



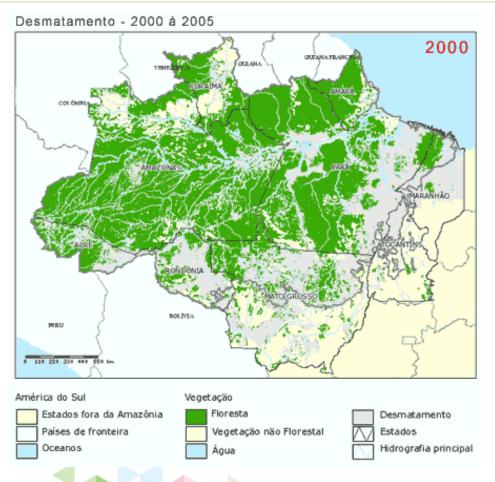
# ANIMAL WELFARE FOR IMPROVED SUSTAINABILITY IN LIVESTOCK SUPPLY CHAINS

Panama, 20-23 June 2016

BUILDING TOGETHER SUSTAINABLE LIVESTOCK for people, for the planet

### Practical example

## DEVELOPING SUSTAINABLE SYSTEMS OF BEEF CATTLE PRODUCTION IN THE AMAZON REGION: CHALLENGES AND ACHIEVEMENTS



# Challenging situation for beef cattle producers: Extensive beef cattle production and Amazon deforestation



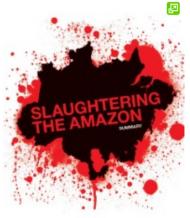


Home > Publications > Reports > Slaughtering the Amazon

### **Slaughtering the Amazon**

Publication - 1 June, 2009

The cattle sector in the Brazilian Amazon is the largest driver of deforestation in the world, responsible for one in every eight hectares destroyed globally. Efforts to halt global deforestation emissions must tackle this sector.



Slaughtering the Amazon
Executive Summary

Executive summary: Zero deforestation is a climate imperative.

Forests play a vital role in stabilising the world's climate by storing large amounts of carbon that would otherwise contribute to climate change. The Amazon is estimated to store 80-120 billion tonnes of carbon. If destroyed, some fifty times the annual GHG emissions of the USA could be emitted.

Destruction of the Amazon, the world's most important forest carbon store, is being driven by the cattle sector.

The Brazilian Amazon has the greatest annual average deforestation by area of anywhere in the world. The cattle sector is the key driver of deforestation in the Brazilian Amazon. According to the Brazilian government: 'Cattle are responsible for about 80% of all deforestation' in the Amazon region. In recent years, on average one hectare of Amazon rainforest has been lost to cattle ranchers every 18 seconds.



Home > News > Blogs > Making Waves >
Take Amazon destruction off my plate! How leading Brazilian slaughterhouses cut its ties to deforestation in the Amazon rainforest

## Take Amazon destruction off my plate! How leading Brazilian slaughterhouses cut its ties to deforestation in the Amazon rainforest

Blogpost by Oliver Salge - 2 June, 2015 at 11:56



### Cattle production in Amazon: Environmental and welfare challenges



Folha de São Paulo, June 13th, 2009









Folha de São Paulo, June 21st, 2009

### Would we be able to change this picture?

#### Would we be able to change this picture?









Folha de São Paulo, June 19th, 2009

- Banning commercial cattle herds in the Amazon area! Huge economical and labour losses.
- Adopting intensive systems. Feed lots were set down, usually using high content of grains in the diets.
- Adopting sustainable systems! Technology should be developed.





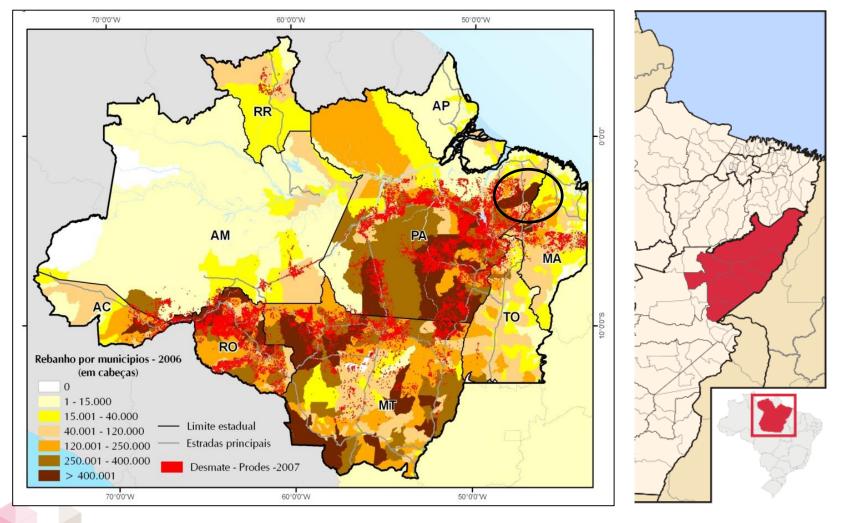
Looking for the development of sustainable system for beef cattle production in the Amazon region





