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**Food Crops and Livestock:**

**From Worldwide Past Evidences (1961-2007) to Open Scenarios (2050)**

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25

26 **Abstract**

27

28 Meeting the world demand growth in meat, milk and eggs requires increasing quantities of  
29 food crops to feed livestock. Feed/output ratios are known at local scales but not at national  
30 levels where heterogeneous breeding systems are coexisting. To fill this gap, we estimate over  
31 47 years (1961-2007) with millions of FAO data how many calories and proteins of plant  
32 food products (*PFP*, mainly cereals and oilcakes, imported or locally produced) were used by  
33 countries for their animal food production (*AFP*). The empirical findings served to document  
34 and discuss the declining average productivities of *PFP* in *AFP* over the years, and to  
35 parameterize a simple model of livestock production that well simulate past evolutions in  
36 seven world regions. Results are also used to explore the need for food crops in 2050  
37 according to five hypothetical scenarios of human diets ranging from “full veganism” to “full  
38 westernization”. Simulations show that plant food production should increase from 4 to 131%  
39 compared to 2007 while the population increases by 36%.

40

41

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43 **Key words:** Food; Feed; Livestock; Calorie; Protein; Foresight

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45

46 **1. Introduction**

47

48 Animal husbandry provides societies with a number of services and remains an integral and  
49 vital part of most farming systems around the globe (Dixon et al., 2001; FAO, 2009). Its  
50 expansion was rapid and important in recent decades due to an ever-increasing demand for  
51 animal foodstuffs (milk and milk products, meat, eggs, etc.) from human beings whose  
52 population doubled within 40 years (about 3 billion in 1960, 6 in 2000) and who tend to  
53 incorporate much more animal products in their diet when their standards of living improves.

54

55 This surge in demand for animal products led to devote growing areas of croplands and  
56 pastures to feed animals with cereals, oilcakes, roughages and other biomass, and to other  
57 problematic issues that are now serious subject of concerns especially in the environmental  
58 field (e.g. Bender, 1994; Brown, 1995; Rosegrant and Sombilla, 1997; Gerbens-Leenes and  
59 Nonhebel, 2002; MEA, 2005; Aiking et al., 2006; Steinfeld et al., 2006; McMichael et al.,  
60 2007; Fiala, 2008; Davidson, 2009; Friel et al., 2009; Glendining et al., 2009; Herrero et al.,  
61 2009; Stehfest et al., 2009; Popp et al., 2010; Vieux et al., 2012).

62

63 Continuation of past trends could indeed accelerates *(i)* the depletion of global carbon and  
64 biodiversity pools through the expansion of agricultural land and deforestation, *(ii)* the  
65 already high agricultural consumptions of freshwater, fertilizers, pesticides, antibiotics and  
66 fossil fuels that are used to boost crop yields and raise animals, *(iii)* the direct and indirect  
67 massive livestock emissions of methane and nitrous oxide, two powerful greenhouse gases. It  
68 could also increase food prices and food deficits of some countries, or the prevalence of  
69 epizootics or cardiovascular diseases. All in all, it challenges our ability to feed properly and

70 in a sustainable way the whole human population expected in the future (likely 9 billion  
71 people in 2050).

72

73 Much more clarity is yet needed concerning livestock and the negative impacts they can have  
74 on greenhouse-gas emissions and the environment before technology and policy options can  
75 be studied and targeted appropriately (Thornton et al., 2009). One unclear aspect is the global  
76 relationship between food crops used as feed and corresponding livestock food production,  
77 the focus of this paper. This relationship is crucial for assessing many direct and indirect  
78 impacts of changing diets and livestock production, but it is still badly known at national  
79 scales because heterogeneous breeding farms coexist.

80

81 According to local resources, needs and prices, breeders are indeed combining in various  
82 proportions different food products or by-products (barley, maize, soya cake, roots and tubers,  
83 etc.) with different non-food biomasses (grass from pasture, fodder such as alfalfa, crop or  
84 food residues, etc.) to feed different kind of animals (calf, cow, buffalo, sheep, goat, pig,  
85 poultry, horse, etc.) that yield different foods (milk, meat, eggs, etc.) and other products or  
86 services (wool, manure, draft power, etc.).

87

88 To model livestock production and feed requirement, Seré and Steinfeld (1996) were the first  
89 to gather worldwide farm feed formulas to parameterize (for different regions and climatic  
90 conditions) few archetypes of livestock production, namely “grassland-based”, “mixed  
91 farming” and “intensive”. Their approach is now adopted in several global models, first in  
92 IMAGE which explores the long-term dynamics of global environmental change (Bouwman  
93 et al., 2005; Bouwman et al., 2006) (see Appendix A for more technical details). In other  
94 works, we use ourselves Bouwman et al.’s archetypes and feed coefficients to explore how

95 could evolve extensive and intensive systems under different price scenarios (Souty et al.,  
96 2012).

97

98 Keyzer et al. (2005) also use this approach to show that international projections of feed  
99 requirements for 2030 are severely underestimated because they use a constant feed/meat  
100 ratio whereas it is likely to increase. They argue, with the following equation linking demand  
101 for concentrates  $C$  (feed from cereals, oilseeds and other marketable crops) and meat  
102 consumption  $M$ , that the residuals  $R$  (non-marketable inputs comprising crop residues and  
103 household waste) can no longer be regarded as a free input:

$$C = aM - R \quad (1)$$

104

105 “The challenge is to quantify the parameters of this relationship” and Keyzer et al. tried to do  
106 it for the cereals-meat relationship using Seré et al.’s archetypes of livestock production and  
107 farm feed/meat ratios that are inevitably based on time-dated, patchy and incomplete  
108 databases (Kruska et al., 2003).

109

110 The ambition of this paper is to quantify these parameters with solid historical evidences, not  
111 only for meat but for all animal food production ( $AFP$ ) and with all plant food products used  
112 as feed ( $PPF$ ). Our results show that above linear equation is a good form to report the (not  
113 constant but) increasing  $PPF/AFP$  ratio that we observe almost everywhere in the world from  
114 1961 to 2007. We use these results to explore food crop requirements in 2050 according to  
115 five hypothetical scenarios of human diets.

116

117 The next section explains what data were used and how they were compiled to provide solid  
118 worldwide historical estimates of  $AFP$  and  $PPF$ . The following section presents and

119 comments these historical estimates before providing modelling parameters for seven world  
120 regions. Last section exposes our scenario assumptions for 2050, the projection results and the  
121 main lessons drawn from them.

122

123

## 124 **2. Global food balances in calories and proteins**

125

126 The key insight of our work was to convert and aggregate into kilocalories (kcal) or proteins  
127 all plant food products (*PPF*) used by a country (or a region) to produce all its animal food  
128 products (*AFP*). This section describes briefly<sup>1</sup> how we proceed to provide and validate these  
129 new historical estimates with millions annual country FAO<sup>2</sup> data on production, trade and  
130 consumption, so that ratios could then be calculated to document and portray how have  
131 evolved feeding rates (*PPF/AFP*) or, conversely, *PPF* partial average productivities  
132 (*AFP/PPF*). We did that in three steps.

