

Partnership on the environmental benchmarking of livestock supply chains

Global feed industry perspectives Frank Mitloehner Rome – 4 July 2012













The main role of the feed industry

- Sustainable competitiveness of the livestock sector through safe competitive and sustainable feed
- Nutritional know-how to achieve a sustainable diet for animals
 - Comprehensive knowledge of nutritional characteristics of feed ingredients
 - Accurate assessment of animals nutritional needs
- Challenge: meeting the global growing demand for livestock products with limited availability of resources and with the need to reduce pressure on the environment

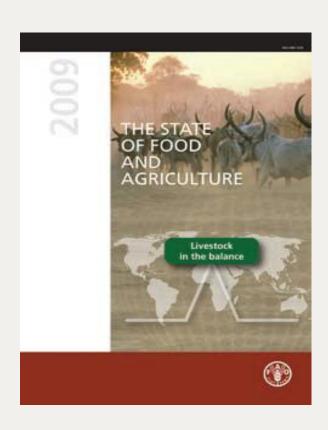


A sustainable link within the food chain

- Client of arable farmers and supplier of livestock farmers: link between vegetable and animal productions
- Valorization of by-products from the food and bio-fuels industries
 - Economic viability of these industries
 - Reduce competition for resources
 - Improve synergies within the food chain



FAO report "livestock in the balance"



- The livestock sector contributes to food security and poverty reduction
- The livestock sector must improve its environmental performance
- The livestock sector can play a key role in mitigating climate change through adoption of improved technologies
- Feed conversion efficiency and feed quality is a key tool to reduce GHG emissions



Importance of chain dialogue to overcome difficulties

- Feed is an important component to improve the sustainability of livestock products
- The feed industry is committed to that objective.
- Concerted actions from all the partners of the feed and food chain are however imperative to be sucessful.



Harmonization of methodology: a success factor for environmental footprinting

- Environmental footprinting is complex
- Results are highly correlated to assumptions and methodology used.
- Globally harmonized methodological framework is necessary to ensure credibility and consistency
- Common methodology is a precompetitive issue and is part of customers' expectations



Challenges of the partnership

- On the one hand, the guidelines developed should not be too complex in order to be widely and easily applicable.
- One the other hand they should be detailed enough to enable differentiation based on nutritional performances and raw material sourcing.
- Border between methodology and incentives can be thin.
- For the feed-specific guidelines the feed industry would support comprehensive guidelines :
 - For example, typical crop yields by system and region is an important parameter.
 - The use phase of feed at farm level (including manure management) is also crucial and should also be included in the model.



Methodological hot spots

- Land Use Change
- Emissions from soil carbon fluxes
- Allocation
- Management of fertilization for feed crops
- Nutritional models for digestion

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Multi-criteria approach: better be imprecisely accurate than precisely inaccurate...

	Imprecise	Precise
Inaccurate	* * * *	*
Accurate	* * *	*

Source: Quantis



Feed industry organization for the project

- Under the umbrella of IFIF, a feed consortium gathering 7 feed associations and 7 feed companies will be directly involved in the project.
- New participants may join in the course of the project.

7 associations

- AFIA
- AIC
- BEMEFA
- DAKOFO
- FEFAC
- NEVEDI
- SNIA

7 companies

- AGRIFIRM
- DE HEUS
- DENKAVIT
- FOR FARMERS
- NUTRECO
- PROVIMI
- VAN DRIE GROUP



Feed industry bilateral project

- Focus on processed feed ingredients
- Complement to the MUL project
- Will deliver a database of GHG LCI values for selected processed feed materilas
- The FAO will ensure that the methodological requirements of the sector-specific guidelines from the MUL partnership are properly applied.
- Transfer of the BIL database to the MUL Partnership will be submitted to the validation of the Steering Committee of the MUL Partnership.