

# Global Feed LCA Institute



Institute for Feed Education & Research

## About

According to the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), feed production represents 45% of the carbon footprint of livestock products. Recognizing that animal feed is a critical component in measuring the total environmental footprint of animal nutrition products, an international consortium came together in 2016 to establish a “global gold standard” for calculating the life-cycle analysis (LCA) of feed ingredients. The Global Feed LCA Institute (GFLI) developed the methodology for assessing the feed impact of livestock and poultry production, supporting targeted improvements and recognizing the positive contributions of technology and best practices.

## Results

The GFLI is creating regional databases and a modelling tool to benchmark the environmental impact of feeding livestock and poultry production based on the scientifically robust LCA methodology for feed ingredients, developed under the Livestock Environmental Assessment and Performance (LEAP) Partnership. Alongside this effort, North America, the European Union, China, Brazil and the global aquaculture industry will be developing their own regional databases.

In September 2019, GFLI’s founding partners established a legal non-profit institute, under the same name, to expand its work and make the data more widely available to stakeholders throughout the global food value chain. The institute’s mission is to make available an expanded regional and sectorial animal nutrition LCA database comprised of existing LCA datasets GFLI developed for the European Union, United States and Canada. The institute will also develop tools to assist stakeholders in assessing the environmental footprint of animal nutrition products and encourage continuous improvement throughout the global animal nutrition and food industry.



## Impact

When the North American database is complete, it will provide much-needed uniform feed ingredient data to ongoing initiatives conducting species-specific lifecycle assessment calculations. In addition, researchers and academics conducting LCAs and producers providing customers with LCA metrics for their poultry, meat, eggs or milk products will have harmonized, quality data for the feed component of the animals’ footprints. In addition, the international nongovernmental organization community will have access to accurate, realistic feed ingredient data.