

Emerging Technologies to Support Livestock

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Animal Task Force

(Wageningen University)

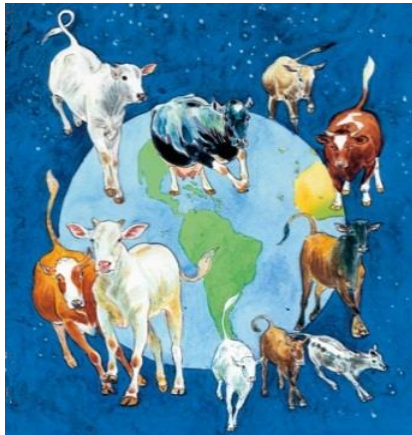


Sustainable Nutrition Security

Healthy food and nutrition
for 9 billion people in 2050
within the capacity of our planet

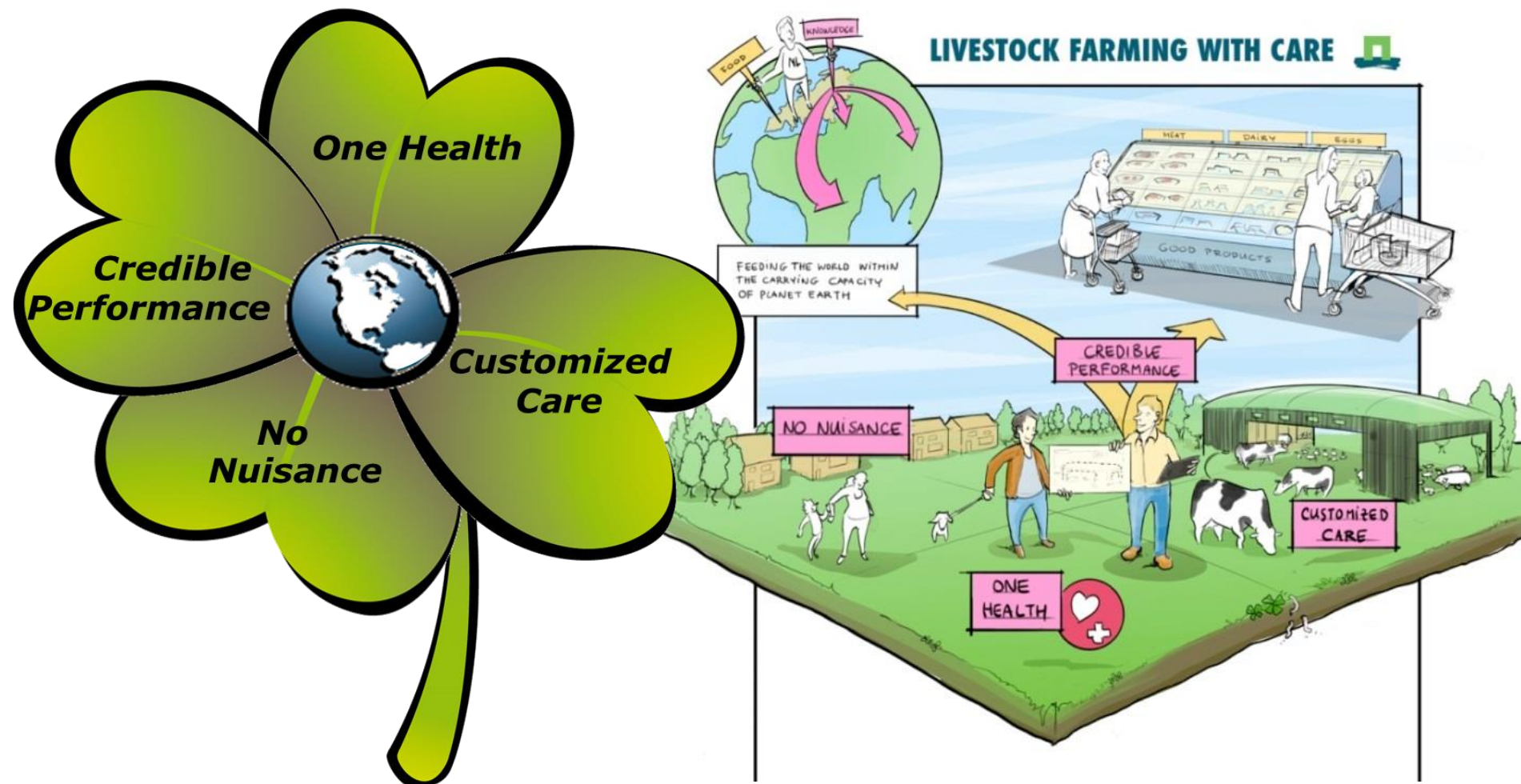


Why Livestock?



