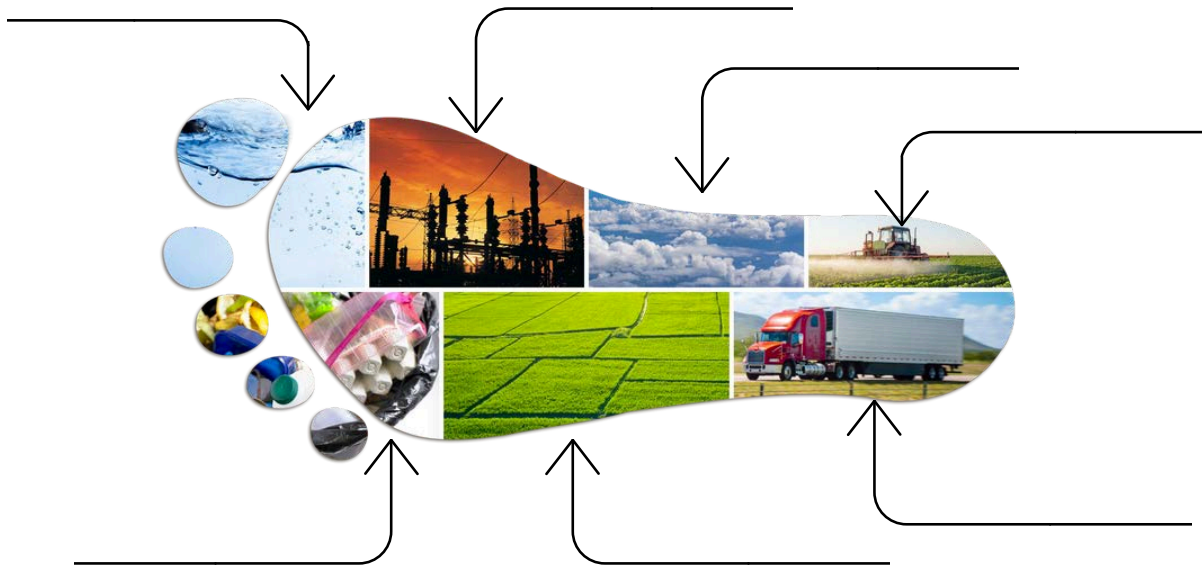


Name: _____

The Environmental Footprint of Livestock

Explore modern livestock production practices and the ecological footprint of meat, milk, and egg production.

What contributes to the overall environmental footprint of our food?



Activity 1: Exploring How Livestock Are Raised

After reviewing the *Livestock Production Systems Cards*, answer the following reflection questions:

- What did you see (from the videos) or read (from the text) that was new to you?
- What information was already familiar to you?
- What environmental impacts and concerns are associated with raising livestock?



Answer the following questions about concentrated animal feeding operations as you watch the video:



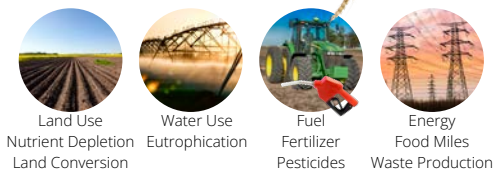
- Why did the EPA create the term and parameters for CAFOs?
- What is the primary byproduct of livestock that can pollute water sources?
- How does the density of animals in a given space correlate to the risk of damaging or polluting natural resources?

Activity 2: Comparing the Environmental Footprint of Plant-Source and Animal-Source Foods



Do some foods require more natural resources to produce than others?

Plant-source Foods



Animal-source Foods



Activity 3: Livestock and the Environment—On the Flip Side

Brainstorm:

- For the sake of the planet, should we shift to a vegan diet completely?
- If we stopped eating meat, milk, and eggs, what unintended consequences could we see in the big picture of our society and cultures?
- How can technology help mitigate negative environmental impacts from livestock production?

Conclusion:

Opportunity Cost: A concept in economics that quantifies the impact of selecting one option instead of another.



Regular or premium gas?



Name-brand or store-brand shoes



A resort vacation or a local stay-cation

Write a conclusion and action statement:

What do you believe is the best way forward to balance the cultural, nutritional, and economic needs of our society with the environmental impact of livestock?