

GloCal Health Fellowship Career Development Webinar

Ermias Kebreab

**Associate Dean, College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences
Professor and Sesnon Endowed Chair in Sustainable Agriculture
Director, World Food Center**

University of California, Davis

December, 2021

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University of Asmara



1987 - BSc. Asmara
University,
Asmara, Eritrea



University of Reading



1998 - MSc., PhD
University of
Reading,
Reading, UK



University of Guelph



2006 – Post
doctoral fellow
University of
Guelph,
Guelph, Canada



Experience - U of Guelph

Research:

- 25 publications in about 3 years – mostly first author
- 5 grant proposals awarded
- Young Scientist Award from Canadian Society of Animal Science

Teaching:

- Co-taught course on mathematical modeling of biological systems
- Co-advised 4 PhD and 2 MSc students

Outreach:

- Several oral presentations at national and international conventions



University of Manitoba

2009 – Associate
Professor & Canada
Research Chair
University of Manitoba,
Winnipeg, Canada



Experience – U of Manitoba

Research:

- 42 publications in about 2.5 years – most as senior author
- Several grant proposals awarded
- Early Career Achievement Award from American Society of Animal Science

Teaching:

- Developed new course on mathematical modeling of biological systems
- Advised 2 PhD, 1 MSc student and 3 postdocs

Outreach:

- Several oral presentations at national and international conventions



Research – U of Manitoba

Fields of study:

- Quantification and evaluation of mitigation of GHG emissions in agriculture using a whole systems approach.
- Energy and nutrient utilization/requirement models.
- Impact of animals on environment (environ. sustainability).

Funding

- National Science and Engineering Research Council
- Ministry of Agriculture, Province of Manitoba
- Industry groups



U California, Davis (2009 -)



Professor & Sesnon Endowed Chair
University of California, Davis, USA



Experience – UC Davis

Research:

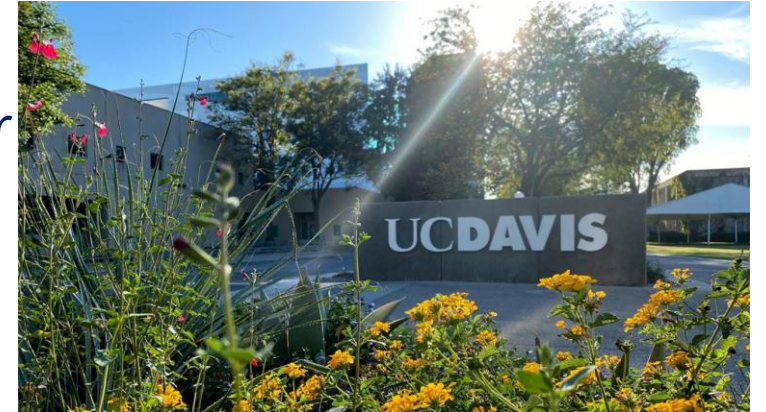
- 155 publications in about 12 years – mostly as senior
- Total grant awarded >\$15 million
- Excellence in Ruminant Nutrition and International Ag Award from ASAS

Teaching:

- Adopted course on mathematical modeling of biological systems
- Developed new course on sustainable animal ag.
- Advised 10 PhD, 4 MSc student and 10 postdocs

Outreach:

- >150 presentations globally



Research – UC Davis

Fields of study:

- Quantification and evaluation of **mitigation** of GHG emissions
- Nutrient utilization/requirement models in **cattle**.

Funding

- Federal - USDA (AFRI, NIFA, FAS), USAID (\$5 million)
- State – CA Air Resources Board (\$2 million)
- Foundation for Food and Agriculture Research (\$1 million)
- Industry groups - Dairy, Pork, Beef, DSM, Burger King (\$5 million)
- Philanthropy & Gifts (\$2 million)



