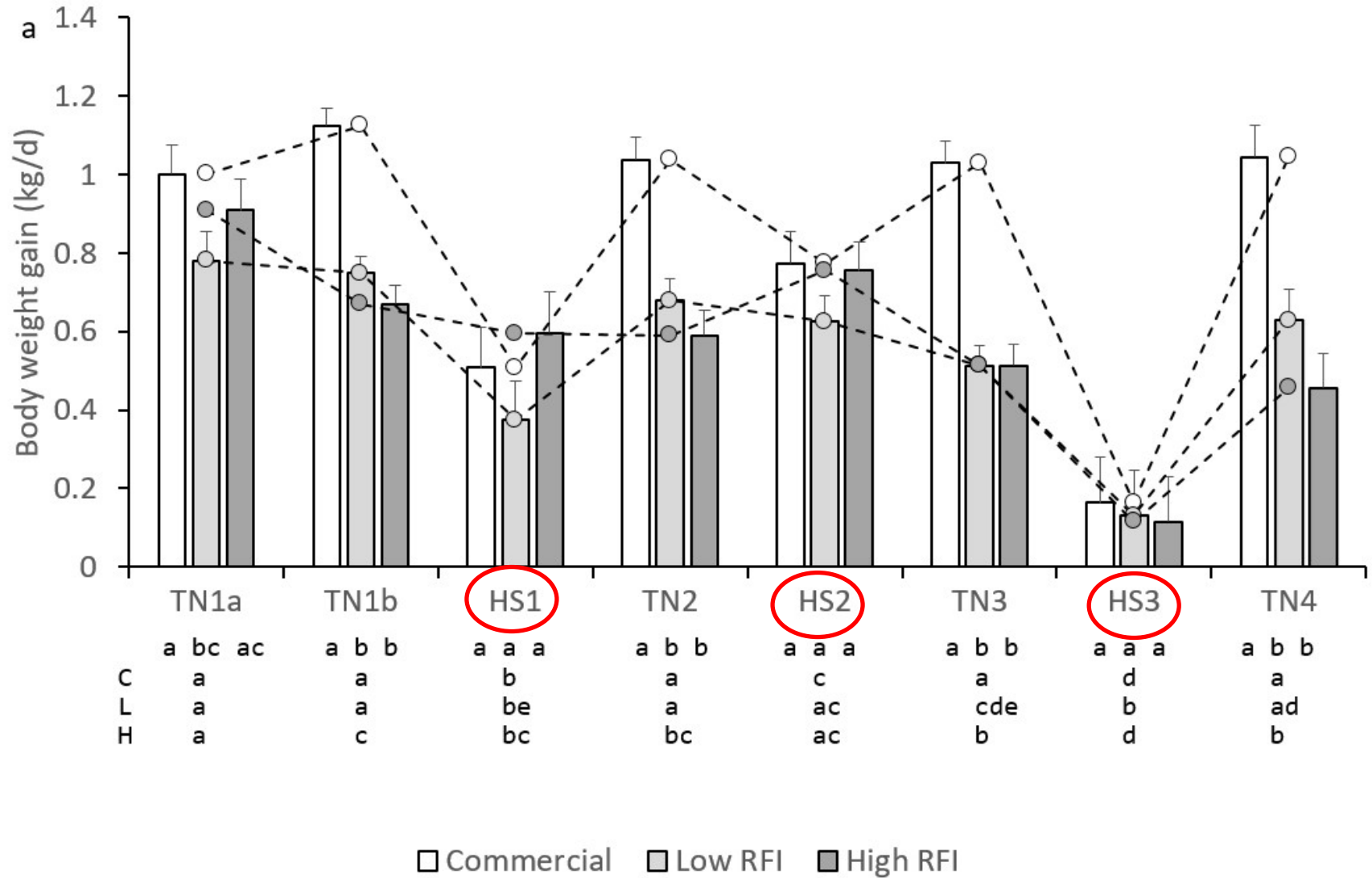
Periods: TN1, HS1, TN2, HS2, TN3, HS3, TN4



# IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS: HEAT STRESS



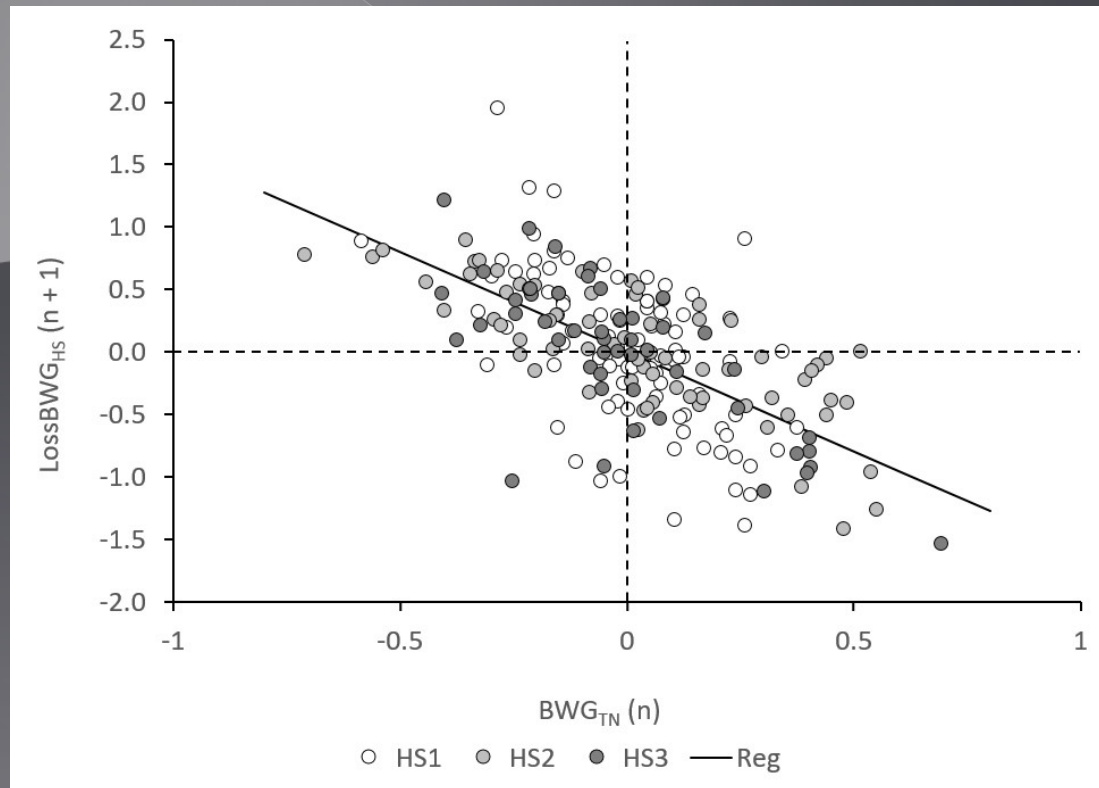
# IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS: HEAT STRESS



## IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS: HEAT STRESS

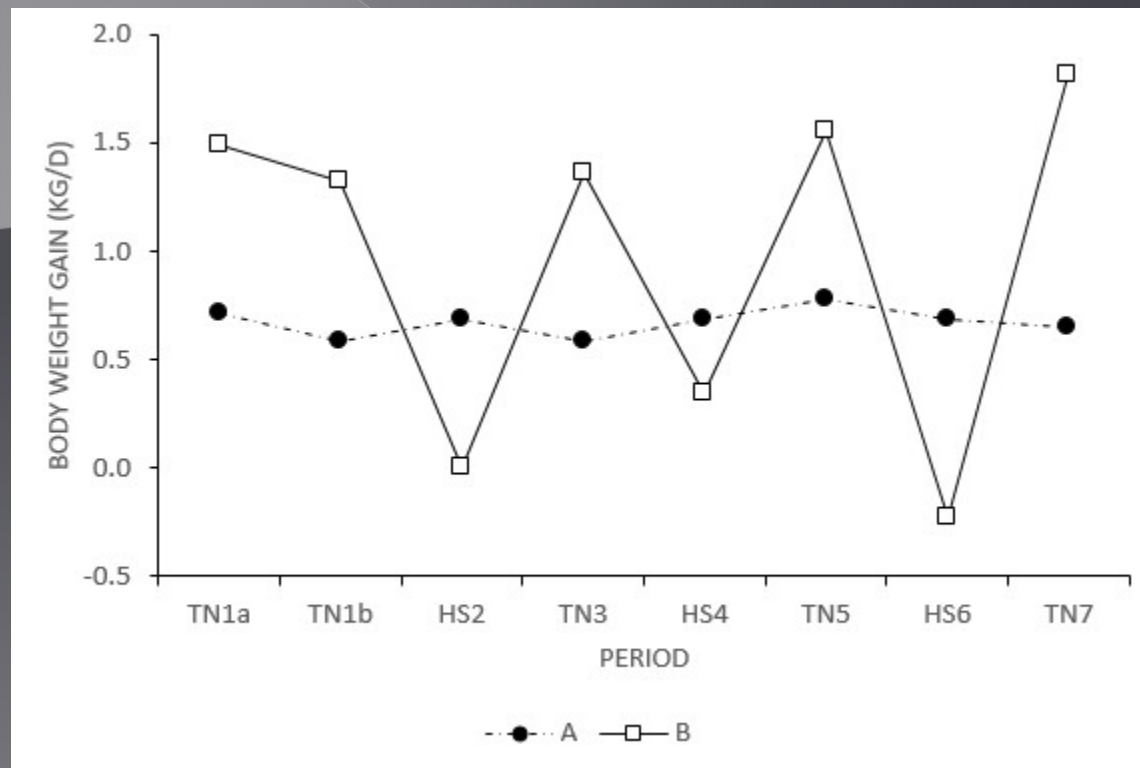
Higher BWG in period n = larger **loss** in n + 1

