OMNI VEGETARIAN NEWSLETTER #4, ANIMAL RIGHTS, ATMOSPHERIC WARMING/CLIMATE CHANGE and MEAT, February 12, 2014. Compiled by Dick Bennett for a Culture of Peace, Justice, and Ecology. (#3

Newsletters

http://www.omnicenter.org/newsletter-archive/

Index:

http://www.omnicenter.org/omni-newsletter-general-index/

See: Animal Cruelty, Animal Rights, Compassion/Empathy, Ecology, Human Health, Global Warming/Causes,

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Contents #1 Nov. 12, 2013

Vegetarian Organizations, Magazines, Books, Films:

Vegetarian Voice
Vegetarian Times
Vegetarian Living
VegNews (Vegan)

Organizations, Magazines, Books, Films for Preservation of Animals

PETA's Animal Times

Foundations of Vegetarianism
Why People Become Vegetarians
Nutrition, Health

Moss, Addictive Junk Food

Nutrition and Ethics

Google Search, Food, Inc.

Food and Climate Change
Google Search
Meat vs. Climate

Peace
Tuttle, *World Peace Diet*, Food, Compassion, Interconnectedness, Harmony

History: Recipes from Famous People
OMNI’s Library

**Contents #2 Nutrition, Ethics of Eating Meat, Climate Change**
Declaration for Consideration

**Nutrition**
Eliz. Renter, Poisons in Meat
Get the Antibiotics Out of Turkeys

**Ethics**
Schweitzer, Reverence for Life
Susie Hoeller, Ethical Food

**Climate Change and Food**
Google Search

**Contents #3 Ethics of Eating Meat: Factory Farms, Killing (Jan. 8, 2014)**
Dick, Vegetarianism Discussion

*Vegetarian Times*
Early History of Vegetarianism; Percy Bysshe Shelley
Cahill, Cruelty and Kindness
Schweitzer, Ethics of Vegetarianism
From *Rolling Stone, Cruelty of Factory Farms*

Google Search: Cruelty of Meat Eating
Google Search: Factory Farming
Humane Society of the US
Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

**Contents #4 Animal Rights, Meat Production, Global Warming, Climate Change (Feb.**
Animal Rights
Christina Sarich, Humane Society and Others Oppose Tyson Factory Raised Pigs
Prof. Steven Best, Strong Advocate of Animal Rights, Google Search
Charles Carnosy, a Christian Perspective Offers Us a Consistent Ethic
Dr. David Katz, a Middle Position, a Vegetable Diet is Better for Health and Ethics

Warming, Climate Change
Nathan Fiala, Meat Production and Consumption Contributes to Global Warming, Climate Change
PETA, Vegetarianism versus Climate Change
Vegetarianism versus Climate Change, Google Search
Stress on Environment: Vegetables vs. Meat
Misc. International Studies

ANIMAL RIGHTS

Tyson: Big Ag Corp. Practicing Animal Cruelty Calls for More Space for Animals

Christina Sarich, News Report, NationofChange, Feb. 2, 2014: If you aren’t aware that your morning bacon was made from a pig grown in a gestation crate that barely gives an animal the ability turn over, let alone roam freely on the green earth, then you probably didn’t know that Tyson Foods is one of the few remaining meat processors who have clung to this abhorrent trend.

Recently, Green Century Capital Management, the Humane Society, and the United Methodist Church Benefit Board submitted a resolution to Tyson’s annual general meeting for shareholders asking that they report on their reasons for carrying on with the use of gestational crates.
1. Steven Best - Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia
en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Steven_Best

Steven Best (born December 1955) is an American animal rights advocate, author, and associate professor of philosophy at the University of Texas at El Paso.

2. The Ethics Of Vegetarianism - DR. STEVE BEST, PHD
www.drstevebest.org/TheEthicsofVegetarianism.htm

The Ethics of Vegetarianism. 1. Introduction. 2. What is Ethics? 3. Arguments Against Animal Rights and Vegetarianism. a. argument from the bible. b. argument ...

