





Meeting net zero emissions in the beef cattle sector









Australian Green House Gas Emissions



The Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation (QAAFI) is a research institute of The University of Queensland (UQ), supported by the Queensland Government.







Feed additives

- Two feed additives show promise
 - 3NOP (Bovaer)
 - Asparagopsis (Red Seaweed)
- 30%-90% reduction in methane
- Cost?
- Delivery in extensive environments?









Genomic selection

- Methane emission level is heritable (0.2)
- Expensive to measure
- Genomic selection a solution
- Ireland, Australia, Europe



Genomic selection

- Requires large reference populations of genotyped and phenotyped animals
- Selection for improved fertility can improve farm systems emissions

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Early in life rumen modification

 Some evidence altering rumen early in life with feed additives can lower methane emissions later in life

Meale, et al. Early life dietary intervention in dairy calves results in a long-term reduction in methane emissions. Sci Rep 11, 3003 (2021).



Legumes and pastures

- Incorporating Leucaena can reduce farming systems emissions
- Selection/modification of pastures to reduce emissions when grazed by cattle?















Conclusion

- Range of different technologies to reduce methane emissions
- Cost profile important must be profitable to be adopted
- To get to net zero, technologies will have to be combined (stacked)



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Zero Net Emissions Agriculture CRC















PROGRAM 1:	PROGRAM 2:	PROGRAM 3:	PROGRAM 4:
Low-emissions plant solutions	Towards methane-free cattle and sheep	Whole-farm and mixed- enterprise systems analysis	Delivering Value from Net Zero
 Genetic solutions Plant nutrition solutions Legumes In-setting emissions in plant-based and mixed- farming production systems 	 Novel individual animal methane measurement and proxies Selection for low-emission livestock Rumen manipulation for low emissions Delivery of low emissions innovation from lab to landscape 	 Enabling on farm mitigation by developing protocols, metric and benchmarking tools for monitoring of GHG sources and sinks Integrated systems-level studies on-farm and landscapes analysis Synergies and tradeoff with other emerging ESG priorities 	 Barriers, drivers, policy and consumers Circular economy solutions Renewable energy solutions Improved supply chain traceability
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PROGRAM 5: Education, Irain	ing and Adoption		
 Research capability development for ZNE Agriculture 	2. Industry capability development for ZNE Agriculture	 Integrated demonstration sites 	 Next-generation teacher professional development and community outreach