

# The Role of Cattle as Up-cyclers of By-products and Food Waste

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Agriculture and  
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# Growing Global Demand for Foods of Animal Origin

## Opportunity:

- Increase in exports for Canada

## Challenges:

- Finite resources to expand production
  - Land conversion from perennial to annual crops
  - Urban encroachment into farmland
  - Climate change – extreme weather events leading to decreased feed quality and quality
- Public trust
  - Impact of livestock on the environment

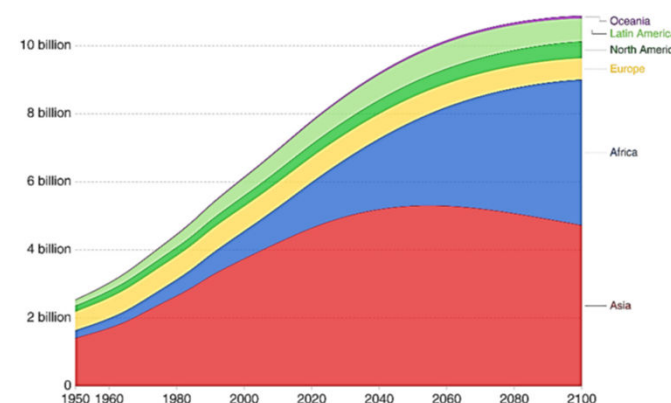


Fig. 1. World population by region projected to 2100, based on the United Nation's medium population scenario ([Roser et al.2019](#)).

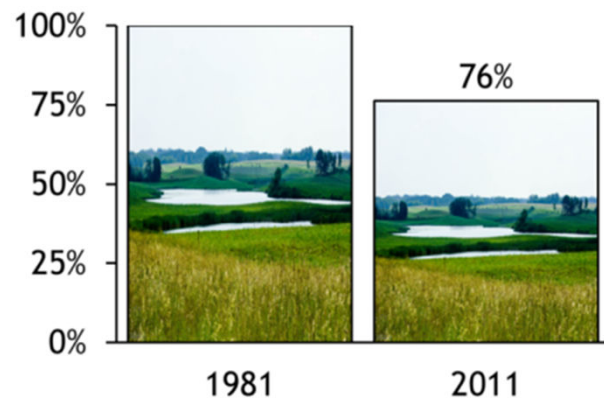
# Environmental Footprinting

- In North America, the livestock industry is making progress to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) and ammonia emissions, as well as water and land use (Rotz et al., 2019, Legesse et al., 2016, 2018).

