
Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy Sustainability Commitment Overview

Erin Fitzgerald
January 3, 2015



- Alliance Dairies
- Clauss Dairy Farms
- Fair Oaks Farms
- Fiscalini Farms
- Foster Brothers Farm
- Gar-Lin Dairy Farm
- Graywood Farm
- Haubenschild Farms Inc.
- Holsum Dairies
- Kooistra Farms
- Maddox Dairy
- MarBec Dairy
- Medeiros & Sons Dairy
- McCarty Family Farms
- Mystic Valley Dairy
- Nobis Dairy
- Prairieland Dairy
- Rovey Dairy
- Simonson Dairy
- Spruce Haven Farm
- Triple A Farms
- Werkhoven Dairy



114 companies & 150 professionals in the Sustainability Council
 Leading 8 project teams with over 800 industry members contributing over \$6M

Current reality



competitors



NGOs



consumers



customers



government



investors

Customers are setting sustainable sourcing goals



- 2014: 70% of suppliers have an approach
- 2015: 50% of suppliers can provide details



- 2016: Begin purchasing verified sustainable beef



- Shareholder resolution on sustainability reporting and addressing supply chain water



- Commitment to sustainably source dairy using the Guide by 2020



- Unilever commitment to sustainably source by 2020



- Nestle Responsible Sourcing Goals

Stewardship and Sustainability



Stewardship =
preservation and
conservation
“doing good”



Sustainability =
Preservation
+ enhance livelihoods
+ improve profitability
“doing good business”

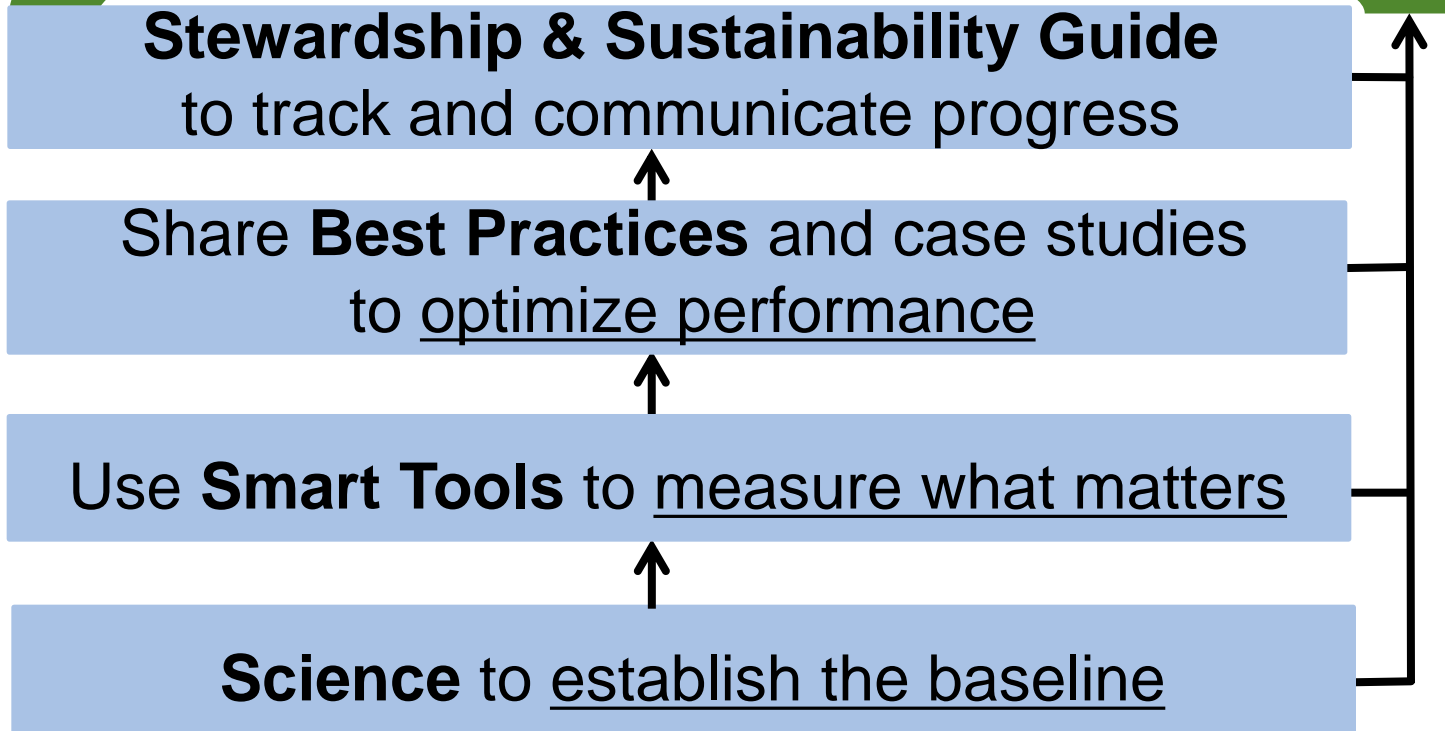
Single approach from “Grass to Glass”



- **Credible, transparent and industry led.** Program that is equal to or exceeds the competition while satisfying the demands of retail customers and dairy consumers.
- **Demonstrate progress.** Buyers and sellers seek proof that dairy – “from grass to glass” – uses practices that protect natural resources and promote community well-being and economic vitality.
- **Mission: one approach.** Create a voluntary method to track and communicate stewardship and sustainability progress.

