

What is sustainability?

The Concept:

Economic, social and management practices that allow a system to meet current needs without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs

Perceived threats to a sustainable future for the animal agriculture

Economic limitation
Limited resources
Shortage of safe raw materials
Environmental concerns
Expanding demand
Competitive systems
Regulatory barriers
Consumer perception

Components of agricultural sustainability

- Consistently supplies products to meet *increasing* demands
- Must be economically viable (profitable)
- By definition, inputs should be renewable
- Integrates natural biological processes and controls
- Must meet current distribution and storage needs
- Enhances community health now and in the future
- Must have *no* environmental impact

Issues driving a sustainable future

Identification of new resources
Developing untapped resources
Education
Innovation

- New technologies
- New processing systems
- New management and business schemes

An ingrained sense of stewardship and resiliency
Cultural changes (mandated)

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The goals of our symposium

- Discuss and define the issues that will define the sustainability of animal agriculture and its profitability
- Identify and discuss the threats to sustainability
- Look at innovative technologies, practices and management systems which will mitigate these threats
- Develop business and management plans that will allow for sustainability in the future

The goals of our symposium

Learn some new ideas
Build some lasting relationships

Have some fun!!

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