

Journal of Agriculture



ISSN Online: 2616-8456

 **Stratford**
Peer Reviewed Journals & books

Livestock production and livelihood of people in Australia

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ISSN: 2616-8456

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How to cite this article: Claudine, H. & Hart, T. (2020). Livestock production and livelihood of people in Australia, *Journal of Agriculture*, Vol. 4(1), 53-59.

Abstract

Livestock products are critical to the nutrition, food security, livelihoods and resilience of hundreds of millions of people throughout the world. Livestock accounts for 40% of worldwide income from agriculture. Livestock is one of major source of food and income for both economically advanced societies and those developing. Livestock are also source of income, employment and source of export earnings. For low income producers, livestock act as source and store of wealth; means of transport for carrier livestock and source of fertilizers through animal wastes. Demand for livestock products is set to continue increasing owing to rising world population. Globally, agriculture provides a livelihood for more people than any other industry. Growth in livestock sector is needed to raise rural incomes and also to support the increasing numbers dependent on the industry and to meet the food products needed of the faster growing urban populations. The study relied on desktop review technique in exploring the livestock production and livelihood of people in Australia. Journal papers, agricultural reports and livestock production reports were explored. Livestock production will continue to make a significant contribution to food supply globally and in Australia. Livestock continues to support the livelihood of many households in Australia. As a net exporter, Australia has a role in meeting global food security, and animal production will need to increase to meet increasing demand for animal protein and fibre. With further research this can be achieved with lower emissions per unit of product. Livestock production needs to be integrated in national rural policy guidelines and programmes with aim of growing it further. Livestock production has the capability of creating employment opportunities for rural people and sale of livestock products and items generates a lot of income to the people. Livestock is a significant form of livelihood to the people particularly in rural Australia.

Keywords: *Livestock production, livelihood, Australia*

1. Introduction

Livestock is one of major source of food and income for both economically advanced societies and those developing. Of the world 1.3 billion people who are poor live in developing countries heavily depend on livestock for livelihood and sustenance. According to Rojas-Downing, Nejadhashemi, Harrigan and Woznicki (2017), livestock food products form a bulk in taming food insecurity as it provides 33% of global protein consumption and 17% of global kilocalorie consumption. Thus, livestock production is a significant pillar in food security and poverty alleviation strategies. FAO (2017) also noted that livestock contributes 40% of the global value of agricultural output and support the livelihoods and food and nutrition security of almost 1.3 billion people. Livestock production is therefore important in enhancing global food requirement of 10 billion populations by 2050 (OECD/FAO, 2020).

In several countries across the world, the surging demand for livestock products is largely met by large-scale livestock production and associated food chains. Nonetheless, hundreds of millions of small-scale producers and pastoralists depend on livestock for their livelihoods (FAO, 2019). Globally, around 500 million pastoralists rely on livestock herding for food, income, and as a store of wealth, collateral or safety net in times of need World Bank report (2020). Beyond food production, farm animals play other important economic, cultural and social roles and provide multiple functions and services (Falvey, 2015). They are an essential part of agro-ecosystems. The rearing of livestock plays an important role in enabling smallholders to have resilient livelihoods and to avoid both food insecurity and poverty, as livestock can contribute up to 33% of household income. Overall, 75% of rural people and 25% of urban people depend on livestock for their livelihoods (Nabarro & Wannous, 2014).

All over the world demand for livestock products and food has to be made by livestock production economic activities. In addition, millions of small scale livestock farmers and pastoral societies have to depend on livestock for livelihood and sustenance (FAO, 2019). According to World Bank report (2020), an approximated 600 million pastoralists depend on livestock for food, income generation and as source of wealth. Livestock also act as cultural and social pride for communities that treasure livestock much (Falvey, 2015). Livestock farming has enabled small scale livestock farmers to sustain their livelihood, as source of food and income to a tune of 33% of household income. About 75% of rural populations and 25% of urban populations are heavily reliant on livestock for livelihoods (Nabarro & Wannous, 2014).

FAO attempts to upgrade domesticated animals' commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by supporting the change of creature creation frameworks – little and huge – in manners that are financially, socially and naturally practical (Nabarro and Wannous, 2014). Food creature creation straightforwardly influences food security through food arrangement and hazard decrease, and in a roundabout way as a methods for rural creation, giving work, pay, capital stock, draft power, compost (fertilizer), and energy through consuming of excrement (National Research Council, 2015).