- Converts raw biomass in nutritious food
- Contributes to biomass cycling
- Serves the agro-ecosystem functioning
- Matches demand for animal proteins and fatty acids with high nutritional value

Livestock Farming with Care



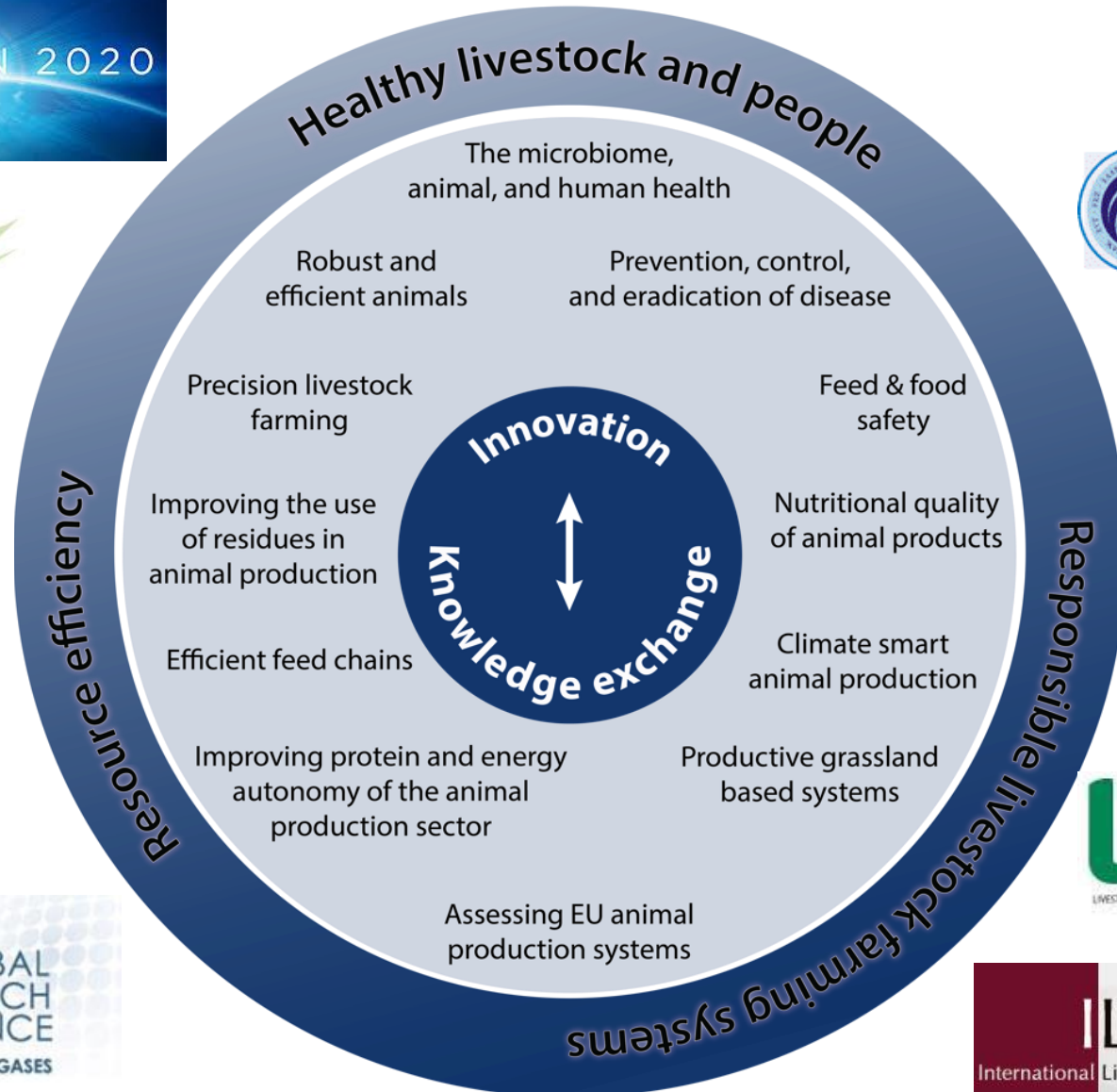
M.C.Th. Scholten, I.J.M. de Boer, B. Gremmen, C. Lokhorst; Livestock Farming with Care: towards sustainable production of animal-source food
NJAS - Wageningen Journal of Life Sciences, Volume 66, November 2013, Pages 3–5

Livestock Challenges

- Sustainable Intensification
- Smart Breeding
- Customized Feeding & Resource Efficiency
- Healthy Livestock
- Animal Welfare
- Precision Livestock Farming
- Climate Smart Agriculture
- Grassland Management
- Manure Management
- One Health Management
- Antibiotics Resistance
- Resilience & Robustness