Holistic Approach to Research

Biological Research

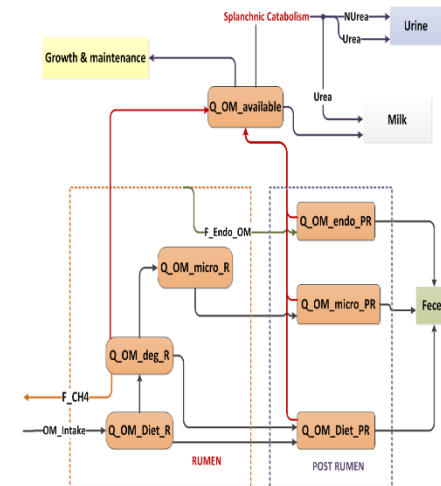


Experimentation

Modeling

Trinity: *In vivo* *In vitro*

In silico



Examples of Research

- Quantification and evaluation of **mitigation** of GHG emissions



Global Change Biology (2014) 20, 2140–2148, doi: 10.1111/gcb.12471

Prediction of enteric methane emissions from cattle

LUIS E. MORAES¹, ANDERS B. STRATHE², JAMES G. FADEL¹, DAVID P. CASPER³
ERMIAS KEBREAB¹

¹Department of Animal Science, University of California, Davis, CA 95616, USA, ²Department of Basic Animal and

Received: 10 August 2017 | Revised: 15 December 2017 | Accepted: 29 January 2018
DOI: 10.1111/gcb.14094

PRIMARY RESEARCH ARTICLE

WILEY Global Change Biology

Prediction of enteric methane production, yield, and intensity in dairy cattle using an intercontinental database

Mutian Niu¹ | Ermias Kebreab¹ | Alexander N. Hristov² | Joonpyo Oh² |



Global Change Biology (2016) 22, 3039–3056, doi: 10.1111/gcb.13339

Models for predicting enteric methane emissions from dairy cows in North America, Europe, and Australia and New Zealand

JAYASOORIYA A. D. R. N. APPUHAMY¹, JAMES FRANCE² and ERMIAS KEBREAB¹

¹Department of Animal Science, University of California, One Shields Avenue, Davis, CA 95616, USA, ²Centre for Nutrition Modelling, Department of Animal Biosciences, University of Guelph, Guelph, ON N1G 2W1, Canada



Publications

2019 Refinement

Top	Vol1 GGR	Vol2 Energy	Vol3 IPPU	Vol4 AFOLU	Vol5 Waste
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2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories Volume 4 Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use

Examples of Research

- Nutrient utilization/requirement models in **cattle**



J. Dairy Sci. 100:7116–7126
<https://doi.org/10.3168/jds.2017-12584>
© American Dairy Science Association®, 2017.

Estimating the energetic cost of feeding excess dietary nitrogen to dairy cows

K. F. Reed,^{*1} H. C. Bonfá,[†] J. Dijkstra,[‡] D. P. Casper,[§] and E. Kebreab[#]



J. Dairy Sci. 99:2748–2761
<http://dx.doi.org/10.3168/jds.2015-10427>
© American Dairy Science Association®, 2016.

Casein infusion rate influences feed intake differently depending on metabolizable protein balance in dairy cows: A multilevel meta-analysis

R. Martineau,^{*1} D. R. Ouellet,[†] E. Kebreab,[‡] and H. Lapiere[†]



J. Dairy Sci. 100:1–9
<https://doi.org/10.3168/jds.2016-11017>
© American Dairy Science Association®, 2017.

Exogenous β -mannanase improves feed conversion efficiency and reduces somatic cell count in dairy cattle

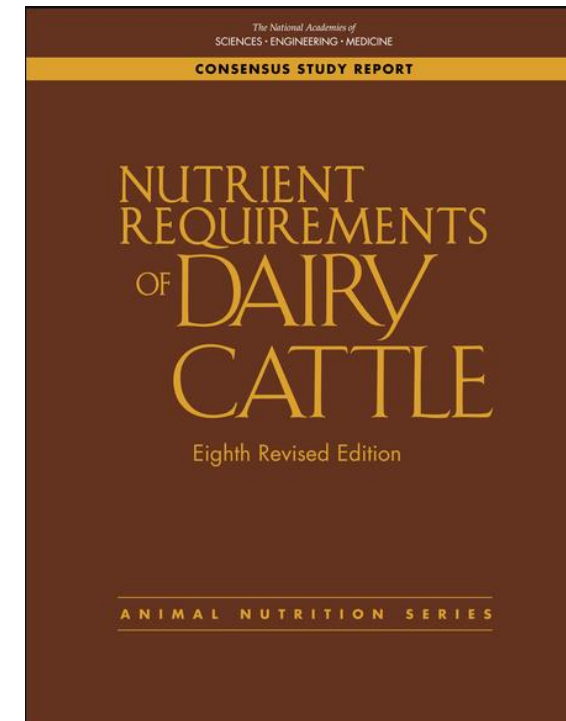
T. A. Tewoldebrhan,^{*} J. A. D. R. N. Apphuamy,^{*} J.-J. Lee,[†] M. Niu,^{*} S. Seo,[‡] S. Jeong,[‡] and E. Kebreab^{*1}



