

# LIVESTOCK SECTOR BRIEF

## ETHIOPIA

Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations · **FAO**

Livestock Information, Sector Analysis  
and Policy Branch · **AGAL**



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## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1. General Information .....</b>	<b>1</b>
Human population, land and socio-economics .....	1
Human population trends.....	2
Trends in agricultural land.....	2
<b>2. Livestock Resources .....</b>	<b>3</b>
Livestock populations .....	3
Selected indicators of livestock resources.....	4
Contribution of different species to total livestock units .....	4
Agro-ecological zones, human population density and densities of livestock species (1999) .....	5
<b>3. Livestock Production .....</b>	<b>7</b>
Trends in annual production of meat, milk and eggs .....	7
Composition of total meat production .....	7
Carcass weights and percentage slaughtered by species.....	8
Milk yields and proportion of dairy animals .....	8
Egg yields and proportion of laying birds.....	8
Estimated feed used for livestock production .....	9
Trends in annual per capita production of meat, milk and eggs.....	10
<b>4. Consumption of Meat, Milk and Eggs .....</b>	<b>11</b>
Trends in annual consumption of meat, milk and eggs .....	11
Trends in annual per capita consumption of meat, milk and eggs.....	11
Production versus consumption of meat, milk and eggs (1993) .....	12
Production versus consumption of meat, milk and eggs (2000) .....	12
<b>5. Trade in Livestock and Livestock Products.....</b>	<b>13</b>
Trade in live animals .....	13
Trade in livestock products.....	14
<b>6. Livestock Health.....</b>	<b>16</b>
Total number of cases of selected diseases reported in all susceptible species .....	16
<b>7. References and Further Reading .....</b>	<b>18</b>

## 1. GENERAL INFORMATION

### Human population, land and socio-economics

Human population	62.9	million
Population density	62.9	persons/sqkm
Annual growth rate (1990-2000)	3.4	%
Population in agriculture	51.8	million
As proportion of total population	82.4	%
Economically active population in agriculture	22.9	million
As proportion of economically active population	82.4	%
Total land area	1,000,000	sqkm
Agricultural land	307,280	sqkm
As proportion of total land	30.7	%
Land under pasture	200,000	sqkm
As proportion of total land	20.0	%
Agricultural land per 100 people	48.8	ha
Agricultural land per 100 people in agriculture	59.3	ha
GDP <sup>1</sup>	7,450	million 1995 US\$
GDP Annual growth rate (1990-2000)	3.8	%
GDP per capita/year <sup>1</sup>	116	US\$ 1995
GDP per capita annual growth rate (1990-2000)	1.6	%
Agriculture, GDP <sup>1</sup>	3,152	million 1995 US\$
As proportion of total GDP	52.3	%
Livestock, GDP <sup>1</sup>	1,404	million 1995 US\$
As proportion of total GDP	18.8	%
Poverty incidence (2002 figures) <sup>2</sup>		
Total	na	%
Urban	67.2	%
Rural	70.9	%

<sup>1</sup>Constant 1995 US\$ <sup>2</sup> Head count ratio, poverty line of \$25 per month

Source: World Bank (2002); FAOSTAT (2003); AfDB (2002); data for 2000 unless stated

- Despite the contribution of the livestock resources to the Ethiopian economy, the Government reportedly allocated only 5 percent of its recurrent expenditure on agriculture and less than 0.3 percent on livestock (or 3 percent of the recurrent agricultural expenditure). This is a clear indication that financial flows to the livestock sector do not reflect its contribution to the economy nor the potential wider impact of investment in the sector.

## Human population trends

Values expressed in 1,000

Population segment	Year				Annual growth rate (%)	
	1980	1990	2000	2015	1980-1990	1990-2000
<b>Total</b>	31,065	45,198	62,908	89,765	3.8	3.4
Rural	26,840	44,458	53,146	70,027	5.2	1.8
Urban	4,225	7,030	9,762	19,738	5.2	3.3

Source: FAOSTAT (2003); Central Statistical Office (1980)

## Trends in agricultural land

Land type (sqkm)	Year			Annual growth rate (%)	
	1980	1993	2000	1980-1993	1993-2000
<b>Agricultural, total</b>	-	306,500	307,280	-	0.0
Cropped <sup>1</sup>	-	106,500	107,280	-	0.1
Pastures	-	200,000	200,000	-	0.0

<sup>1</sup>Arable and permanent crops

Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

- All land was nationalised and redistributed in 1975. This policy was continued by the present Government and the 1994 Constitution specifies that land cannot be subject to sale or exchange. The Government is committed to efficient land leasing, including long leases for commercial farming. Land is heritable and farmers are allowed to rent lands and to hire labour and engage in renting and sharecropping arrangements. It is considered that this policy and the common property nature of grazing land motivate households to keep livestock beyond the carrying capacity of the land, damaging pastureland and contributing to declining livestock productivity.
- In the highland measures to close areas to animals and to de-stock were implemented in order to encourage soil regeneration; however, this was substituted in the 4<sup>th</sup> Livestock Development Project by attempts to improve forage production, including backyard forages, forage strip establishment as well as promoting annual and perennial forage. To-date, no government policy on grazing use rights exists.