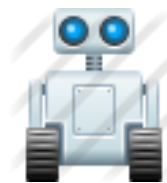
Wheel of Innovation



Technology Supports



Genomics



Robotics



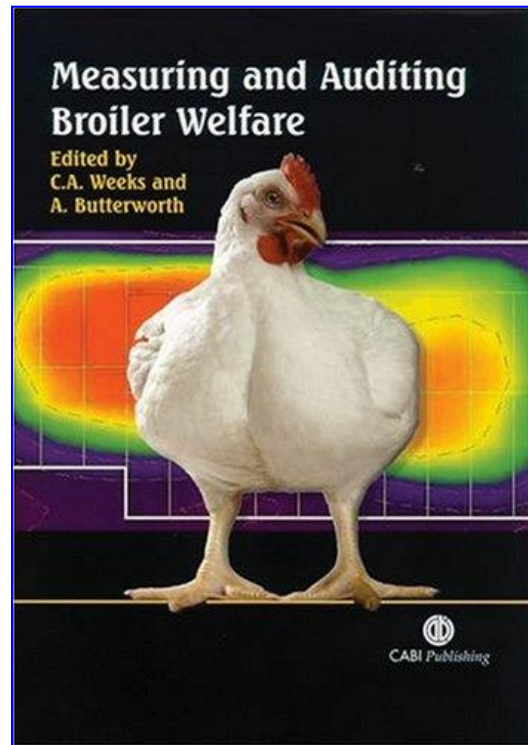
Biologics



Informatics



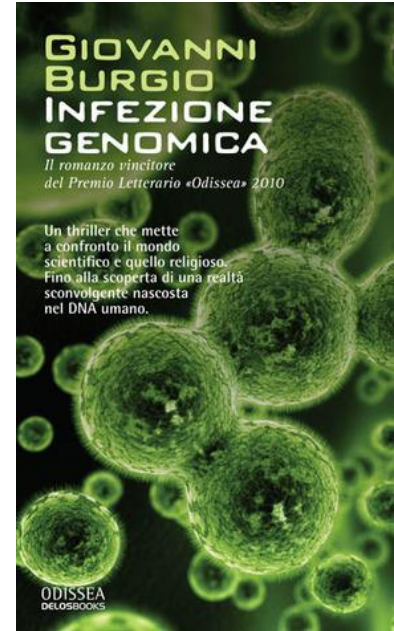
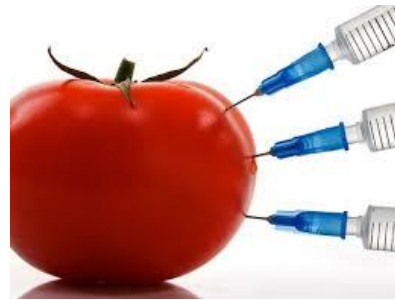
Monitoring Welfare



Telemetrics

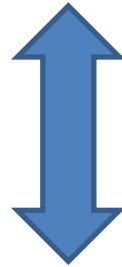


Technology in Food Production?



