



Sustainable Livestock Production “Contradiction between Family Farms, Industrial Farms and Consumers”

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Sustainability

- Describing a system which can regenerate, protects their basic properties and continues its natural growth
- Includes sociology, economy and ecology
 - “Aesthetic”
 - “Development”
 - “Protection”
- In order to meet the needs of humans
 - “The demands of present generation to meet, without the worry to meet the needs of the future”

Sustainable Livestock Production

- Careful use of plant and animal resources
- Respect for animals
- Occupational health and safety
- Economy
- Traceability
- Transparency
- Recording



Protection of Production Resources

- Farmland for forage production
 - Soil protection
 - Improving soil fertility
- Animals
 - Health
 - Genetic
- Farm capital
 - Forage production
 - Husbandry system
 - Amortization



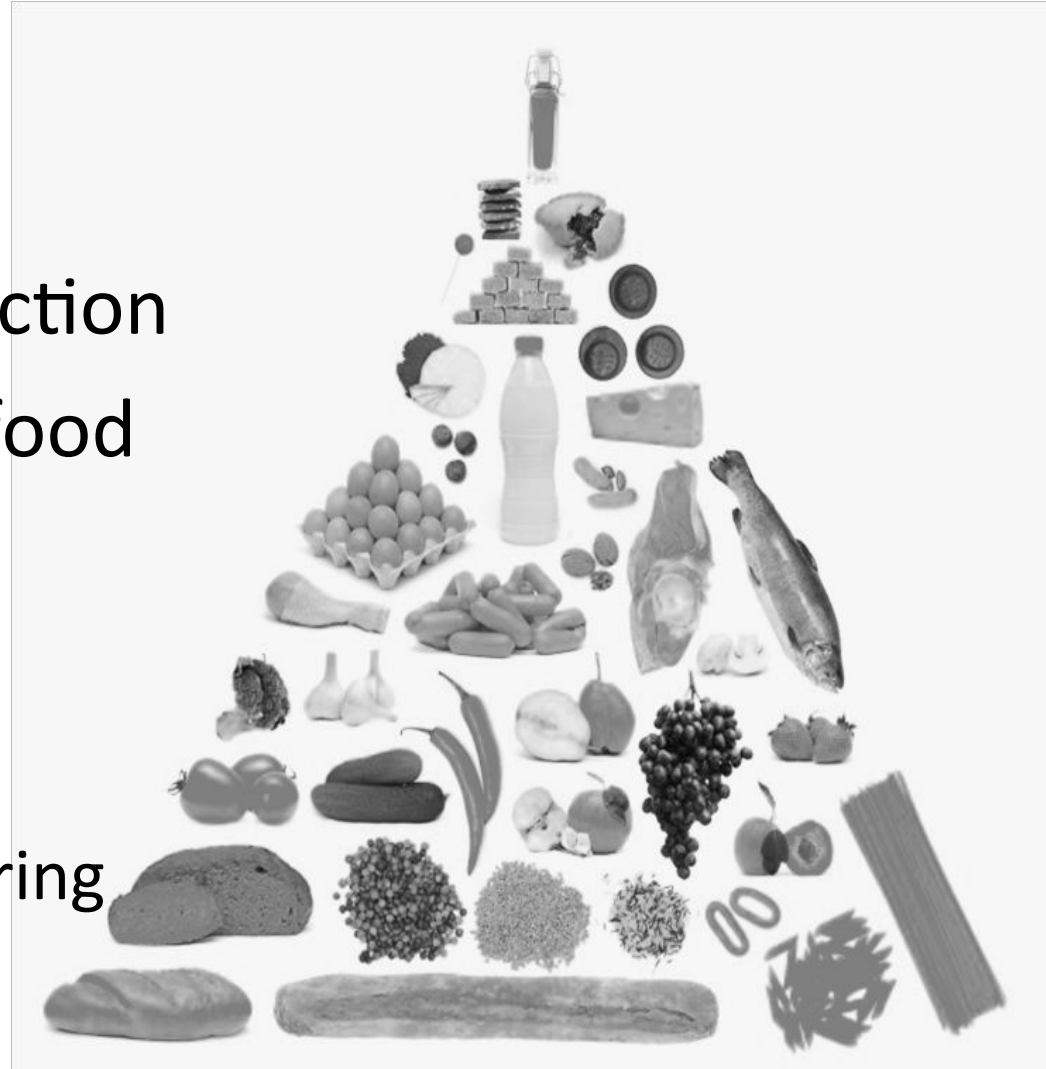
Animal Welfare

- Basis of a sustainable animal production
- No hunger and thirst
 - Balanced feeding
 - No malnutrition
- Full behavioral repertoire
 - Barn design
- Protection from bad weather
 - Prevailing winds
 - Precipitation
 - Barn climate
- Protection from diseases and pests
 - Hygiene
 - Biosecurity
 - Health plan



Food Safety

- Transparency of production
- Recording of production
- Traceability of the food chain
- Public health
 - Zoonoses
 - Contaminations during food chain



