COVID 19, IMPACTS, CHALLENGES AND LEARNING FOR SUSTAINABLE ANIMAL PRODUCTION IN LATIN AMERICA

Organizer committee

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64 consultants from Latin America

Argentina – Bolivia – Brazil - Colombia
Costa Rica – Ecuador – México - Nicaragua
Paraguay – Perú – Uruguay
Survey

- Impacts: negatives & positives
- Main opportunities and threads
- Actions:
  - Producers/farmers
  - Governments
  - Academia
  - Industry
  - Plataformas multi-actor
We would like to point out that the organizing committee refrained from posting their own opinions
Results

Impacts

Mitigation measures

Lessons Learned and Future Expectations
COVID & Farmers
COVID & Farmers

Impacts

✓ Positive: recognition of activities by society

✓ Negative: reduction on sales and technical assistance
COVID & Farmers

Mitigation Measures

- Biosecurity protocols adaptation
- No interruption of activities
COVID & Farmers

Lessons Learned and Future Expectations

• Transition to sustainable systems (agroecology)
• Increasing of digital tools
• Partnership for future
• Capacity building - courses
• Livestock food values
• Opportunity for local market (small farmers) & exportation
COVID & Industry
COVID & Industry

Impacts

✓ Positive: improvement in the industrial processes (biosecurity)

✓ Negative: shutting down industrial plants (e.g. slaughterhouses)
Mitigation Measures

- Quick response / adjustment in the biosecurity protocols
COVID & Industry

Lessons Learned and Future Expectations

✓ Alliances between chain actors
✓ Capacity to provide healthy food (society requirements)
✓ Incentives for sustainable livestock systems
✓ Systemic (*holistic*) research approach
COVID & Government
COVID & Government

Impacts

- Positive: digital tools, higher income from exports (e.g. Brazil and Argentina)

- Negative: economic crises (e.g. unemployment, poverty, tax collection)
Mitigation Measures

- Digital tools (E-commerce, technical assistance etc.)
- Few actions for rural sector were mentioned
COVID & Government

Lessons Learned and Future Expectations

- Support the transition towards more sustainable systems
- Improvements for digital tools
- Financial support for post-pandemic period
- Promoting the importance of healthy livestock products
COVID & Academia
Covid 19 & Academia

Impacts

- Positive: re-thinking research areas (e.g. native pastures x exotic species)

- Negative: reduction on the budget for on going research projects
Covid 19 & Academia

Mitigation Measures

✓ Support for biosecurity protocols adjustments
Covid 19 & Academia

Lessons Learned and Future Expectations

- Improve connections - research centers & livestock value chains
- Research on pasture-based systems
- Systemic (holistic) research approach
  – Environment, animal welfare, biosecurity, silvopastoral systems)
- Use of scientific results to formulate policies
COVID 19 impacts and learning on the 4 domains

- Food shortage
- High demand for Health food
- No stop activities

- Reduction in domestic consumption & trade
- Policies for livestock small holders
- Necessity of science projects closer to farmers needs and policy design

- Strengthen biosecurity & animal welfare
  - *One health approach*

- Progress in sustainability should be based on science
- Framework to quantify impact of production system changes (e.g. NRU efficiency)
- Adoption of robust indicators of sustainability
Final remarks

- Livestock world will not be the same post-pandemic and that there are important opportunities ahead.

- ``Livestock has the potential for resilience, a haven in times of crisis. It must be said!`` (farmer)
Final remarks

Walter Oyhantçabal

• The organizer committee consider the development of a regional chapter of GASL in LA

  • Many issues which can be better addressed on a regional basis

  • Biosecurity, one health, sustainable livestock systems, R&D coordination, information sharing, exchange of lessons learned and country experiences.
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¡Muchas gracias! / ¡Obrigado! / Thank you!