Sustainable, Healthy and Innovative Food System Transformation

Baukje de Roos





The Rowett Institute

Major research provider in Scottish Government RESAS funded strategic research programme 'Sustainable Food System and Supply'

£56M investment to Rowett, James Hutton, Moredun, and SRUC, over 5 yrs

- Climate targets
- Biodiversity targets
- Dietary targets













Developing new sustainable food supply chains – hemp

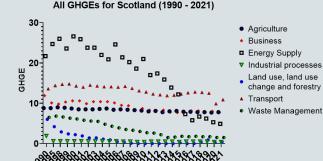
- First cold-press hemp oil in Scotland
- Improving nutritional quality of staple foods
- Replacing soya in livestock feed
- Creating alternatives to peat-based coir for soft fruit industry
- Developing phytoremediation strategies











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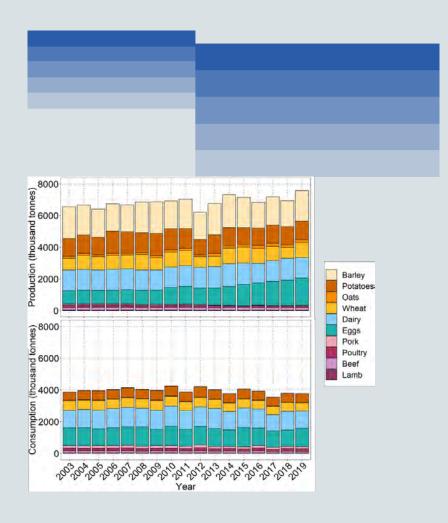
Estimating greenhouse gas emissions for the Scottish food and drink industry

A top-down approach for the whole food & drink industry

Agriculture + a proportion of energy, transport, industry, LULUC (arable + grassland), waste disposal

- 1990: 29.03 MtCO₂e (baseline year)
- 2020: 19.26 MtCO₂e
- 2021: 19.08 MtCO₂e
- 2022: 18.80 MtCO₂e





Food self-sufficiency index

- Benchmark estimate of the availability of key foods for consumption
- Evidence-based understanding of changes in Scotland's reliance on imports
- Self-sufficiency index: indicator for monitoring progress with Scotland's Agricultural Reform
 Programme and Good Food Nation Plan







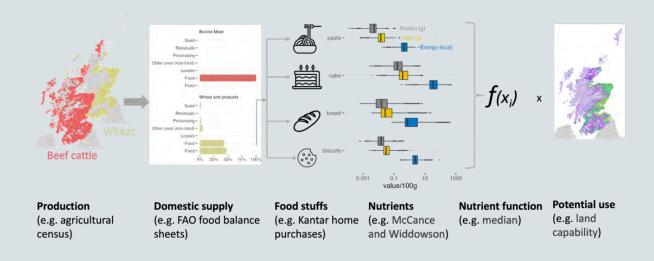








Nutrient production mapping across Scotland



Natural Asset Index:

Consider nutrient production and density in addition to crop yield







- First of its kind in the UK (2024-2032)
- 60 PhD students, 30 in Scotland
- £10.9M from UKRI, £13M in total
- 40+ agri-food stakeholders







SUSTAIN is a collaboration between the Universities of Lincoln, Aberdeen, Queen's Belfast and Strathclyde, and focuses on the application of Artificial Intelligence (AI) to sustainable agri-food.

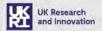




Where the next generation of AI science takes root.

The SUSTAIN Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) empowers the next generation of Al scientists to invent, develop and deploy technologies, co-created with growers and agri-food practitioners.

SUSTAIN facilitates meaningful partnerships between academics and industry, investing in stakeholder-driven innovation.













SUSTAIN

Predicting soft fruit yields | Monitoring livestock feeding behaviours with AI | Biodiversity monitoring | Carbon accounting | Food fraud detection





Service robot interventions promoting more sustainable buyers' choices in supermarkets and cafetaria's



Use of AI to understand and nudge behaviours towards optimised red meat consumption that benefits human and planetary health















