

Animal Agriculture in Africa: Forecasting the Future.

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Introduction

- Globally – animal agriculture flourishing.
- Technologies - continuous improvement.
- Vital source of protein and calories
- Meat, milk and Eggs - aspirational food.
- Yet – many of our customers dislike our methods.

Introduction

- Future commitments will likely be:
 - Meet the demand for food security.
 - Provide products that consumers want.
 - In a sustainable manner.
- Try to put it all in perspective.

Our Starting Point

- Confuse food security & food safety.
- To be food secure means:
 - Adequate food year round.
 - At a price the urban poor can afford.
- Not food secure:
 - 28% of SA households.
 - 11% of USA households.
- 22.7% of Africans undernourished. (FAO, 2017)

Our Starting Point

- Third of food produced –wasted (FAO, 2017).
 - Europe and N. America - 95 to 115 kg/head.
 - Sub-Saharan Africa – 6 to 11 kg kg/head.



The Global Scenario

- Population growth (9.6 bil by 2050).
- Demand for animal products – will increase by 70% by 2050. (Alexandratos et al. 2012)
- 50 mil more hens/annum (Preisinger, 2018)
- Demand for broilers - increase by 121%

Animal Agriculture

- Livestock currently supplies:
 - Represents 40% of agricultural value.
 - 13% of the calories consumed.
 - 28% of protein consumption.
 - Only 4% of all meat is “grass fed”.
 - Use waste products (bran and SBM)
- Increasingly - rely on conversion of food crops into animal products.

Animal Agriculture

- But:
 - Places pressure on environment.
 - Demand for scarce resources.
 - Emission of pollutants.
 - Uses about 70% of all agricultural land.
 - Contributes about 15 – 20 % of GHG.
 - Poultry 4-5 %.

Meat Eaters

- In low income areas – meat an essential dietary component.
- Global consumption 122g/day.
- 1/3 pork, 1/3 poultry, 1/5 beef
- Africa - 7 to 34g/day.
- Meat has never been cheaper (Godfray et al., 2018)
- Rich people eat meat (Bennet, 1941)

Efficiency of Meat Production

(Fry et al., 2018)

Species	FCR*
Atlantic Salmon	1.2 - 1.5
Tilapia	1.4 - 2.4
Beef Cattle	6 -10
Chicken	1.7 – 2
Pig	2.7 - 5

*Note: Breeding stock consumption is ignored

Efficiency of Meat Production

(Fry et al., 2018)

Species	FCR*	Edible %	Feed Protein (%)
Atlantic Salmon	1.2 - 1.5	58-88	35
Tilapia	1.4 - 2.4	37-45	28
Beef Cattle	6 -10	52-64	14
Chicken	1.7 – 2	70-78	20
Pig	2.7 - 5	68-76	18

*Note: Breeding stock consumption is ignored

Efficiency of Meat Production

(Fry et al., 2018)

Species	FCR*	Edible %	Feed Protein (%)	Protein retention in human diet (%)
Atlantic Salmon	1.2 - 1.5	58-88	35	28
Tilapia	1.4 - 2.4	37-45	28	17
Beef Cattle	6 -10	52-64	14	13
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Pig	2.7 - 5	68-76	18	21

*Note: Breeding stock consumption is ignored

Our Citizens



Africa's People

- African population - 2 billion by 2050.
- Double the current number (Montpellier Panel, 2013)
 - Demographic changes (age and wealth).
 - Urbanisation from 50% to 70% (UN, 2015)
- Will only produce 13% of food requirement. (Montpellier, 2013)

Our Citizens

- Most are simply hungry.
- In the developed world:
 - Removed from realities of food production
 - Romanticised idea of agriculture.

‘Western’ Consumers

- Changing consumer perceptions:
 - “Natural” products (healthy, no additives).
 - “Sustainably” produced (environment).
 - Want to eat “happy” animals (welfare).
- Tend not to think about price.
- Many are now ‘millennials’.



African Consumers

- View animals somewhat differently:
 - Aspirational - the wealthy eat meat.
 - Essential protein source
 - Important culturally (village fowl - pets).
 - Viewed as a 'bank'.
 - Disease such as AI or ND – catastrophic.
- Poultry cheaper than substitutes.



