THE METHANE CHALLENGE FROM LIVESTOCK IN THE GLOBAL SOUTH



Robert Paarlberg
Sustainability Science, Harvard Kennedy School
Salata Institute for Climate and Sustainability
GLOBAL FOOD+

May 2, 2025

Percent of Methane Emissions from Cattle Coming from Global South

In Dairy Production:

71 Percent



• In Beef Production:

76 Percent



Methane Emissions in Global South, Per Unit of Output, Compared to USA

India

Emissions from dairy
 ten times as high as in USA

Brazil

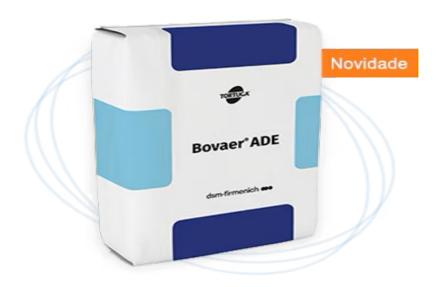
Emissions from beef
 three times as high
 as in USA

FEED ADDITIVE SOLUTIONS?

RED SEAWEED



BOVAER



CONFINED CATTLE FEEDING: COSTS AND BENEFITS PER UNIT OF OUTPUT

BENEFITS:

- Lower methane emissions
- Reduced forest loss from pasture expansion
 - Lower CO2 emissions
 - More habitat and biodiversity protection
- Higher producer income

COSTS:

Reduced animal welfare?