133

134 (a) Checking and merging of three international statistical series: “Commodity Balances”  
135 (CB), “Land”<sup>3</sup> and “Population” from FAO (2010) over 47 years (1961-2007) – Many islands  
136 or micro-states had to be removed because of missing or inconsistent data, and, for the same  
137 reason, Afghanistan, Iraq, Oman, Papua New Guinea and Somalia. Our final database,  
138 however, covers 98% of the world population (2000) and of the world land area (Antarctica  
139 excluded). Countries were grouped into seven world regions in this study: OECD country-  
140 members in 1990 (OECD), Latin America (LAM), Middle East and North Africa (MENA),

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<sup>1</sup> For more details, see “Agribiom: a tool for scenario-building and hybrid modelling” in Paillard et al. (2011)

<sup>2</sup> Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

<sup>3</sup> which includes (i) hectares of “arable” and “permanent” crops that we summed and called the “cultivated area”; cultivated lands include food crops but also some non-edible productions such as fibres, rubber, tobacco or fodders; (ii) hectares of “permanent meadows and pastures” that we named the “pasture area”

141 Sub-Saharan Africa (SSA), Former Soviet Union (FSU), Asia without China (ASIA-Ch) and  
142 China (Figure 1).

143

144 (b) Conversion into calories and proteins – All CB headings (“production”, “imports”,  
145 “exports”, “stock changes”, “food” uses, “feed” uses, “seed” uses, etc.) and CB lines of  
146 primary products used as food (from cereals grains to marine fishes) or edible in their primary  
147 form (from oilcakes to molasses) (Table 1) were converted from metric tonnes into food  
148 calories and the three macronutrients: carbohydrates, proteins and fats. These conversions  
149 over 109 product lines used the caloric, protein and fat contents of food provided by the FAO  
150 “for international use” (FAO, 2001: Annex 1), sometimes the USDA (2006). Carbohydrate  
151 contents were inferred assuming that they provide 4 kcal per gram (g) as for proteins while it  
152 is 9 for fats. In the case of oilcakes (e.g. soya bean cake) which have no food value for human  
153 beings, we inferred one with the food values of the seed or bean (e.g. soybean) and of the  
154 vegetable oil (8.84 kcal.g<sup>-1</sup> all from fat), and with the world average extraction rate of the oil  
155 (18% for soya bean).

156

157 (c) Aggregations and global equilibriums – Product lines converted into calories (and into  
158 their respective break-down into carbohydrates, proteins and fats) were aggregated into 5  
159 compartments of food biomass: edible products coming from terrestrial plants (*VEGE*), from  
160 terrestrial grazing animals (*RUMI*) or non-grazing animals (*MONO*), from freshwater (*AQUA*) or  
161 sea water (*MARI*) (Table 1). During these aggregations, some headings were removed from  
162 calculations to avoid double or triple counting between “primary” products (e.g. oilseeds) and  
163 “processed” products (e.g. vegetable oils and oilcakes) of the CB, and to verify *in fine* the  
164 following equality for each country (*i*), year (*t*), biomass compartment (*b*) and metric (*m*: total  
165 calorie, carbohydrate, protein and fat):

166

$$\begin{aligned} & PROD_{i,t,b,m} + IMPO_{i,t,b,m} - EXPO_{i,n,b,m} + STOC_{i,t,b,m} = \\ & FOOD_{i,t,b,m} + FEED_{i,t,b,m} + SEED_{i,t,b,m} + OTHE_{i,t,b,m} + WAST_{i,t,b,m} \end{aligned} \quad (2)$$

167

168 In above equation, utilizations in the form of food (*FOOD*), feed (*FEED*), seed<sup>4</sup> (*SEED*), waste  
169 (*WAST*) and other (*OTHE*) equals the supplies calculated as the domestic productions (*PROD*)  
170 increased or reduced by imports (*IMPO*), exports (*EXPO*) and stock variations (*STOC*).

171

172 These supplies-and-uses balances were achieved with our different metrics but not perfectly  
173 for plant foods (“leakages” below 2% except for the USA after 1980) for reasons detailed in  
174 Appendix B. They strongly legitimate our *PPF* estimates (the *FEED* heading of our *VEGE*  
175 compartment) and *AFP* estimates (the *PROD* heading of the *RUMI* and *MONO* compartments)  
176 since they proved to be coherent with millions of other national and international statistics,  
177 over 47 years.

178

179

### 180 **3. Declining productivities of plant feed**

181

182 Between 1961 and 2007, the human population has slightly more than doubled (+116%) but  
183 the gross world<sup>5</sup> production of food calories<sup>6</sup> increased by 183%<sup>7</sup> according our estimates. It  
184 reached the equivalent of 37,400 Gkcal.day<sup>-1</sup> in 2007 with 62% of that energy provided by  
185 carbohydrates (2,155 Tg for the whole year), 24% by fats (368 Tg) and 14% by proteins (471  
186 Tg).

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<sup>4</sup> Or any other form used for reproductive purposes, such as eggs for hatching and fish for bait, whether domestically produced or imported.

<sup>5</sup> In this paper, “World” must be understood as the total of our Agribiom countries (Figure 1).

<sup>6</sup> Plant, animal and aquatic products combined, some serving in the production of others (e.g. animal feed).

<sup>7</sup> by 163% for carbohydrates, 198% for proteins and 243% for lipids

187

188 89% of the gross caloric production was of plant origin (*VEGE*) and 10% of animal origin  
189 (*RUMI+MONO*). The animal food production (*AFP*) was 3,855 Gkcal.day<sup>-1</sup> in 2007 (73 Tg of  
190 proteins – see Figure 7 for 1961-2007 regional evolutions), with 2,290 from grazing animals  
191 (meat and milk from *RUMI*), 674 from poultry (meat and eggs) and 891 from pig meat  
192 (respectively, 40, 21 and 11 Tg of proteins).

193

194 The livestock was fed with food and non-food biomasses. In 2007, the plant food products  
195 used as feed (*PFP*) represented almost 33% of the total plant food production, i.e. 10,810  
196 Gkcal.day<sup>-1</sup> (192 Tg of plant proteins or 50% of the total production of plant proteins). At  
197 least one third of the cultivated area was therefore used to feed the livestock with plant foods,  
198 i.e. 489 million hectares out of 1,509.

199

200 Over 1961-2007, this “feed” acreage increased by 11% while the “pasture” land (including  
201 shrubs and savannahs) increased by 9% (3,268 Mha in 2007). All in all, total agricultural land  
202 for livestock (food crops and pastures) increased by 318 Mha (86% of the total increase in  
203 agricultural land over 1961-2007) and reached 3,758 Mha in 2007 (79% of the world  
204 agricultural area). It is a large figure but 87% are pasturelands that are not the best lands to  
205 crop while they are important reservoirs of carbon and biodiversity, even if less than forests.

206

207 Above figures show that 1 kcal of plant food (*PFP*) produced an average of 0.36 kcal of  
208 animal foodstuffs (*AFP*) in 2007. This (partial) productivity of the feed ranged between 0.50  
209 in ASIA-Ch (the most efficient) and 0.22 in MENA (the less efficient). It varies from one  
210 region to another but also over years, as shown in Figure 3. When productivities are  
211 calculated with proteins, evolutions are more pronounced and the regional ranking changes as

212 shown in Figure 4. Sub-Saharan Africa and Latin America become the most efficient while  
213 MENA remains the less. In what follows, we use the protein metric because it proved to yield  
214 more robust results in the models. Provision of proteins is also a key vocation of animal  
215 foodstuffs.

216

217 Figure 5 shows how average productivities decline when regional productions of animal  
218 proteins raise, except in China where it increased until 1999 (11 Tg). Several studies report  
219 substantial discrepancies in Chinese statistics (Keyzer et al., 2005; Rae et al., 2006) that may  
220 provide a first explanation. But China is also the region where the share of monogastric  
221 products (*MONO*) into total livestock production is by far the highest, and this share plays a  
222 role in feed productivities.

223

224 The share usually increases when the production of animal products increases, and Figure 6  
225 shows how the feed productivity usually declines at the same time. The general story behind  
226 these evolutions is quite simple.

227

228 When land is rather abundant and the demand for animal products low due to low incomes,  
229 breeders are encouraged to raise grazing animals (mainly ruminants) to feed them as much as  
230 possible with “free” non-food biomass (pasture, shrubs, crop residues, etc.) to keep harvesting  
231 crops for human beings. They produce *AFP* with small quantities of *PFP* and the productivity  
232 of the latter (*AFP/PFP*) is all the greater than grazing animals provide in such low-income  
233 economies other important goods or services than food for rural communities (energy for  
234 traction, manure, wool, etc., not captured with *AFP*).