Africa and Antibiotics

- Focus in Western World on reduction:
 - Drug carry over to humans.
 - Anti-microbial resistance.
- In Africa – these are but side effects.
- Antibiotics keep people and animals alive!
- We must ensure that the poor do not shoulder the burden of antibiotic removal.

Africa and Antibiotics

(Robinson et al., 2017)

- Most African citizens live in the tropics:
 - Densities - people & livestock (close proximity).
 - Pathogen diversity - year round survival.
 - Poor biosecurity & weak health services.
 - Non-rational users of sub-standard, counterfeit drugs.
 - Sold by unscrupulous suppliers!



Sustainability

“meets the needs of the current generation without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs”

Sustainable Development

(FAO, 2012)

- 3 dimensions of a sustainable system:
 - Environmental integrity.
 - Social wellbeing.
 - Economic resilience.
- Sustainable systems – fulfill all criteria.
- Can't pick and choose aspects to suit!

Sustainable Animal Production

- Reduce losses and/or wastage.
- Improved feed efficiency.
- Better life time performance:
 - The long-life layer.
 - More parturitions per cow/sow.
 - Dairy – milk output and parity number.
- Use of ‘unusable’ grass and rangeland.
- Use food waste (bran, chop, SBM).

African Agriculture



Not a Single Entity

- African poultry is not homogenous.
 - Subsistence farmers.
 - Small commercial growers (contract)
 - World class integrations.
- Differs by country/area.