J. Dairy Sci. 94:2520–2531
doi:10.3168/jds.2010-3836
© American Dairy Science Association®, 2011.

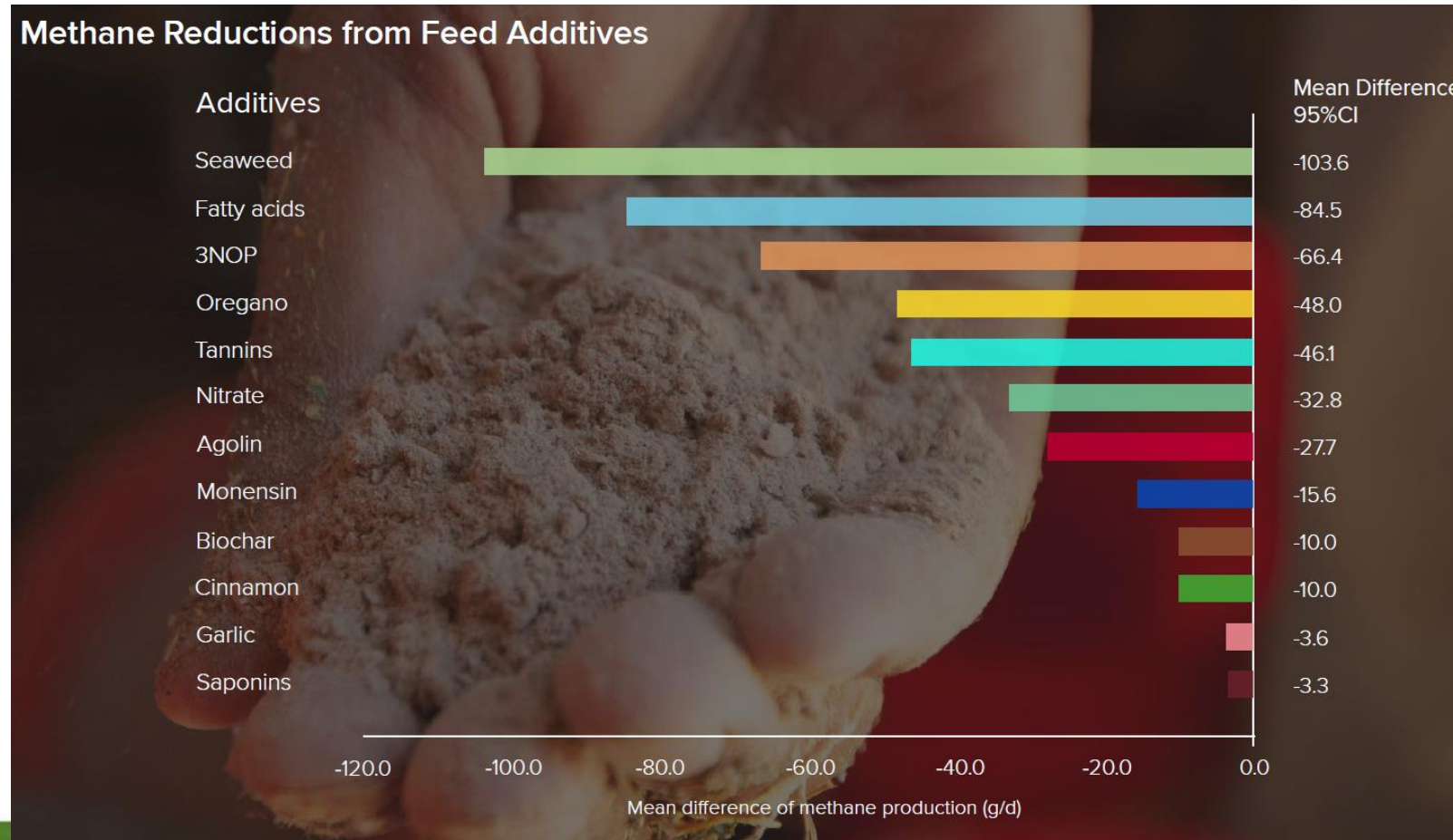
A Bayesian approach to analyze energy balance data from lactating dairy cows¹

