



*Team Breeding practices, animal robustness
and product quality (Peraq)*

HIGHLIGHT

A collective work on animal husbandry and its challenges

The book entitled "Livestock farming for agro-ecology and sustainable food" provides scientific arguments in order to answer questions about livestock farming. Conceived for students in the agricultural and agri-food sectors but also their teachers, the professionals and the consumers, this book is composed of 14 chapters written by 23 authors. These authors, coming from various backgrounds, provide a comprehensive overview of issues related to livestock farming. They address the subject of today's livestock farming as well as the societal issues associated with it. In the second part of the book, they present perspectives on livestock farming evolution, with the aims of agro-ecology and sustainable food developments. The different chapters deal in particular with the place of animal products in human food, the management of animal health and welfare in livestock systems, the prospects for the evolution of animal husbandry in the face of climate challenge, and the link between animal husbandry and the environment.

Farming, especially intensive farming, is controversial because of its impact on environment but also on animal welfare and human health. However, animal husbandry also provides many very important economic, social, cultural and environmental services.

This book entitled "Livestock for agro-ecology and sustainable food" coordinated by S Chriki (ISARA), MP Ellies-Oury (Bordeaux Sciences Agro) and JF Hocquette (INRAE) is the result of the work of a collective of 23 authors (researchers, professors, engineers and professionals from various backgrounds).

Without seeking to defend all animal husbandry practices (for which, moreover, the authors propose avenues for progress), the authors suggest a certain vision of animal husbandry associated to the economic, social, cultural and environmental services it provides.

The book therefore provides some elements to understand how livestock farming systems work and to consider areas for improvement. It is divided into two parts of 7 chapters each, each dealing with 1) livestock farming today and societal issues, and 2) prospects for the evolution of livestock farming.

Prefaced by C Huygues, INRAE's Scientific Director for Agriculture, this book has benefited from the expertise of :

- numerous INRAE researchers, in particular from the Joint Research Unit on Herbivores
- professors from higher agricultural education institutions, Universities, and several other institutions (CREDOC, Pasteur Institute, Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Veterinary Academy of France, etc...)

L'élevage

pour l'agroécologie
et une alimentation durable

- Les questionnements sociétaux concernant l'élevage
- Les produits animaux dans l'alimentation humaine
- La gestion de la santé et du bien-être des animaux
- Les perspectives d'évolution de l'élevage face au défi climatique
- L'élevage et l'environnement

Préface Christian Huyghe
Directeur Scientifique Agriculture de l'INRAE



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This book written in French thus offers a complete overview of the questions related to animal husbandry which question our society, such as for example :

- what is the role of animal products in human nutrition?
- what are the sensory, nutritional and sanitary qualities of animal products today?
- what is respect for animal welfare and what are the possible ways to improve it?
- what effects have the sanitary crises had on the evolution of the sectors and how are they managed in Europe, and more specifically in France?
- what is the real impact of animal husbandry on the planet?
- What are the possible ways of developing livestock farming for a more agro-ecological agriculture?
- What is the role of agro-ecology in animal husbandry in the face of climate change?
- Are meat substitutes (vegetable alternatives or in vitro meat) really able to provide enough food for the increasing human population?
- What is the place of animal products in a more sustainable diet?

Targeted for students in agriculture and agri-food studies and for their teachers in animal production, but also more generally for consumers, this book can also be useful to engineers and technicians in Research and Development departments, researchers, veterinarians and other stakeholders in animal husbandry, including, of course, farmers themselves. It will be of interest to anyone wishing to learn more about animal husbandry and its issues.

Learn more:

Chrikli S., Ellies-Oury M.P., Hocquette J.F. (coordinateurs), 2020. « L'élevage pour l'agroécologie et une alimentation durable », France Agricole Ed, Paris, 330 pp.

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