Enhancing Consumer Trust

Credibly Enhance Consumer Trust



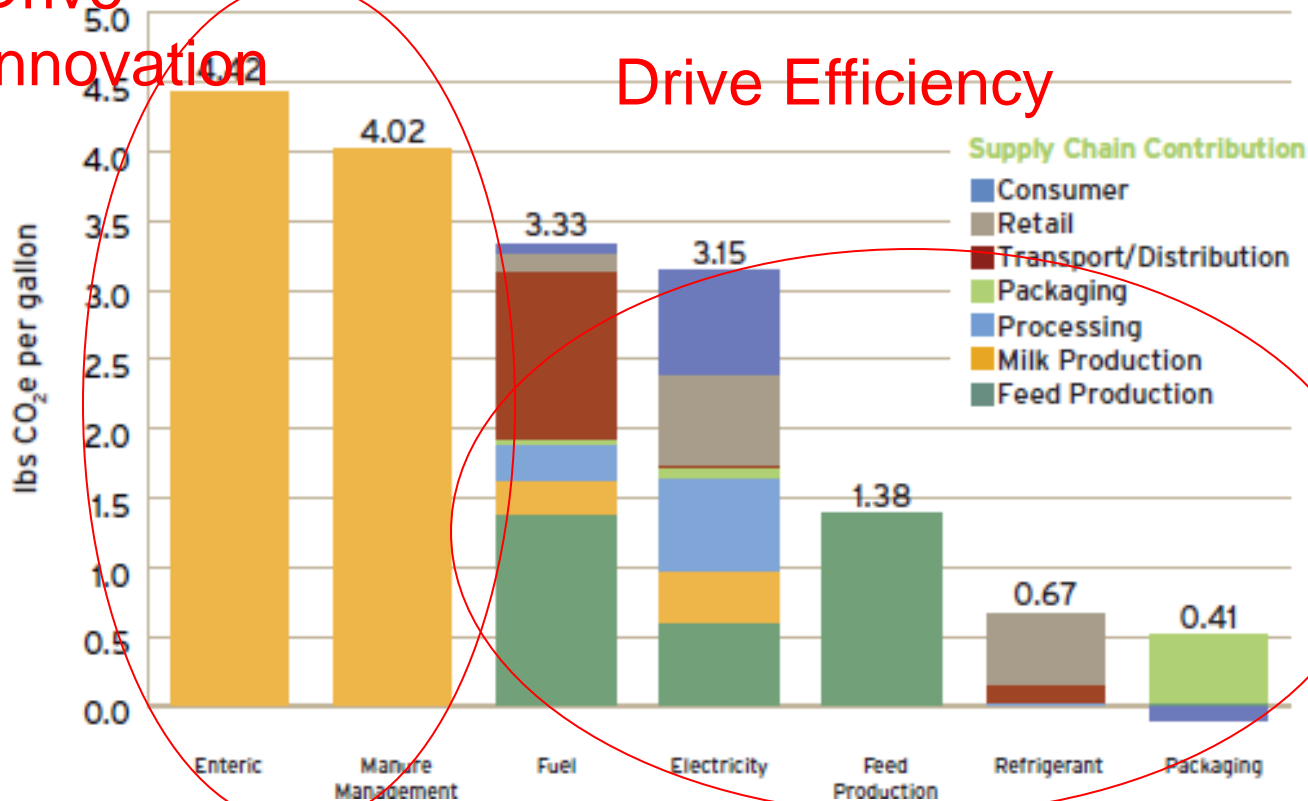
What we learned: opportunities for efficiency and innovation across the value chain

Carbon footprint of 1 gallon of milk =
17.6 lbs CO₂e/gallon fluid milk consumed²

2.05 CO₂e kg/kg fluid milk consumed

Drive
Innovation

Drive Efficiency



¹ Does not include sources related to waste.

² "Greenhouse Gas Emissions of Fluid Milk in the U.S." University of Arkansas, 2010. Based on environmental and consumption data from 2007-2008. Natural variability in data ranges from 15.3 to 20.7 lbs. CO₂e. The total fluid milk carbon footprint is approximately 35 million metric tons, with a 95% confidence range from 30 to 45 million metric tons.

Lead: Combination of top down and bottom up

**32 Dairy industry CEOs and chairpersons
committed to...**

25% by 2020

GHG reduction for fluid milk

\$238 million

Estimated business value across industry

Lead: Be bold and a pilot for changes

USDA Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)



On December 15, 2009, Copenhagen, DK

USDA recognized the work of dairy farmers and the entire industry with a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

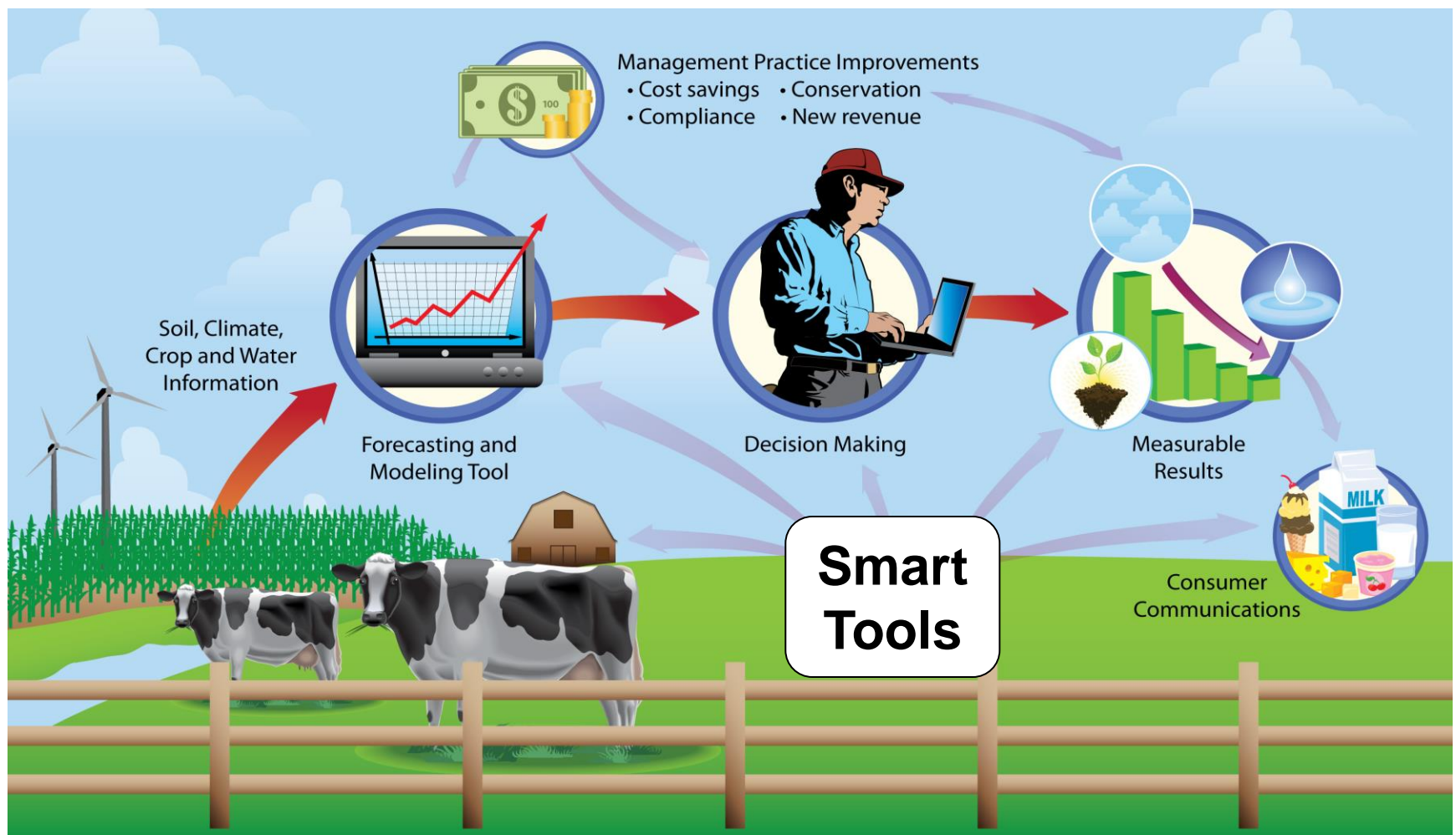
Renewed April 24, 2013, Washington, DC

"This historic agreement, the first of its kind, will help us achieve the ambitious goal of drastically reducing greenhouse gas emissions while benefiting dairy farmers. "