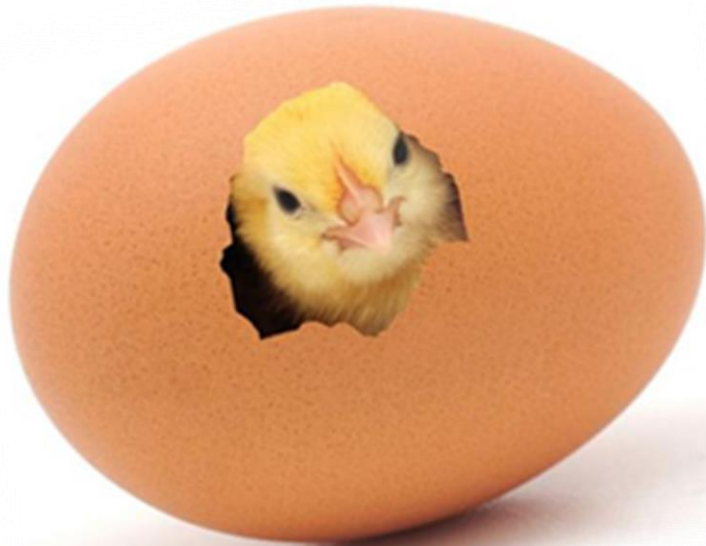
Ethical Considerations

Social Morality: intuition, principles, facts



Scientific Knowledge: actuals, facts, insights

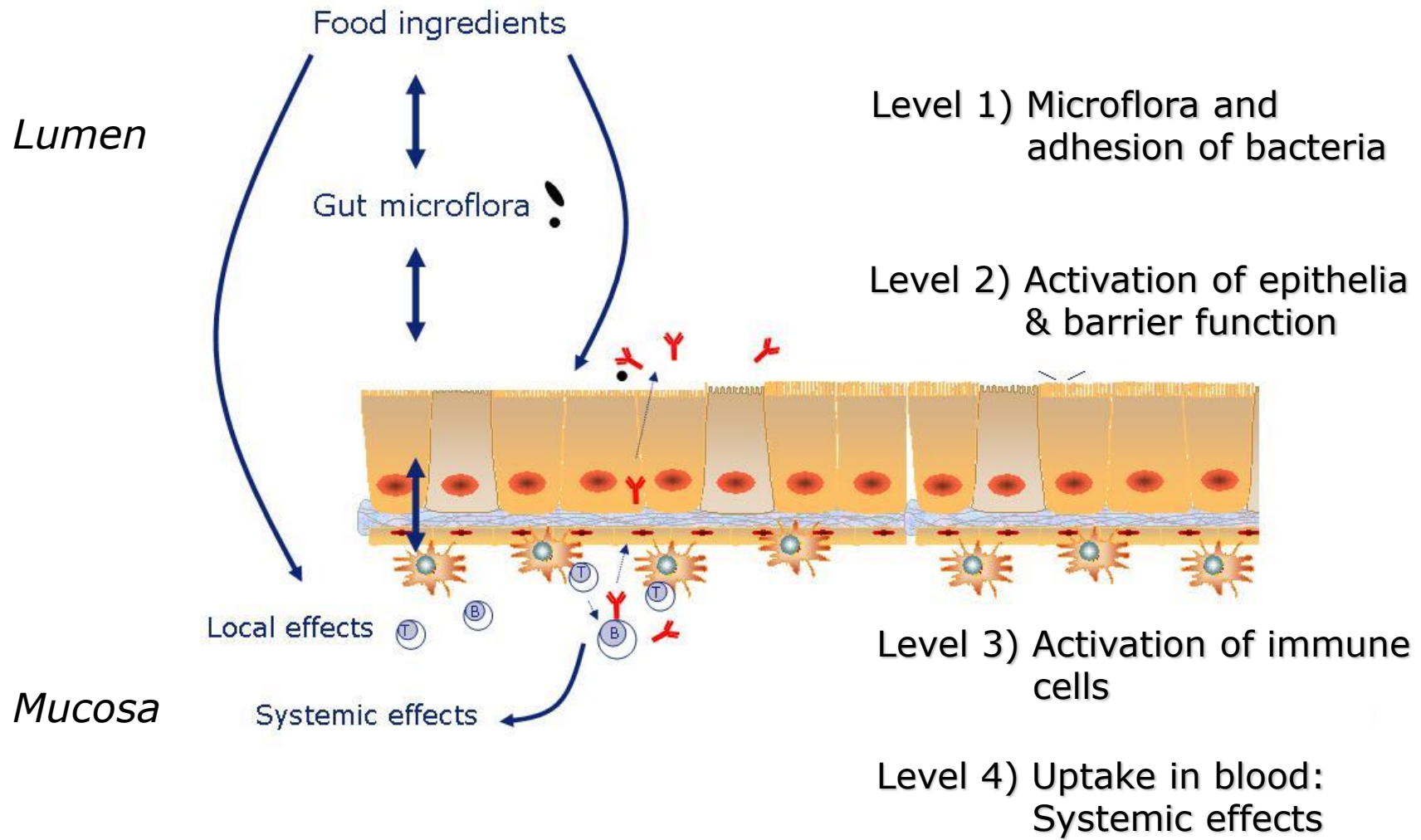
Key: Resilience and Robustness



- Genomic Selection
- Neonatal Interventions
- Immuno Modulation
- Animal Welfare
- Animal Health

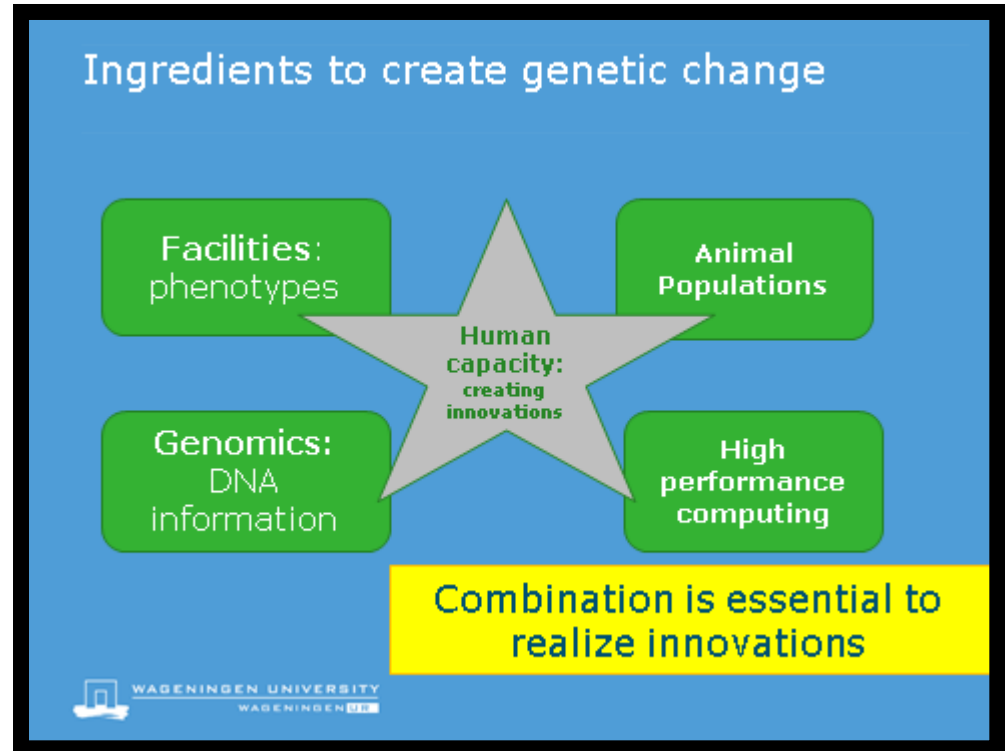
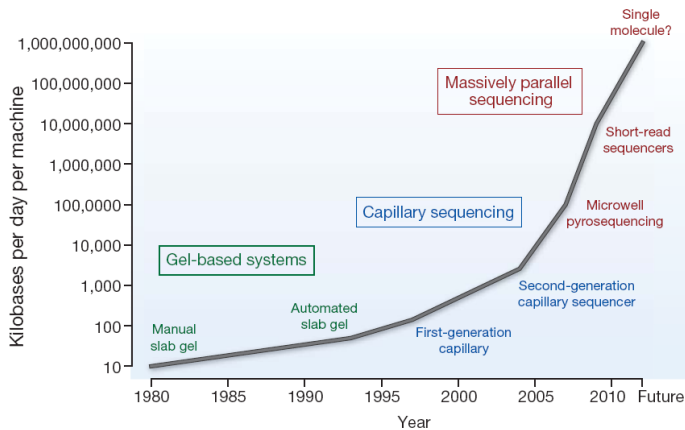


IMMUNOLOGICAL CORRELATE OF PROTECTION (IMCOP): Immunity can be targeted at 4 levels in the gut