### Projeto Pecuária Verde: Research and extension

Paragominas County, Pará State, Brazil



Cattle population per county

### Projeto Pecuária Verde, Paragominas – PA, Brazil

Program for environmental and agricultural adjustments in rural proprieties of Paragominas-PA, Brazil

- Environmental adjustments
- Intensive systems for beef cattle production on pasture
- Adoption of good practices of handling to promote human and cattle welfare

















### Adoption of good practices of handling to promote human and cattle welfare

### Working plan:

- Education
  - Academic (working together with local Universities)
  - Training livestock people to improve their handling skills
- Improving handling facilities
- Applied research



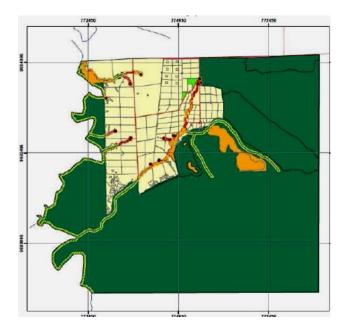




### Projeto Pecuária Verde, Paragominas – PA, Brazil

#### **Results:**

- Reduced deforestation
- Recovery of damaged areas
- Improved productivity
- Reduced the animal losses
- Improved the labor conditions
- Improved the labor efficiency
- Improved human and animal welfare
- Opened new trade opportunities









### Intensive systems for beef cattle production on pasture

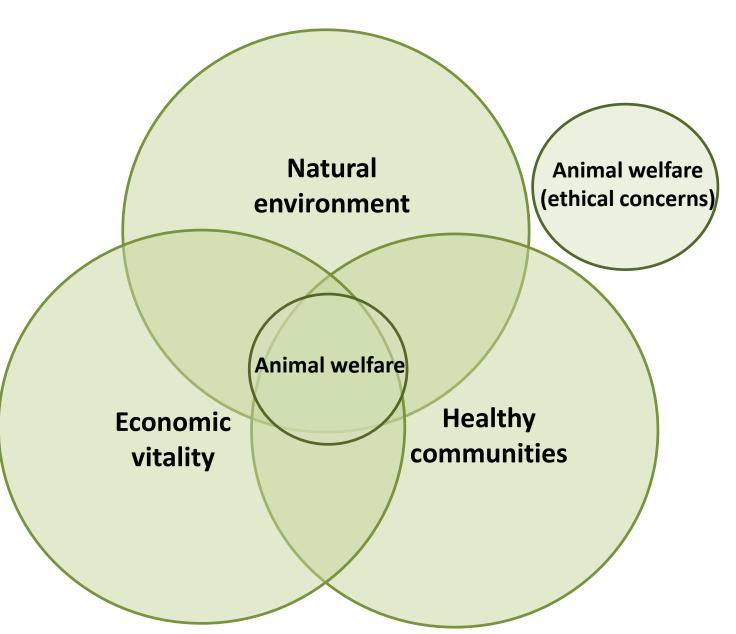
### **Challenging situation:**

Pastures are usually big. Due to this the system demands also big lots of cattle, making handling more difficult (e.g. driving, watering and feeding cattle with supplement)



#### **ANIMAL WELFARE AND SUSTEINABILITY**

ANIMAL WELFARE IS A **COMPLEX SUBJECT** WITH SCIENTIFIC, ETHICAL, ECONOMIC, **CULTURAL AND POLITICAL DIMENSIONS** (OIE, 2008)



### Animal welfare and sustainability

#### CRITICISM CONCERNING ANIMAL PRODUCTION

- Land and other resources use
- **Environmental degradation**
- Intensification.
- Selection for high yield.
- Diets with high concentrate content.
- Abusive use of antibiotics.
- Painful procedures (castration, dehorning, beak trimming, etc).
- **Transport and slaughter.**

There is a need for a deep reflection about these points!