235

236 When population increases (lower abundance of land) and the demand for *AFP* increases,  
237 breeders are encouraged (i) either to increase the pasturelands as in Latin America, but it can  
238 be almost impossible as in Asia, (ii) or to crop (or import) *PFP* (of better nutritional values)  
239 and raise monogastric animals (pork and poultry) which are more efficient in converting *PFP*  
240 into *AFP*. As long as production costs of the latter are below *AFP* prices, hog and poultry  
241 farmers then grow along with *PFP*-“intensive” production systems for milk and beef. They all  
242 use larger quantities of *PFP* per unit of *AFP* compared to the “extensive” system described  
243 above. The overall *AFP* increases much but the *PFP* productivity tends to decline.

244

245 The story must of course be adjusted with local food preferences. In China for example, there  
246 is an ancestral preference for pork. The Chinese *PFP* productivity is therefore low compared  
247 to extensive-dominant systems, but is however higher than ever-increasing intensive-  
248 dominant systems elsewhere in the world. It may be due to constant efforts to improve it in a  
249 land-scarce environment, as in India but for milk production.

250

251 As shown elsewhere (Le Cotty and Dorin, 2012), we can model livestock production with a  
252 system of two-output (*AFP* from *RUMI* and from *MONO*) two-input (*PFP* and pasture  
253 acreages) cross-country production functions that can be then parameterized with our  
254 historical estimates and used to explore future global requirements of feed.

255

256 If we use a simpler model of livestock production (Equation 2) inverting the linear equation  
257 of Keyzer et al. (1), we get:

$$AFP = \alpha PFP + \beta \quad (2)$$

258 where  $\alpha$  can be interpreted as the marginal productivity of *PFP* and  $\beta$  the quantity of *AFP*  
259 obtained without any *PFP*. The marginal productivity of *PFP* is fixed but not the average  
260 productivity which declines when *PFP* increases since:

$$AFP/PFP = \alpha + \beta/PFP \quad (3)$$

261  
262 With historical estimates of *PFP* in proteins, such a model proved to simulate robustly  
263 regional livestock productions of food proteins over the past half-century (Figure 7). It  
264 endogenizes declining feed productivities and concomitant increasing shares of monogastric  
265 productions. Table 2 gives the regional  $\alpha$  and  $\beta$  estimates. The highest marginal productivities  
266 of *PFP* are in China (0.52) and Latin America (0.46) and the lowest in industrialized  
267 countries and MENA ( $\approx 0.25$ ).

268  
269 The model can be used to explore future requirements of feed. Then we return to the original  
270 equation of Keyzer et al. (1) but with our inputs:

$$PFP = \frac{1}{\alpha} AFP - \frac{\beta}{\alpha} \quad (4)$$

271 In above equation,  $1/\alpha$  is not the *PFP/AFP* ratio (or “cereal/meat ratio”) as it could be  
272 understood from Keyzer et al., and  $\beta/\alpha$  is not the quantity of “free” non-food biomass (herbs,  
273 crop residues, etc.).

274  
275 The contribution of the “free” inputs to *AFP* can be assessed with equation 2 and our  
276 estimates. They contributed up to two-third of the animal production in sub-Saharan Africa in  
277 the early 1960s but it fell to 24% in 2007. It was still 40% in former Soviet Union and 24% in  
278 OECD in 2007 but no more than 12% in MENA and Latin America, and below 5% in Asia.  
279 With a higher demand for animal food products in the future, these shares should continue to  
280 decrease.

281

#### 282 **4. Scenarios of plant food requirement for 2050**

283

284 Over 1961-2007, the world human population increased by 116% but the gross world  
285 production of food calories raised by 183% which enhances the average food availability per  
286 capita by 25%, including a 36% increase in animal calories. These growth rates are a bit lower  
287 than those calculated with official FAO's data<sup>8</sup> while our figures in calories are slightly  
288 higher: 2394 kcal.day<sup>-1</sup> in 1961 (against 2200 for FAO) and 3000 in 2007 (against 2796), with  
289 369 and 503 respectively from (terrestrial) animal (against 338 and 481).

290

291 World averages mask large differences between regions. Table 4 ("REF" lines) shows how  
292 these differences are mainly explained by foods of animal origin whose per capita availability  
293 in 2007 reached almost 1190 kcal.day<sup>-1</sup> in OECD whereas it was below 150 in SSA.

294

295 By 2050, the world population will increase and the diets may move towards too opposite  
296 extremes: "westernization" (the historical trend) and "veganism". Full westernization and full  
297 veganism are both implausible economically but they bound the plausible futures. We use  
298 them to bound plant foods requirements in 2050 and the requirements of three intermediary  
299 scenarios. The five scenarios rely on various assumptions.

300

301 Regarding future human populations, we use the "medium fertility" projections of the United  
302 Nation (2012): 8,915 million capita (Mcap) in 2050 with countries shown on Figure 1 (9,405  
303 in 2100) while it could range between 7,765 (low fertility) and 10,425 (constant fertility).

---

<sup>8</sup> "World+" average as on April 2012

304 World and regional projections (Table 3) are the same in all scenarios to facilitate their  
305 comparison.

306

307 Regarding diets, we test the five following scenarios:

308 - “diets of 2007” (REF) with 2050 populations,

309 - “full veganism” (VEG) with no consumption of animal foodstuffs everywhere in the world,

310 - “Agrimonde 1” (AG1), the “normative scenario” of our Agrimonde foresight (Paillard et al.,  
311 2011),

312 - “Agrimonde GO” (AGO), the “trend scenario” of the same collective foresight, based on the  
313 “Global Orchestration” scenario of the MEA (2005),

314 - “full westernization” (WST) with a typical western diet extended to the whole world.

315 Table 4 shows, for each scenario, assumptions regarding total regional availabilities per capita  
316 and the breakdowns into calories from plant, animal and aquatic origins.

317

318 Food of animal origin (*AFP*) is assumed to be produced with plant food only (*PPF*) after the  
319 reference year 2007 (and food of aquatic origin with aquatic resources only). Trade between  
320 regions is maintained at the level of 2007 after having adjusted it in such a way that all  
321 regional stock variations and statistical discrepancies are equal to zero (as in the scenarios).

322 Supplies-and-uses balance of the reference year 2007 was recalculated so that other uses (such  
323 as biofuels) than seed, food, feed and wastes are equal to zero (as in the scenarios).

324 Requirements in “seed” are assumed to represent 2.6% of regional food productions for plants  
325 and 0.4% for animals, the 2007 world averages. Similarly, post-harvest wastes are assumed to  
326 represent everywhere 3.8% of regional consumptions for plants and 1.2% for animals.

327

328 Regarding the requirements of plant feed (*PFP*) for producing animal foodstuffs (*AFP*), we  
329 test two modelling forms. The first is the linear form presented in the previous section and its  
330 regional parameters based on historical evolutions over 47 years (Table 2). In this first  
331 technical scenario (TS1) where past regional production functions are assumed to be the same  
332 in the future, simulations are done in proteins and upstream/downstream conversions into  
333 calories use the regional rates observed in 2007 (Figure 8, Figure 9)<sup>9</sup>.

334

335 The second modelling form is a Cobb-Douglas form whose parameters are estimated only  
336 with OECD's historical data (in Gg.year<sup>-1</sup> of proteins), giving ( $R^2 = 0.99$ ):

$$AFP = 2.1421 \cdot PFP^{0.7196} \quad (5)$$

337 In technical scenario 2 (TS2), the above model is applied to all regions and the contribution of  
338 proteins to energy in *PFP* and *AFP* is assumed to be 20% everywhere (more or less the world  
339 average in 2007).

340

341 Figure 10 shows how the TS2 model fits rather well past evolution of Latin America and the  
342 one of China after 1995 but overestimates all other regional past productions of *AFP*. In the  
343 future however, the figure also shows how it will revise upward TS1 regional projections of  
344 feed requirement. In TS1, average productivities of *PFP* decline but not marginal  
345 productivities which may be lower in the future with higher production of *AFP*. In TS2, the  
346 marginal productivity of *PFP* declines when the production of *AFP* increases and all regions  
347 are assumed to produce *AFP* as in OECD. TS2 is therefore more pessimistic than TS1  
348 regarding *PFP* requirement but is far to be the worst scenario: projections of *PFP*  
349 requirements would be higher if parameters of above equation were estimated with LAM,  
350 FSU, SSA or (worst) MENA historical data.