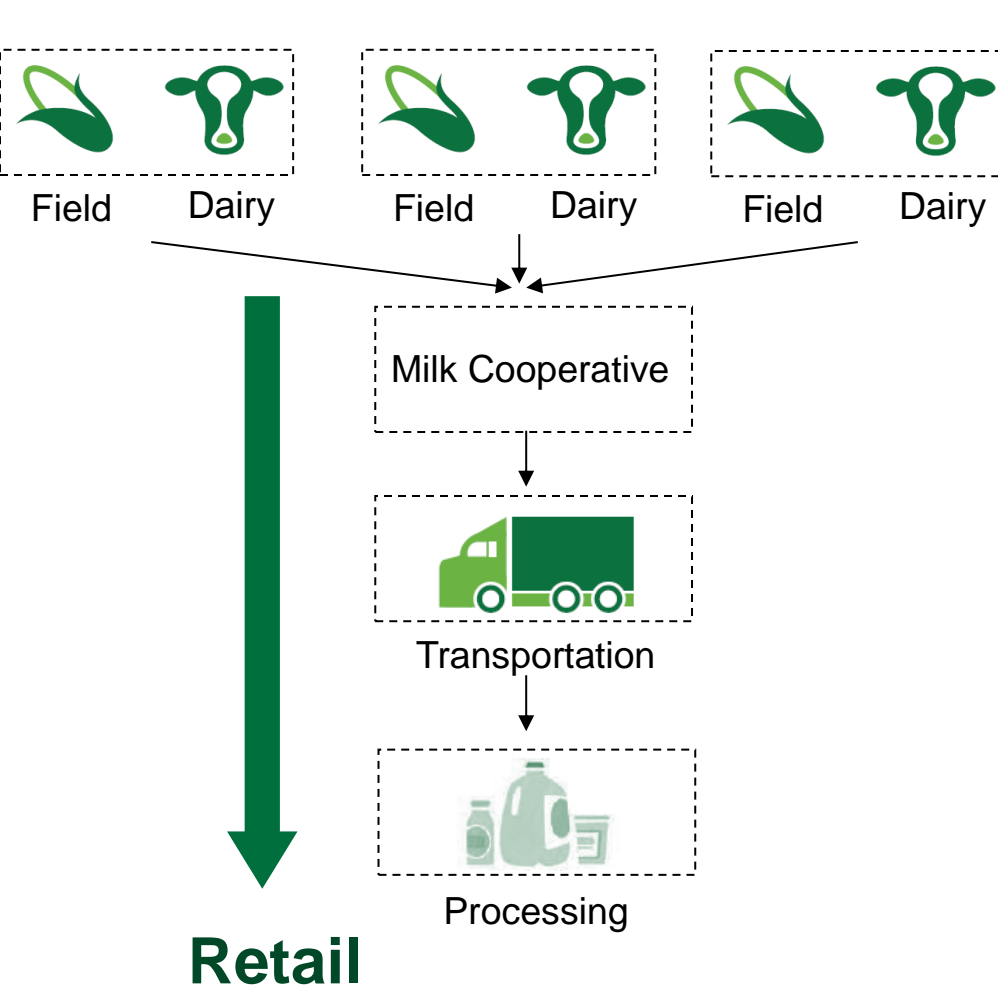
-- Secretary Tom Vilsack



Farm Smart™-helping farmers to measure, mitigate, and communicate sustainable performance



Measure and communicate sustainability through the value chain



The Innovation Center and Industry have tested the tools on 1.6% of total U.S. milk production and 1.4% of cows! *This is one of the largest tests that has occurred within the agriculture standards*



Communicate progress to stakeholders



THE GUIDING PRINCIPLES OF THE U.S. DAIRY SUSTAINABILITY COMMITMENT

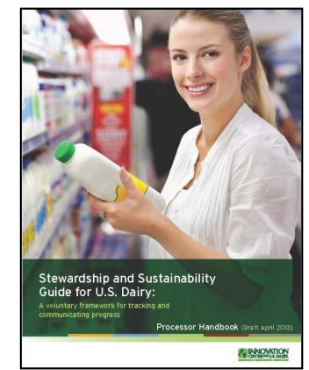
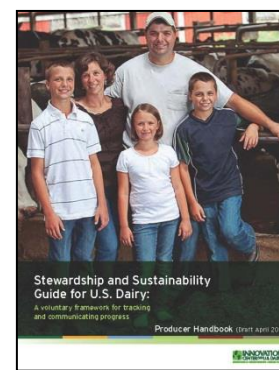
The U.S. dairy industry supports socially responsible, economically viable and environmentally sound dairy food systems that promote the current and future health and well-being of:

- OUR COWS** through animal stewardship.
- OUR CONSUMERS** through access to safe, nutritious, high-quality products.
- OUR COMMUNITIES** through contributing, participating and investing where we live and operate.
- OUR EMPLOYEES** through ensuring a safe and respectful workplace.
- OUR BUSINESSES** through a focus on long-term economic vitality.
- OUR PLANET** through the stewardship and responsible use of natural resources.



U.S. Dairy Sustainability Awards
Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy®

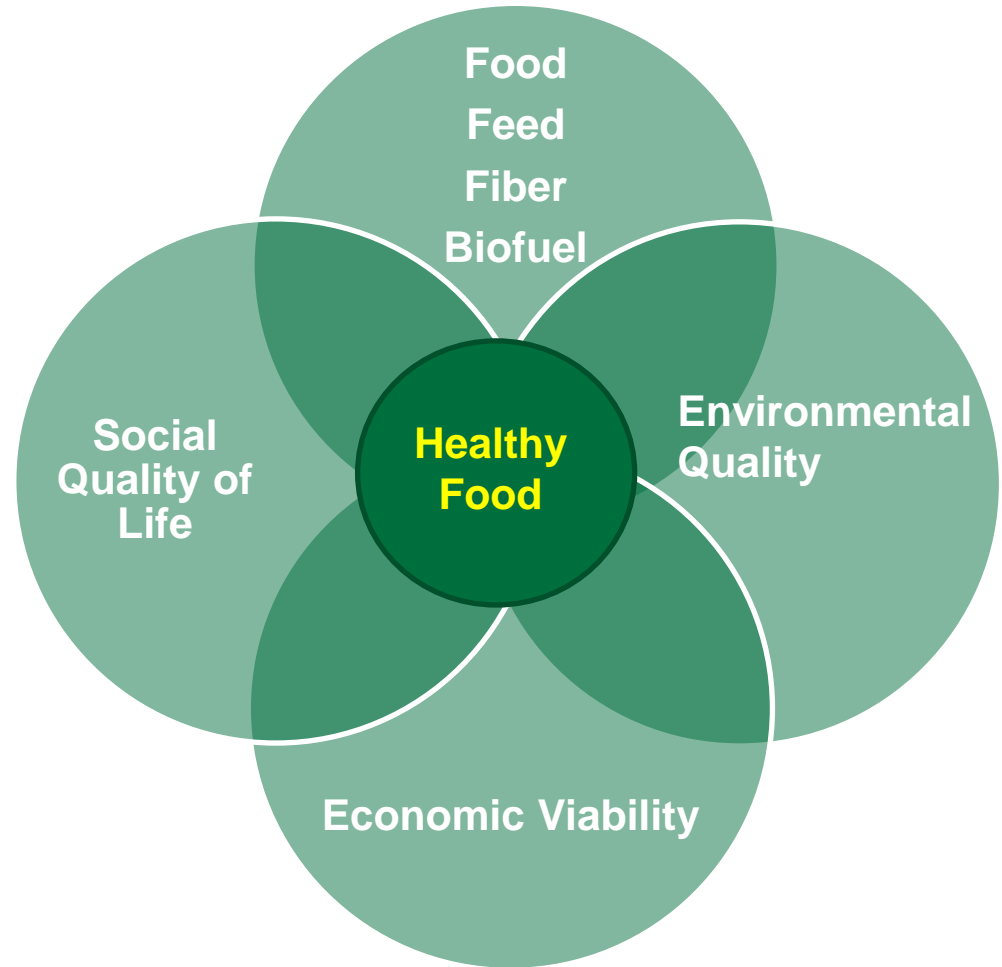
Outstanding Dairy Farm Sustainability
PrairieLand Dairy
Firth, Neb.