$$r = -0.65 \text{ (} P < 0.0001 \text{)}$$



## IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS: HEAT STRESS

👉 Higher production = lower robustness to HS



# IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS: LOCAL FEEDS

Heavy dependency of soybean imports

☞ Motion for a European parliament resolution (2011)

## EXPLANATORY STATEMENT



### The EU protein crop deficit

A recent study published by the European Commission\* on the protein crop sector reveals a remarkable decrease in protein crop production in the European Union in the past ten years. The main dried pulses excluding soybeans decreased by 30%, and soybean production by 12%. This trend increases an already existing alarming dependence of the Union on the imports of protein crops, which are mainly used for animal feed and carries major risks especially for the EU livestock sector, as price volatility on international markets has substantially increased. \*(LMC international report).

Overall EU protein crop production currently only occupies 3% of the Union's arable land (excluding fruit and vegetables). In spite of public support for the sector since 1978, production of dried pulses, which temporarily increased during the 1980s, has again decreased to roughly one million ha in 2008. More than 40 million tonnes of crop proteins, mainly soy beans and corn gluten feed are imported annually, representing 80% of the EU's crop protein consumption. In terms of land use abroad for crop protein imports into the EU, this represents ten per cent of the EU's arable land, or 20 million ha.

EIP-AGRI Focus Group  
Protein Crops: final report  
14 APRIL 2014



Focus Group on Protein Crops (2013):  
“Have a long way to go before being competitive”  
→ innovation agronomy and breeding



## IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS: LOCAL FEEDS

Resource allocation: output  inputs

$$R \text{ (Total)} = R \text{ (Maintenance)} + R \text{ (Production)} + \\ R \text{ (Reproduction)} + R \text{ (Rest)}$$