---

<sup>9</sup> Our working unit, the protein, actually led to endogenize the important change in feeding practices that occurred during the second half of the 20th century when oilcakes (in particular soya bean cake) increasingly became a protein complement.

351

352 The results of the scenarios are detailed in Table 5 and summarized in three figures (Figure  
353 11, Figure 12, Figure 13). They show that *FFP* requirements in 2050 depend largely on future  
354 diets. Compared to 2007, the world consumption (or production) of plant food should increase  
355 by 4% with “full veganism” (VEG) up to 110% (TS1) or 131% (TS2) with “full  
356 westernization” (WST) whereas the world human population increases by 36%.

357

358 In all scenarios (except AGO-TS2), Sub-Saharan Africa is the region where the consumption  
359 of plant food should increase the most (up to 524% with WST-TS1<sup>10</sup>) due to a 126% increase  
360 in population. It is followed by Asia (excluding China) with a 40% increase in population.  
361 These two regions should represent between 40% (REF) to 59% (WST-TS2) of plant food  
362 consumption in 2050 while it was 32% in 2007. Conversely, the share of China should  
363 decrease from 19% in 2007 to 12-16% due to a slight decrease in population, and that of  
364 OECD from 26% in 2007 to 13% (VEG) or 24% (REF) depending on diet scenarios in 2050.

365

366 If OECD diets are lighter in meat and milk products than today, the region may strengthen in  
367 2050 its net exports of food to the rest of the world, especially to Africa and Asia where food  
368 consumption should increase the most. Africa, the Middle East and Asia are already net  
369 importers of plant food in 2007 (Dorin, 2011). If they boost their exports of other goods and  
370 services, they should become much larger importers of food in 2050 unless a very large  
371 increase in their agricultural lands and/or yields is sufficient to meet the coming deficits. It  
372 may be partly possible in Africa but very hard in Asia where the land expansion is almost  
373 impossible and the yields already very high (Dorin, 2011).

374

---

<sup>10</sup> TS1 and not TS2 because assumptions on protein contents in *FFP* and *AFP* play also a role, especially with SSA where they are the most different between the two scenarios: 28.3% and 14.7% respectively in TS1, 20% and 20% in TS2.

375 The former Soviet Union may also increase its net exports of food in 2050 since it has an  
376 untapped reservoir of agricultural growth while its future food needs decrease in almost all  
377 scenarios. It is difficult to draw such a conclusion for Latin America. It has become an  
378 important and growing net food exporter since the mid-1990s but in 2050, it may also have to  
379 increase its production above 55% to meet the domestic demand in AGO or WST scenarios.

380

381 The results also show that TS1 and TS2 simulations doesn't yield important differences at the  
382 global and regional levels (Africa excepted) up to AG1 scenarios, i.e. when the livestock  
383 production in 2050 doesn't have to increase (or very slightly) compared to 2007. Conversely,  
384 in AGO and WST scenarios, the global livestock production of food has to more than double  
385 and our TS1 and TS2 models yield very different results at the regional levels (except for  
386 Latin America and OECD) for reasons discussed previously. Models of livestock production  
387 are obviously central in any international long term projection of food requirement and should  
388 be clearly presented with their assumptions before showing any results.

389

390 Regional differences between REF and AG1 scenarios go however beyond livestock  
391 modelling issues. In both scenarios, global plant food production in 2050 should increase by  
392 about 30% compared to 2007. In the REF scenario, current regional large differences in  
393 consumption of livestock products are maintained whereas there are levelled in AG1. The  
394 latter scenario may look completely unrealistic. Its benefits on human health would yet be  
395 very important in developing as well as in developed countries. Imagining such a hypothetical  
396 scenario could also lead to imagine other ways to intensify crop and livestock productions in  
397 the future in order to mitigate their ecological footprints. Our Agrimonde foresight (Paillard et  
398 al., 2011) investigates further this scenario, including its limitations and the pending  
399 questions.

400

401 **5. Conclusion**

402

403 Production and consumption of animal foodstuffs have emerged as a central subject of  
404 sustainable development. This study focused on the relationship between feed and livestock  
405 food production at national and global scales for two reasons: (i) modelling this relationship is  
406 of great importance for assessing many direct and indirect impacts of changing diets and  
407 livestock production, (ii) current international long-term projections face difficulties to  
408 represent this relationship at aggregated geographical scales due to numerous outputs (milk,  
409 beef, pork, sheep, goat, poultry, eggs, etc.), farming systems and feeding practices, which  
410 range from pastoralism or scavenging to highly specialized industrial farms.

411

412 To precise the relationship with historical evidences, we estimated over 47 years (1961-2007)  
413 with millions of FAO data how many calories and proteins of plant food products (*PFP*) were  
414 used by countries for their animal food production (*AFP*). The empirical findings served to  
415 document and discuss the declining average productivities of *PFP* in *AFP* over the years, and  
416 to parameterize a simple model of livestock production that well simulate past regional  
417 evolutions.

418

419 The results were also used to explore the need for food crops in 2050 according to five  
420 hypothetical scenarios of human diets ranging from “full veganism” to “full westernization”.  
421 Simulations showed that plant food production should increase from 4 to 131% compared to  
422 2007 while the population should increase by 36%. They highlight how diets play a key role  
423 in sustainable development. They also show that model of livestock production are central in  
424 any international long term projection of food requirement; before showing their results, they

425 should be clearly presented with their data and assumptions especially regarding marginal  
426 productivities of *PFP* in *AFP* (levels and trends, declining or not).

427

428 Our work can help to explore and debate direct and indirect future consequences of current  
429 trends in livestock sector and possible alternative developments. It also calls for  
430 improvements. It relies on solid worldwide historical estimates of *AFP* and *PFP* in calories  
431 and proteins but many other information are missing for modelling and thinking future  
432 regional economies of livestock production.

433

434 National and international statistical systems should pay a much greater attention not only to  
435 the non-food biomass used (or that can be used) for feeding animals, from permanent pastures  
436 and annual fodder to crop or food residues<sup>11</sup>, but also to other important factors such as  
437 human labour and savoir-faire, capital and energy used for boosting the production and its  
438 quality, ecological performances of specialized and mixed farming systems, other services  
439 than food provision (draft, manure, saving, wool, leather or else), without forgetting local  
440 cultural preferences and religious taboos.

441

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<sup>11</sup> to strengthen and extend the work of Séré and Steinfeld (1996), Devendra and Sevilla (2002), Wirsenius (2003), Bouwman et al. (2005), Smeets et al. (2007) or Krausmann et al. (2008)

442

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444

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452

453

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540 regional levels. *Agricultural Systems*, 219–255.

541

542

543 **Appendix A** – Modelling of animal production in the IMAGE model

544

545 L. Bouwman and colleagues (Bouwman et al., 2005; Bouwman et al., 2006) provide a model  
546 of livestock production which relies on expertises and data provided by Séré and Steinfeld  
547 (1996) for the period 1991-93 (sometimes 1981-83) at the level of 7 geo-economical regions  
548 (Sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, etc.) which Kruska et al. (2003) developed and mapped for the  
549 developing world. Bouwman *et al.* divide breeding activities into two aggregated production  
550 systems: “Pastoral systems” depending almost exclusively on grazing, and “mixed and  
551 landless systems” relying on a mix of concentrates (food crops) and roughage (grass, fodder  
552 crops, crop residues...). These two systems comprise groups of animals (“beef cattle”  
553 including meat from buffaloes, “dairy cattle”, “sheep and goats”, “Poultry” meat and eggs)  
554 which population are estimated for each system in each regions (24 regions in IMAGE 2.4)  
555 along with their typical production characteristics (milk production per animal, off-take rates  
556 for slaughter, carcass weights) in order to compute regional productions of milk and meat.  
557 Animal populations and typical production characteristics are also used by Bouwman *et al.* to  
558 estimate the volume of feedstuffs required for each regional production of milk and meat. To  
559 this end, they start calculating net energy animal requirements ( $\text{MJ head}^{-1} \text{ day}^{-1}$ ) for daily  
560 maintenance, grazing and labour, pregnancy and lactation. This calculation calls for additional  
561 assumptions, such as on maintenance energy per unit of body weight, time spent in pastures,  
562 milk fat content, weight of the calf at birth, fraction of animals that give birth, gestation  
563 period, etc. In a final step, in order to estimate volumes of various feedstuffs consumed to  
564 meet these energy requirements, sources of feed are divided into five categories: (i) grass  
565 including hay and silage grass, (ii) food crops and by-products (such as cakes), (iii) crop  
566 residues and fodder crops, (iv) animal products, (v) scavenging, including road-side grazing,

567 household wastes, feedstuffs from backyard farming. It is then assumed that these feedstuffs  
568 have specific characteristics (dry matter and energy content, fraction digestible energy of total  
569 energy) and that they are consumed at fixed and specific proportions by each animal category  
570 and production system in each region. Since this proportion is itself dependent on the density  
571 of ruminants per hectare of grassland, additional assumptions are made on the number of  
572 animals and the area of grassland in each system, as well as on the productivity of the  
573 grasslands.