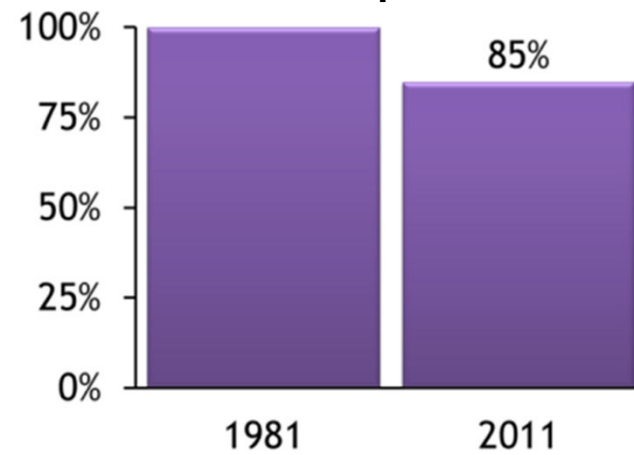


# Footprint of Canadian Beef

Beef produced in Canada in 2011 required **24% less land than 1981**



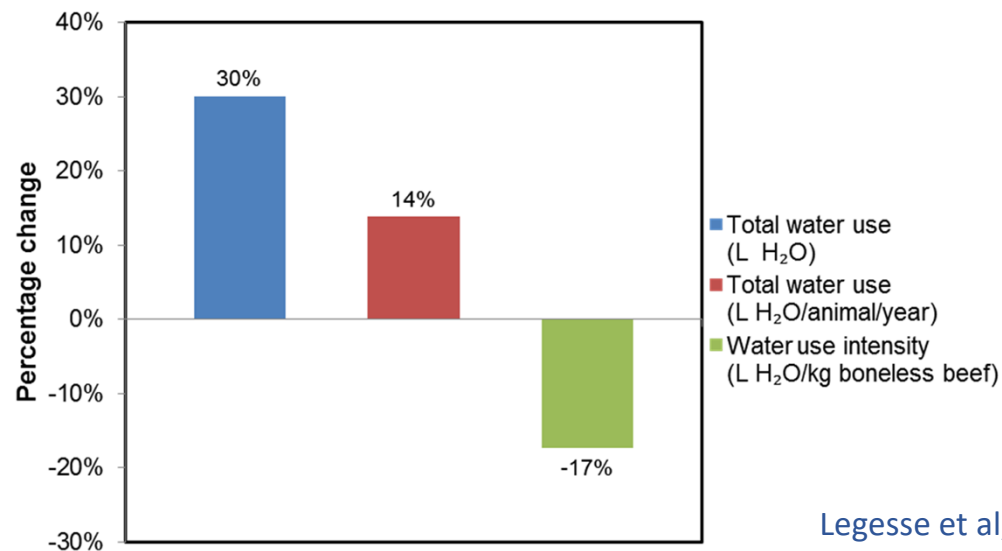
Beef produced in Canada in 2011 had a **15% smaller carbon footprint than 1981**



Legesse et al, 2016a

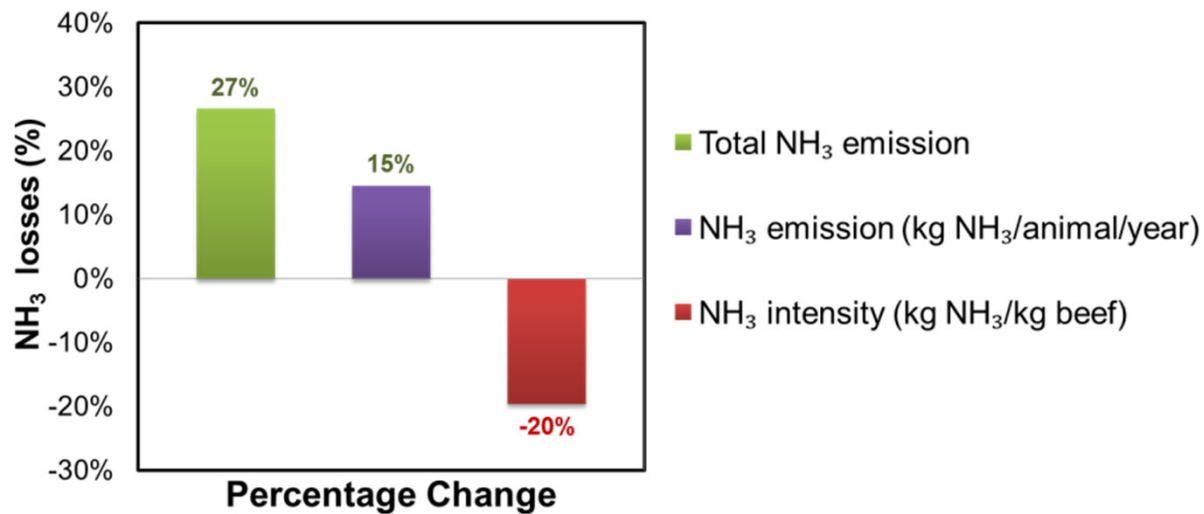
# Footprint of Canadian Beef

Percentage change in **water use** in Canadian beef industry from 1981 to 2011



Legesse et al, 2018

# Footprint of Canadian Beef



Legesse et al, 2016b

# Food Loss and Waste: A Global Priority

- United Nations (UN) 2030 goal to:  
“...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” (UN, 2015)



## Food loss and waste:

A sustainable  
source of feed for  
livestock?

Improve resource  
use efficiency  
while reducing  
the environmental  
footprint?



# The difference between

FOOD  
LOSS

&

FOOD  
WASTE

takes place at

**Production**  
**Postharvest**  
**Processing stages**  
**Distribution**

happens at

**Retail**  
**Consumption**



Food and Agriculture Organization  
of the United Nations

**#ZeroHunger**

# Food Loss and Waste: A Global Issue

- Globally:
  - All edible food – 1/3 (FAO, 2011)
  - Food Loss Index - 14% lost before retail (FAO, 2019)
  - Food Waste Index – under review
- US- 62.5 million tons (ReFed 2016, Dou et al., 2018)
  - Production/unharvested crops – 10.1 million tons
  - Retail/Consumer – 52.4 million tons



# FOOD WASTE IN CANADA

THE FACTS



**58%**

of food produced in Canada is lost or wasted each year.