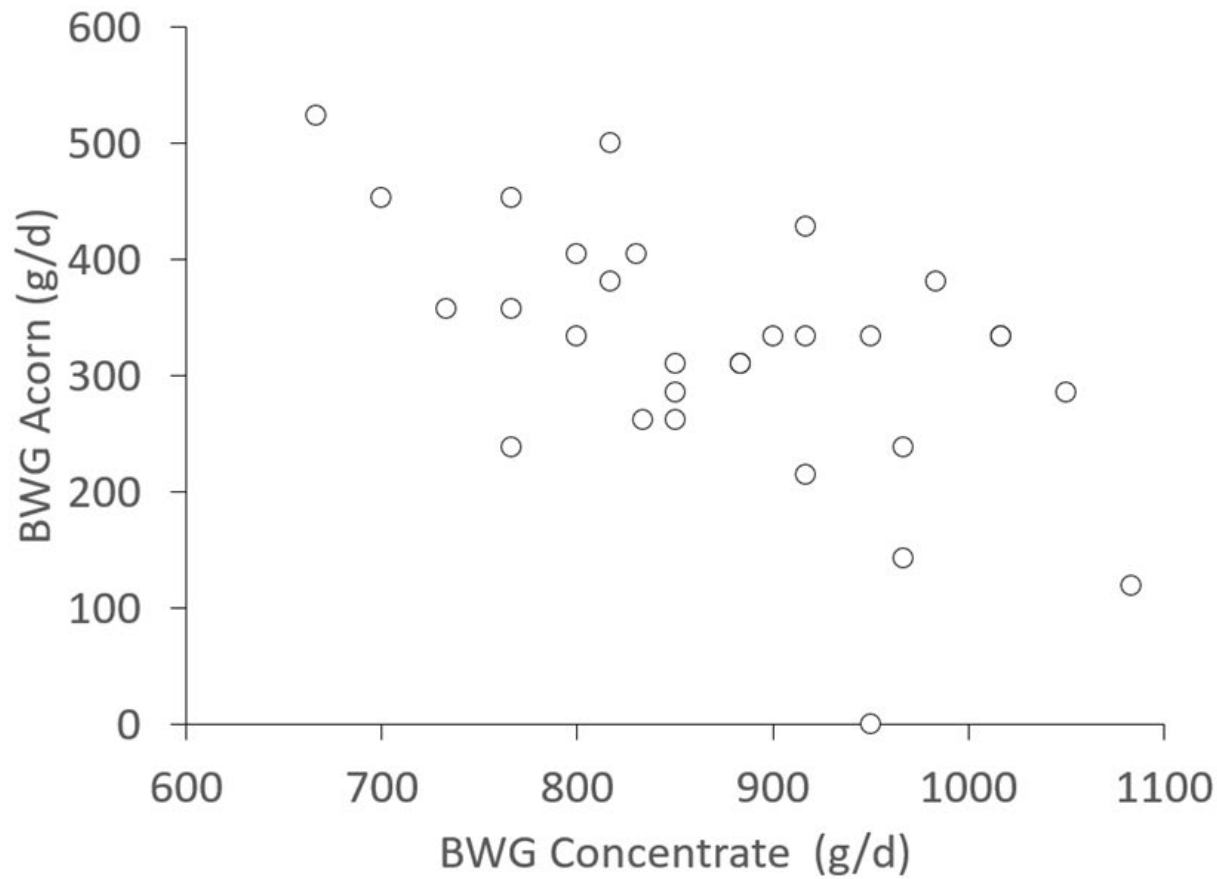
Local feeds & feedstuff co-products = *suboptimal* quality