574

575

576 **Appendix B** – Supplies-and-uses balances

577

578 Supplies-and-uses balances in total calories, carbohydrates, proteins and fats are far from  
579 evident for several reasons, especially the following ones.

580 (i) Commodity Balances (CB) in tonnes (about 8.5 million values over 1961-2007) do not  
581 systematically verify line-by-line the equality between supplies and utilizations<sup>12</sup>.

582 (ii) Similarly, for some commodities and years, the sum of all exports at the global level does  
583 not systematically equal the sum of all imports, the former usually exceeding the latter. These  
584 differences can be explained by the removal from our dataset of some countries which are  
585 most probably net food importers. But this possible explanation is obviously not the only one.

586 (iii) For some product-lines (e.g. sugar crops or oilseeds), the CB include the heading  
587 “Processing” into other CB product-lines which, according to the FAO, “could not be  
588 converted back to their originating primary commodities or which are part of separate food  
589 groups” (sugars, fats, oils and oilcakes, alcoholic beverages, etc.). These “processed”  
590 quantities had to be removed from our accounts along with the production of the “processed”

---

<sup>12</sup> As pointed out by the FAO, “there are many gaps particularly in the statistics of utilization for non-food purposes, such as feed, seed and manufacture, as well as in those of farm, commercial and even government stocks”.

591 products<sup>13</sup> whereas we did not know precisely which, or even how, “primary” products were  
592 converted into “processed” ones<sup>14</sup> and therefore if the CB system includes important biomass  
593 “leakages” or not.

594 These problems led us to remove sugar cane and sugar beet lines from our dataset<sup>15</sup> and to  
595 consider sugars and molasses as “primary” products. The final picture obtained for plant  
596 food<sup>16</sup> can be shown at the level of our seven world regions (Figure 2). We see minor and  
597 rather constant biomass “leakages” between supplies and uses, except for the USA (in OECD)  
598 after 1980 (leakage above 2%).

---

<sup>13</sup> Indeed, at a national level, these “processed” products are produced with previously accounted quantities of “primary” products, whether through their domestic productions and/or their imports.

<sup>14</sup> All the more so as we have quite complex cases such as alcoholic beverages, manufactured with “primary” items such as “grapes”, as well as “processed” items such as “sugar” made from sugar cane and/or sugar beet.

<sup>15</sup> While sugarcane, for instance, can be used for feeding livestock in a country such as China.

<sup>16</sup> Supplies and utilizations are almost balanced for our other biomass compartments.

## Tables

Table 1. Scope and compartmentalisation of edible biomasses

Group	Compartments	Products lines of FAO's Commodity Balances
Plant products	VEGE	Wheat, rice & other grains of cereals; Bran; Maize & rice bran oils
		Beans, peas & other pulses
		Cassava, potatoes & other roots or tubers
		Tomatoes, onions & other vegetables; Apple, oranges & other fruit
		Soya bean, cottonseeds, olives & other oilseeds or tree nuts with their by-products (oils, cakes)
		Sugars & molasses; Wine, beer & other; Cocoa, coffee & tea; Pepper, cloves & other spices
Animal products (terrestrial)	RUMI (grazing)	Bovine meat, mutton, goat meat & other meat; Edible offal; Meat meal
		Milk (excl butter), butter, ghee, cream
		Raw animal fat
	MONO	Eggs, pig meat, poultry meat
Aquatic products	AQUA	Freshwater fish
	MARI	Demersal fish, pelagic fish & other marine fish with their by products (oils, meals) Crustaceans, cephalopods & other molluscs, aquatic meat & plants

Table 2. Parameter estimation for regional linear models of livestock production with input (PPF) and output (AFP) in Tg.year<sup>-1</sup> of proteins

Region	$\alpha$	$\beta$	R <sup>2</sup>	P value (Pr > F)
OECD	0.241786	6,689,256	0.985	< 0.0001
FSU	0.254921	1,781,576	0.941	< 0.0001
MENA	0.260066	383,616	0.995	< 0.0001
ASIA-Ch	0.402486	521,709	0.996	< 0.0001
SSA	0.411549	695,519	0.972	< 0.0001
LAM	0.459574	1,231,804	0.988	< 0.0001
China	0.524383	-2,177,900	0.966	< 0.0001

Table 3. Human populations (2007, 2050) in 1000 capita

	World	ASIA-ch	China	FSU	LAM	MENA	OECD	SSA
2007	6,566,750	2,181,711	1,336,551	277,041	561,328	398,525	1,022,640	788,954
2050	8,914,966	3,060,948	1,325,889	272,419	742,192	591,027	1,137,700	1,784,791
2007-50	+36%	+40%	-1%	-2%	+32%	+48%	+11%	+126%

Table 4. Food availabilities (2007, 2050) in kcal.day<sup>-1</sup>.capita<sup>-1</sup>

		World	ASIA-ch	China	FSU	LAM	MENA	OECD	SSA
REF (2007)	Total	3,000	2,512	3,096	3,517	3,170	3,402	3,949	2,452
	- vegetal	2,468	2,263	2,473	2,758	2,514	3,009	2,720	2,290
	- animal	503	226	574	733	640	375	1,186	147
VEG	Total	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
	- vegetal	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
	- animal	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
AG1	Total	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000	3,000
	- vegetal	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500	2,500
	- animal	450	450	450	450	450	450	450	450
AGO	Total	3,586	3,703	3,703	3,457	3,698	3,457	4,099	2,987
	- vegetal	2,691	2,766	2,766	2,091	2,758	2,987	2,385	2,667
	- animal	836	871	871	1,296	892	442	1,628	283
WST	Total	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800	3,800
	- vegetal	2,650	2,650	2,650	2,650	2,650	2,650	2,650	2,650
	- animal	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100	1,100

Table 5. Consumption of plant and animal calories (2007, 2050)  
in Gkcal.day<sup>-1</sup>, seed and waste included