### **Environmental Protection and Animal Welfare Movements**















### ANIMAL WELFARE PROBLEMS - FIVE DOMAINS MODEL (Mellor and Reid, 1994)

#### PHYSYCAL COMPONENTS

Domain 1 NUTRITION

Food deprivation
Water deprivation
Malnutrition

Domain 2 ENVIRONMENT

Environmental challenge (cold, heat, lack of space, bad handling, etc.)

Domain 3
HEALTH

Diseases
Injuries
Functional impairment

Domain 4
BEHAVIOR

Behavioral and interactive Restrictions

#### **MENTAL COMPONENT**

Domain 5
MENTAL STATES

Hungry Isolation
Thirst Anxiety
Pain Frustration
Fear Depression
Debility Helplessness

### ANIMAL WELFARE STATUS

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### Livestock welfare problems and related costs









- Animal losses (deaths)
- Productivity losses
- Loss of the product quality
- Increases the risk of labor accidents
- Reduces labor efficiency
- Increases the risk of market loss
- Harms the image of livestock production chains







#### Example with pigs:

Fails in handling during loading, transport and unloading procedures

#### Percentages of carcasses with skin lesions - Brazil **Economic** Domain 2 **ENVIRONMENT** damages 100 Porcentagem de suíno com pelo menos uma lesão de pele Environmental challenge 90 (Poor handling, bad facilities, 80 long distance transport) 70 Animal 60 welfare 50 95,8 91,2 80.7 40 Domain 5 Domain 3 30 **MENTAL STATES** 53,7 **HEALTH** 20 Fear **Injuries** 10 Debility Functional impairment Pain Durante o embarque No desembarque Na granja Antes do abate

- Animal suffering
- Waste of food
- Economic loss
- Spreading wrong message ("bad becoming normal")













Skin lesions

**Bruises** 

Broken bones

**PSE** meat

DFD meat

#### **Example with beef cattle**

### Rough handling welfare problems in cattle



Domain 2
ENVIRONMENT
Environmental challenge
ROUGH HANDLING

Healthy communities at risk

Animal welfare

Domain 4
BEHAVIOR
INCREASE CATTLE
REACTIVITY

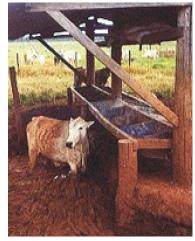
Domain 2
ENVIRONMENT
Environmental challenge
MORE HANDLING PROBLEMS
RISK OF LABOR ACCIDENTS

Domain 3
HEALTH
INCREASE RISK
OF ACCIDENTS
AND INJURIES

#### Example with beef cattle:

Environmental and animal welfare problems in grass fed cattle caused by the lack of space in the feed bunks used for supplementation









Domain 5
MENTAL STATES

Fear Debility Pain Anxiety
Frustration
Helplessness

Domain 2

ENVIRONMENT

Environmental challenge

Lack of space in the feed bunk

Natural environment at risk

Animal welfare

Domain 4
BEHAVIOR
Increases social
competition

Domain 2
ENVIRONMENT
Increases
environmental challenge
(pasture and ground damage)

Domain 1
NUTRITION
Malnutrition
(submissive animals)

Domain 3
HEALTH
Diseases
Functional impairment

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#### Example with beef cattle:

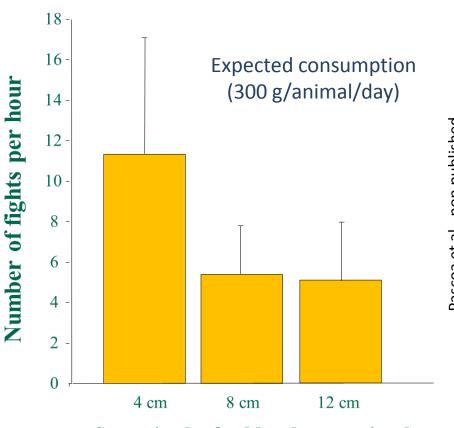
### Social competition (reduced space in the feed bunk)

4 cm/head



12 cm/head





Space in the feed bunk per animal

Average number of fights ( $\pm$  SD) per hour according to the space in the feed bunk

