

New Food & Feed Database helps reduce supply chain impacts, Oct 22, 2014

Questions and Answers

Q: Do land use change (LUC) emissions include indirect emissions?

A: The calculations included are based on the method described in the [Envifood protocol](#) (based on the “weighted average” as given in [PAS2050-1](#)). We choose this approach as this is required for product environmental footprint (PEF) data.

This protocol describes how to derive the attribution of land transformation to a given crop and country combination. These calculations refer to **direct land use change**. Indirect land use change is not included. Provision of information on indirect land use change is not required by any standard, as the scientific consensus does not yet exist and robustness of methods cannot be guaranteed (please see [here](#) for an interesting article on indirect land use change).

Q: It looks like EU rapeseed mix does not include imports? Also, if it does include imports how old are the imports data?

A: Production mix plans focus on Europe, whereas the consumption mix plans also include imports from outside Europe. The statistical data is based on the most current published data from FAOSTAT, which are based on data from 2011.

Q: Are any of the data primary datasets or are they 100% modelled?

A: The data used for modelling is based on published literature (if best case based on primary data), statistical data and expert judgement (in case less important parameters could not be retrieved). The datasets are documented and provide the user with further information on data sources.

Q: Are the LCIs set in stone? Or can the user enter in different practices as you mentioned such as agrochemical use or specific land use (tilling, etc.) to come out with different emissions?

A: The LCIs are provided as aggregated or partly aggregated datasets with open input(s) to be able to directly set up LCA models. Agricultural practices cannot be altered by the user as the underlying model is not part of the food & feed database. We are open for any discussion on change of datasets, as we are constantly improving our data and publish annually upgraded data. For individual solutions or studies, model requests, customized data please contact us directly.

Q: Do you have a solution on paddy rice?

A: Paddy rice datasets are available for China and Thailand. Please check the [dataset list](#) for all datasets included in the database.

Q: Is the consumptive water use evaluation on crops according to ISO 14046 possible?

A: Water consumption (bluewater, greenwater) and water use can be assessed. The inventories, flow names, terminologies etc. in GaBi and the datasets in the food & feed database are according to ISO 14046. The underlying data for water consumption are derived from Pfister et al. The ISO 14046 also requires a spatial and time resolution. This is not yet directly possible but we can support you with any requirements with this regard.

Q: If you don't have GaBi, what is the cost per LCI if you want to purchase individually?

A: The price per individual dataset is basically the same as per GaBi-dataset (small extra effort is required) and is available upon request. Special conditions for ordering several datasets can be applied.

Q: Are you able to purchase groupings of datasets, such as all row crops only, or all animal production only?

A: It is also possible to purchase single datasets in case you have specific request for individual datasets and not the entire database. Please directly contact content@pe-international.com with the list of datasets you wish to purchase.