**35.5 MILLION TONNES**

of food produced in Canada is lost or wasted each year.



**32 %**

of this, amounting to

**11.2 MILLION TONNES**

could be rescued to support communities across Canada.

This is equivalent to the weight of almost

**95**

**CN TOWERS**



The average Canadian household spends

**\$1,766**

on food that is wasted every year.



Food waste costs Canada's economy more than

**\$49 BILLION**

each year.



Each year, food waste in Canada creates about

**56.6 MILLION TONNES**

of carbon dioxide-equivalent emissions.

Organics wasted in a landfill produce methane gas which is

**25 TIMES**

more damaging to the environment than carbon dioxide.



**Source:**

The Avoidable Crisis of Food Waste (2019); Roadmap; Second Harvest and Value Chain Management International

#WasteReductionWeek



WRWCanada.com

umanitoba.ca



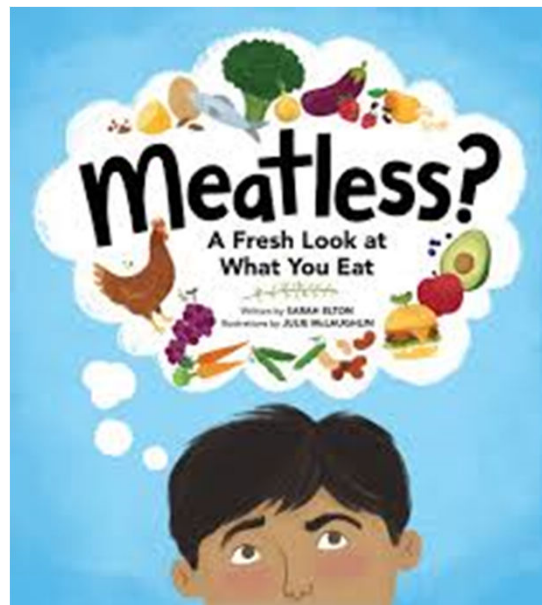
University  
of Manitoba

# Hierarchy of Recovery



Source:  
[www.waste4change.com](http://www.waste4change.com)

# Searching for the Sustainable Diet



# Hierarchy of Recovery



Source:  
[www.waste4change.com](http://www.waste4change.com)

# Current Utilization of Food Loss in the Livestock Sector

- Source:
  - Grains, pulses and oilseeds that fail to reach quality grade required for human consumption  
Example: sprouted malt barley
- Screenings





# Current Utilization of Food Loss in the Livestock Sector

- By-products
  - Oilseeds (canola, flax, sunflower)
  - Milling industry (wheat bran, oat hulls)
  - Vegetable industry (potato peels, culls)
  - Breweries and distilleries (DDGS)
  - Product processing (whey)
  - Novel plant-based protein sources (peas, quinoa, camolina)