APPENDIX

The need for a sustainable food system

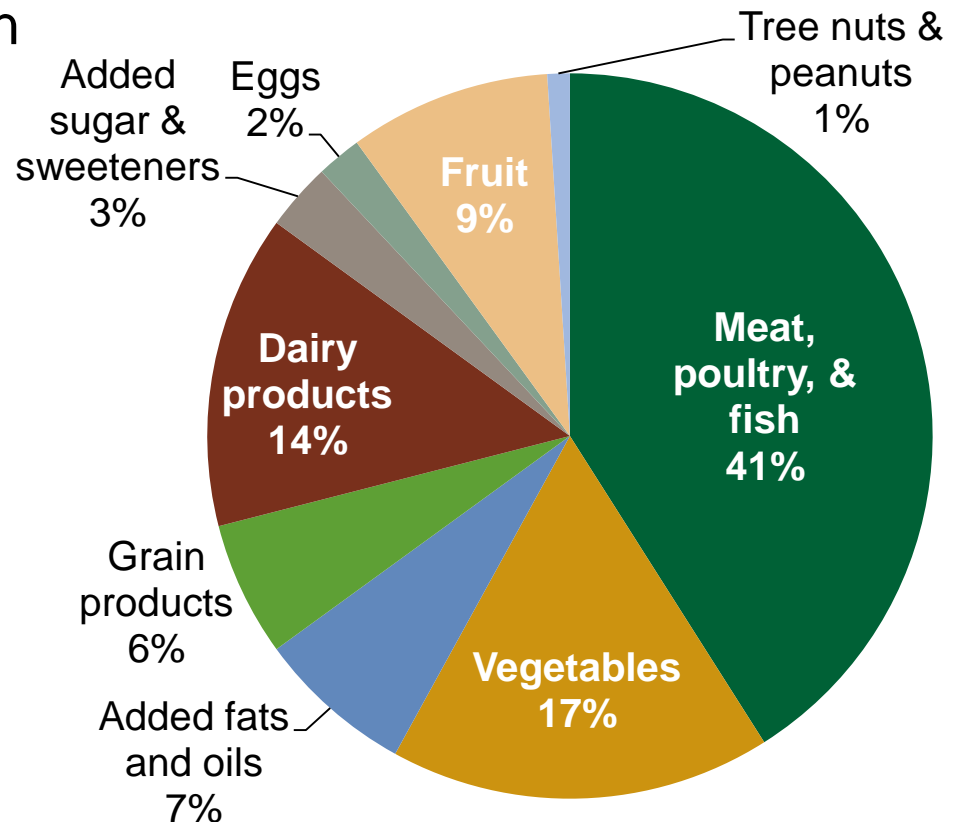
- Satisfy human food, feed and fiber needs, and contribute to biofuel needs
- Enhance quality of life for farmers, farm workers and society as a whole
- Sustain economic viability of agriculture
- Enhance environmental quality and the **resource base (nutrients such as nitrogen and phosphorus)**



One out of three food calories is wasted

- 29% of America's food supply was lost from human consumption
- Estimated total value at retail and consumer levels was \$165.6 billion
- 273 pounds of food per person
- Disposal costs add one billion dollars in local taxes annually

Food waste by retail value (\$165.6B total)



What if 2 tons/wk of food waste were repurposed?



2 tons/week



Nutrients (N & P)

- 17 tons Nitrogen
- 1.3 tons Phosphorus

(Annual Values)

What if 2 tons/wk food waste added to manure digester?