Animals raising assume a basic part in property food frameworks for instance, fertilizer might be a fundamental stockpile of characteristic compound, while stock utilized as draft creatures will encourage help profitability in locales any place there's low automation (Idel, Fehlenberg and Reichert, 2013). Stock is essential resources for weak networks. Locally, stock creation frameworks furthermore add to the safeguarding of variety and to carbon sequestration in soils and biomass. In cruel conditions, similar to mountains and drylands, stock is regularly the sole gratitude to reasonably change over common assets into food, fiber and work power for local networks. Expanding salaries, dynamic weight control plans and augmentation, have made the stock area one in everything about snappiest developing agrarian sub-areas in center and low-pay nations. This addresses a genuine possibility for smallholders; business venture and occupation makers all through the stock offer chain (Moyo and Swanepoel, 2010). Notwithstanding, if not appropriately dealt with, this development furthermore hazards emphasizing property issues that range value, natural effects and general wellbeing.

Animals farming is significant for broadening monetary profit sources and keeping up soil ripeness and giving draft force and transportation. They supply various edges that embrace food, apparel, fuel, supplement games for soils, draft, monetary profit and business, and a strategy for future food and monetary benefit protection against environment and climate related dangers. There is forget about it to arrive at the objective of multiplying of food creation by 2050 while not making stock creation a great deal of prudent, anyway this ought to be accomplished though at indistinguishable time decreasing the negative effects of stock item on human wellbeing and stock on the environment. In nations like China, Bharat and South Africa there ar questions concerning the limits of their creature enterprises to answer to the expediently expanding interest for food varieties of creature source.

In Australia, livestock production is the primary land use on 47% of the continental land mass. Farming livestock in Australia generate more than \$30 billion annually. The livestock export sector in Australia in 2020 was valued in excess of \$2.035 Billion for the 2020 financial year and supports the livelihood of many people in rural and regional Australia (Henry, Charmley, Eckard, Gaughan & Hegarty, 2012). Livestock industry in Australia is mainly for meat and other livestock products for export.

Livestock sector in Australia contributes immensely to the economy. In 2018-2019 livestock sector adding to a tune of \$17.6 billion to the economy or approximately 1.4% of the GDP, 1% higher than the year 2017 (Meat and livestock Australia report, 2020). Livestock exports in Australia were valued at \$16.3 billion, an increase of 16% year-on year and 43% higher than 2013–14 levels. Livestock sector in Australia crated over 437,000 jobs for people in Australia according to report by Meat and livestock Australia (2020).

2. Problem

Livestock is essential in sustaining the livelihoods of many people in developing countries. Livestock is a source of food, nutrition, income generations and social status. Livestock are also less harmful to the environment. With the livestock sector experiencing rapid change – mainly driven by the rapidly changing livestock production systems, demographics, environmental impacts, technologies, policies and institutions, the mode of livestock production is dynamic and has to cope with these changes. The Sustainable development Goals

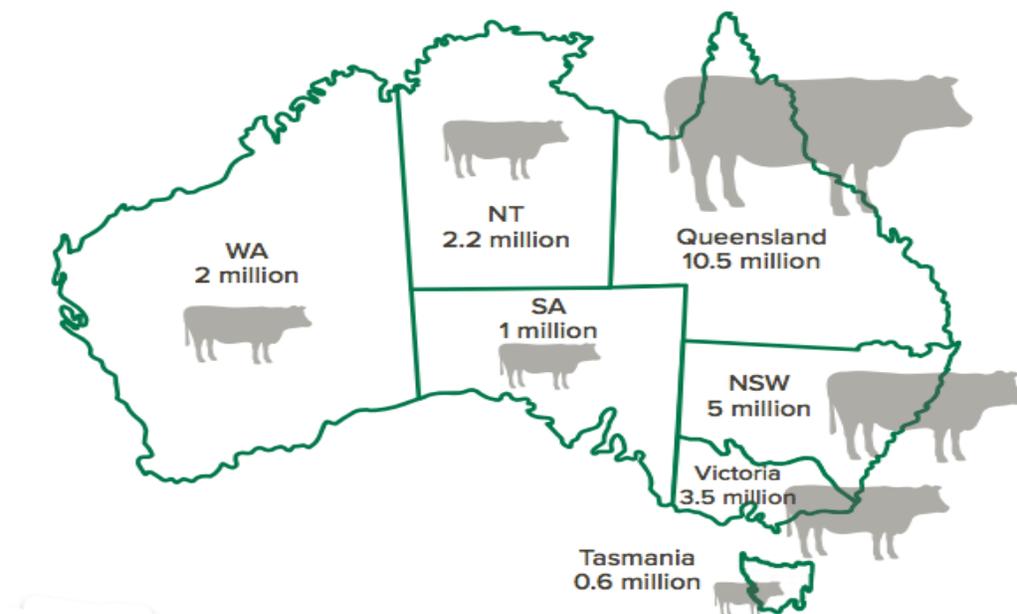
(1) No Poverty, (2) Zero Hunger, (3) Good Health and Well-being to some extent are tied to agriculture production where livestock production is a significant agricultural activity. According to FAO (2020), in 2019, 690 million people globally were malnourished because of food insecurity or hunger, higher by 60 million malnourished people in 2014.

