DID A COW JUST EAT MY DINNER?

Animal Feed vs. Human Food: 
Challenges and Opportunities in Sustaining Animal Agriculture Toward 2050

September 23, 2013
PROGRAM

Welcome and Introduction

BEV PAUL
NATIONAL C-FAR REPRESENTATIVE

Distinguished Speaker

DR. JUDE CAPPER
LIVESTOCK SUSTAINABILITY CONSULTANT
AND
AFFILIATE, MONTANA STATE UNIVERSITY
ADJUNCT PROFESSOR, WASHINGTON STATE UNIVERSITY

Open Forum

Closing

BEV PAUL

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ABSTRACT
The global livestock industry faces a considerable challenge because a dichotomy exists between the increasing demand for animal-source foods conferred by population growth and consumer concerns regarding livestock production sustainability. Many consumers are unaware of the advantages of livestock productivity gains conferred by modern practices, by-product feeds, and technology use. The members of this Task Force note that (1) global animal agriculture provides safe, affordable, nutrient-dense foodstuffs that support human health and well-being as part of a balanced diet, in addition to manifold by-products that have significant contributions to society; (2) livestock production is an important contributor to the economic and social sustainability of developed and developing countries; (3) large areas of land are incapable of producing human food crops but can be used to support livestock production; (4) gains made by “recycling” safe by-products from human food and fiber production into livestock feed lessen competition between humans and animals for crops that can equally be used for feed or food, maximize land use efficiency, and decrease the environmental impact of food production; and (5) improved communication is required between livestock production stakeholders and the consumer to further a better understanding of the economic, environmental, nutritional, and social advantages conferred by animal agriculture on a global and regional basis.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHY
Jude Capper, Ph.D., is currently a self-employed Livestock Sustainability Consultant. Additionally, she is an Affiliate in the Department of Animal and Range Sciences at Montana State University as well as an Adjunct Professor in the Department of Animal Sciences at Washington State University. She has an extensive academic and practical background in animal science, with specific reference to the U.S. and global beef and dairy industries. Her focus is on modeling sustainability based on nutritional and metabolic principles and “myth-busting” some of the commonly held perceptions relating to livestock system sustainability. Research interests include modeling whole system resource use, environmental impact, and economical viability of beef and dairy systems, as well as providing guidance on management practices and systems to improve whole system sustainability. Dr. Capper received her B.Sc. with Honors in agriculture with animal science and her Ph.D. in ruminant nutrition and behavior, both from Harper Adams University College in Shropshire, United Kingdom.
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