## 2. LIVESTOCK RESOURCES<sup>1</sup>

### Livestock populations

Values expressed in 1,000

Species	Year				Annual growth rate (%)	
	1980 <sup>1</sup>	1993	2000	2015	1980-1993	1993-2000
Cattle and Buffaloes	28,500	29,450	35,480	-	1.1	1.9
Sheep and Goats	37,208	38,400	39,500	-	1.1	0.3
Pigs	19	20	25	-	1.7	2.3
Poultry	55,916	54,200	55,600	-	-1.0	0.3
Total LUs	18,534	19,111	22,251	-	1.0	1.5

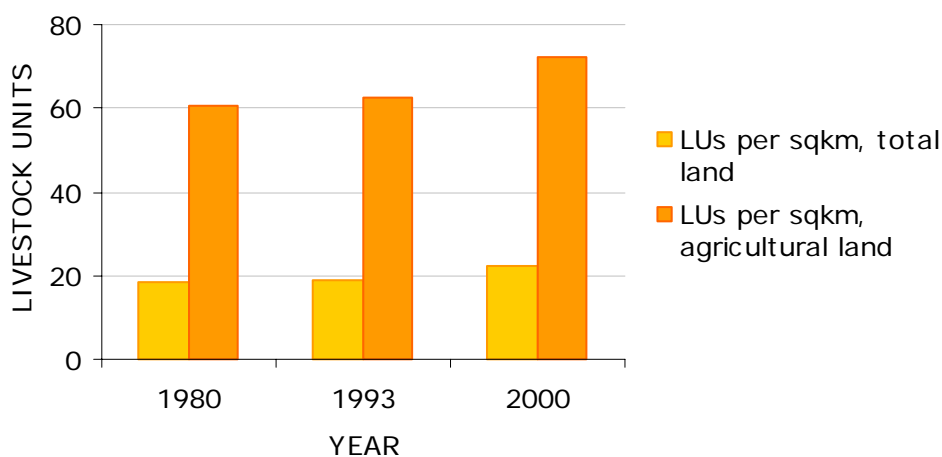
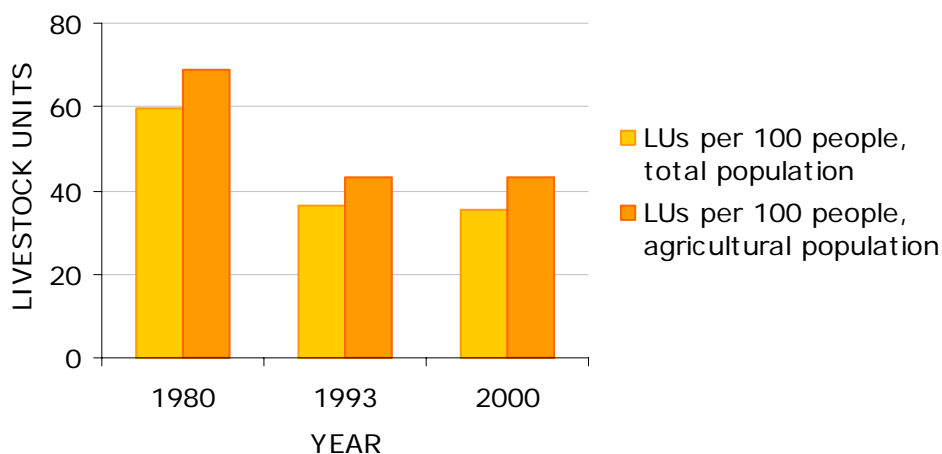
**LU:** *Livestock unit*; **conversion factors:** cattle and buffalo (0.50), sheep and goats (0.10), pigs (0.25) and poultry (0.01)

Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

- Ethiopia has one of the largest livestock inventories in Africa with livestock ownership currently supporting and sustaining the livelihoods of an estimated 80 percent of the rural poor.
- In the arid and semi-arid extensive grazing areas in the Eastern, Western and Southern lowlands, which are most prone to drought, cattle, sheep, goats, and camels are managed in migratory pastoral production systems.
- In the highlands, which account for over 75 percent of the livestock population, cattle provide traction power for 95 percent of grain production and also provide milk, meat, manure, cast income and serve as a hedge against times of drought and other risks. The increasing livestock density and associated overgrazing on both arable and grazing lands have serious impacts on the land and vegetative cover.

