Animal Feeds: What we feed livestock matters

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Feed Compass

A collaboration focused on:

Accelerating momentum across the animal feed system to act on sustainability.

forumforthefuture.org/feed-compass
Different opportunities and efficiencies for each species.

Plus regional variations in feed production, livestock systems and supply chains.

**Common non-forage feed ingredients:**

- **Cereals:** corn, wheat, barley, oats, sorghum etc
- **Protein meals:** soybean, rapeseed meal, lupins). Often co-products
- **Plus fats and oils, minerals, feed additives etc.**
What does mainstream industry focus on?

1. **Food/feed safety:**
   - Reputation / animal health

2. **Efficiency:**
   - Getting the most out of every ounce.
   - Precision feed, amino acid supplements.

3. **Price:**
   - Least cost formulation
only
£2.43
Soy: a troublesome, cheap and useful protein source

Major focus area for UK retailers, but traction is limited.

- A highly efficient source of protein
- 75% of global production goes to animal feed
- Europe imports ~95% of its soy (mostly S. America).
- In UK ~26% known as from regions free from deforestation
  (See 3Keel supermarket supply chain research)
- Transparency and certification is low. Globally only ~1-2% is certified.
Novel animal feeds

- Insects
- Algae and seaweed
- Single cell proteins
- Amino acid supplements (less novel)
- Biochar
Meeting future animal feed demands...

~280 million hectares of additional land by 2030

(this is impossible)
Thank you

Samuel Smith
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Towards a Sustainable Animal Feed System

- **REDUCE FEED DEMAND**
  - "Less and better" meat and fish
  - Optimised feeding regimes

- **IMPROVE SUSTAINABILITY OF EXISTING FEEDS**
  - Feed produced within more regenerative farming systems
  - Traceability and transparency across the feed supply chain
  - Not compromising animal welfare and human health

- **FEED INNOVATION + NOVEL FEEDS**
  - Scale-up of novel feeds (if more sustainable)
  - Feed from waste / a ‘circular’ approach
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  - Ask questions to your suppliers

**Explore novel**
Nine Feed Compass Criteria

Qualities of a sustainable animal feed that’s fit for the future.

- Restorative land use and biodiversity practices
- Minimises greenhouse gas emissions
- Takes a ‘circular’ approach
- Minimises pollution
- Minimises fish stock depletion
- Supports human rights and welfare
- Minimises freshwater consumption
- Promotes animal health and nutrition
- Financially viable
Why animal feed matters

- Can often be the **largest cost** in livestock production
- Major bearing on animal **health and welfare**
- Impacts **nutritional quality** of food
- A major **environmental impact**