#### Example with beef cattle:

### Botulism outbreaks in cattle in Brazil associated with contaminated water

### Surtos de botulismo em bovinos no Brasil associados à ingestão de água contaminada<sup>1</sup>

Iveraldo S. Dutra<sup>2</sup>, Jürgen Döbereiner<sup>3</sup>, Ivan V. Rosa<sup>4</sup>, Luiz A.A. Souza<sup>5</sup> e Mário Nonato<sup>5</sup>



A feed bunk surrounded by contaminated water

**ABSTRACT.**- Dutra I.S., Döbereiner J., Rosa I.V., Souza L.A.A. & Nonato M. 2001. [**Botulism outbreaks in cattle in Brazil associated with contaminated water**] Surtos de botulismo em bovinos no Brasil associados à ingestão de água contaminada. *Pesquisa Veterinária Brasileira* 21(2):43-48. Depto Apoio, Produção e Saúde Animal, Unesp-Campus de Araçatuba, Cx. Postal 533, Araçatuba, SP 16050-680, Brazil.

Botulism in cattle occurs by ingestion of botulinum toxin C and/or D. Seven outbreaks of the poisoning in the states of Mato Grosso do Sul and São Paulo are reported. The clinical and pathological data, epidemiology and laboratory findings indicate a possible intake of the toxin through contaminated water. The average mortality rate was 20.1%, with 99.2% lethality and 31.62% morbidity. From about 9,000 cattle envolved in the outbreaks, 2,844 animals died, predominantly with a hyperacute and acute clinical picture. The high morbidity rates were observed within a short period and affected all categories of cattle, with a clinical and pathological picture characterized by paresis and paralysis of the muscles of locomotion, swallowing and mastigation, with abscence of gross lesions at post-mortem examination. The outbreaks were related to the presence of decomposed animal carcasses or vegetal material in the drinking water. Botulinum toxins C and/or D were detected in water samples, viscera and blood serum of a considerable number of materials examined.

Pesq. Vet. Bras., 21(2): 43-48, 2001

### Example:

### Welfare problems in high density feedlot beef cattle.





# Domain 4 BEHAVIOR

Competition Social stress

### Domain 2 ENVIRONMENT

Environmental challenge (Lack of space)



### Domain 2 ENVIRONMENT

Increases
environmental challenge
(dust and mud)





### Domain 1 NUTRITION

Food deprivation Water deprivation

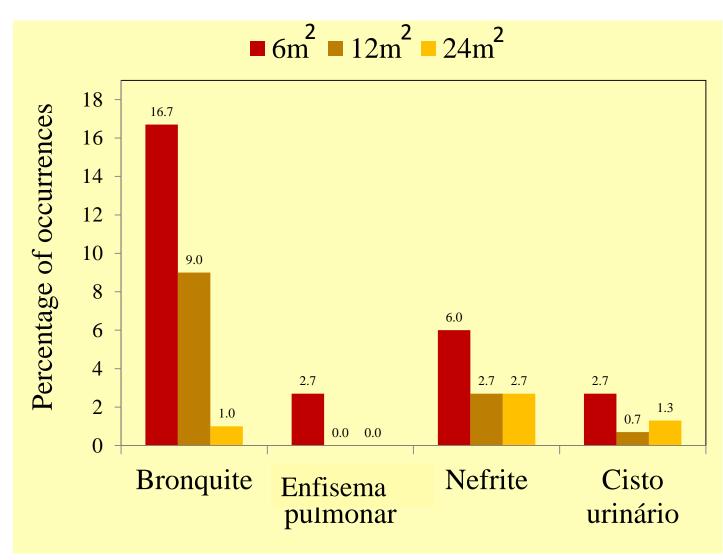
### Domain 3 HEALTH

Diseases, deaths, functional impairment

### Domain 5 MENTAL STATES

Fear Debility Pain Anxiety
Frustration
Helplessness











### ANIMAL WELFARE AND SUSTAINABILITY







ANIMAL WELFARE

ETHICAL CONCERNS





ECONOMIC VITALITY AT

RISK

POOR ANIMAL WELFARE

HEALTHY
COMMUNITIES
AT RISK

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### "...YOU BECOME RESPONSIBLE FOREVER FOR WHAT YOU HAVE TAMED..."

(Antonie de Saint-Exupéry, The Little Prince)





Thank you Mateus (mpcosta@fcav.unesp.br)





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