

**Submission  
No 37**

## **FOOD PRODUCTION AND SUPPLY IN NSW**

**Name:** Ms Neena Love

**Date Received:** 23 February 2022

Dear Members of the Committee on Environment and Planning

### Creating Food Security

To create a future that ensures food security and equitable access to food we need to shift to a plant-based diet. There is now a huge body of ever-growing scientific evidence that unequivocally demonstrates the benefits and supports this fact.

Consider the following:

The grain from poorer countries is often shipped to feed livestock in more affluent countries while their own children starve.

We manage to feed approximately 80 billion livestock annually yet can't feed 8 billion people? Why? A scientific journal article published in 2018 contained compelling scientific evidence that eating a plant-based diet, which excludes meat and animal products, is better for the environment.

The study, "Reducing Food's Environmental Impacts Through Producers and Consumers" conducted by Joseph Poore & Thomas Nemecek, gathered data on the environmental impacts of food produced on farms (primary producers of meat, fish, grains, fruit & vegetables), processors (food manufacturers and processing plants), food packaging plants and retailers.

An abstract from the study -

Food's environmental impacts are created by millions of diverse producers. To identify solutions that are effective under this heterogeneity, we consolidated data covering five environmental indicators; 38,700 farms; and 1600 processors, packaging types, and retailers. Impact can vary 50-fold among producers of the same product, creating substantial mitigation opportunities. However, mitigation is complicated by trade-offs, multiple ways for producers to achieve low impacts, and interactions throughout the supply chain. Producers have limits on how far they can reduce impacts. Most strikingly, impacts of the lowest-impact animal products typically exceed those of vegetable substitutes, providing new evidence for the importance of dietary change.

Please note the huge number of farms and processors that were included that showed consistently that the resources to produce animal products exceeded those of vegetable substitutes.

Animal agriculture is currently one of the biggest drivers of climate change and if we want a sustainable future on our planet the consumption of animal products will need to be substantially reduced if not altogether eliminated.

Water is going to be a resource of ever-growing scarcity on a planet that is warming by the day. Research conducted by John Robins, "2500 Gallons all wet", shows that it takes 2500 gallons (10,000 litres) of water to produce 1 pound (0.45kg) of beef.

Another interesting fact when looking into food security: 1.5 acres can produce 37,000 pounds (1678 kg) of plant-based food; the same amount of land produces 375 pounds (170kg) of beef.

Other facts including the scientific studies that were able to confirm these facts can be found at <https://www.cowspiracy.com/facts>

Other benefits of a plant-based diet

Documentaries such as *What The Health* and books such as *The China Study* by T. Colin Campbell PhD are just a small part of the ever-growing body of scientific literature and studies that strikingly supports the fact that a plant-based lifestyle not only prevents but reverses health conditions such as diabetes, cancer, and heart disease; three of our biggest killers.

Recommending a plant-based diet makes a stand that says the extreme and barbaric conditions we inflict upon animals in the animal livestock 'machine' is abhorrent. To think we can be a happy and peaceful society whilst inflicting and condoning such suffering for profit is quite simply delusional.

Thank you for considering this submission outlining just a few dot points as to how animal agriculture contributes to food insecurity and inequity to the point of starvation and death for millions of people around the globe right now.

Sincerely  
Neena Love