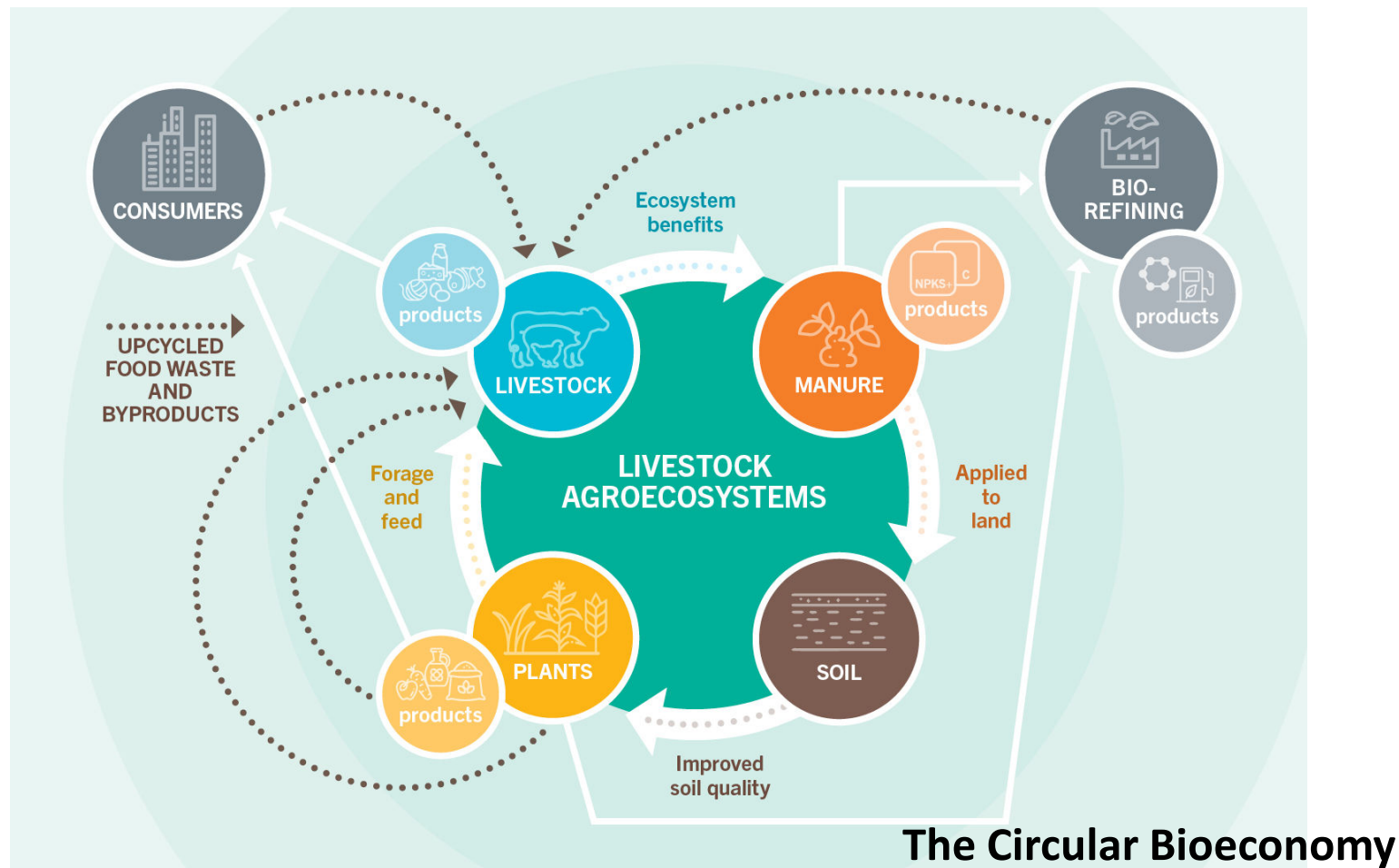


# By-products or Co-products?

- By-products are now being re-framed as “co-products”
  - Example: Roquette – world’s largest pea plant located in MB
    - Biopharma, pharma & nutraceuticals, cosmetics, food and nutrition, animal nutrition
      - Pea screenings
      - Pea hulls
      - Pea cream



# Role of Livestock in Sustainable Food Systems



# Food Waste from Distributors, Retailers and Households: Expanding the Circularity?

Puente-Rodriguez et al., 2022

[umanitoba.ca](http://umanitoba.ca)



# Opportunities to Include Food Loss and Waste in Livestock Diets



- Japan:
  - 40% of food waste recycled for animal feeding
- South Korea:
  - 45% of food waste recovered as animal feed
  - Treated wet or dried to facilitate long distance transportation

# Nutrient Profile of Food Waste

	DM%	CP%	EE%	NFE%	CF%
# of samples	20	23	21	8	15
Minimum	19.1	12.9	7.0	32.3	0.8
Maximum	97.9	31.1	27.2	81.7	15.3
Mean	78.3	19.3	13.5	53.7	7.3

Rajeh et al., 2020

## Slide 21

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**KO [2]1** check source of food waste - bread, veg, fruit etc and in what country  
Kim Ominski, 2022-06-24

# Animal Performance

Food waste type	Inclusion level	Livestock species	Outcome	Reference/ country
Dried household food waste	75%	Steers	No significant effect on slaughter weight, dressing parentage, retail cut	Paek et al. (2005)/Korea
Potato processing waste	up to 80%	Steers	Potato processing waste can substitute barley in finishing diets without any negative implications on growth performance or meat quality	Duynisveld and Charmley (2016)/Canada
Restaurant food waste (77%)-broiler litter (10%)-bakery waste (13%) mixture	Up to 50%	Pigs	Similar feeding value as corn-soy control diet. Inclusion increased FCR and did not affect final BW, ADG	Kwak and Kang (2006)/Korea
Dehydrated food waste	Up to 20%	Chickens	Increased FCR and food waste did not affect meat quality and sensory scores	Chen et al. (2007)/Taiwan