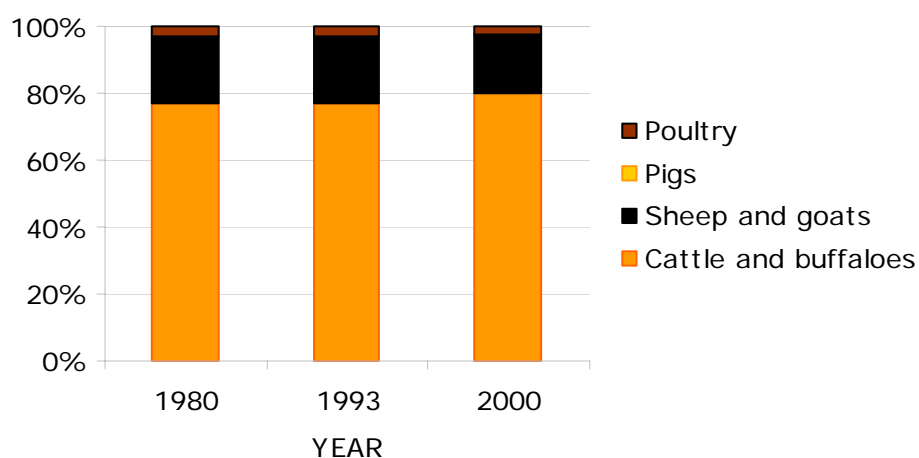
<sup>1</sup> Data for 1980 throughout the brief is derived from 1980 data for Ethiopia PDR by 'adjusting' with the 1993-2000 ratio for Ethiopia and Eritrea.

### Selected indicators of livestock resources



Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

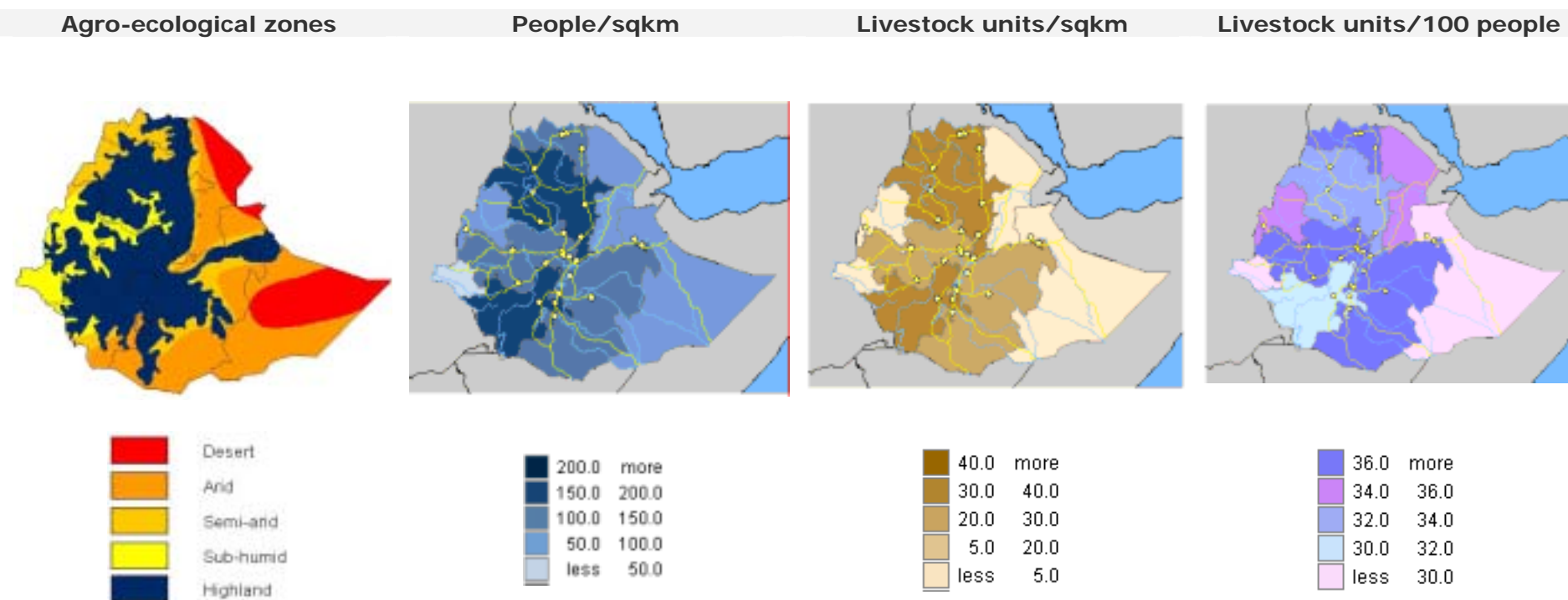
### Contribution of different species to total livestock units