		World	ASIA-ch	China	FSU	LAM	MENA	OECD	SSA
REF	Animal	3,537	548	781	233	385	165	1,304	120
2007	- food	3,301	492	768	203	359	149	1,213	116
	Vegetal	27,413	6,407	5,295	1,564	2,591	1,970	7,220	2,365
	- food	16,206	4,937	3,306	764	1,411	1,199	2,781	1,807
	- feed	9,426	1,047	1,695	583	974	616	4,170	344
VEG	Animal	186	40	2	30	16	11	83	3
2050	- food	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	Vegetal	28,574	9,824	4,232	876	2,410	1,870	3,651	5,710
	- food	26,745	9,183	3,978	817	2,227	1,773	3,413	5,354
	- feed	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
	- 2007-50	+4%	+53%	-20%	-44%	-7%	-5%	-49%	+141%
REF	Animal	4,205	742	778	232	498	236	1,452	269
2050	- food	3,960	691	762	200	475	222	1,349	263
	Vegetal	35,879	8,972	5,291	1,423	3,406	2,922	8,401	5,465
	- food	21,785	6,927	3,279	751	1,866	1,779	3,094	4,088
	- feed	11,798	1,458	1,689	577	1,293	979	4,765	1,037
TS1	- 2007-50	+31%	+40%	0%	-9%	+31%	+48%	+16%	+131%
TS2	- feed	10,748	1,712	1,827	304	1,056	309	5,145	396
	- 2007-50	+27%	+44%	+3%	-28%	+22%	+12%	+22%	+102%
AG1	Animal	4,258	1,440	610	154	355	281	601	818
2050	- food	4,012	1,377	597	123	334	266	512	803
	Vegetal	36,128	11,333	4,980	925	2,960	2,846	4,479	8,604
	- food	22,287	7,652	3,315	681	1,855	1,478	2,844	4,462
	- feed	11,528	2,944	1,363	182	886	1,209	1,344	3,602
TS1	- 2007-50	+32%	+77%	-6%	-41%	+14%	+44%	-38%	+264%
TS2	- feed	10,674	4,416	1,284	156	664	406	1,749	2,000
	- 2007-50	+28%	+101%	-8%	-43%	+5%	+1%	-32%	+191%
AGO	Animal	7,757	2,749	1,178	388	688	276	1,963	515
2050	- food	7,455	2,666	1,155	353	662	261	1,852	505
	Vegetal	48,689	15,181	6,534	2,067	4,179	3,127	10,188	7,412
	- food	23,989	8,467	3,667	570	2,047	1,765	2,713	4,760
	- feed	21,583	5,731	2,465	1,362	1,836	1,185	6,819	2,188
TS1	- 2007-50	+78%	+137%	+23%	+32%	+61%	+59%	+41%	+213%
TS2	- feed	25,643	10,993	3,311	666	1,648	395	7,601	1,031
	- 2007-50	+93%	+225%	+40%	-15%	+54%	+16%	+53%	+161%
WST	Animal	10,147	3,462	1,486	334	845	671	1,352	1,997
2050	- food	9,806	3,367	1,458	300	816	650	1,251	1,963
	Vegetal	57,669	16,421	7,010	1,938	4,572	5,069	7,889	14,770
	- food	23,625	8,112	3,514	722	1,967	1,566	3,015	4,730
	- feed	30,354	7,247	3,064	1,089	2,283	3,201	4,365	9,105
TS1	- 2007-50	+110%	+156%	+32%	+24%	+76%	+157%	+9%	+524%
TS2	- feed	35,746	15,185	4,610	531	2,187	1,483	4,699	7,053
	- 2007-50	+131%	+289%	+64%	-14%	+72%	+64%	+14%	+432%

## Figures

Figure 1. Map of countries and world regions  
Cartographic source: Articque

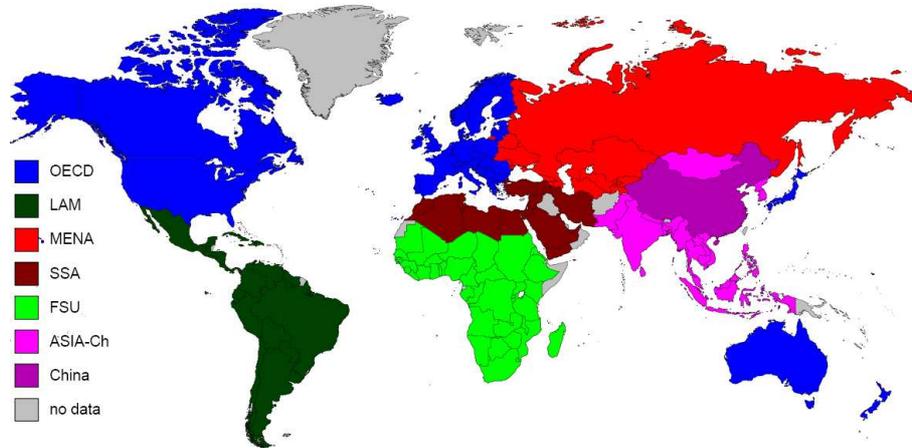


Figure 2. Difference between supplies and utilizations of plant food calories (1961-2007)

(total supplies – total uses) / total supplies

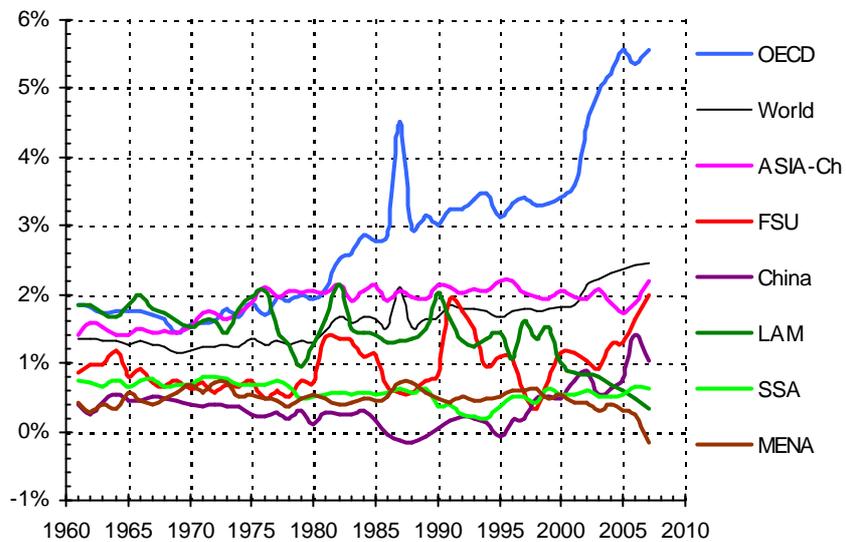


Figure 3. Caloric productivity of *PFP* (1961-2007)

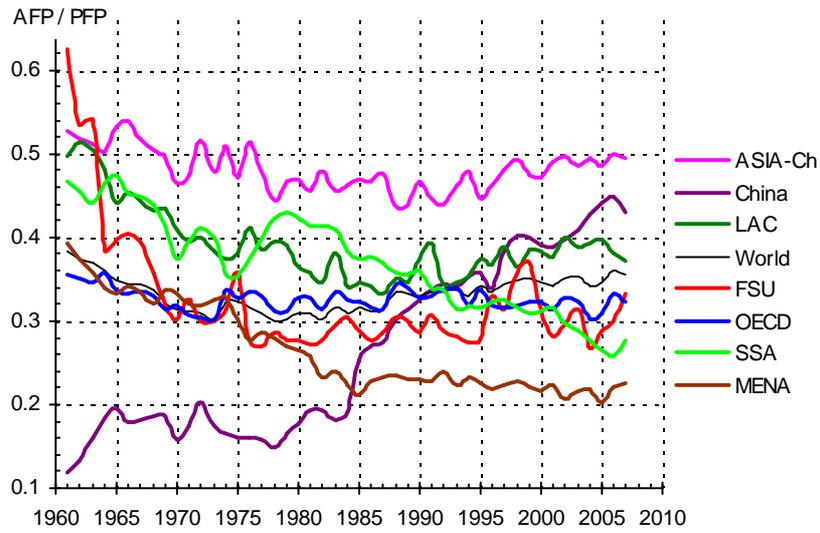


Figure 4. Protein productivity of *PFP* (1961-2007)

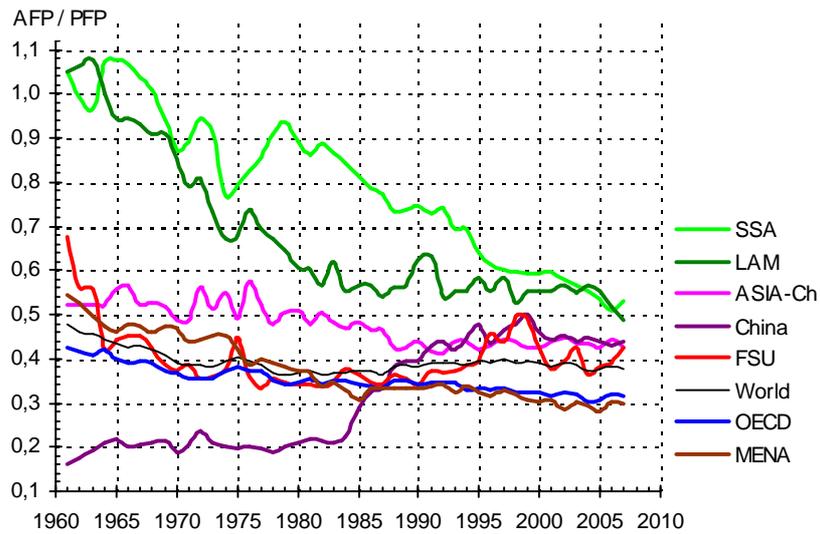


Figure 5. AFP and protein productivity of PFP (1961-2007)