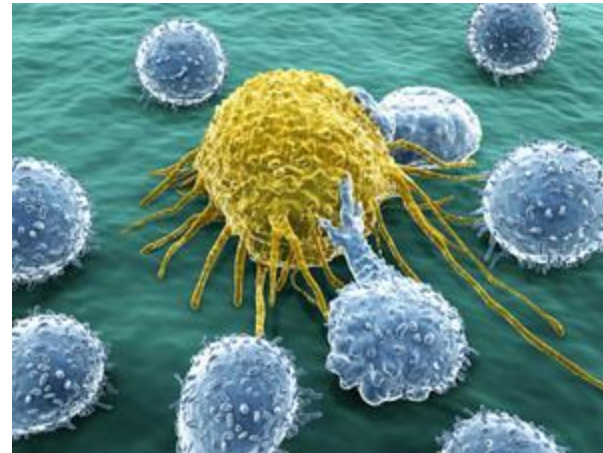
Development Quantitative Genetics

- Gene Editing
- Reporter Genes
- Infectivity Genes
- Trans-genese
- Cis-genese

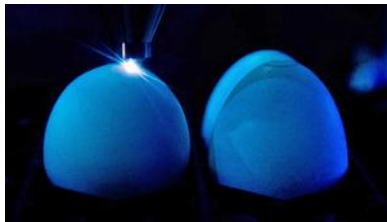


Spectrum of Biologicals

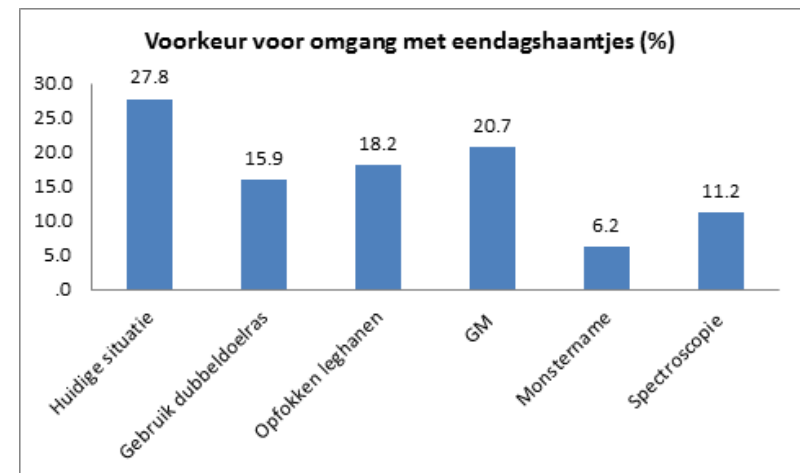
- Gene technologies
- Immuno-modulations (beta glucans)
- Vaccin adjuvants (T cell activation)
- DNA vaccination
- Mucosal vaccins
- Bacteriophages
- Probiotics
- Diagnostics



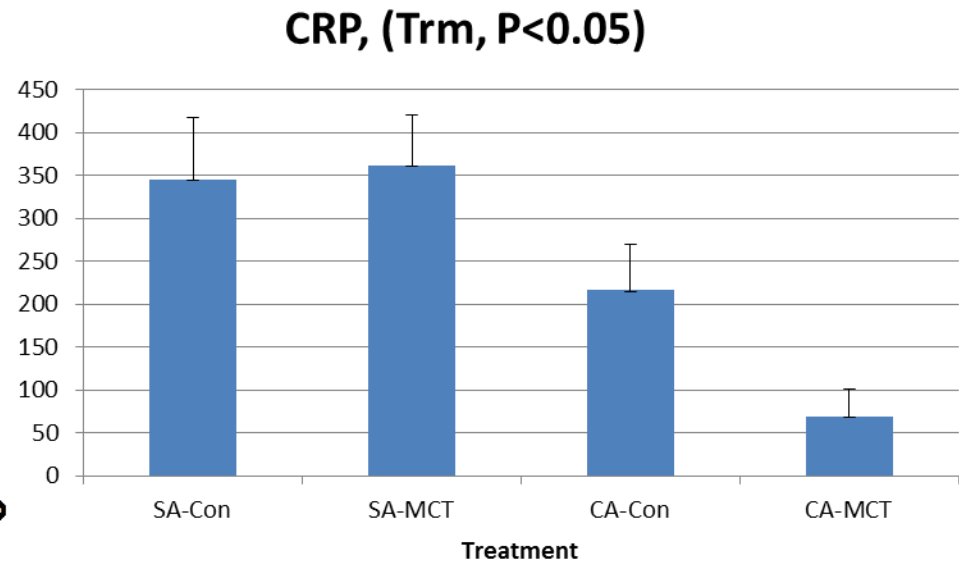
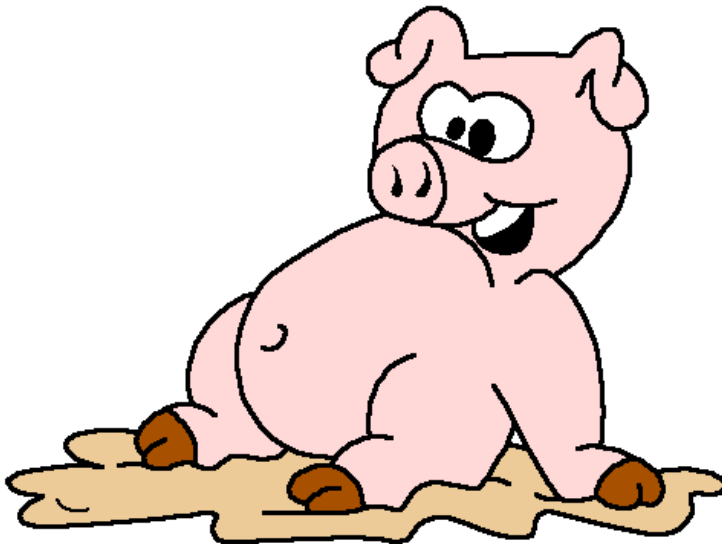
Example 1: Sexing Chicken Embryos