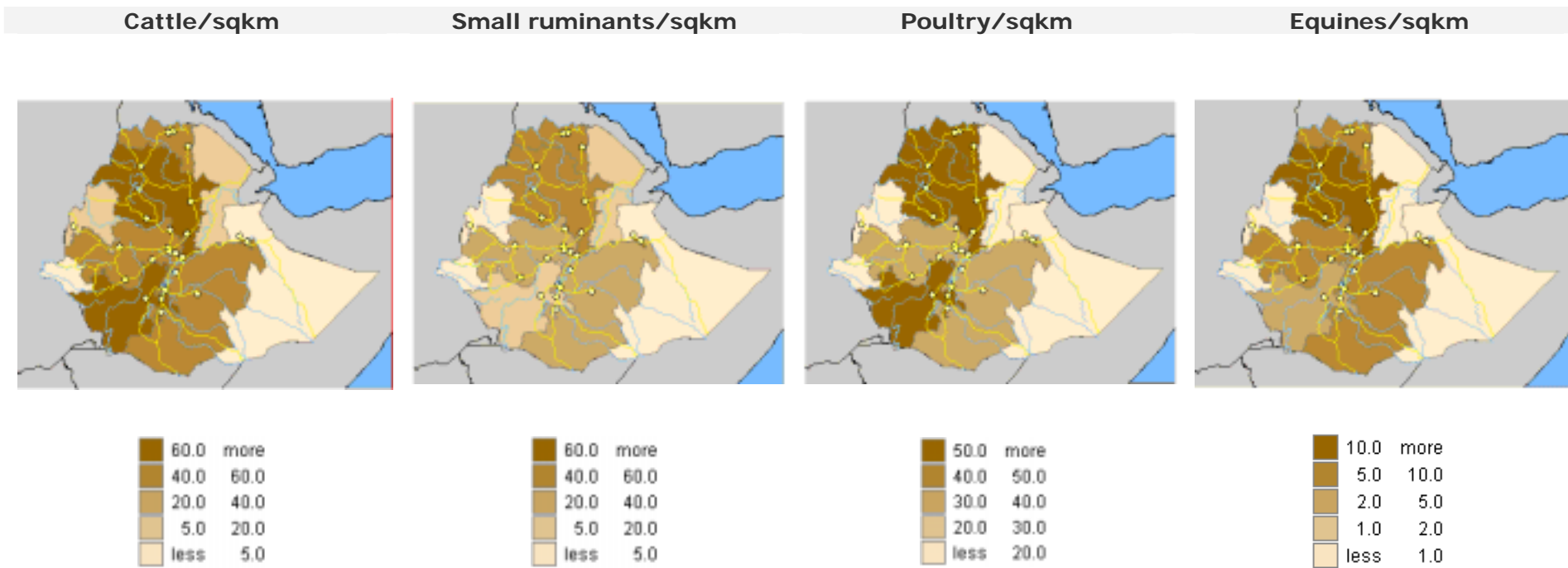
Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

## Agro-ecological zones, human population density and densities of livestock species (1999)

Density calculated on total land area



Source: FAO (1999); GLIPHA (2003)



Source: GLIPHA (2003)



### 3. LIVESTOCK PRODUCTION

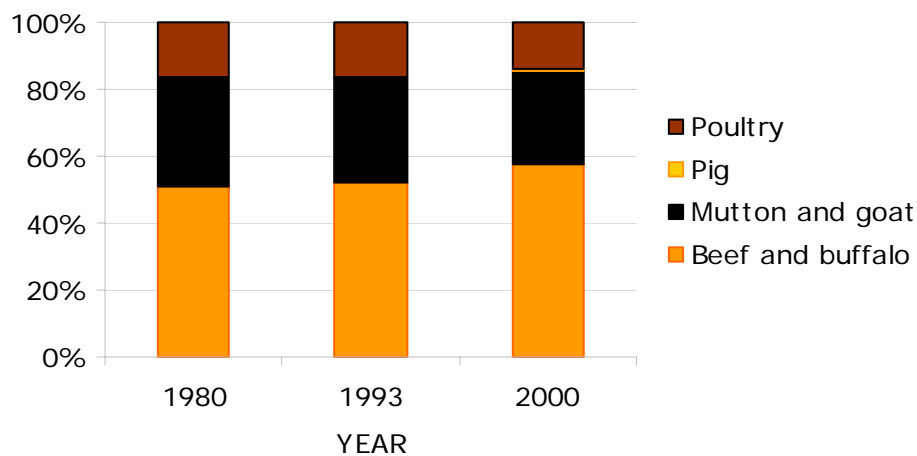
#### Trends in annual production of meat, milk and eggs