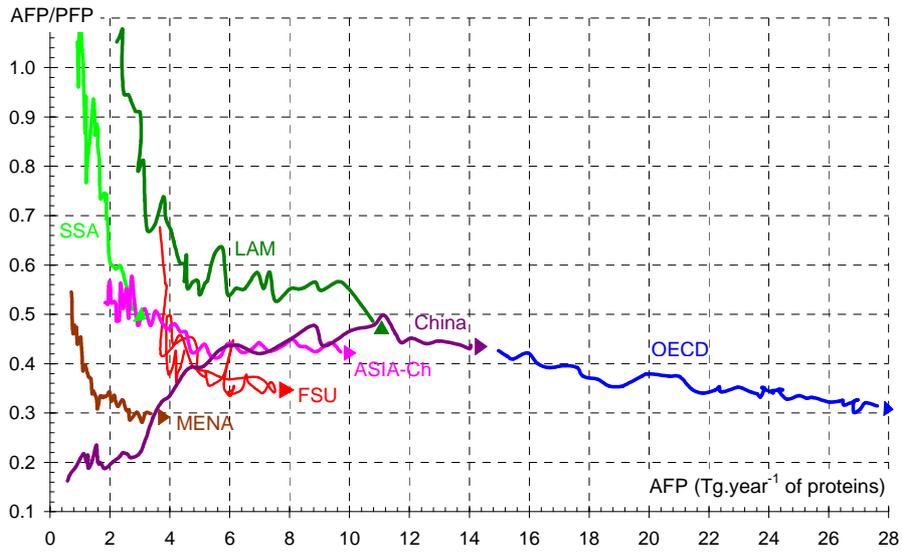


Figure 6. Monogastric share in AFP and protein productivity of PFP (1961-2007)

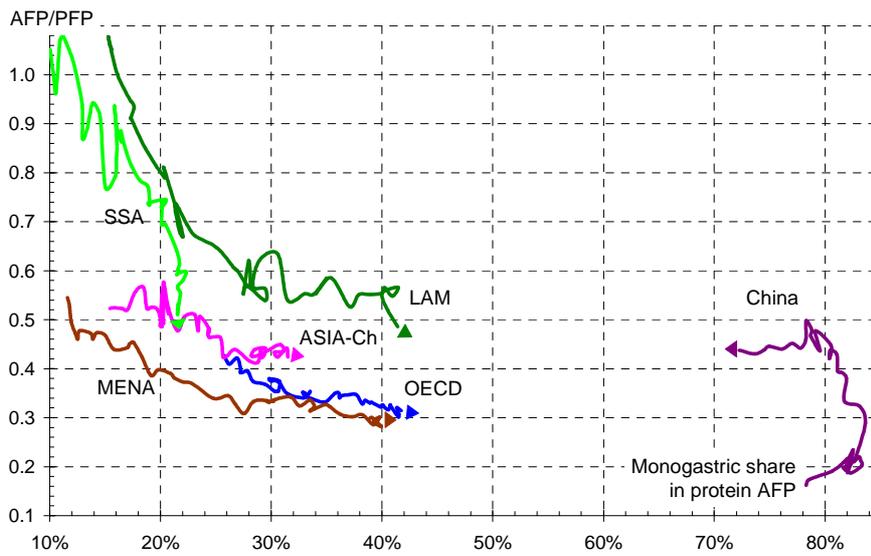
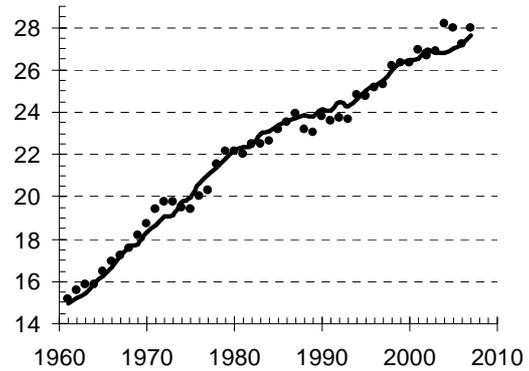


Figure 7. Observed and simulated production of food from livestock (1961-2007)

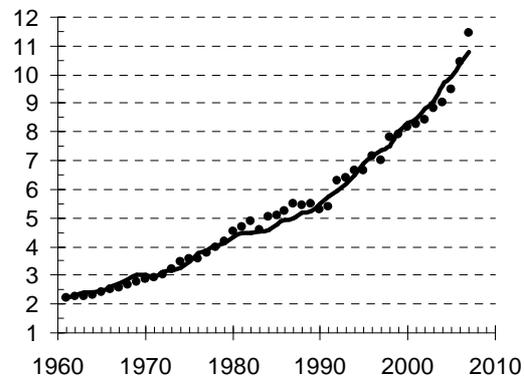
Food production  
from grazing & non-grazing animals  
in Tg.year<sup>-1</sup> of proteins (Mton.year<sup>-1</sup>)

— Observed  
● Simulated

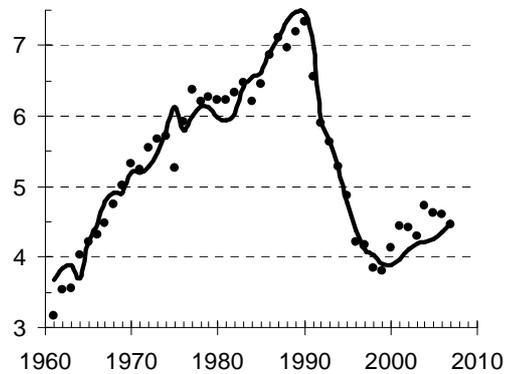
OECD



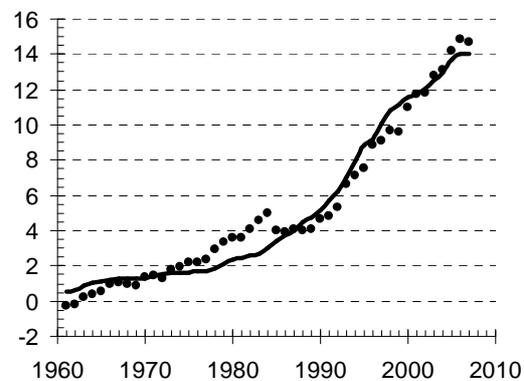
LAM



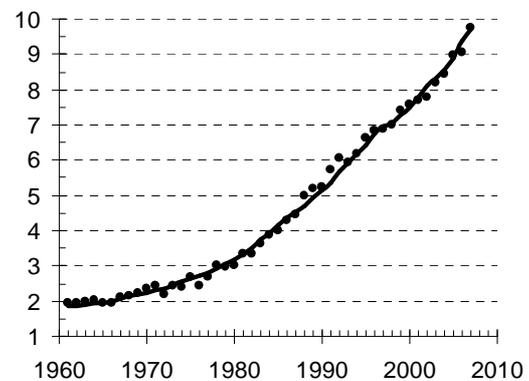
FSU



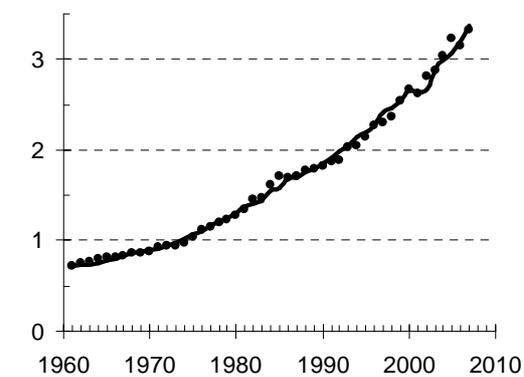
China



ASIA-Ch



MENA



SSA

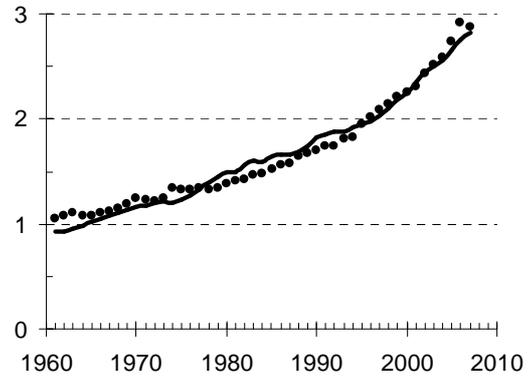


Figure 8. Calories provided by proteins in PFP (1961-2007)