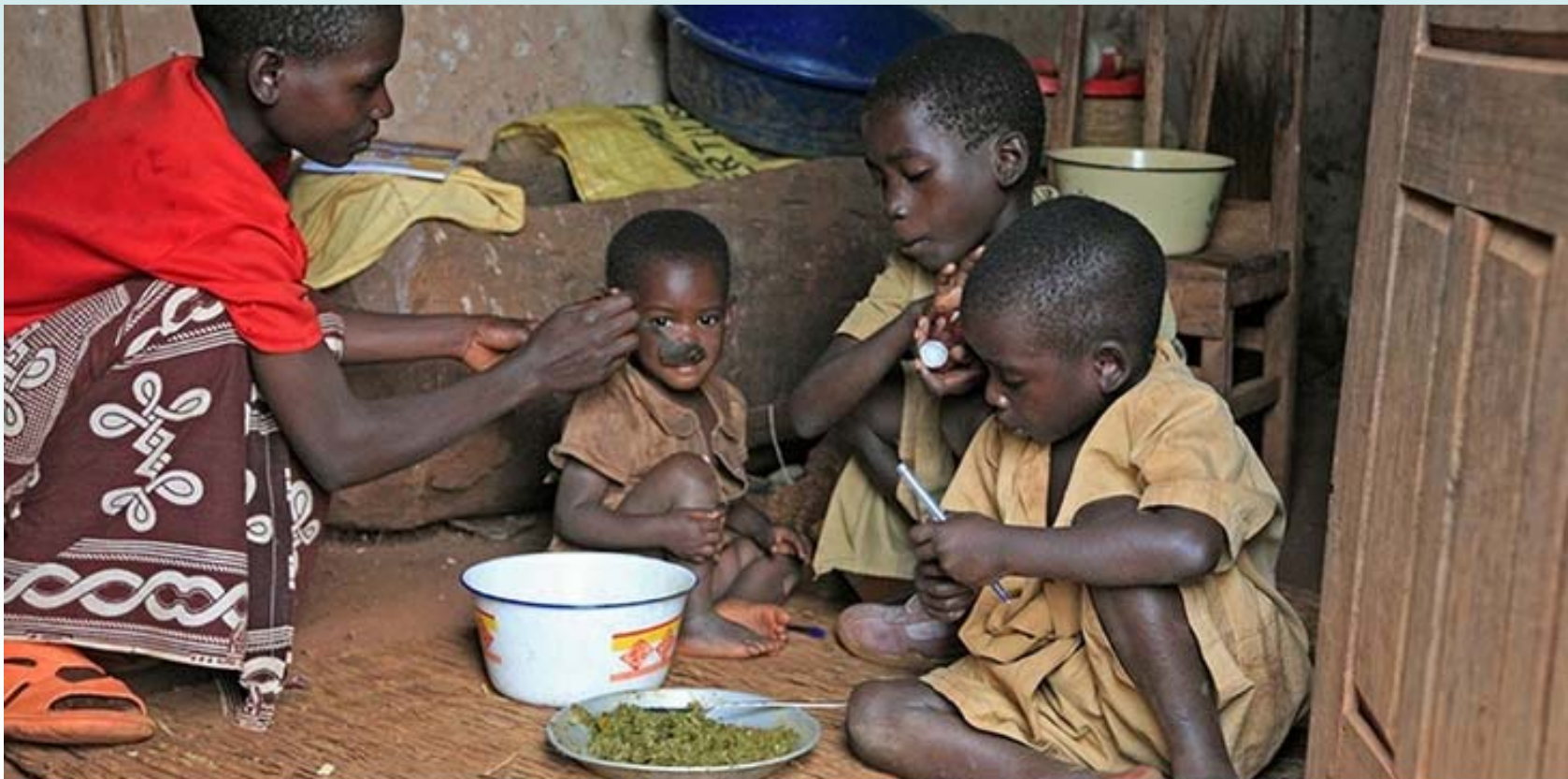
Modern Agribusiness

- High-intensity – evolving rapidly.
- High capital requirement – low returns.
- Dependant on external inputs.
- Integration in all sectors.
- Not always ‘ sustainable’ welfare & environment aspects.

Smallholder Farming

- Africa 33 million farms < 2 Ha .
- Accounts for 80% of all farms.
- Subsistence farmers.
- Sustainability – a challenge.
- Local inputs & manual labour.
- Mostly below poverty line.

These are not gentle souls living with the sun on their backs!



Smallholder Farming

- Economic & logistic challenges:
 - Supply of inputs (vaccine, genetics, feed).
 - Access to market (vehicles, cold chain).
 - Economies of scale and access to finance.
- Technological challenges.
 - Rudimentary facilities
 - Poor biosecurity – human & bird health.
 - Water supply, feed & genotypes.

African Farms

- Much of food production - not sustainable:
 - Environmental degradation.
 - Welfare often poor (animal and human).
 - Not financially secure.
- 6 mil Ha agricultural land degraded/ year

African Agriculture

- Generally low levels of technology.
- Yield gaps exist:
 - Maize 1t/Ha - US 10t/Ha
 - Broiler FCR > 2
 - Milk < 1000 l per lactation.
 - Beef calving 40% (40% of SA cattle communal)
- Failure to embrace technology (GM).

Transformation Required

- Knowledge transfer (health, nutrition, financial).
- Appropriate technology.
- Capital – problem without freehold.
- Incentivised growers (profit).
- Access to supply chains.

Forecasting and Reality



Forecasting the Future

- We know we can produce the animals.
- Must consider feed/land resources first.
 - Deforestation increased GHG.
 - Cattle – trample and denude grazing areas.
 - Increase area under the plough.
- 75 to 80 % of future production - from enhanced crop yields (Montpellier, 2013; UN, 2015)

The Reality

- Consumers demand cheap, safe, uniform and unblemished food.
- Focus on welfare of self & the bird.
- Must understand environment & profit.
- Need to grasp the big picture!

The Reality

- Smallholder Farming
 - Powerful tool - alleviation of poverty.
 - Food security - sustainable intensification.
 - Challenges (technical, financial & supply).
 - Need to be profit driven (partnerships).
 - Animals fit the model perfectly.

Forecasting the Future

- Will require new incentives and policies:
 - Institutional support (finance).
 - Access to inputs and markets.
 - Technical services.
- Costs can't be met by producers alone.

The Reality

- Optimistic – have skills to meet demands.
- Not sure about true sustainability.
- More pessimistic about Africa.
- Will require massive interventions.
- Political & social willpower for change required.

“Ask not what Africa can do for you—
ask what you can do for Africa.”



Apologies to JFK