1,000 metric tonnes

Product	Year				Annual growth rate (%)	
	1980	1993	2000	2015	1980-1993	1993-2000
Meat, total	506.9	575.6	653.6	-	1.0	1.3
Beef and buffalo	203.6	230.0	298.0	-	0.9	2.6
Mutton and goat	131.6	139.0	146.5	-	0.4	0.5
Pig	1.0	1.2	1.4	-	1.3	2.3
Poultry	65.6	72.0	73.8	-	0.7	0.2
Milk, total	797.9	969.6	1,197.5	-	1.5	2.1
Eggs, total	70.7	73.4	75.6	-	0.3	0.3

Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

#### Composition of total meat production



Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

### Carcass weights and percentage slaughtered by species

Species/year	Carcass weight (kg/animal)			Percentage slaughtered/year		
	1980	1993	2000	1980	1993	2000
Cattle	109.5	105.2	108.4	6.5	7.4	7.8
Buffaloes	-	-	-	-	-	-
Sheep	10.0	9.8	10.0	36.4	36.0	36.9
Goat	8.5	8.5	8.5	39.9	44.0	44.0
Pigs	50.0	50.0	50.0	102.6	115.0	115.2
Poultry	0.8	0.8	0.8	1.5	1.7	1.7

Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

### Milk yields and proportion of dairy animals

Species/year	Milk yield (kg/year)			Percentage dairy		
	1980	1993	2000	1980	1993	2000
Cattle	198.7	197.4	204.2	10.4	12.9	13.4
Buffaloes	-	-	-	-	-	-

Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

### Egg yields and proportion of laying birds

Species/year	Eggs (kg/year)			Percentage layers		
	1980	1993	2000	1980	1993	2000
Chickens	2.3	2.3	2.3	55.0	58.9	59.1

Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

## Estimated feed used for livestock production

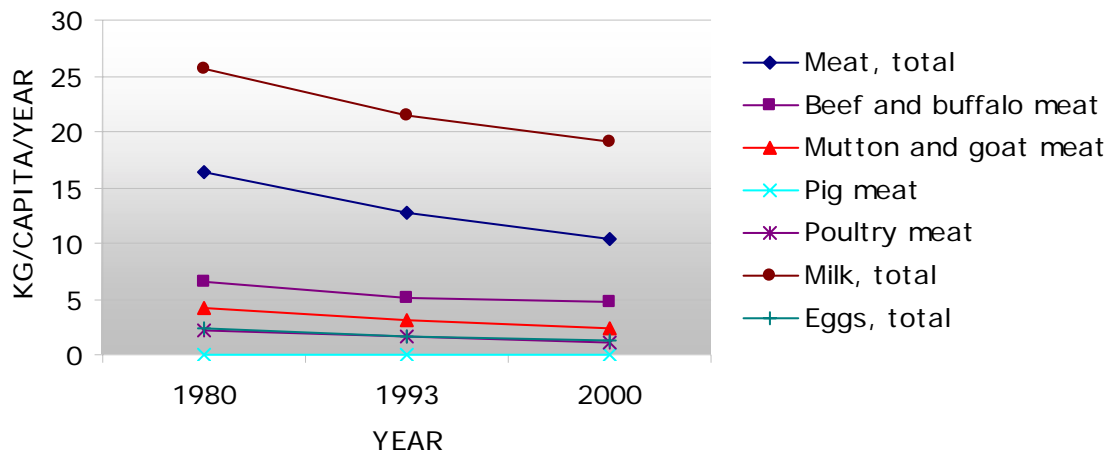
1,000 metric tonnes

Product	Year			Annual growth rate (%)	
	1980	1993	2000	1980-1993	1993-2000
Cereals, total	422.4	422.1	737.6	0.0	5.7
Maize	120.0	70.0	120.0	-5.2	5.5
Maize, bran	25.6	59.0	89.9	8.7	4.3
Millet and sorghum, bran	95.5	97.0	174.9	0.2	6.1
Wheat	-	-	-	-	-
Wheat, bran	60.5	91.1	203.2	4.2	8.4
Rice, broken	-	-	-	-	-
Rice, Paddy	-	-	-	-	-
Rice, bran	-	-	-	-	-
Rice bran, cake	-	-	-	-	-
Roots and tubers	-	-	-	-	-
Pulses, total	-	-	-	-	-
Animal products, total <sup>1</sup>	21.6	25.9	29.9	1.9	1.4
Cereals (kg)/livestock unit	22.8	22.1	33.1	-0.2	4.1

<sup>1</sup>Comprises feedstuffs derived from animals such as offals, animal fats, bone meal, etc.

Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

## Trends in annual per capita production of meat, milk and eggs



Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

- Restraints are placed on the movement of people. At present, there are restricted at the local level as well as across regions.
- Access to credit for livestock producers and traders is limited as due to land tenure policies collateral is unavailable.
- Coordination between government activities focusing on livestock production, veterinary health and marketing was complicated by the establishment of the Livestock Marketing Authority which reports to a different Ministry than the Department of Veterinary services. The Acts governing the two institutions provide overlapping roles and responsibilities.
- Livestock are the most repeatedly taxed agricultural commodity in Ethiopia. Transit and sales taxes, as well as marketing fees, differ between regions and are not usually spent on services provided to the sector, nor are they used for improving market/livestock facilities.

## 4. CONSUMPTION OF MEAT, MILK AND EGGS

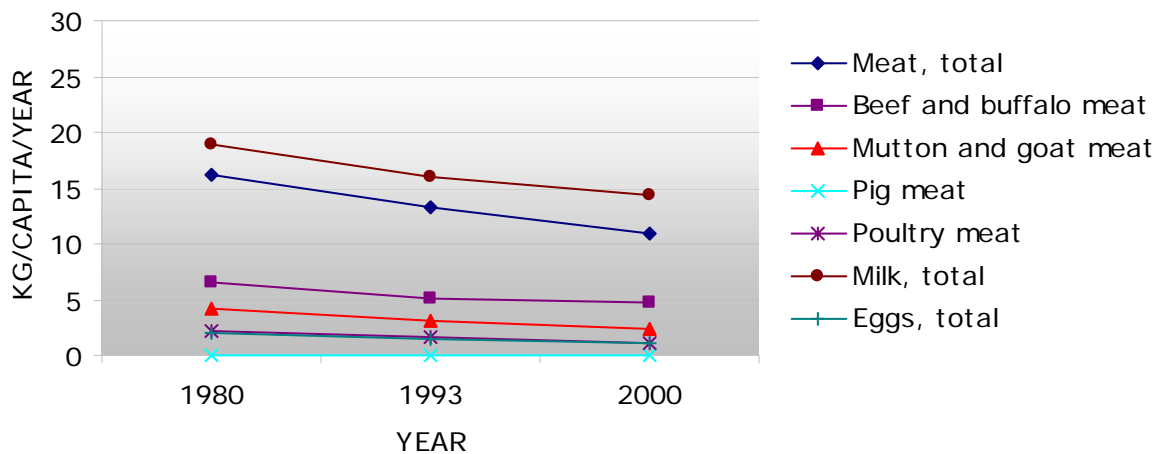
### Trends in annual consumption of meat, milk and eggs

1,000 metric tonnes

Product	Year				Annual growth rate (%)	
	1980	1993	2000	2015	1980-1993	1993-2000
Meat, total	503.9	597.9	683.1	-	1.3	1.3
Beef and buffalo	200.8	230.0	298.1	-	1.0	2.6
Mutton and goat	131.4	138.9	145.3	-	0.4	0.5
Pig	1.0	1.2	1.5	-	1.3	2.5
Poultry	65.6	72.1	73.8	-	0.7	0.2
Milk, total	585.3	725.4	905.0	-	1.7	2.2
Eggs, total	61.5	63.8	65.8	-	0.3	0.3

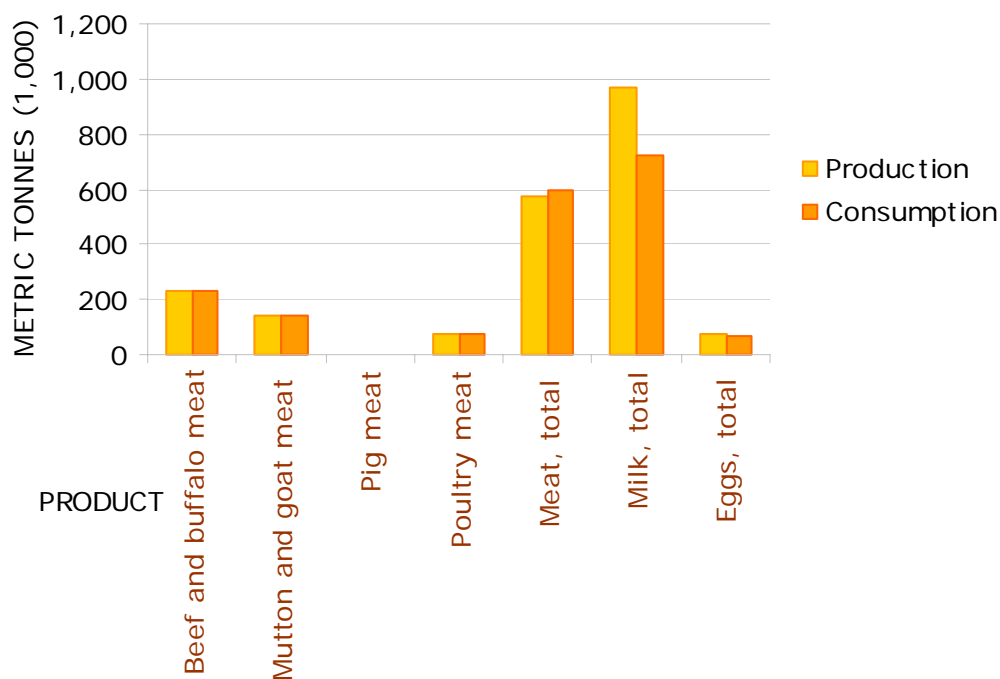
Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