The consistent development and change of the domesticated animals area offer generous freedoms for rural turn of events, neediness decrease, food security gains and improved human nourishment. The area can likewise enable provincial ladies and youth, improve common asset use effectiveness, and increment the versatility of families to adapt to environment stuns. Around the world, domesticated animals contribute about 40% of rural (GDP) and give vocations and salaries to in any event 1.3 billion individuals. In any case, in spite of their financial significance, animals get only a little part of true advancement help to farming. With greater speculation, domesticated animals creation can be the monetary driver for a huge number of individuals in low-and center pay nations.

3. Methods

The study relied on desktop review technique in exploring the livestock production and livelihood of people in Australia. Journal papers, agricultural reports and livestock production reports were explored. Figure 1 shows live stock distribution in Australia.

Figure 1: Livestock distribution in Australia



Source: ABS (final estimates 2016)

Key: WA= Western Australia, NT= Northern Territory, SA= South Australia, NSW=New South Wales

4. Conclusions

Livestock continues contributor to the global economy and food sector including Australia. Livestock continues to support the livelihood of many households in Australia. Australia is a significant partner in enhancing global food security through large production and export of livestock related products.

Australian research on environment transformation is critical to keep up productivity for livestock animals producers in this country, yet it additionally has more extensive importance and subsequently gives a conceivably significant commitment to local non-industrial nations. Australia's creature creation happens from cool mild scopes (438S) through to the warm jungles (108S), in locales that shift broadly in irregularity of precipitation and which experience outrageous fluctuation in yearly rainfall.

Livestock production pattern has to change owing to changing climatic conditions in terms of temperatures and rainfall, diseases, and climatic changes.

5. Policy recommendations

Livestock production needs to be integrated in national rural policy guidelines and programmes with aim of growing it further. Livestock production has the capability of creating employment opportunities for rural people and sale of livestock products and items generates a lot of income to the people. Livestock is stud a significant form of livelihood to the people particularly in rural Australia.

The changes that go with development are a chance to push the livestock toward more supportable turn of events and improved commitment to human eating regimens. Creation levels and practices can be overseen in manners that address unfriendly effects ashore, water, and the climate and the dangers presented to creature and human wellbeing.

Putting resources into veterinary administrations and creature infection reconnaissance is additionally significant to improve creature wellbeing and government assistance, decrease financial effect of creature sicknesses, improve food handling, and diminish dangers of antimicrobial obstruction. The counteraction of creature infections can restrict move of creature microorganisms to people and control the rise of destructive zoonotic sicknesses at the creature source, where activity is most financially savvy. Improved animals the board is an essential piece of the one wellbeing approach, which tries to streamline human, creature, and planetary wellbeing.

These truths are educating governments as they support the oversaw increase of animals creation. They look to do this in manners that assess less fortunate individuals' commitments to the development of rustic economies. They search for approaches to connect together work on farming profitability, productive food frameworks; foundation improvement; admittance to energy, water and reasonable medical care; and the food of natural administrations (counting the moderation of any further boosts for changes in the worldwide environment). Overseen escalation of animals creation would likewise require long haul utilization of a One Health approach with its attention on alleviating wellbeing chances at the interfaces among creatures and people in various environments. It will invigorate the joint working of various interests in quest for a shared objective of finishing yearning and lack of healthy sustenance.

The Organization plays a strategy warning and mindfulness raising job and offers specialized help, promotion, data, information and direction to help produce top notch creature items, securely, productively and dependably, while improving destitute individuals' livelihoods and addressing customers' necessities. FAO additionally works close by governments and ranchers, reacting during and after domesticated animals crises and advances exchange among public, private and common society accomplices whose extreme objective is capable and economical domesticated animals creation.

Livestock production is intertwined with environmental sustainability. With environmental destruction, rising global warming and extreme weather conditions, sustainability of livestock production has to be anchored on environment conservation. World nations and UNEP have to be in the frontline in the protection of environment for agricultural production sustainability.

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