

Should Meat Consumption Be Restricted to Reduce Carbon Emissions? Student Name
 Institution Instructor Course Number Date Should Meat Consumption Be Restricted to Reduce Carbon Emissions? Climate change is one of the most pressing problems in the world, and to view the environment as sustainable, it is necessary to decrease the amount of carbon emissions. Industrial meat production has also been one of the most underestimated contributors to the global emissions as it generates a lot of greenhouse gas emissions, land use, and environmental degradation. Considering the magnitude of the issue, the governments need to cut down the meat consumption in order to decrease the carbon emission and safeguard the environmental health. The production of livestock in industries is a significant source of methane, a greenhouse gas much stronger than carbon dioxide. Recent studies published in open access reveal that cattle and other livestock are a major source of agricultural methane emissions and they require proper monitoring and mitigation (Ghassemi Nejad et al., 2024). Limiting meat content would result in a direct decrease in the production of large-scale livestock, which would cut the emission of the greenhouse gases. The increasing population and the increased meat consumption worldwide will keep increasing climate change unless the policy is implemented. Land and resource efficiency is another urgent factor which makes it necessary to limit the amount of meat one eats. Production of meat consumes huge quantities of water, grain and land. Much of the deforestation in the Amazon area as well as other parts of the world is a direct result of the necessity to have cattle grazing and production of feed crops. Research into the effects of meat eating and sustainability has found that the overall resource footprint of vegetarian diets is much lower and that a decrease in meat consumption would help conserve ecosystems and biodiversity (Font-i-Furnols et al., 2023). Policies (tax on meat,

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 Ghassemi Nejad, J., et al. (2024). Advances in methane emission estimation in livestock. *Animals*, 14(3), Article 435. <https://doi.org/10.3390/ani14030435>.
 Font-i-Furnols, M., et al. (2023). Meat consumption and sustainability: motives, barriers and alternatives. *Foods*, 12(11), Article 2144. <https://doi.org/10.3390/foods12112144>

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