Dou et al, 2018

## Feed Conversion Ratios:

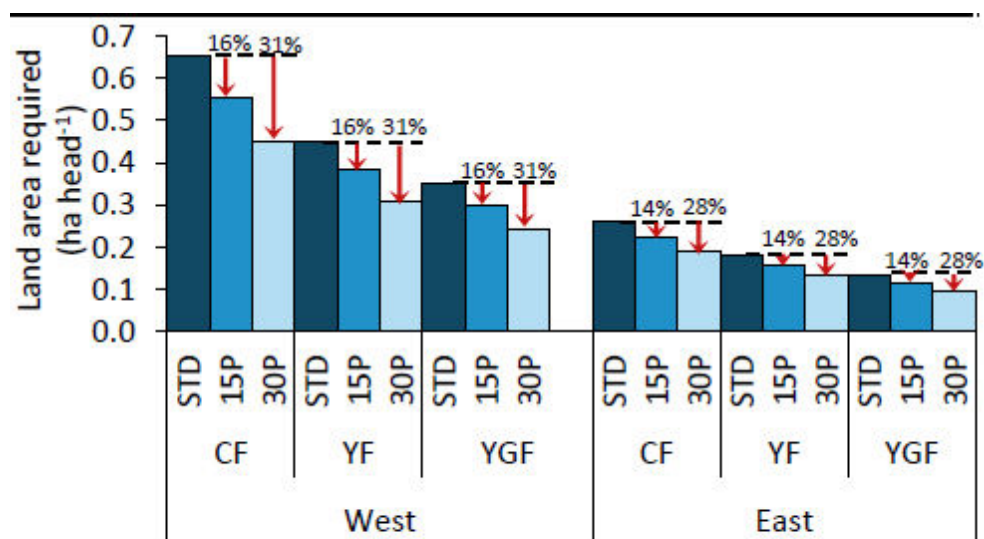
- kg feed : kg gain
- kg feed : kg beef protein
- kg human edible feed : kg beef protein
- kg protein : kg beef protein
- kg human edible protein : kg beef protein



# Environmental Impact

- Life cycle assessments (**LCAs**) are now being conducted to determine the environmental implications of traditional disposal streams for food loss and waste (anaerobic digestion, landfill, and composting) compared with their use as livestock feed.
- “Up-stream” impacts along the food chain, including energy, fertilizer, water, and land use as well as greenhouse gas (**GHG**) and ammonia emissions are necessary

# Partial LCA – Use of Potatoes in Feedlot Diets



**Figure 1.** Land area required to grow feedstuffs included in feedlot diets containing grains (STD) or potato waste at 15% (15P) and 30% (30P) of diet DM in western and eastern Canada.

Including potato waste in feedlot cattle diets:

- Reduced GHG emissions
- Reduced land required
- Reduced landfill emissions and disposal costs.

Mengistu et al., 2022

# Environmental Impact

- A LCA (Salemdeeb et al., 2017) used 14 environmental and health indicators and demonstrated that converting municipal waste to feed for pig production lowered the environmental impact compared with:
  - anaerobic digestion
  - composting
  - with wet-processing superior to dry processing for all environmental indicators

## Slide 26

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**SK3**

Would suggest deleting this slide

Stanford, Kim, 2022-06-24

# Public trust?

## IPSOS survey to establish consumer perceptions regarding use of food loss/waste in livestock diets



<https://vimeo.com/601193121/70f2d91401>

# Public Trust

## THE WESTERN PRODUCER

*“Because we are so far removed from it, I think us city folk aren’t aware of what farmers are doing. It’s genius what some of them have come up with such as using grain mash or products that are unfit for people for their herds. It diverts unnecessary waste and turns it into a valuable commodity and diversifies the animals’ diet.”*