- GM marker gene to screen male chromosomes
- No incubation male eggs ->
No killing male chicks
- No male chicks ->
No marker genes in laying hens
- **Parliament banned**
- **But, Public opinion:**

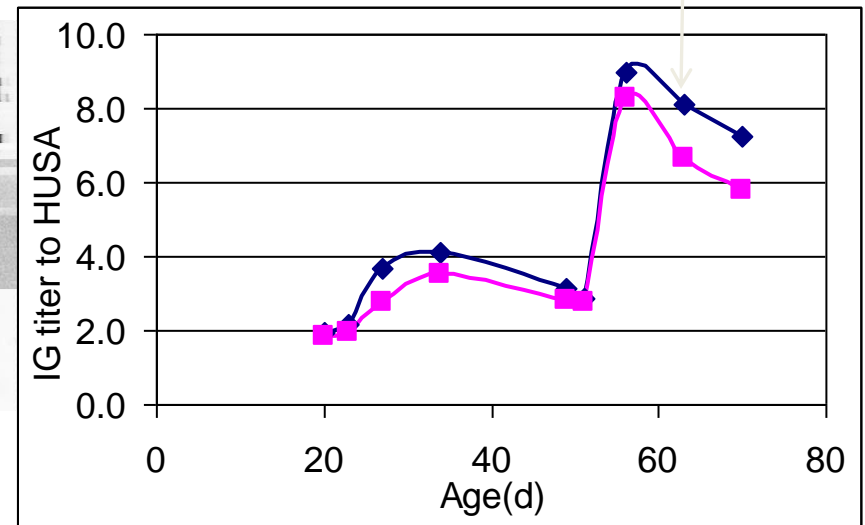
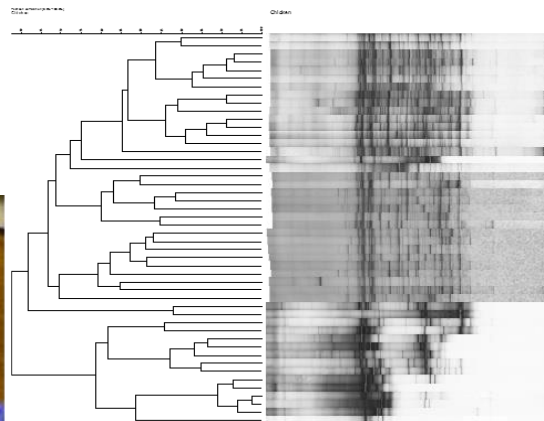
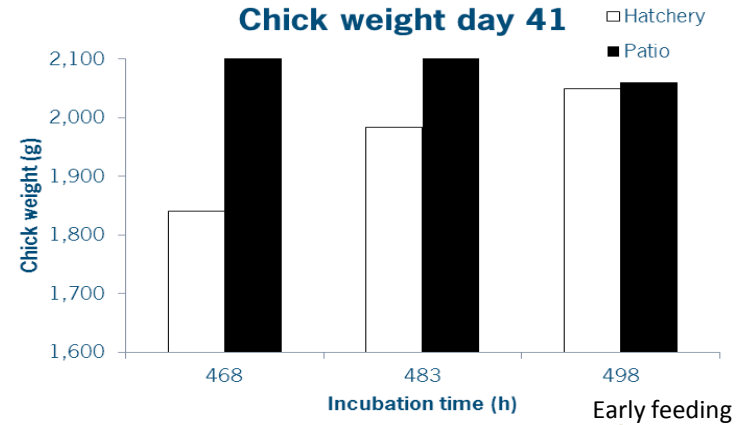


Example 2: Neonatal Fatty Acids Supplements & Intestine Immunology



Example 3: Early Feeding after Hatch

- Growth performance ↑
- Immune response later life ↑
- Long term effects microbiota composition ↑