3. My Dog or Your Child? Ethical Dilemmas and the ... - Dr. Steve Best
www.drstevebest.org/MyDogOr.htm

Ethical Dilemmas and the Hierarchy of Moral Value Too often, animal rights advocates (ARAs) are challenged with the hysterical hypothetical of the "burning ...

4. Philosophy - General - Animal Liberation Front
animalliberationfront.com/Philosophy/Philosophy-generalAR.htm

Dr. Steven Best - on Abolition and Activism - October 2011. Dr. Steven Best ... 9/2011. Launch of a New Veterinary Animal Welfare and Ethics Institute - 9/2011

5. The Peter Singer Controversy - Animal Liberation Front
www.animalliberationfront.com › Activists + › Authors › Interviews

By Dr. Steven Best ... His more than two dozen books include two international best-sellers, Animal Liberation (1975) and Practical Ethics (1979), which have ...

For Love of Animals: Christian Ethics, Consistent Action
by Charles Camosy

For Love of Animals is an honest and thoughtful look at our responsibility as Christians with respect to animals. Many Christians misunderstand both history and their own tradition in thinking about animals. They are joined by prominent secular thinkers who blame Christianity for the Western world's failure to seriously consider the moral status of animals.

This book explains how traditional Christian ideas and principles—like nonviolence, concern for the vulnerable, respect for life, stewardship of God's creation, and
rejection of consumerism—require us to treat animals morally. Though this point of view is often thought of as liberal, the book cites several conservatives who are also concerned about animals. Camosy's Christian argument transcends secular politics.

The book's starting point for a Christian position on animals—from the creation story in Genesis to Jesus' eating habits in the Gospels—rests in Scripture. It then moves to explore the views of the Church Fathers, the teachings of the Catholic Church, and current discussions in both Catholic and Protestant theology. Ultimately, however, the book is concerned not with abstract ideas, but with how we should live our everyday lives. Should Christians eat meat? Is cooperation with factory farming evil? What sort of medical research on animals is justified? Camosy also asks difficult questions about hunting and pet ownership.

This is an ideal resource for those who are interested in thinking about animals from the perspective of Christian ethics and the consistent ethic of life. Discussion questions at the end of each chapter and suggestions for further reading round out the usefulness of this important work.

DR. DAVID KATZ

*Eating Well Vs. Being Good: Can We Ethically Eat Animals?*

[www.huffingtonpost.com/david.../ethics-of-eating-animals_b_961242.ht...](http://www.huffingtonpost.com/david.../ethics-of-eating-animals_b_961242.ht...)

Sep 20, 2011 - [www.davidkatzmd.com](http://www.davidkatzmd.com)

“On the basis of both health and ethics, the case for eating a mostly plant-based diet is strong. The health case is all but irrefutable. . . .

As for the ethics. . . The combination of our multitudes and our appetites results in the mass production of animal foods, which in turn results in -- or at least invites -- terrible abuses. . . .

There is, however, some latitude left in the solution.

It would be fine if all of us were to eat only plants. But if most of us were to eat mostly plants, we could raise many fewer animals for food, and could treat those we do... ethically. “

[Dr. David L. Katz; www.davidkatzmd.com](http://www.davidkatzmd.com)
[www.turnthetidefoundation.org](http://www.turnthetidefoundation.org)
How Meat Contributes to Global Warming

Producing beef for the table has a surprising environmental cost: it releases prodigious amounts of heat-trapping greenhouse gases

By Nathan Fiala. Feb. 2, 2014

Andy Potts

Most of us are aware that our cars, our coal-generated electric power and even our cement factories adversely affect the environment. Until recently, however, the foods we eat had gotten a pass in the discussion. Yet according to a 2006 report by the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), our diets and, specifically, the meat in them cause more greenhouse gases carbon dioxide (CO2), methane, nitrous oxide, and the like to spew into the
atmosphere than either transportation or industry. (Greenhouse gases trap solar energy, thereby warming the earth's surface. Because gases vary in greenhouse potency, every greenhouse gas is usually expressed as an amount of CO2 with the same global-warming potential.)