## Feedlot food waste management finds positive reaction

By **Melissa Bezan**

Reading Time: 2 minutes

Published: September 30, 2021  
Livestock



# Challenges



# Assessing Nutrient Quality

- Nutrient composition may vary considerably within and between loads
- Rapid and accurate assessment to determine nutritional value if these products are to be used by nutritionists in precision feeding programs
- *On-farm use of near-infrared spectroscopy (NIRS) for rapid assessment of feed value, and the detection of mycotoxins and contaminants in food waste?*

central testing laboratory ltd.  
CTI-TIT Rev 1.0 Revised: August 28, 2013

Phone: 204.237.9128  
Fax: 855.754.1046  
Toll Free: 877.955.7861  
Email: info@cti.mb.ca  
Website: www.cti.mb.ca

Unit 9 - 851 Lagimodiere Blvd.  
Winnipeg, MB  
R2J 3K4

Laboratory #: 455682

TEST REPORT

Submitted By: University of Manitoba (Animal Science) Room 201 12 Dafoe Road Winnipeg, MB R3T 2N2		Phone #: 204-474-8291 Fax #: 474-7628 Date Received: January 17, 2018 Date Printed: January 25, 2018
Client: PO 237494	Package #: Q130.0241	
Product: GRAIN	Complete <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	
Description: PEA SCREENINGS	Sample #: 3B17-32	
Pea Screening PLAP Aug 2017		
Arrival Condition: Sample Intact		
Analysis:		
Moisture (%) (test date 01/24/18)	3.19	
Dry Matter (%) (test date 01/24/18)	96.81	
Crude Protein (%) (test date 01/22/18)	22.26	22.99
Calcium (%) (test date 01/22/18)	0.22	0.23
Phosphorus (%) (test date 01/22/18)	0.40	0.41
Magnesium (%) (test date 01/22/18)	0.22	0.22
Potassium (%) (test date 01/22/18)	1.00	1.03
Sodium (%) (test date 01/22/18)	0.01	0.01
Acid Detergent Fibre (%) (test date 01/23/18)	21.15	21.85
Neutral Detergent Fibre (%) (test date 01/25/18)	22.11	22.84
Non Fibre Carbohydrates (%) (test date 01/25/2018)	41.99	43.37
Total Digestible Nutrients (%) (test date 01/25/2018)	70.22	72.53
Metabolizable Energy (Mcal/kg) (test date 01/25/2018)	2.57	2.65
Net Energy for Lactation (Mcal/kg) (test date 01/25/2018)	1.61	1.66
Digestible Energy (Mcal/kg) (test date 01/25/2018)	3.10	3.20
Net Energy for Maintenance (Mcal/kg) (test date 01/25/2018)	1.69	1.74
Net Energy for Gain (Mcal/kg) (test date 01/25/2018)	1.09	1.12
Relative Feed Value (test date 01/25/2018)		293