 Feed efficiency cannot be sustained on high fiber

# IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS: LOCAL FEEDS

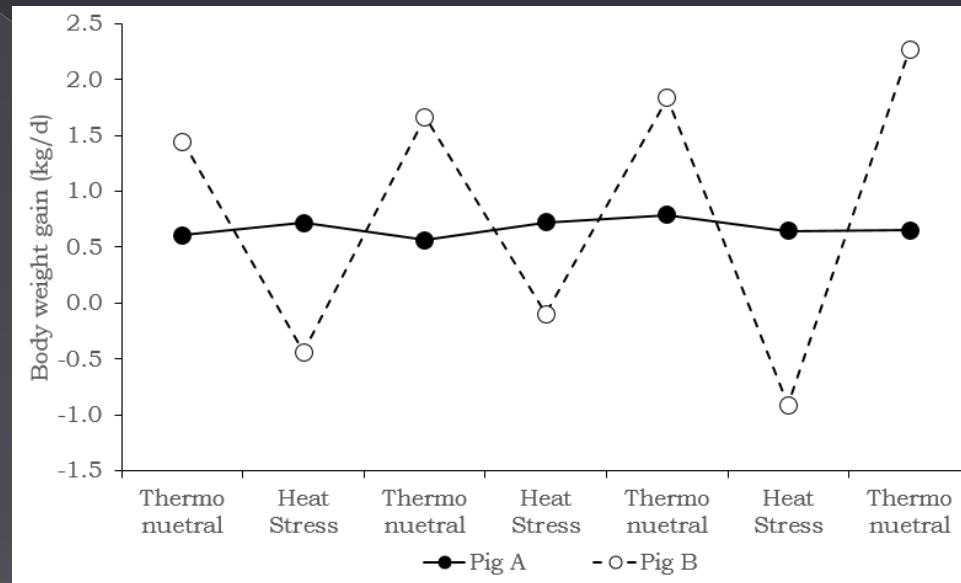


## IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS: LOCAL FEEDS





## IMPROVED ROBUSTNESS: LOCAL FEEDS



Literature: production  $\uparrow$  = environmental sensitivity  $\downarrow$

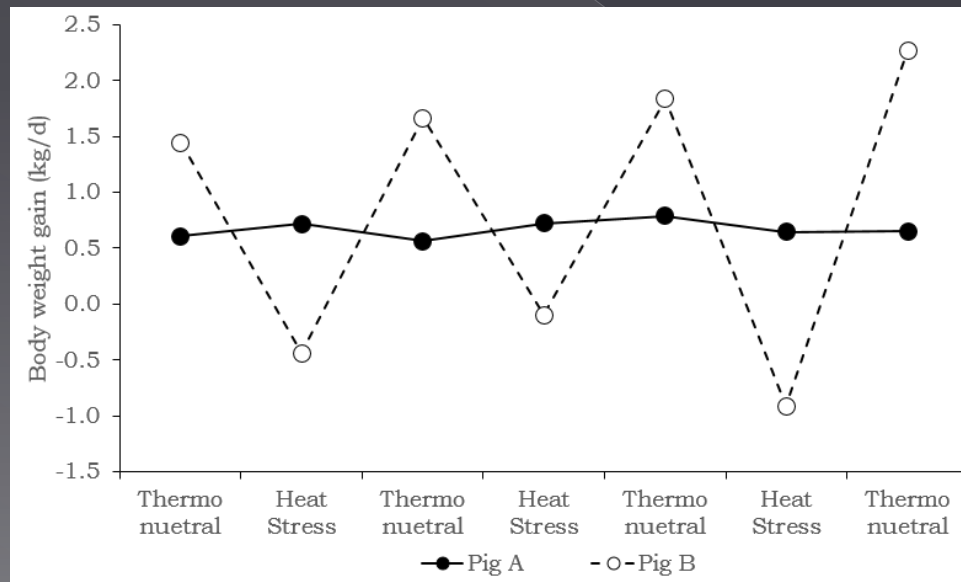
👉 May require a **different type of animal** than in high-input high-output production systems

1. Sustainability of livestock systems
2. Livestock intensification (optimal farming)
3. Improved animal robustness (suboptimal farming)
4. Prospects for sustainable livestock production

# PROSPECTS FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Two scenarios:

1. Livestock intensification (optimal farming)
2. Improved animal robustness (suboptimal farming)





# PROSPECTS FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Optimal farming ➡ efficiency ↑, production ↑, costs ↓

Suboptimal farming ➡ efficiency ↓, production ↓, costs ↑

➡ Can suboptimal farming be viable?

# PROSPECTS FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Optimal farming ➡ efficiency ↑, production ↑, costs ↓

Suboptimal farming ➡ efficiency ↓, **production ↓**, costs ↑

*Journal of Sustainable Agriculture*, 36:595–598, 2012  
Copyright © Taylor & Francis Group, LLC  
ISSN: 1044-0046 print/1540-7578 online  
DOI: 10.1080/10440046.2012.695331



## EDITORIAL

### **We Already Grow Enough Food for 10 Billion People . . . and Still Can't End Hunger**

Eric Holt-Giménez <sup>a</sup>, Annie Shattuck <sup>b</sup>, Miguel Altieri <sup>b</sup>, Hans  
Herren <sup>c</sup> & Steve Gliessman <sup>d</sup>

**“Hunger is caused by poverty and inequality, not scarcity”**

# PROSPECTS FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

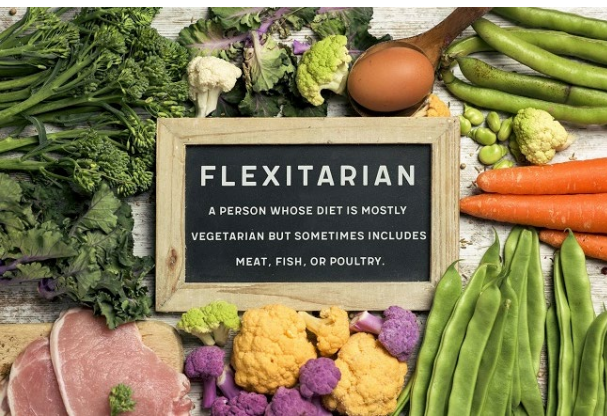
Suboptimal farming ➡ efficiency ↓, **production** ↓, costs ↑

~ 50% of current supply, all vegetarian

➡ Reduction in nitrogen emissions, greenhouse gas emissions, use of cropland for food production, reduction in the use of soymeal

## Flexitarian Diets and Health: A Review of the Evidence-Based Literature

Emma J. Derbyshire\*



# PROSPECTS FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Suboptimal farming ➡ efficiency ↓, **production** ↓, costs ↑