The FAO report found that current production levels of meat contribute between 14 and 22 percent of the 36 billion tons of "CO2-equivalent" greenhouse gases the world produces every year. It turns out that producing half a pound of hamburger for someone's lunch a patty of meat the size of two decks of cards releases as much greenhouse gas into the atmosphere as driving a 3,000-pound car nearly 10 miles.

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“Fight Global Warming by Going Vegetarian.”

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Global warming has been called humankind’s “greatest challenge” and the world’s gravest environmental threat. Many conscientious people are trying to help reduce global warming by driving more fuel-efficient cars and using energy-saving light bulbs. Although these measures help, science shows that going vegan is one of the most effective ways to fight global warming. A staggering 51 percent or more of global greenhouse-gas emissions are caused by animal agriculture, according to a report published by the Worldwatch Institute. Additionally, a recent United Nations report concluded that a global shift toward a vegan diet is extremely important in order to combat the worst effects of climate change. According to the United Nations, raising animals for food is “one of the top two or three most significant contributors to the most serious environmental problems, at every scale from local to global.” In addition, the official handbook for Live Earth, the anti–climate change concerts that Al Gore helped organize, says that not eating meat is the “single most effective thing you can do” to reduce your climate change impact. Carbon dioxide, methane, and nitrous oxide together cause the vast majority of global warming. Raising animals for food is one of the largest sources of carbon dioxide and the single largest source of both methane and nitrous-oxide emissions.

**Carbon Dioxide**

Burning fossil fuels (such as oil and gasoline) releases carbon dioxide, the primary gas responsible for global warming. Producing one calorie from animal protein requires 11 times as much fossil fuel input—releasing 11 times as much carbon dioxide—as does producing a calorie from plant protein. Feeding massive amounts of grain and water to farmed animals and then killing them and processing, transporting, and storing their flesh is extremely energy-intensive. In addition, enormous amounts of carbon dioxide stored in trees are released during the destruction of vast acres of forest to provide pastureland and to grow crops for farmed animals. On top of this, animal manure also releases large quantities of carbon dioxide.

You could exchange your “regular” car for a hybrid Toyota Prius and, by doing so, prevent about 1 ton of carbon dioxide from entering the atmosphere each year, but according to the University of Chicago, being vegan is more effective in the fight against global warming; a vegan is responsible for the release of approximately 1.5 fewer tons of carbon dioxide into the atmosphere each year than is a meat-eater.

A German study conducted in 2008 concluded that a meat-eater’s diet is responsible for more than seven times as much greenhouse gas emissions as a vegan’s diet. Rajendra Pachauri, the head of the U.N.’s Nobel Prize–winning Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (and a vegetarian himself), urges people to “please eat less meat—meat is a very carbon-intensive commodity.”
Methane

The billions of chickens, turkeys, pigs, and cows who are crammed into factory farms each year in the U.S. produce enormous amounts of methane, both during digestion and from the acres of cesspools filled with feces that they excrete. Read more: http://www.peta.org/issues/animals-used-for-food/global-warming/#ixzz2sC6FvrR3


1. How Meat Contributes to Global Warming - Scientific American www.scientificamerican.com › ... › February 2009

Scientific American

Until recently, however, the foods we eat had gotten a pass in the discussion. ... 2014; Keystone Pipeline Will Impact Climate Change, State Department Reports ...

2. Fight Global Warming by Going Vegetarian | Animals Used for Food www.peta.org/.../animals.../global-warmi...

People for the Ethical Tre...

In addition, the official handbook for Live Earth, the anti–climate change concerts that Al Gore helped organize, says that not eating meat is the “single most ... 


Dec 20, 2013 - Ruminant animals, like cows, are a more pressing cause of climate change than CO2 emissions, a new study claims. (Photo: Shutterstock).


Dec 26, 2013 - One way to mitigate climate change would be a tax on meat, a scientific ... to eat less meat to cut down on the rate at which the earth is warming.