2 tons/week

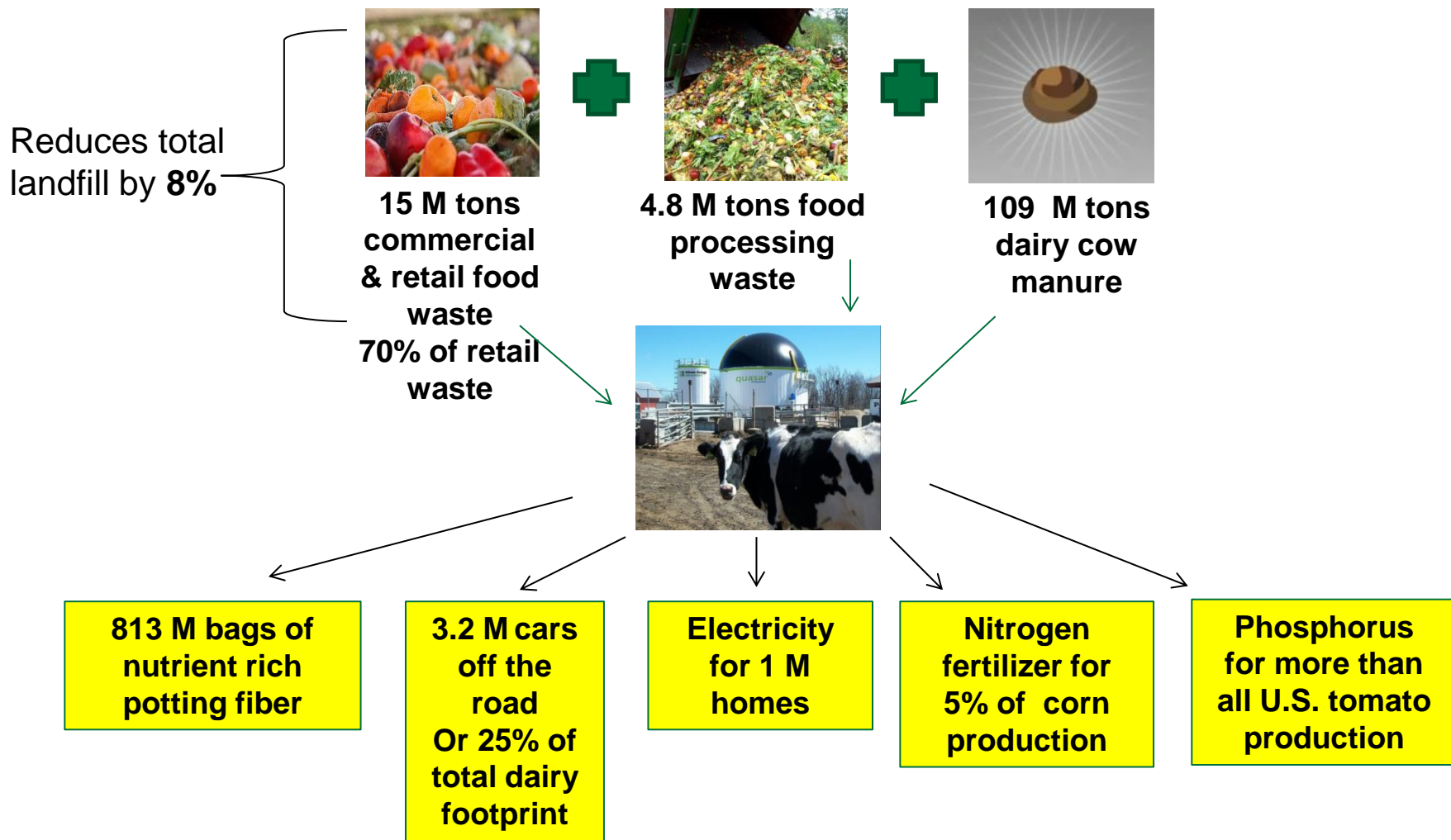


**Dairy digester
(1,000 cows)**

- 226 tons Nitrogen
- 28 tons Phosphorus
- Green Power for 3 homes

(Annual Values)

Manure & Food Waste: 2,700 deployed digesters with food waste could reduce overall U.S. Dairy footprint by 25% and generate ecosystem benefits from repurposing food waste



Guiding Principles align on a vision for the industry



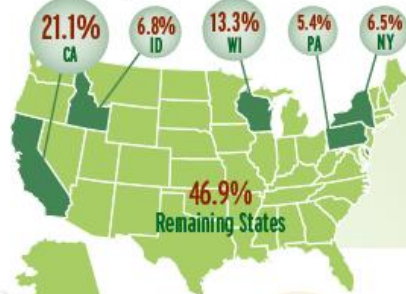
- **The U.S. Dairy Industry supports socially responsible, economically viable and environmentally sound dairy food systems that promote the current and future health and well being of:**
- **We commit to these principles through our shared values of honesty, integrity, inclusiveness, and transparency**

- **Our consumers** – through access to safe, nutritious, high-quality products.
- **Our communities** – through contributing, participating, and investing where we live and operate.
- **Our cows** – through animal stewardship.
- **Our employees** – through ensuring a safe and respectful workplace.
- **Our planet** – through the stewardship and responsible use of natural resources.
- **Our businesses** – through a focus on long-term economic vitality.

About the Dairy Industry

Milk production occurs in all 50 states.

The top 5 dairy states in 2011 produced ~53% of all milk in the U.S.



51,481 LICENSED DAIRY FARMS



9.2 million DAIRY COWS



192.6 billion POUNDS OF COW MILK



HOW ALL THAT MILK WAS USED

13.3% OF DAIRY PRODUCTS WERE EXPORTED (by weight).



1,278 DAIRY PLANTS PRODUCED



199.4 billion POUNDS OF DAIRY PRODUCTS.



AVERAGE NUMBER OF MILES FROM FARM TO PROCESSING PLANT IS 275 miles.



Milk and dairy products are distributed to schools and retail outlets ranging from small neighborhood stores to warehouse outlets.



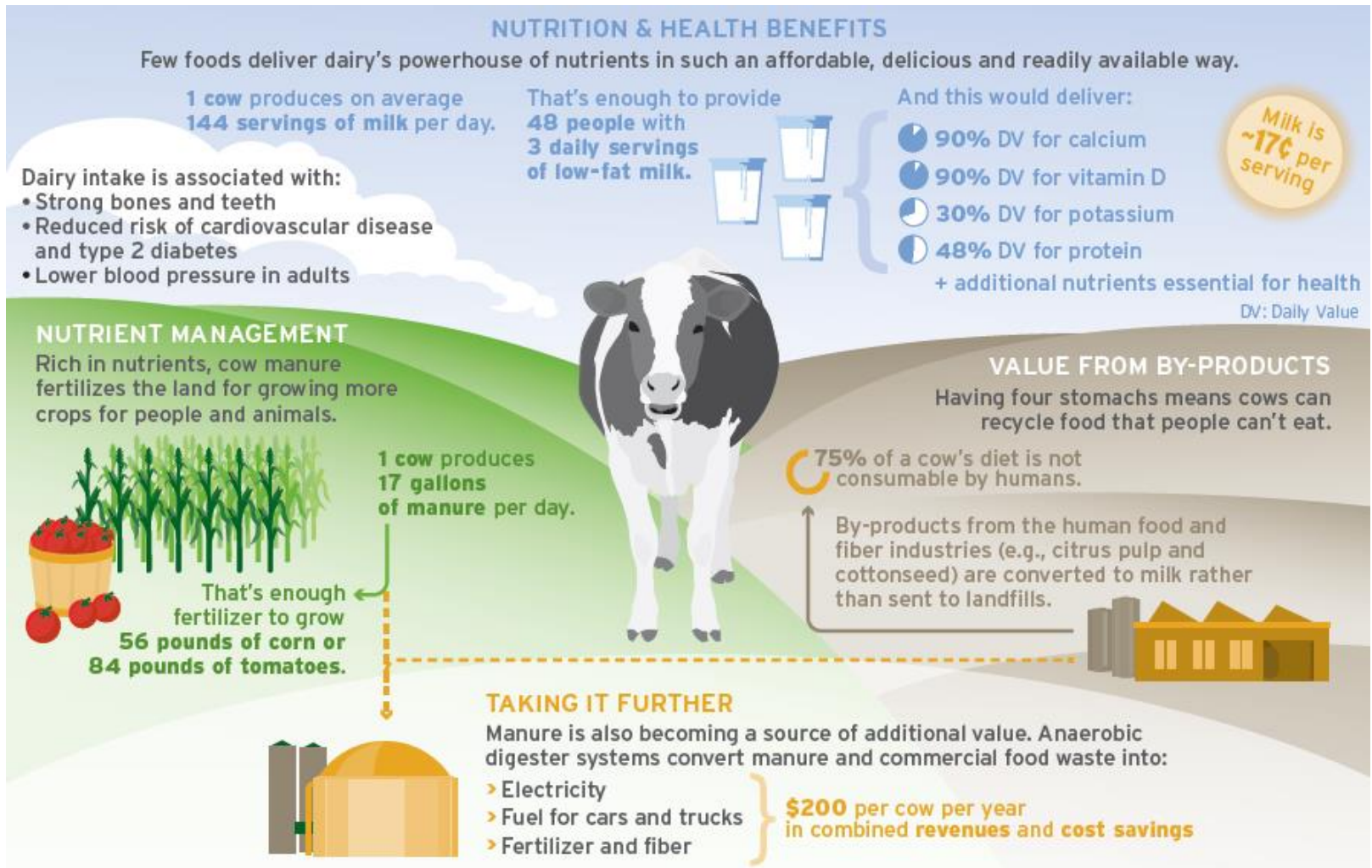
Americans spent ~6% of their 2011 food budgets on dairy products at home.



