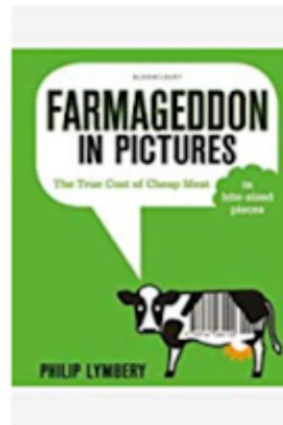
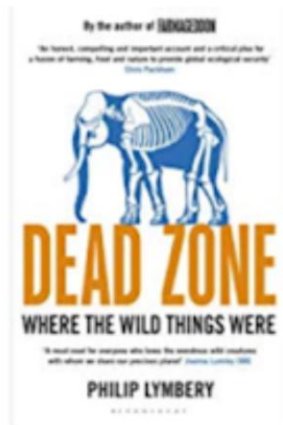


What every Asset Management company should know...

The importance of shifting to
Regenerative Agriculture

Philip Lymbery

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FOOD SYSTEMS CHAMPION



The importance of shifting to **Regenerative Agriculture**

Introduction by Philip Lymbery to a global webinar hosted by
Compassion in World Farming International

on

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“ I live on a small farm hamlet which provides a fascinating lens to observe the state of the countryside. My neighbours include a herd of cows that graze the rich pastures of our river valley in harmony with nature and animal welfare.

Further afield, I see a different picture: the effects of industrial agriculture; where animals are removed from the countryside to be caged, crammed or confined in factory farms, and where crops are grown in monocultures with heavy doses of chemical pesticides and fertilisers. Where this happens, it seems clear that:

- intensively farmed lands are devoid of life
- once common farmland birds have become uncommon
- familiar creatures like hedgehogs have become unfamiliar
- fields once wriggling with worms have become wormless
- soils are leaving our fields and washing away into rivers and roads. ”



“ Whichever lens we use to look at it, one thing has become clear: that food has become central to saving the planet.

Food systems generate a third of all greenhouse gas emissions and are responsible for up to 80 per cent of biodiversity loss, particularly due to the impact of factory farming. Industrial agriculture is a major driver of deforestation and soil degradation as well as being the biggest cause of animal cruelty on the planet.

A month ago, world leaders gathered for the United Nations Food Systems Summit. Its stated aim was to focus on *transforming* food systems to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030. ”



“ The man behind the Summit, the UN’s Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, framed the problem saying,

“We are waging a war against nature - and reaping the bitter harvest. Ruined crops, dwindling incomes and failing food systems... The war on the planet must end, and food systems can help us build that peace.”

The Summit itself was successful in changing the narrative away from an approach of ‘business as usual with tweaks’ toward one that speaks to the need for *transformational* reform. ”



“ Government statements at the Summit matched the new language of transformation but largely fell short in matching it with bold, ambitious enough action.

The reality is that without moving away from industrial animal agriculture, we will fail to meet most SDGs and thereby fall woefully short of creating a sustainable future.

Turning it around depends on how quickly we move to nature-positive and welfare-friendly regenerative farming that helps tackle climate, nature and health emergencies now facing us all.

The question is how do we do it? ”



“ For me, the answer lies in everyone getting involved to truly transform food systems based on nature and welfare-friendly regenerative farming.

It lies in governments using policies for change: directives, incentives and subsidies to steer toward health-orientated and regenerative food and farming. Globally, governments provide \$700 billion a year in farm subsidies, more than \$1m per minute, much of which currently drives the climate crisis, wildlife destruction and ill-health. That money could be redirected toward regenerative farming.

It lies in food companies setting measurable targets for shifting toward supply chains based on regenerative production. ”



“ It lies in the financial sector ensuring that agricultural funding only supports the transition toward regenerative farming.

And it lies in UN agencies taking their cue from the UN Food Systems Summit by creating a new **Global Agreement on food and farming** that charts an urgent course away from industrial animal agriculture toward nature-friendly, regenerative farming that can truly build back better – be that climate, biodiversity, soils, healthier food, or animal welfare. ”



“ In this way, we can restore the countryside to a living, breathing world for the sake of human, animal and planetary health; a world that can sustain us all, now and for generations to come.

The time to act is now.

What we do now will affect the next one thousand years. ”

— Philip Lymbery —