Occupational Health and Safety

- Reasonable profit
 - Owner
 - Worker
- Prevention from occupational diseases
- Prevention from work accidents
- Adequate social and cultural environment



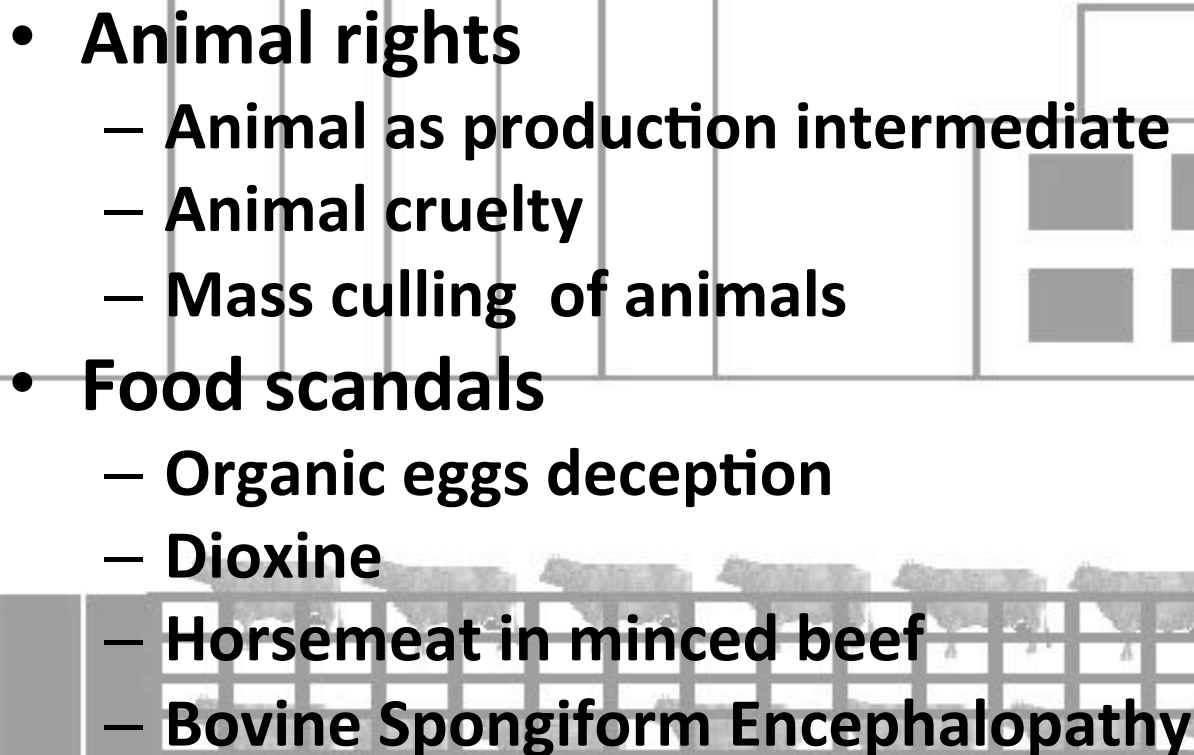
Livestock Production Systems

- In the last century the livestock agriculture has gradually changed
- From family farms...
 - Small flocks
 - Labor intensive
 - Low input
 - Local marketing
- To industrial farms
 - Specialization of production
 - Large flocks
 - High input
 - Intensive mechanization
 - Global marketing
- From livelihood to tough economic competition





Is industrial farming sustainable?

- **Environment**
 - Ammoniac
 - Methane
 - Urea
 - Dust and odor emissions
 - Noise emissions
 - **Animal rights**
 - Animal as production intermediate
 - Animal cruelty
 - Mass culling of animals
 - **Food scandals**
 - Organic eggs deception
 - Dioxine
 - Horsemeat in minced beef
 - Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy
- 



Is industrial farming sustainable?

Under present conditions

NO!



Industrial farms do not worry about sustainability!

As long as it is economically sustainable



What do consumers want?

- Consumer demands have oriented agricultural production
- Buying behavior of people
 - Mostly based on rumor
 - Far from technical knowledge
 - Popular and sensational news
- Marketing technics
 - Quality
 - Standardization
 - Depletion of biodiversity
- Consumer demands led to the industrialization...
- Now, she wants to contrary!
 - No mass production
 - Small farms with “happy” animals



What do consumers want?

- Animal products from “little happy farms”
 - Pro family farming
- But buying to limited budgeted
 - Consumers are not ready for more pay
- Family farms have higher production costs
 - Small scale inputs are costly
 - No advantages of mass selling
- The profitable size is a problem!

The profitable size problem!