Milk and dairy foods supply 70% of the calcium and 18% of the protein in the average American diet.

Sources Milk production and dairy processing data: Dairy Data Highlights, National Milk Producers Federation, October 2012; Family farms stat: USDA ERS; Miles: Ulrich R, Thoma G, Nutter D, Wilson J, Tailpipe greenhouse gas emissions from tank trucks transporting raw milk from farms to processing plants. *Int Dairy J.* April 2013; 31(1):S50-S56; Commercial usage: Annual Commercial Disappearance of Dairy Products, Milk Equivalent, Total Solids Basis (Source: NMPF and USDA/ERS); Export data: U.S. Dairy Export Council; Consumer spending: In 2011, American consumers spent an average of \$6,458 on food purchases; of this amount, \$407, or 6.3 percent, was spent on dairy products at home (Consumer Expenditure Survey, 2006-2011, BLS); Nutritional stats: Dairy Research Institute, NHANES (2003-2006), Ages 2+ years.

How one cow contributes to a sustainable food system



Review case study of supply chain trying out the guide and tools

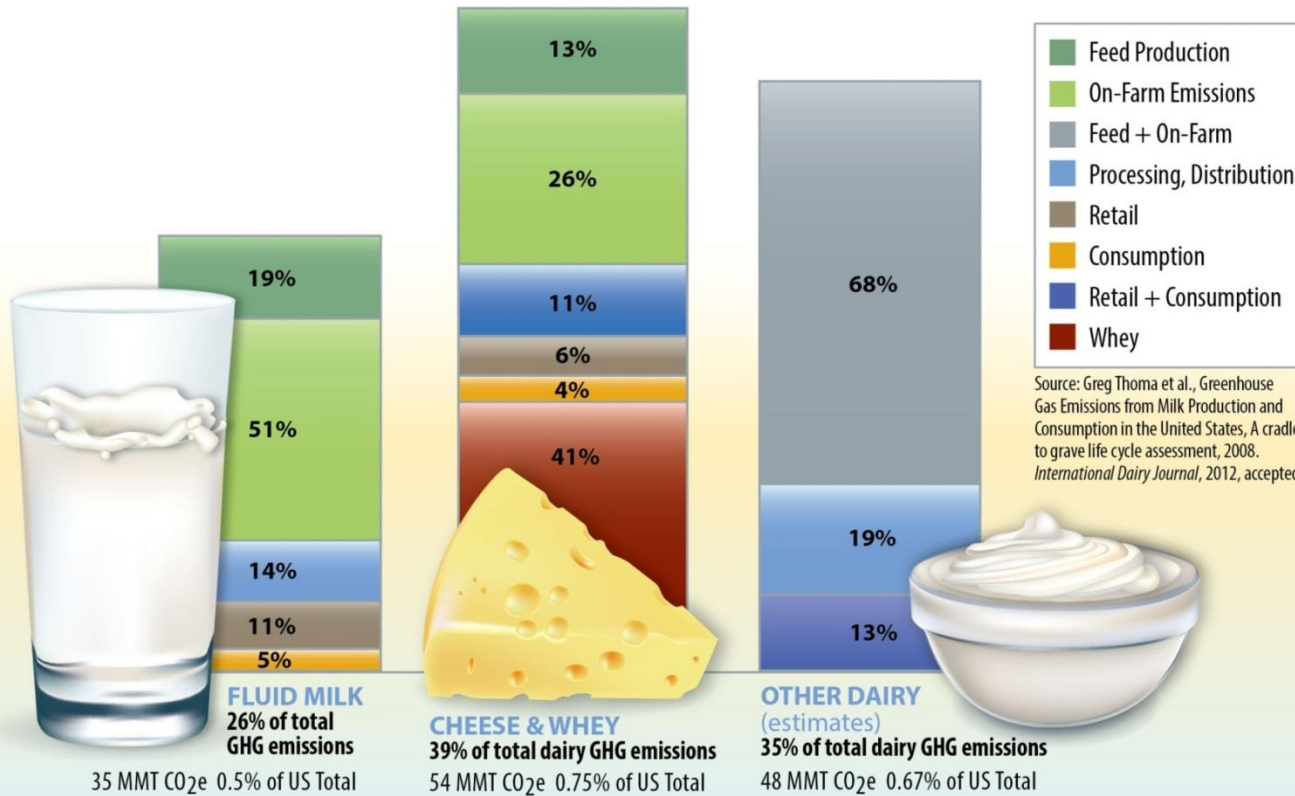


<https://image-base.wistia.com/projects/05jj1lu1t3>

Key findings: carbon footprint, all products