5. Gut Check: Here's the Meat of the Problem - Washington Post www.washingtonpost.com › Arts & Living › Food

The Washington Post

Jul 29, 2009 - The debate over climate change has reached a rarefied level of policy ...But
there's one activity that's not on the list and should be: **eating** a hamburger. ... It's not simply that **meat** is a contributor to **global warming**; it's that it is a ...

6. **Climate Depot's Round Up on Global Warming and Meat Eating** ...
   www.climatedepot.com/.../climate-depots-round-up-on-global-warming-...

   Jun 13, 2013 - The **global warming** activists are still convinced **meat eating** is evil for... Paul McCartney calls for **meat-free** Mondays to combat **climate change**.

7. **Should We Fight Climate Change By Taxing Meat? | Mother Jones**
   www.motherjones.com/tax-meat-cut-methane-emissions

   Dec 21, 2013 - Several high-profile figures, from the chief of the UN's **climate** science ...have previously advocated **eating** less **meat** to tackle **global warming**.

8. **Eating Less Meat Is World's Best Chance For Timely Climate** - Forbes
   www.forbes.com/.../eating-less-meat-is-worlds-best-cha...

   Apr 28, 2012 - “The entire goal of today's **international climate** objectives can be ... thus on the rate the **climate** is warming — than actions to **replace** fossil fuels ...

9. **Less Meat, Less Global Warming** - NYTimes.com
   opinionator.blogs.nytimes.com/2012/05/15/we-could-be-heroes/

   May 15, 2012 - We can slow **global warming** by **eating** fewer animal products. ...Even most **climate change** experts focus on new forms of energy — which ...

10. **Eating Burgers Causes Global Warming** - TakePart
    www.takepart.com/.../does-eating-burgers-cause-global-warmi...

   May 7, 2013 - Raising livestock contributes to **climate change**—cutting back on our **meat** consumption is an easy way to help the problem.

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**Diet and the environment: Does what you eat matter?**

Marlow HJ, Hayes WK, Sorex S, Carter RL, Schwab ER, Sabaté J.

**Author information**
Abstract

Food demand influences agricultural production. Modern agricultural practices have resulted in polluted soil, air, and water; eroded soil; dependence on imported oil; and loss of biodiversity. The goal of this research was to compare the environmental effect of a vegetarian and nonvegetarian diet in California in terms of agricultural production inputs, including pesticides and fertilizers, water, and energy used to produce commodities. The working assumption was that a greater number and amount of inputs were associated with a greater environmental effect. The literature supported this notion. To accomplish this goal, dietary preferences were quantified with the Adventist Health Study, and California state agricultural data were collected and applied to state commodity production statistics. These data were used to calculate different dietary consumption patterns and indexes to compare the environmental effect associated with dietary preference. Results show that, for the combined differential production of 11 food items for which consumption differs among vegetarians and nonvegetarians, the nonvegetarian diet required 2.9 times more water, 2.5 times more primary energy, 13 times more fertilizer, and 1.4 times more pesticides than did the vegetarian diet. The greatest contribution to the differences came from the consumption of beef in the diet. We found that a nonvegetarian diet exacts a higher cost on the environment relative to a vegetarian diet. From an environmental perspective, what a person chooses to eat makes a difference.


Am J Clin Nutrition 2009 May 89(5)

MISCELLANEOUS INTERNATIONAL STUDIES OF MEAT PRODUCING MORE EMISSIONS THAN TRANSPORTATION AND OTHER SECTORS OF NATIONAL ECONOMIES

See the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) study directly about this, but also one by the UN Environmental Program (UNEP), as well as a study by a European organization called GUE/NGL. I am attaching multiple news stories about these studies, and links to the studies themselves should be embedded in the articles.

FAO Study:


http://www.scientificamerican.com/article/the-greenhouse-hamburger/

UNEP Study:
https://www.commondreams.org/headline/2010/06/02-7?vm=r&s=1

GUE/NGL:
http://meatclimate.org/home

http://meatclimate.org/sites/default/files/reports/meatclimate_english.pdf

(from Abel T)

END VEGETARIAN NEWSLETTER #4: ANIMAL RIGHTS, WARMING, CLIMATE

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Dick Bennett

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