

Carolina Farm Stewardship Association Conference
November 14, 2021

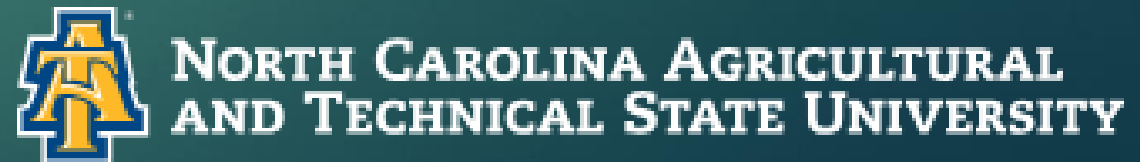


Listening Session: Sustainable Poultry and Social Justice

ANNE FANATICO, PH.D.
DEPARTMENT OF SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT



Kathleen Liang, Ph.D.
W. K. Kellogg Distinguished Professor of
Sustainable Agriculture
Director, Center for Environmental Farming
Systems



Sustainable Agricultural Systems (SAS) Poultry Project

- ▶ Consortium of universities targeted research, education, outreach in reducing antibiotics
 - ▶ Led by the University of Connecticut
- ▶ Research/outreach project to Increase sustainability of broiler production, particularly responsible antibiotic use
- ▶ Control poultry diseases, alternative feeds, environmental/litter management, etc
- ▶ On-line education
- ▶ Consumer and sustainability issues

<https://sas.poultryproject.uconn.edu/>

Questions, clarifications, definitions

- ▶ Address questions from the previous recorded workshop session
- ▶ Definitions
- ▶ Purpose of listening session; gather input
 - ▶ How can poultry production produce food, protect the environment, and promote social justice?
 - ▶ Help envision sustainable poultry production for the future

Poultry sustainability related to

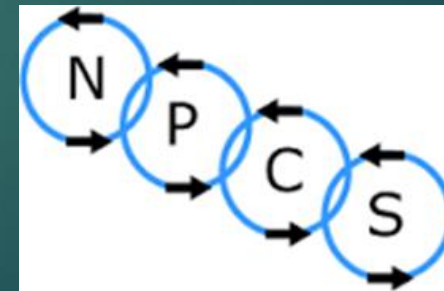
Efficiency OR Robustness

- ▶ Chickens: Efficient converters of feed to meat
- ▶ No methane produced from digestion



Large-scale

- ▶ Agriculture that follows nature
- ▶ Nutrient cycling
- ▶ Diversity and interactions
- ▶ Does not depend on fossil fuels



Small- and medium-scale

Continuous improvement of poultry production

Large-scale, intensive

- ▶ World-wide
- ▶ Energy-efficient housing
- ▶ Controlled environment
- ▶ Fast-growing genetics
- ▶ High performance feed
- ▶ Targeted health care
- ▶ Centralized slaughter at large facilities
- ▶ Economies of scale

Small- and mid-scale, ecological

- ▶ Bioregional production (local and regional)
- ▶ Open housing
- ▶ Access to outdoors
- ▶ Differentiated genetics
- ▶ Alternative feeds and feeding
- ▶ Holistic health
- ▶ De-centralized slaughter at small facilities
- ▶ Resilience, robust

Intensive chicken meat production



Ecological Chicken Production

- ▶ Stationary houses with outdoor access
- ▶ Small portable houses on pasture
- ▶ Shelters



Listening session questions

- 1. What are sustainability concerns in large-scale, intensive poultry meat production?** Environmental? Social? Antibiotic usage concerns?
- 2. What are sustainability concerns in small-scale, ecological poultry meat production?** Environmental? Social?
- 3. What work and changes are needed for sustainable poultry production in the US in the next 10 years?** Infrastructure? Changes needed?
- 4. What are opportunities in poultry meat production in the future?** How can it increase social justice?
- 5. How can we reach more stakeholders** (producers, workers, consumers, educators, etc.) in sustainable poultry production and ensure their voices are heard?

Contacts and follow-up

- ▶ Follow-up at [SD Sustainable Poultry Consumer Outreach](#) site
- ▶ Contacts
 - ▶ fanaticoac@appstate.edu
 - ▶ cliang@ncat.edu
- ▶ By participating, you agree to your comments being used in a summary of this listening session. Comments will be summarized without identifying information. If you prefer that your comments are not included in a summary, please email researchers. Participation is voluntary.
- ▶ Supported by USDA AFRI Sustainable Agriculture Systems 2020-69012-31823