### Trends in annual per capita consumption of meat, milk and eggs



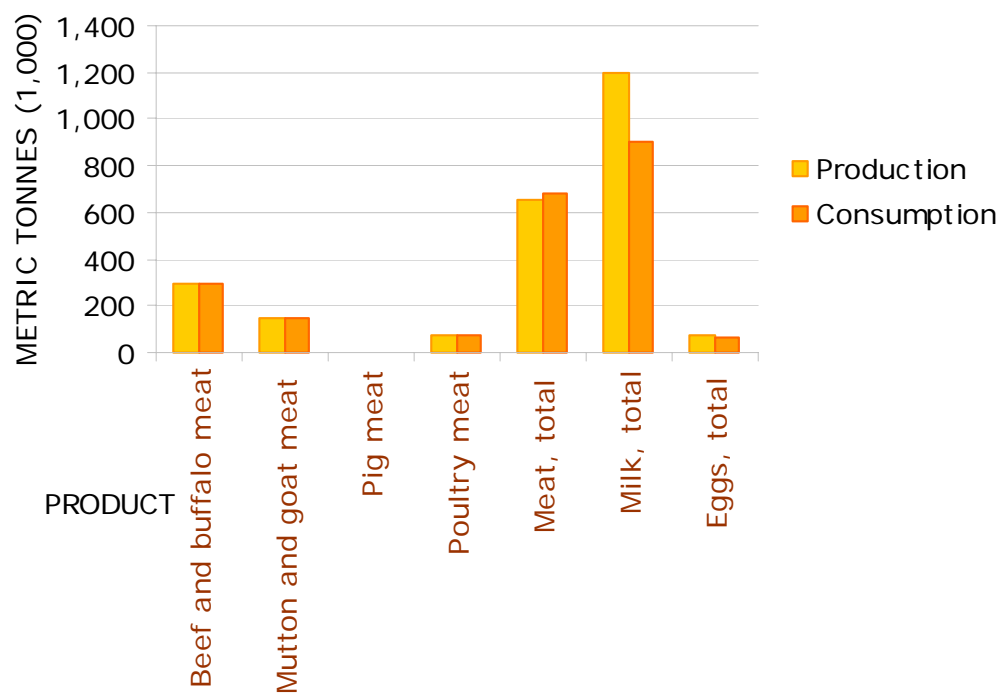
Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

### Production versus consumption of meat, milk and eggs (1993)



Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

### Production versus consumption of meat, milk and eggs (2000)



Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

## 5. TRADE IN LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

### Trade in live animals

Species	1980 <sup>1</sup>			1993			2000		
	Export	Import	Net trade	Export	Import	Net trade	Export	Import	Net trade
<b>Quantities (count)</b>									
Cattle and buffaloes	13,647	200	13,447	5,600		5,600	326		326
Sheep and goats	29,796	249	29,547	8,800		8,800	30,130		30,130
Pigs	50		50			0			0
Poultry (1,000)					160	<160>	1	72	<71>
<b>Value (1,000 US\$)</b>									
Cattle and buffaloes	3,845	735	3,110	683		683	73		73
Sheep and goats	1,432	10	1,422	290		290	1,258		1,258
Pigs	11		11						
Poultry					150		3	146	<143>
<b>Total</b>	<b>5,288</b>		<b>4,543</b>	<b>973</b>	<b>150</b>	<b>823</b>	<b>1,334</b>	<b>146</b>	<b>1,188</b>

<sup>1</sup>Data for Ethiopia PDR

**Net trade:** Exports less Imports; figures in brackets indicate net imports

Source: FAOSTAT (2003)