## Food waste!

1/3 lost or wasted

- shape, color, size
- best before date
- Restaurants



Food and Agriculture  
Organization of the  
United Nations

Study conducted for the  
International Congress

**SAVE FOOD!**

at Interpack2011  
Düsseldorf, Germany



GLOBAL  
F O O D  
L O S S E S  
A N D  
F O O D  
W A S T E



## Target 12.3

*By 2030, halve per capita global food waste at the retail and consumer levels and reduce food losses along production and supply chains, including post-harvest losses.*



# PROSPECTS FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Optimal farming ➡ efficiency ↑, production ↑, costs ↓

Suboptimal farming ➡ efficiency ↓, production ↓, **costs** ↑

Willingness to pay:

Welfare

Locally produced



**Consumer liking and  
willingness to pay for  
high welfare animal-  
based products**

Fabio Napolitano\*,  
Antonio Girolami and  
Ada Braghieri

**Market Potential for Locally Produced Meat Products**

Leigh J. Maynard, Kenneth H. Burdine, and A. Lee Meyer

# PROSPECTS FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Niche market?




spruce trees  
algae (yeast, 50-60% P)  
rapeseed



**FOODS OF NORWAY** aims to feed fish and farm animals using sustainable new ingredients

Foods of Norway News



About us  
**FOODS OF NORWAY**

**sfi** Centre for Research-based Innovation  
The Research Council of Norway

**Aftenposten** A-magasinet Osloby Sport Meninger Bli abonnent Meny



FOTO: NMBU  
Del 16 mjølkekyrme som fikk forsøksføret med gjør åt godt og mjølka like godt som før.

### Norsk gran kan bli til iskrem og ost

Tømmerflis kan erstatta importert soya i dyrefør og sikra matfatet vårt når klimaendringane trugar mattryggleiken.



# Reducing the land use of EU pork production: where there's swill, there's a way



Erasmus K.H.J. zu Ermgassen<sup>a,\*</sup>, Ben Phalan<sup>a</sup>, Rhys E. Green<sup>a,b</sup>, Andrew Balmford<sup>a</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Conservation Science Group, Department of Zoology, University of Cambridge, Downing Street, Cambridge CB2 3EJ, UK  
<sup>b</sup>RSPB Centre for Conservation Science, Royal Society for the Protection of Birds, The Lodge, Sandy SG19 2DL, UK

## Bug business: Cockroaches corralled by the millions in China to crunch waste

Thomas Suen, Ryan Woo

4 MIN READ



JINAN, China (Reuters) - In the near pitch-dark, you can hear them before you see them - millions of cockroaches scuttling and fluttering across stacks of wooden boards as they devour food scraps by the tonne in a novel form of urban waste disposal.



And it's not just big companies interested in these little bugs,



### EU Legislation

Insect producers must conform with the same general rules that apply to operators in other sectors


### Animal by-products for feed: characteristics, European regulatory framework, and potential impacts on human and animal health and the environment

D. Jędrejek<sup>1,4</sup>, J. Levic<sup>2</sup>, J. Wallace<sup>3</sup> and W. Oleszek<sup>1</sup>

Slaughtered animal	Edible = human consumption, %	Inedible = by-product, %
Chicken	68	32
Pig	62	38
Cattle	54	46
Sheep/Goat	52	48

# PROSPECTS FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Meat **alternatives**: lower requirements for land & water, lower greenhouse gas emissions (plant-based, lab-grown, insects)

GOETHE  
INSTITUT

Sprache. Kultur. Deutschland

HOME GERMAN LANGUAGE CULTURE ABOUT US LOCATIONS

FOOD TREND

**INSECTS AS A MEAT SUBSTITUTE**

EUROPE  
ARCHITECTURE  
LIBRARIES  
VISUAL ARTS  
EDUCATION AND KNOWLEDGE  
DESIGN AND FASHION  
FILM  
SOCIETY AND CURRENT  
AFFAIRS  
LITERATURE  
MEDIA  
MODERN LIFE  
MUSIC  
DANCE AND THEATRE  
RESIDENCE PROGRAMS



There are good reasons to consider eating insects instead of meat | @stockphototrends - James Charoenkrung

**Start-ups are trying to give Germans a taste for insect-based foods. Their arguments are persuasive**


**AUTHOR**


Constance Kleis is a journalist and book author.