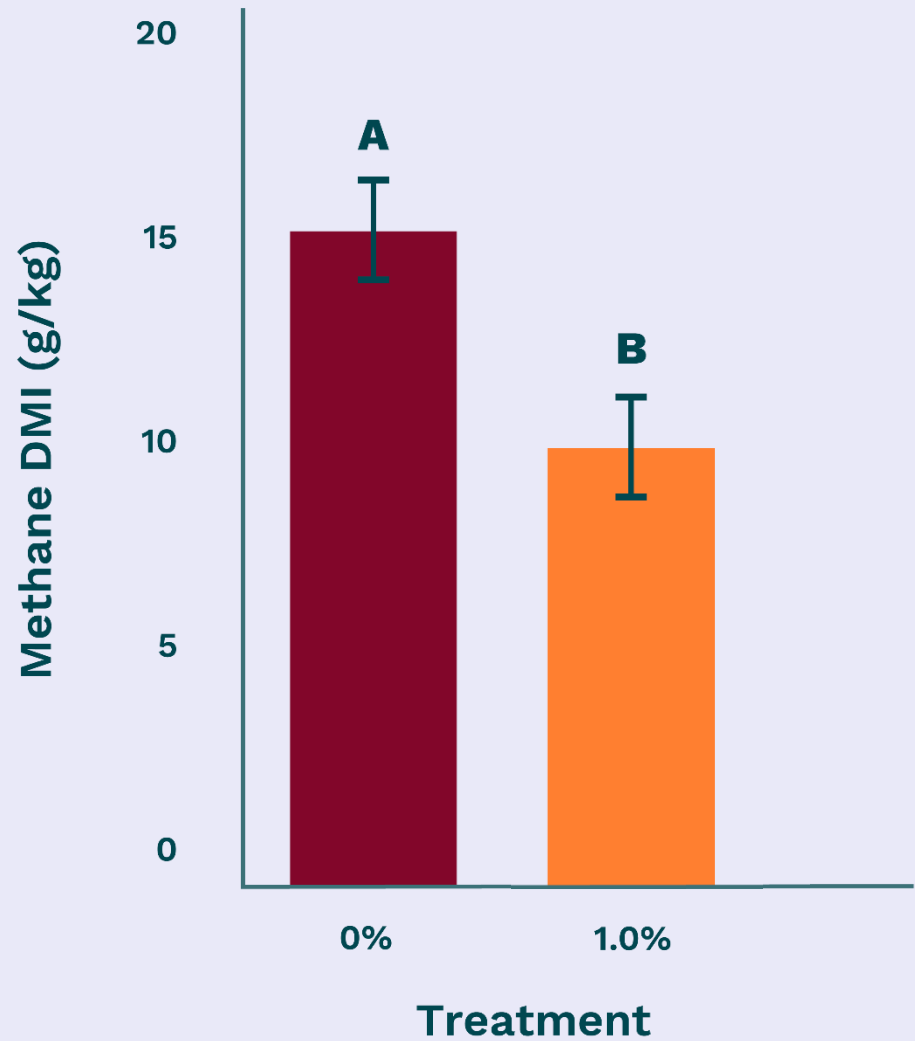
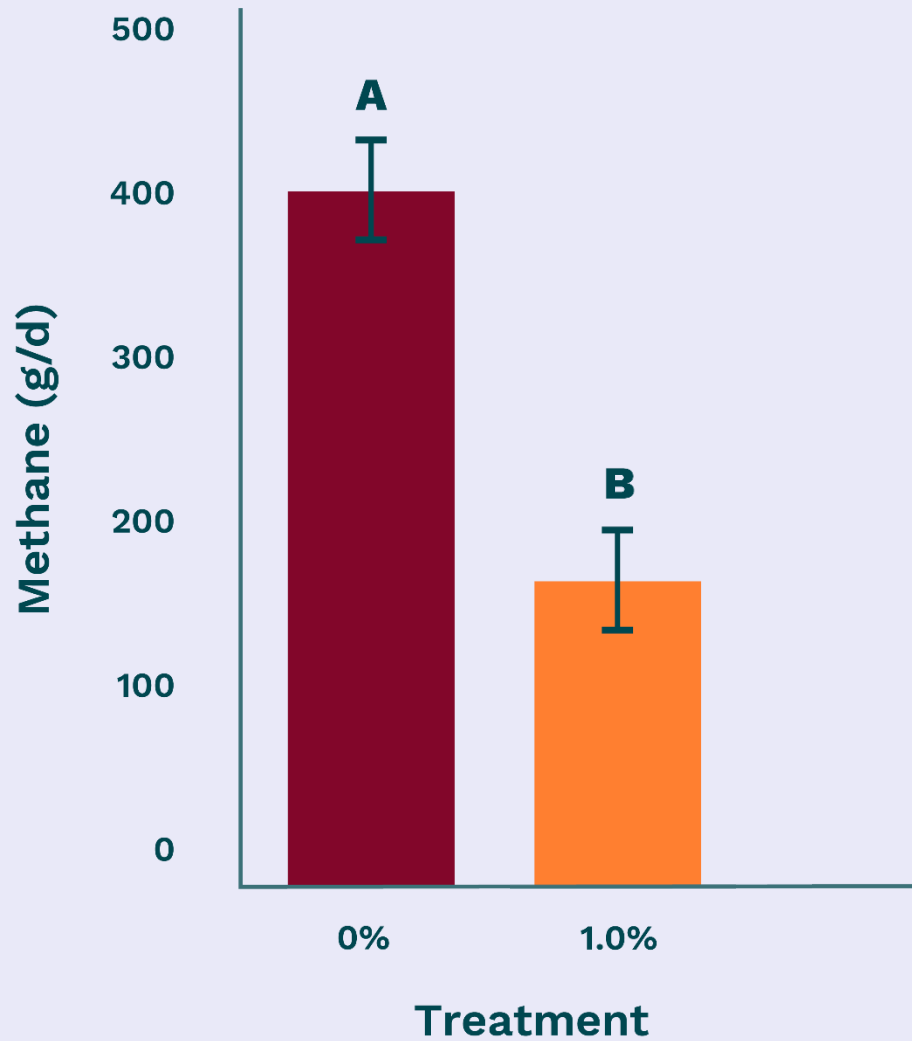
A. B. Strathe,^{*2} J. Dijkstra,[†] J. France,[‡] S. Lopez,[§] T. Yan,[#] and E. Kebreab^{*}