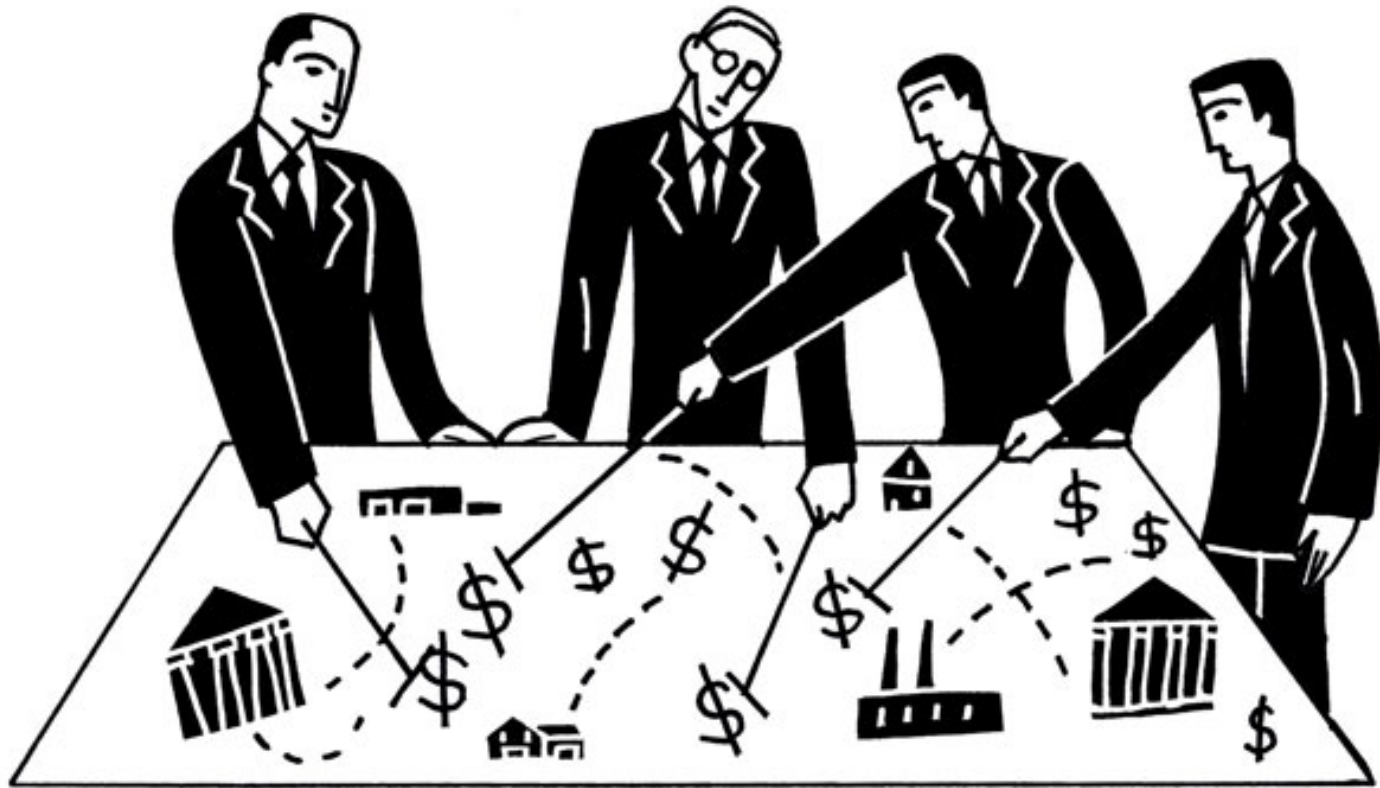
- Are small farms not profitable?
 - In poor countries agriculture is livelihood of 2.5 billion people
 - In these countries, family farms produce over 80% of the food
- It is not only a question of the micro economy!
- Even so a lot of studies show that small farms can be economically viable

The profitable size problem!

- In developing countries, the political pressure supported large farms
- More and more small farmers leave their villages for economic reasons
- Socioeconomic problems!
 - Unemployment rate grows
 - From producers to consumers
 - Crime rate grows
 - Energy demand grows

The profitable size problem!

It is a problem just for economists!



Conclusion

- Science has a sufficient knowledge about sustainable livestock production
- However, the legislation do not enough care this knowledge
 - Political decisions are always support to the greatest things
 - Economic growth at any price!
- The World is in an ecological and socioeconomic crisis

Conclusion

- What should be done?
 - Family farming is an ecological and socio-economic necessity for many regions of the World
 - Even they are being described as primitive, all small family-based livestock production systems should be protected and supported
 - Such farmers should be given the necessary support to adapt their farms to sustainability principles

Conclusion

- What should be done?
 - Families need legal and technical infrastructures for the establishment of production and self-processing and marketing systems
 - Cooperative pastures are very important for these systems
 - The measures which necessary for a sustainable using of natural resources must be guaranteed

A large herd of goats of various colors (white, black, brown, and grey) is gathered on a grassy hillside. In the background, there is a large blue lake and rolling green hills under a bright blue sky with scattered white clouds. The text "THANK YOU FOR YOUR ATTENTION" is overlaid in the center of the image.

**THANK YOU
FOR YOUR ATTENTION**