U.S. Dairy Carbon Footprint — All Products

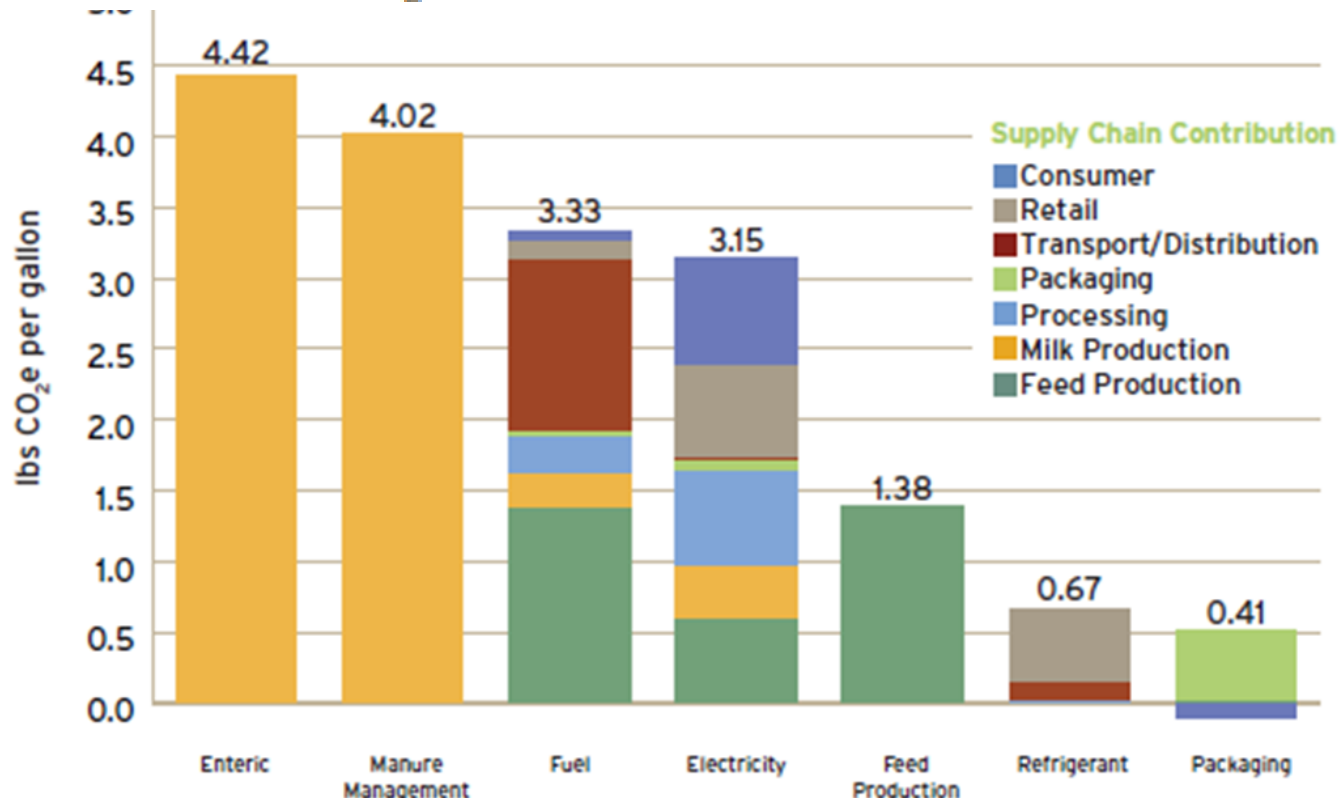
Total emissions = 137 MMT (2% of total U.S. GHG emissions)



Source: Greg Thoma et al., Greenhouse Gas Emissions from Milk Production and Consumption in the United States, A cradle to grave life cycle assessment, 2008. *International Dairy Journal*, 2012, accepted.

Measurement: Understand business drivers

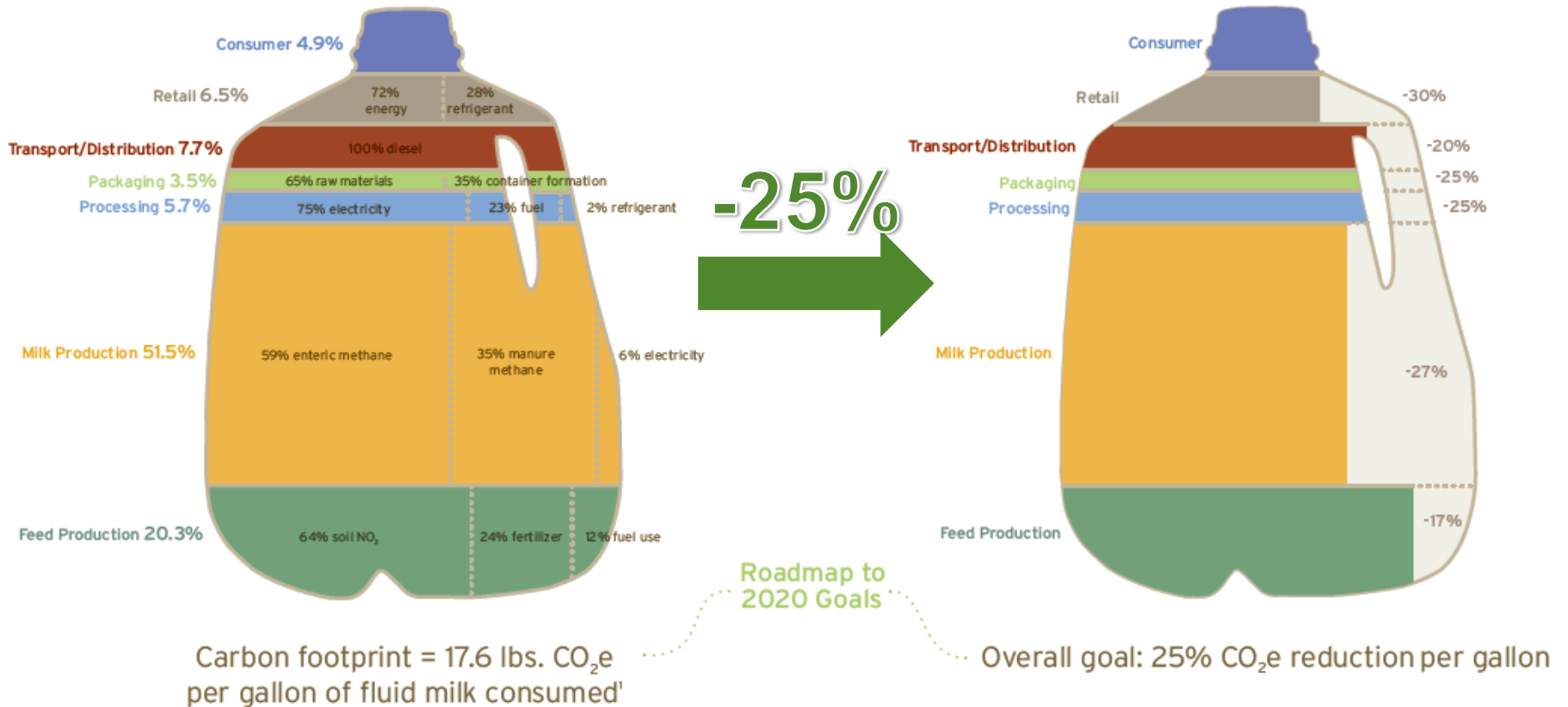
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Lead: Industrywide leadership from farm to table

U.S. Fluid Milk Carbon Footprint: Supply Chain Emissions

2020 Voluntary Goals for Greenhouse Gas Reduction for U.S. Fluid Milk



Phase II farm indicator development

- Phase II development in 2014 by national and regional taskforce teams
- National Teams: Review and refine previous work to develop indicators and aggregate regional team recommendations. Topics covered:



Work Force



Resource Recovery



Soil Health



Community Engagement



Water



Biodiversity

- Regional Teams: 6 Regional Teams to develop indicators and metrics that will cover water, resource recovery, and soil health
- **January 2015** - Present to Innovation Center Board

