Non-CO₂ greenhouse gas mitigation in New Zealand

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New Zealand Government

Outline

- Global context for non-C0₂ greenhouse gases
- NZ context for non-C0₂ greenhouse gases
- NZ policy context
- NZ research efforts
- New Zealand international efforts to mitigate greenhouse gases from agriculture
- Concluding remarks



Global context for non-CO₂ gases

- Non-CO₂ greenhouse gases are 23.3% of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions:
 - methane 14.3%
 - nitrous oxide 7.9%
 - other 1.1%



Figure 1.1b Global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions in 2004. Source: Adapted from Olivier et al., 2005, 2006



Agriculture as source of global non-CO₂ greenhouse gases

- Agriculture contributes about 14% of global anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions
- Agriculture accounts for 60% of global anthropogenic nitrous oxide and 50% of global anthropogenic methane
- Major sources of agriculture non-CO₂ gases include:
 - Methane from enteric fermentation
 - Nitrous oxide from agricultural soils





New Zealand context for non-CO₂ greenhouse gases

- 53% of New Zealand annual emissions are non-CO₂ greenhouse gases
- The agriculture sector contributes 91% of total methane emissions and 96% of total nitrous oxide emissions
 - Methane from enteric fermentation is NZ's single highest source of emissions (31%). Emissions from enteric fermentation have increased by 10% since 1990



New Zealand Policy Context - New Zealand Emission Trading Scheme (ETS)

- All sectors all gases approach
- The ETS will cover all the major agricultural sources of methane and nitrous oxide.
- Agriculture will be included from 2013 and will have requirement to report emissions from 2011
- Free allocation of permits to agriculture sector equal to 90% of 2005 emissions with progressive reduction in allocation of permits over time





New Zealand Policy Context - Sustainable Land Management Plan of Action

- Government will invest \$175 million over next 5 years on Sustainable Land Management and Climate Change Plan of Action
- Plan will be developed and delivered in close partnership with land based sectors
- Three pillars: adaptation, mitigation, business opportunities
- Three supporting programmes:
 - research and innovation
 - technology transfer and information
 - communication and engagement



New Zealand agriculture research effort

- Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry
 - Mitigation research NZ\$45M over 5 years
 - Inventory development NZ\$15M over 5 years
 - Monitoring and measuring farm emissions and mitigation – NZ\$6M over 5 years
 - Technology Transfer NZ\$41M over 8 years
 - International collaboration NZ\$5M over 5 years
 - Greenhouse gas footprint strategy NZ\$6 M over 5 years
- Pastoral Greenhouse Gas Research Consortium
 - Search PGgRc PASTORAL GREENHOUSE GAS







sustainability

- NZ\$25M over 5 years



The importance of international collaboration

- The IPCC found that 70% of mitigation potential in agriculture is in developing countries
- We need to unlock this potential in order to mitigate climate change
- Global research in this area has lacked to-date relative to other sectors
 - need to pool collective knowledge and understanding and avoid duplication
- Standardised approaches to measurement and estimation will facilitate mitigation





International cooperative efforts to mitigate agriculture greenhouse gas emissions

 New Zealand hosted Greenhouse Gases and Animal Agriculture conference from November 26-29, 2007.



sustainability

 Establishment of the Livestock Emissions and Abatement Research Network (LEARN)



LEARN Objectives and Initial Focus Areas

- LEARN objectives
 - To improve understanding, measuring and monitoring of non-CO₂ greenhouse gas emissions from animal agriculture at all scales
 - To facilitate the development of cost effective and practical greenhouse gas mitigation solutions

- Initial focus areas
 - Methane emissions from ruminant livestock
 - Nitrous oxide emissions from livestock
 - Integrated whole farming systems at all scales
 - National agriculture inventory development
- In future can broaden network activities to other livestock and farm systems





LEARN website



New Zealand Government

LEARN Advisory Group

- New Zealand (Chair)
- Australia
- North America
 - USA, Canada, Mexico
- South America
 - Brazil, Argentina
 - Peru, Chile
- Europe
 - Netherlands, United Kingdom
 - Ireland, France, Switzerland
- Asia
 - Japan, China, India
- Africa
 - South Africa





Key messages

- Agriculture is a large source of non CO₂ emissions and will likely continue to increase as demand for food increases
- Research is critical both measurement and mitigation
- Mitigation potential is highly dependent on national circumstances
- A total system approach to mitigation and Life Cycle
 Assessment is important
- We need to work together to develop standard approaches for inventory to facilitate mitigation
- New Zealand is committed to working collaboratively with others
- Please register for LEARN and let's work together



Contacts and further information

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NZ Government Climate Change Policy www.climatechange.govt.nz

NZ Ministry of Agriculture and Forestry <u>www.maf.govt.nz</u>

LEARN www.livestockemissions.net

Pastoral Greenhouse Gas Research Consortium www.pggrc.co.nz