Current Focus – Climate Change

Role of feed additives to reduce methane emissions (high income) countries





Societal Impact

science
FRIDAY



SEGMENT | ⌚ 16:25

Seaweed Might Help Cows Go Green

Cattle are one of the largest producers of methane. Could a change in their diet reduce their greenhouse gas emissions?



READ MORE →

SPiegel Wissenschaft

Treibhausgas

Kühe stoßen bis zu 82 Prozent weniger Methan aus – wenn man sie mit Algen füttert

Die Landwirtschaft trägt erheblich zum Ausstoß klimaschädlicher Gase bei. Dabei lässt sich ein Großteil der Emissionen vermeiden, zeigt eine aktuelle Studie. Kühe müssten nur etwas anderes fressen.

18.03.2021, 18.00 Uhr



n p r

The Guardian

Feeding cows seaweed could cut their methane emissions by 82%, scientists say

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE at UC DAVIS



The New York Times

Over the past year, Ermias Kebreab, a professor of animal science at the University of California, Davis, and his colleagues [have been testing](#) seaweed diets on Holstein cows. Early results are

la Repubblica



Servite alle mucche una dieta di alghe per ridurre il metano

Secondo una ricerca appena pubblicata sulla rivista scientifica Plos One e condotta da ricercatori dell'Università della California si potrebbero in questo modo ridurre le emissioni provenienti dagli allevamenti fino all'82%

Media



Improving Production - Burkina



USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

**BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation**

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE at UC DAVIS



Improving Production - Ethiopia



BILL & MELINDA
GATES foundation

SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE at UC DAVIS



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	G DELIVERY	ምግብ በመጫን እና በመትከል
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Improving Production - Vietnam



Cambodia, Laos & Nigeria



Leadership - University

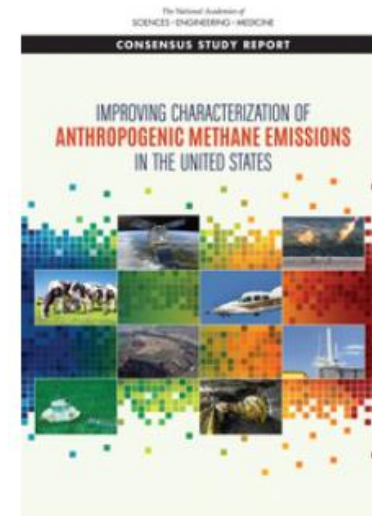
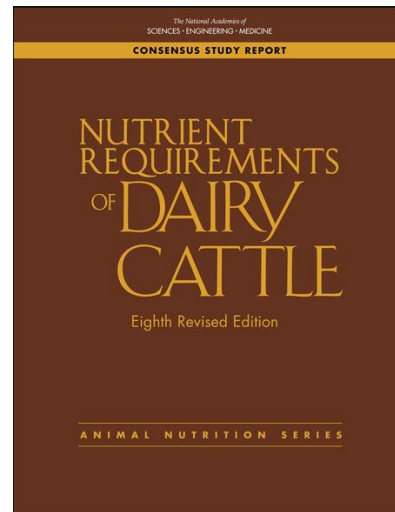
- Associate Vice Provost – Global Affairs
- Associate Dean/Director – College of Ag and Env. Sciences