Key findings: dairy uses ~5.1% of U.S. water withdrawal



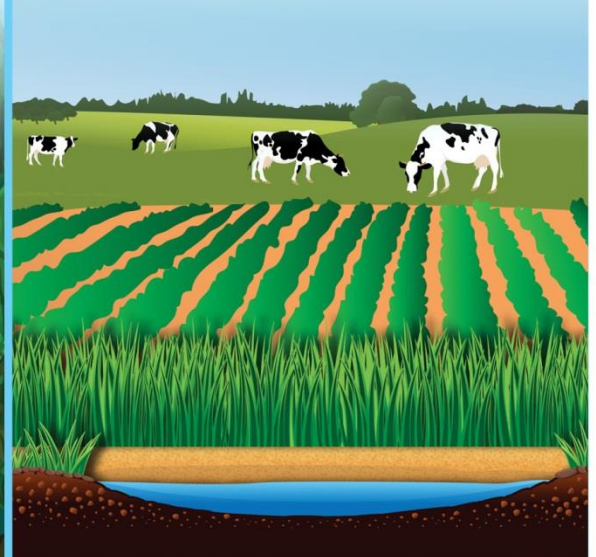
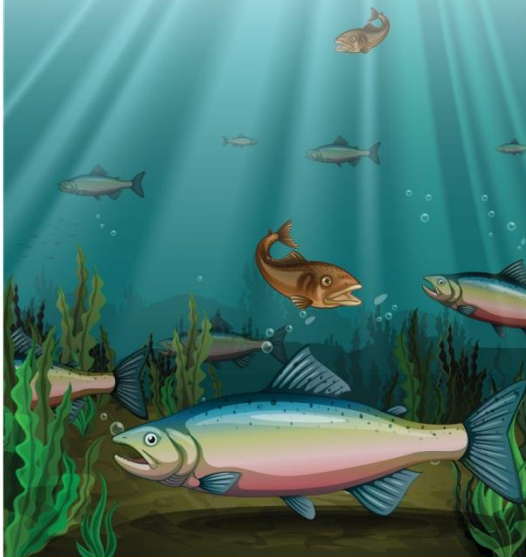
Water quality terminology

Eutrophication: The process by which a body of water becomes enriched by inorganic plant nutrients, especially phosphates and nitrates

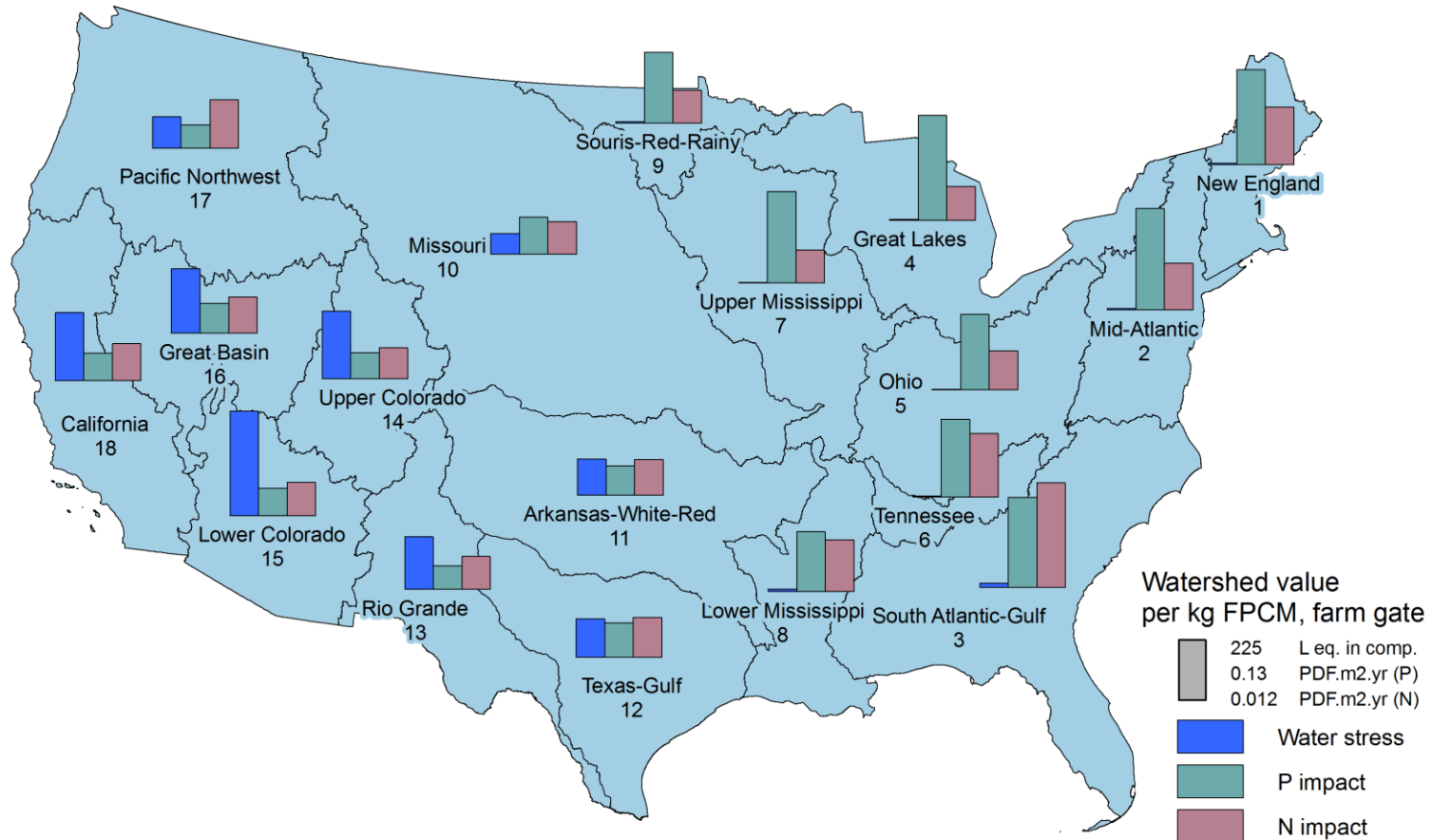
Eutrophication is an important consideration for the dairy industry: Eutrophication can lead to ecosystem damage and shortened life span due to oxygen depleted conditions, rapid sedimentation, accumulation of biotoxins, and loss of biodiversity

Phosphorus is the growth-limiting nutrient in freshwater bodies; **nitrogen** is limiting in marine systems

Nutrient sources: Crop fertilizer field runoff



Key finding: water is a local issue impacted by both water supply and watershed characteristics



Dairy Water Impacts: Know Your Operation

- Water issues are largely dependent on local or regional conditions
- Consequently, some operations will be more significantly affected by quality issues than quantity issues, and vice versa
- Producers should be aware of their major impacts and risks and pay particular attention to the practices that will mitigate those risks

What we learned: management practices matter



Increasing feed efficiency

Reducing enteric methane

Improving manure management



Reducing electricity usage

Consolidating distribution network

Considering alternative packaging materials



Good truck maintenance

Better route design

Reducing long distance milk hauling

The basis for differences is best management practices – not size, region or age.

Dairy LCA key implications to the industry

Variability means opportunity

Focus on what matters

BMPs can improve environmental footprint of virtually all farms and businesses