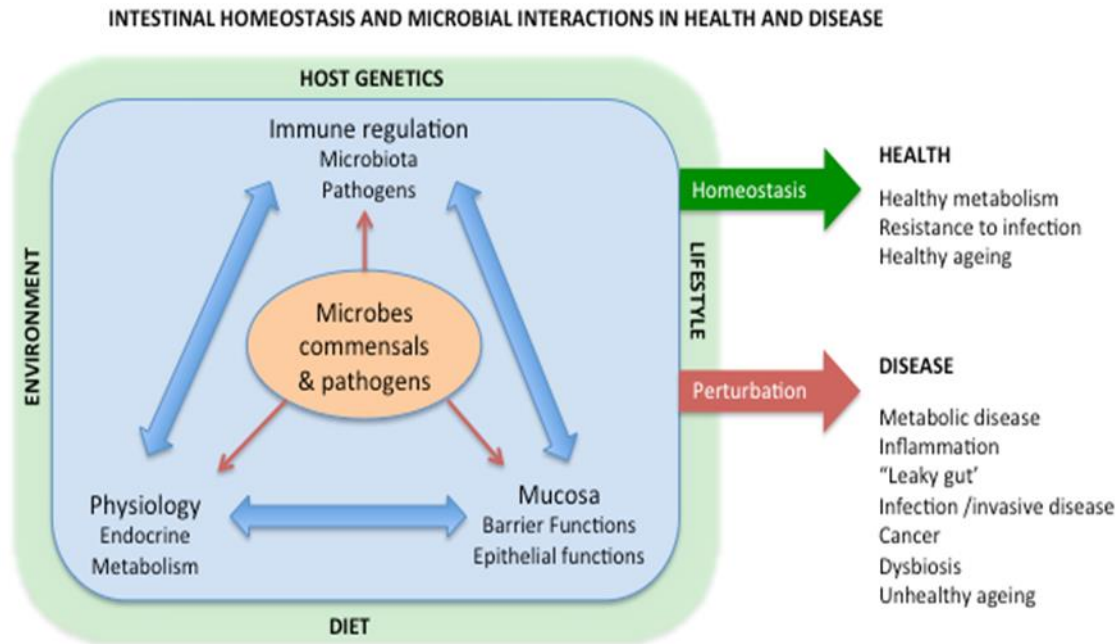


Example 4: Transgenerational Gastro-intestinal Health Promotion



Epigenetics

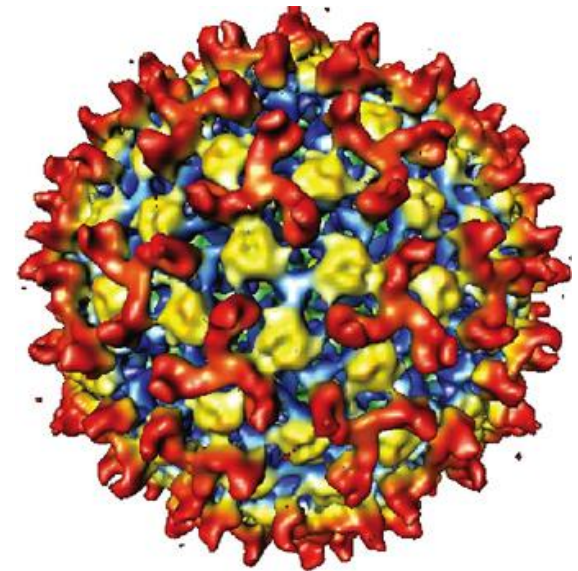
Example 5: Microbial Antagonism of Pathogens



Proof of Principle: isolates for specific commensals inhibiting *Streptococcus suis*

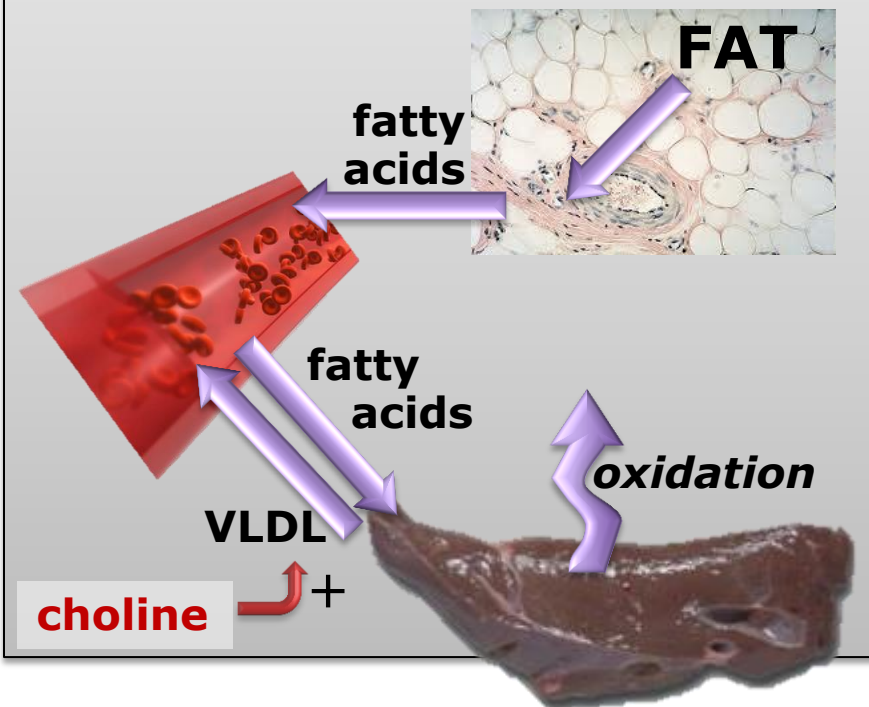
Example 6: Reverse Genetics to Produce Live-GMO Vaccines

- Rapid response against emerging RNA viruses
 - Schmallenberg (SBV)
 - Bluetongue (BTV)
 - Rift Valley (RVFV)
 - African Horse Sickness (AHSV)