Leadership - National

*The National
Academies of*

SCIENCES
ENGINEERING
MEDICINE



Leadership – International



Advisory
Services



Global Metrics for Sustainable Feed

Highlight of the Year – TED talk





Team Spirit



Some notable funders



BLUE OCEAN BARNs
Solving agriculture's biggest climate challenge.



the David & Lucile Packard
FOUNDATION

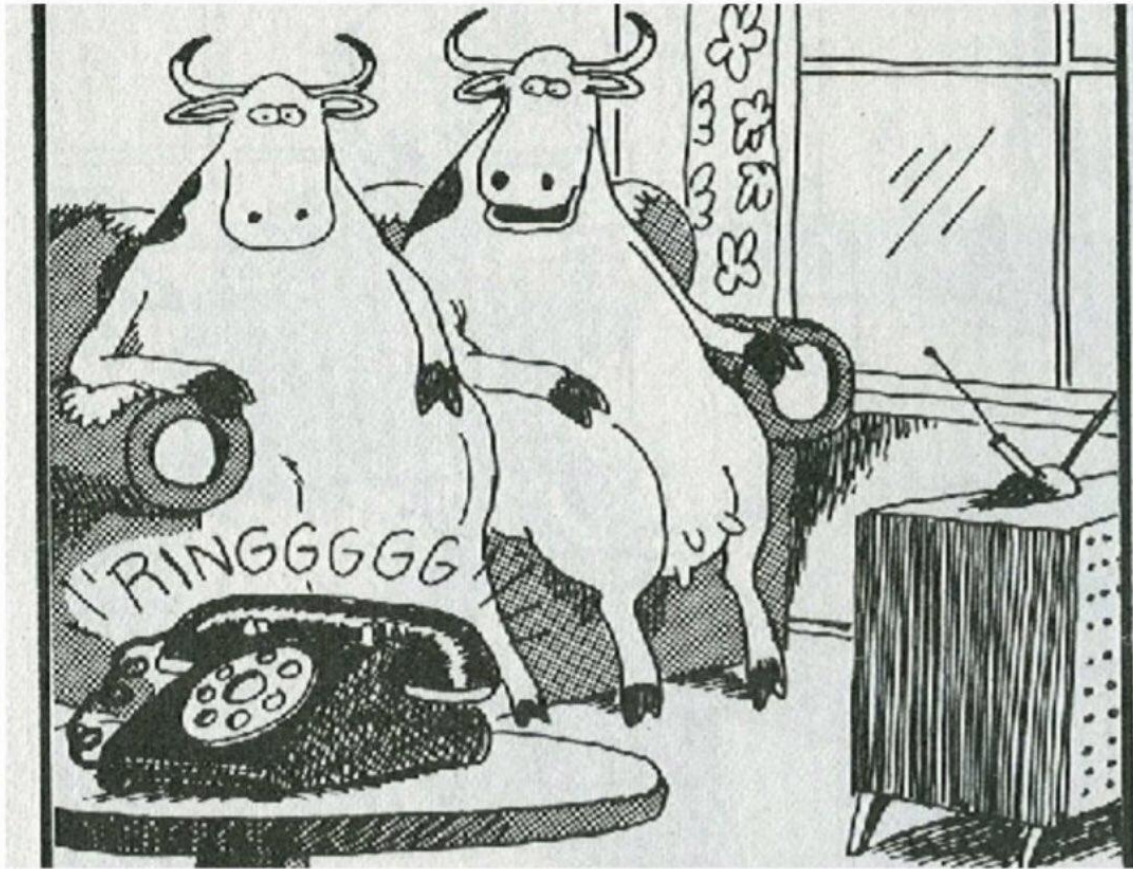


BILL & MELINDA
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Thank You!

“It must be my agent. I got a gig sequestering carbon.”



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