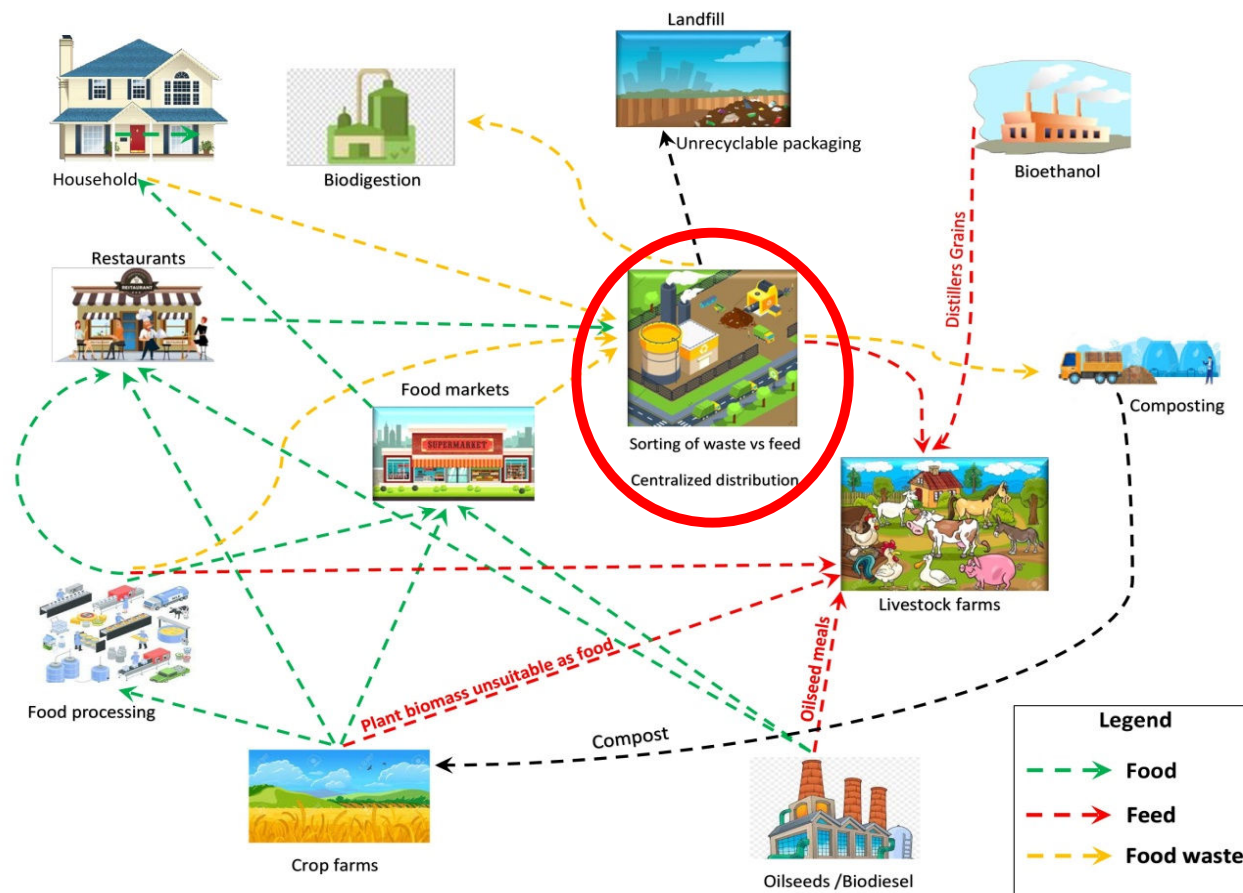


# Collection and Distribution Logistics



- Food loss and waste is produced near large urban centers.
- Transportation of food waste over long distances creates logistical and cost challenges and therefore is often diverted to landfills, composted, or used in biogas production

# Collection and Distribution Logistics



- Centralized processing, testing and distribution centers? Trade offs?

# Regulatory Restrictions

- In Canada, inclusion of food waste in livestock diets is regulated by the Canadian Food Inspection Agency
- Existing regulations prevent or restrict use (i.e., Enhanced Feed Ban)
- Some novel by-products associated with new processing technologies and changes in consumer demand are not currently included (i.e. hemp)
- **Research needed to support policy changes to facilitate safe expansion of the use of food loss and waste in livestock diets**



# Feed Safety

- Potential contaminants can be found in by-products and food waste (CFIA, 2019).
  - Mycotoxins, herbicides, fungicides, pesticide residues, pathogens, antinutritional factors (glycoalkaloids, tannins), heavy metals, glass, metal, and plastic packaging
- The high-moisture content of many fruit and vegetable by-products and food waste creates an ideal environment for the growth of bacteria/fungi/parasites that may produce toxins
- Economic viability and effectiveness of preservation techniques?



# Feed Safety

- Techniques to preserve food waste:
  - heat sterilization
  - heat sterilization plus drying to 80% - 95% DM
  - ensiling alone or after heat treatment with or without addition of fermentation aids (bacteria, enzymes, or acids)
  - enzymatic treatment

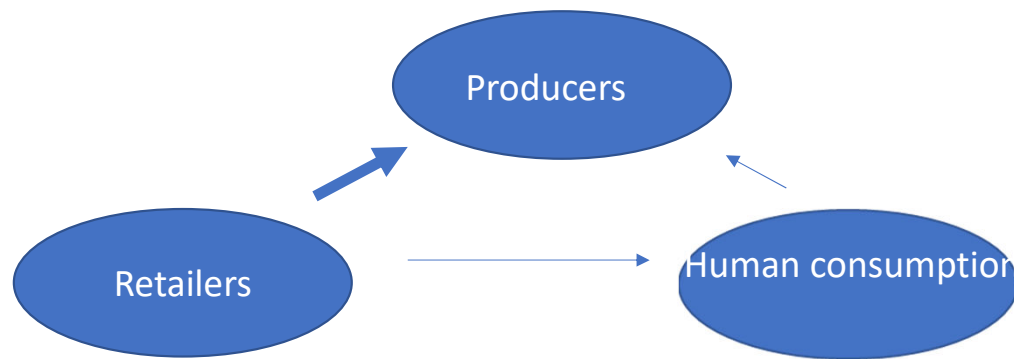
(Dou et al. 2018)