Translation: Chris Cave  
Copyright: Goethe-Institut e. V., Internet-Redaktion  
September 2017

[✉ Any questions about this article? Write to us!](#)

0 Comments

 share 13

 tweet

# PROSPECTS FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

Fast food industry = major catalyst for cheap meat products



## Alternatives

**CNN BUSINESS** Markets Tech Media Success Perspectives Videos

### The Impossible Whopper is coming to every Burger King in America next week

By [Danielle Wiener-Bronner, CNN Business](#)  
Updated 1317 GMT (2117 HKT) August 1, 2019



**npr** SIGN IN NPR SHOP DONATE

NEWS ARTS & LIFE MUSIC SHOWS & PODCASTS SEARCH

**The Salt** WHAT'S ON YOUR PLATE

**FOOD FOR THOUGHT**

### Dairy Ice Cream, No Cow Needed: These Egg And Milk Proteins Are Made Without Animals

4:17

+ PLAYLIST


DOWNLOAD

EMBED

TRANSCRIPT

August 2, 2019 · 2:08 PM ET  
Heard on *All Things Considered*

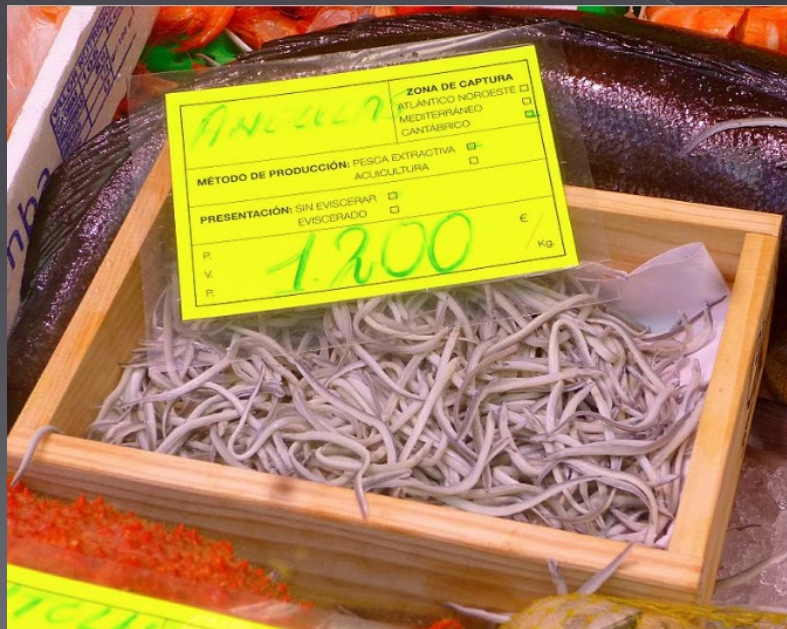
MARIA GODOY





# PROSPECTS FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

- ➡ Added premium price for **livestock animal proteins**
- = cover cost for welfare and suboptimal production systems



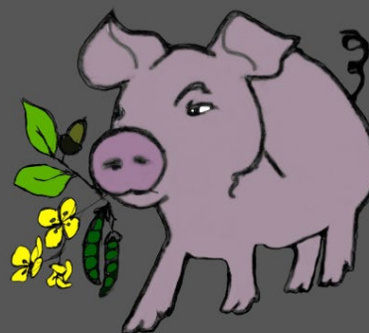
≠



# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

## Project goals of ERA-NET SusPig

- Evaluate if improved **feed efficiency (FE)** can be sustained with **climate change** and with more reliance on **local feed resources** and feedstuff co-products.
- Evaluate **environmental, social and economic impacts** of this strategy.
- Design **new pig production systems** with regard to environmental and social aspects and their tradeoffs.



SUS PIG



Scan me

[WWW.SUSPIG-ERA.NET](http://WWW.SUSPIG-ERA.NET)

## Project Partners

Wendy Rauw, INIA, Spain

Lotta Rydhmer, SLU, Sweden

Ilias Kyriazakis, Newcastle University, UK

Margareth Øverland, NMBU, Norway

Hélène Gilbert, INRA, France

Jack Dekkers, Iowa State University, USA

Susanne Hermes, University of New England, Australia

Alban Bouquet, IFIP, France

Emilio Gómez Izquierdo, ITACYL, Spain



# Thanks!

[rau.wendy@inia.es](mailto:rau.wendy@inia.es)