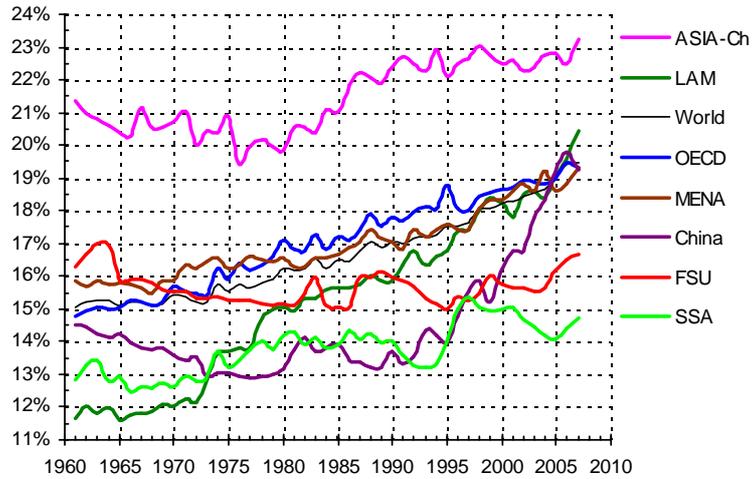


Figure 9. Calories provided by proteins in AFP (1961-2007)

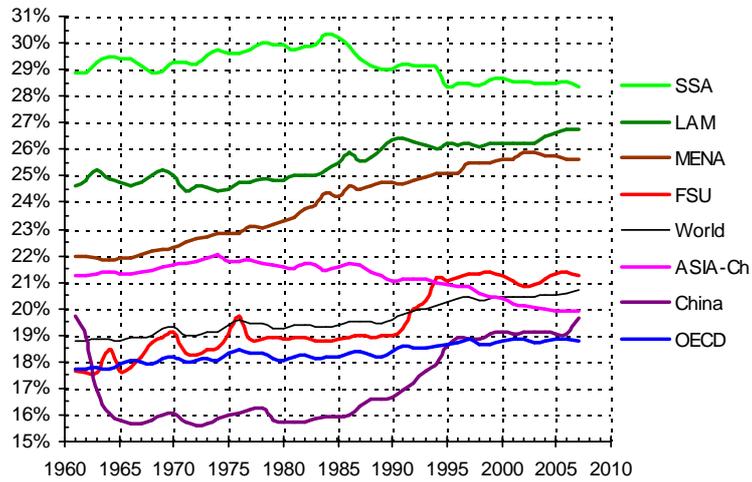


Figure 10. Modelling of Technical Scenarios 1 and 2

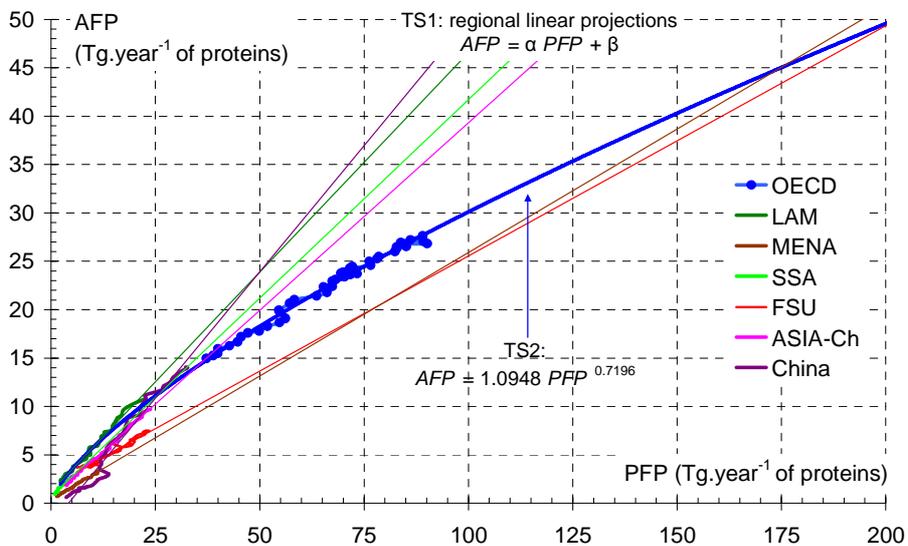


Figure 11. World *PFP* consumptions by usage with TS1 (2050)

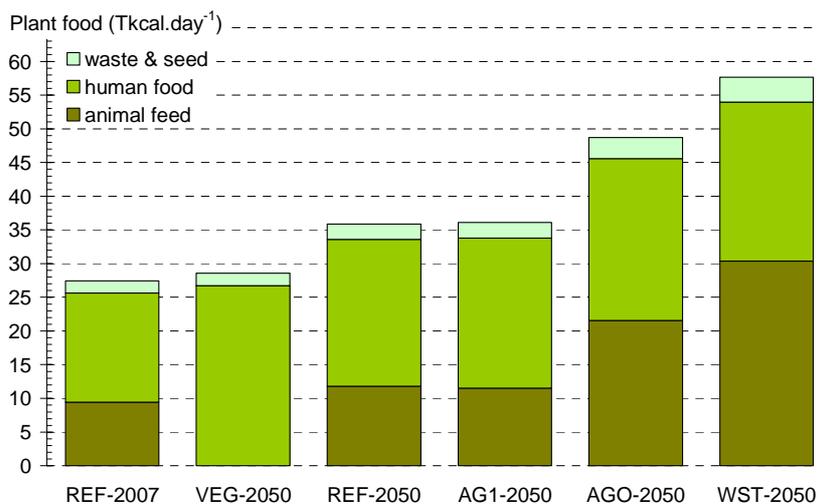


Figure 12. World *PFP* consumptions by region with TS1 (2050)

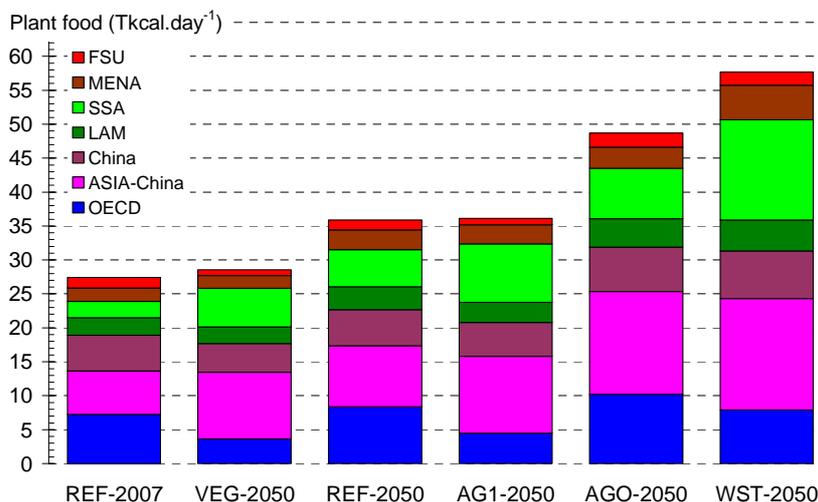


Figure 13. World *PFP* consumptions by region with TS2 (2050)