## Trade in livestock products

Product	1980 <sup>1</sup>			1993			2000		
	Export	Import	Net trade	Export	Import	Net trade	Export	Import	Net trade
<b>Quantity (metric tonnes)</b>									
Meat, total	2,485	35	2,450	42	109	<67>	1,167	70	1,097
Beef and buffalo	2,200	3	2,197	9	9	0	5	38	<33>
Mutton and goat	225		225	33		33	1,162		1,162
Pig	1		1			0		3	<3>
Poultry		30	<30>		100	<100>		5	<5>
Other	59	2	57					24	<24>
Milk, total	241	29,709	<29,468>	7	14,986	<14,979>	4	8,290	<8,286>
Eggs, total	58		58	2	2	0			
Hides and skins	13,642		13,642	7,577		7,577	16,907		16,907
<b>Value (1,000 US\$)</b>									
Meat, total	2,939	25	2,914	92	129	<37>	2,363	169	2,194
Beef and buffalo	2,404	2	2,402	15	29	<14>	10	68	<58>
Mutton and goat	489		489	77		77	2,353		2,353
Pig	2		2					11	<11>
Poultry		14	<14>		100	<100>		19	<19>
Other	44	9	35					71	<71>
Milk, total	112	5,547	<5,435>	1	2,593	<2,592>	4	2,519	<2,515>
Eggs, total	96		96		2	<2>			
Hides and skins	52,162		52,162	32,695		32,695	16,720		16,720
<b>Total</b>	<b>55,309</b>	<b>5,572</b>	<b>49,737</b>	<b>32,788</b>	<b>2,724</b>	<b>30,064</b>	<b>19,087</b>	<b>2,688</b>	<b>16,399</b>

<sup>1</sup>Data for Ethiopia PDR; **Net trade**: Exports less Imports; figures in brackets indicate net imports

Source: FAOSTAT (2003)



- One of the policies implemented by the present government in the early 1990s was the abolition of export taxes and lowering of import tariffs.
- The Government issues licences for the export of livestock. The currency is controlled and marginal taxes are levied on all exports. Licenses can only be obtained from the Ministry of Trade after following a complicated process which takes more than two working days and involves the approval of more than 9 different organisations.
- It is a requirement that all legal export be conducted through a Letter of Credit (LC systems) through the Commercial Bank of Ethiopia. This system is in place despite the fact that traders export their animals against limited cash advances in most cases. The implicit costs of the Letter of Credit include a differential exchange rate resulting in a 3 percent bank charge on the transaction.
- An array of government agencies and professional associations collect service charges and fees from exporters at the Federal level.
- Ethiopia currently only participates in the WTO as an observer. Accession to the WTO would impose only a few restrictions on current economic policies due to the many exemptions applicable for LDCs and to Ethiopia's policy reforms since 1991. The current development projects for coffee, cereals and livestock are fully exempted from WTO reduction requirements.
- Ethiopia is a member of COMESA (Common Market for East and Southern Africa), a regional association of 22 members. It has not yet signed the accompanying trade agreement which would result in duty free trade among regional members; however, it has negotiated 10 percent reduction in tariffs with Kenya.
- Ethiopia is a member of Codex Alimentarius and the OIE. As a LDC, it qualifies for duty-free access to the EU frozen beef market under the EU's initiative "Everything but Arms"; however, all shipments need to meet EU sanitary requirements.

## 6. LIVESTOCK HEALTH

### Total number of cases of selected diseases reported in all susceptible species

Disease	1996	1997	1998	1999	2000	2001
African swine fever	(1993)					
Avian Influenza <sup>2</sup>	?	...		...	-	
Bluetongue	000	000	000	000	000	000
Bovine spongiform encephalopathy	000	000	000	000	000	000
CBPP <sup>1</sup>	777	593	1,648	3,174	1,111	1,595
Classical swine fever	000	000	000	000	000	000
Foot and mouth disease	888	2,080	14,192	46,613	12,579	10,572
Lumpy skin disease	4,210	1,438	9,209	563	10,298	7,954
Newcastle disease	...	(12/1996)	1,262	3,227	507	15,094
Peste des petits ruminants	2,160	3,313	566	12	12	165
Rift Valley fever	000	000	000	000	000	000
Rinderpest	-	(12/1995)	(12/1995)	(12/1995)	(12/1995)	(12/1995)
Sheep and goat pox	1,147	970	1,144	940	1,203	1,901
Swine vesicular disease	000	000	000	000	000	000
Vesicular stomatitis	000	000	000	000	000	000

<sup>1</sup>Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia

<sup>2</sup>Highly pathogenic avian influenza

... no information, - disease not reported, 000 disease never reported; (month/year) Date of the last reported occurrence of the disease in previous years; ? disease suspected but presence not confirmed

Source: OIE (2003)

- The decentralisation programme, flowing from the federal structure of the country to regional and district levels, has resulted in regional departments of veterinary services not required to report directly to the federal veterinary office. Gaps exist in the policy dialogue between the Federal Government and regional administrations. Problems of access to livestock services, specifically shortages of vaccines and other veterinary pharmaceuticals at local levels have led to difficulties in ensuring preventive animal health care.
- Meat inspection regulations are presently being updated in draft form. This activity is being also supported by UNIDO which is assisting in the organisation of food hygiene legislation to improve food safety and in the development of different guidelines for various markets (export, big city, rural, small animal-home slaughter).
- The Proclamation to Provide for Animal Disease Control became law in 2001. It does not specifically authorise the training/use of Community-Based Animal Health Workers; however the government unofficially supports training of such workers.

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