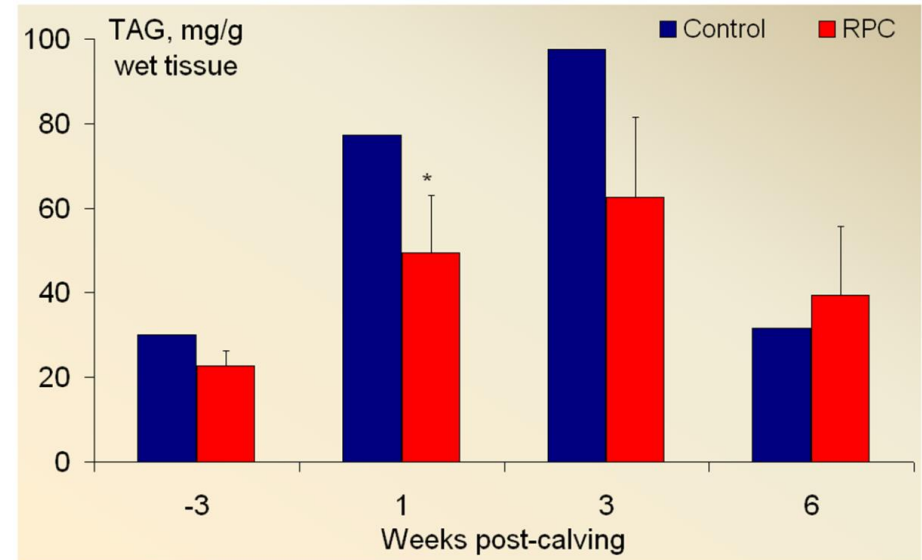
Example 7: Choline Improves Liver Health

Fat metabolism dairy cow
prevent accumulation of fatty acids in
liver by stimulating VLDL export



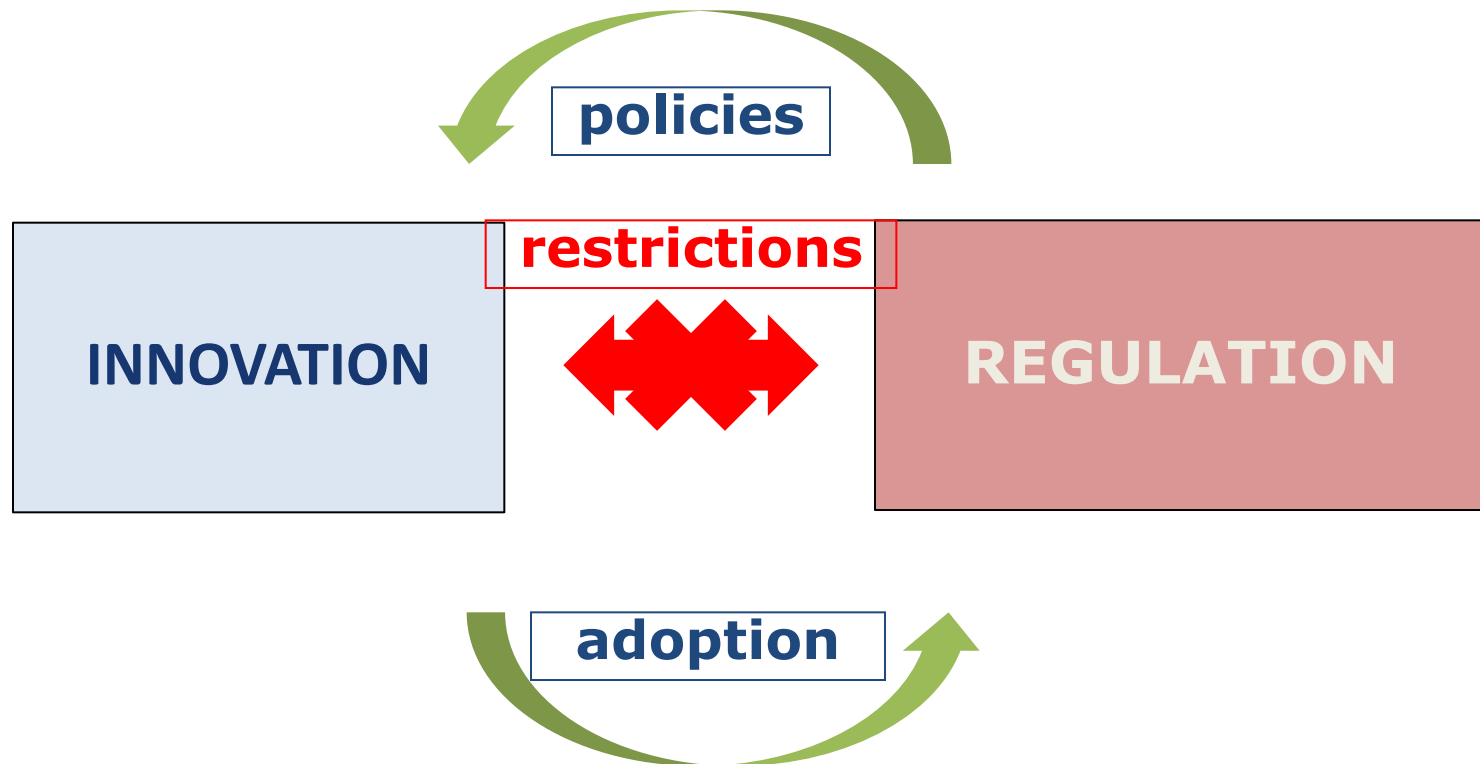
Feeding choline around calving

- reduces fat content of liver
- improves feed intake & cow health



Zom *et al.*, 2011; Goselink *et al.*, 2013

Innovation vs Regulation



Food for Thoughts

- Can we adopt technologies such as biologicals to meet the societal challenges regarding food production and nutrition security?
- May we foster our animals to a better welfare quality and connected health by using biologicals?
- Is this use or abuse of the potential of nature to improve the quality of life?

Your opinion now?

“Sustainable Livestock Farming with Care should refrain from using Biologicals”

yes/no

Please remind!

it always starts
with looking at
the animal !



Thanks!



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