# Loop Resources: Connecting producers and retailers

“Taking food after charities and shelters have been given access and diverting to livestock” –

Jaime White founder of Loop Resources  
<https://loopresource.ca>



Loop

# Use of Surplus Food from Retailers

## Role of Loop:

- Train producers (10 producers/store) – regulatory restrictions and logistics
- Train retail staff
- Contract administration/logistics support





# Use of Surplus Food from Retailers

## Benefits:

- **Retailers are incentivized**
  - Cost is less than moving surplus food to landfill
  - Guaranteed pick up by producers
  - Corporate image - Improving food/feed security
- **Producers:**
  - Pay transportation costs only
  - Alternative feed source – drought, flooding

Loop



REAL CANADIAN  
**Superstore** 





# Loop Resources



## Current status:

- Approximately **3 million kg of surplus food diverted monthly (over 30 million kg annually)** from retailers to **2500-3500 producers** from coast-to-coast in Canada
- Approximately **300 kg of waste/store/day is redirected**
- On average, retail waste produced = square footage/100 – except for retailers located at each end of the continuum
- Primarily diverted to small/medium-sized farms (up to 100 cows)
- Supply of food waste and demand from producers varies by region

# Loop Resources



## Future Opportunities

- Covid has led to on-line training of retailers and producers – expanded capacity
- Next step is to grow partnerships with co-packing facilities (distribution centers):
  - Consistent supply of surplus food to larger livestock operations
- Can triple in size with current model

# Conclusions

- Redirection of food waste from landfills is necessary to improve global food and feed security
- Cattle with their capacity to “up-cycle” relatively low-quality feedstuffs into high-quality protein are an essential element in addressing the food waste challenge
- Canadian producers are recognized globally:
  - Animal care standards, milk, meat and egg quality and efficiency of production.
  - Demonstrated interest, ingenuity, and investment to replace traditional feeds with by-products and even food waste but there are gaps

# Conclusions

Fills gaps to empower regulatory and public policy change:

- Better characterize quality and availability
- Preservation and feeding strategies to ensure animal performance
- Cost of production analysis
- Environmental assessments (GHG and ammonia emissions as well as land and water use)

# Conclusions

- A range of solutions:
  - Incentives may be necessary for producers and processors to recover more food
  - Disincentives to waste food will be influenced by food prices and costs for food disposal
- A coordinated approach requiring input from producers, feed suppliers, researchers, policy makers, and retailers is critical for the development of successful strategies for inclusion of food loss and waste in livestock diets

## SAVE THE DATE

# SUSTAINABILITY OF CANADIAN AGRICULTURE 2023 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE

**MARCH 7- 9, 2023**

### Tuesday March 7

Achieving net zero emissions

### Wednesday March 8

Role of Indigenous agriculture  
in our food systems  
HOLOS model workshop

### Thursday March 9

Is biodiversity the new carbon?  
Canada's Living Lab Update

**Registration is opening soon!**

**Come and visit us at:**

<https://umanitoba.ca/agricultural-food-sciences/sustainability-canadian-agriculture-2023>



Photo: DUC

*Sustainable food  
production systems:  
Exploring new and  
traditional knowledge*



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and the Environment**  
[umanitoba.ca/afs/ncle](https://umanitoba.ca/afs/ncle)

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# Extra slides

[umanitoba.ca](http://umanitoba.ca)





# Nutrient Profile of Food Waste

Food waste source	DM%	CP%	EE%	NFE%	Fiber%	Reference
Restaurant	22.4	21.4	27.2	-	-	Westendorf et al. (1998)
Restaurant	39.6	27.5	28.8	26.9	2.3	Garcia et al. (2005)
Household	33.1	16.3	11.3	41.8	12.4	
Household	85.3	20.1	9.1	-	-	Paek et al. (2005)
Restaurant	22.8	28.6	31.5	-	3.1	Jin et al. (2012)

Dou et al., 2018

# **Are livestock a sustainable solution to the food loss and waste challenge?**

