Steps to Sustainable Livestock and the Global Farm Platform

A public lecture by Prof Mark Eisler
Chair in Global Farm Animal Health at the University of Bristol

In this talk, Mark Eisler will describe his work towards establishing a ‘Global Farm Platform’, an international network of livestock ‘observatories’ that will serve both to investigate and promote best practice for particular ecosystems, societies and production environments.

Humanity is facing unprecedented challenge from the combined global uncertainties of population growth and demographic transition, environmental degradation and climate change. Ruminant livestock are increasingly under the spotlight, with many voices advocating preference for poultry and pork consumption, or calling for an end to meat eating altogether.

Nevertheless, it is unlikely that these changes will take place any time soon, and indeed in many regions of the planet, demand for ruminant livestock products is increasing.

We argue that taking advantage of the evolutionary adaptations of these animals, moderating levels of consumption and reducing wastage, can allow a role for ruminant production in a vision of sustainable global food security.

About Dr Eisler
Mark Eisler BA, Vet MB, MSc, PhD, MRCVS DipEVPC, Chair in Global Farm Animal Health at the University of Bristol, has worked in general veterinary practice, the UK State Veterinary Service, in universities, research institutes and international agencies and has over 20 years experience working in veterinary medicine in the UK and international contexts.

From 1994-2001 he was based at the International Livestock Research Institute in Nairobi conducting collaborative research with universities and research institutes across sub-Saharan Africa.

He now researches at the interface of One Health and Food Security both in the UK and internationally and teaches epidemiology and control of infectious, parasitic and zoonotic disease on the BVSc curriculum, the BSc in Veterinary Nursing and Bioveterinary Science and the MSc in Global Wildlife Health and Conservation.

He leads the Food Security theme within the Cabot Institute for Environmental Uncertainty, is a Board Member of the Food Security and Land Research Alliance and co-leads the Global Farm Platform, an international network created to promote understanding of the role of grazing ruminant livestock production as a key component of global food security in a world challenged by population growth, climate change and ecosystem degradation.

Event Details
Date: Monday, 15 September 2014
Time: 5.00pm – 6.00pm
Venue: MCS Lecture Theatre, G:33
Bayliss Building, UWA
Parking: Fairway Entrance #4
Enquiries: 6488 4717; ioa@uwa.edu.au
Cost: Free, but RSVP essential via
www.ioa.uwa.edu.au/events/register

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Contact Details
The UWA Institute of Agriculture
The University of Western Australia
M082, 35 Stirling Highway
Crawley, WA 6009
Tel: +61 8 6488 3756
Email: ioa@uwa.edu.au
ioa.uwa.edu.au