



PV CLIMATE MODULE

AM-010

Module for Estimating Emissions from Livestock and Manure Decomposition for Small-scale Agroforestry

Version 1.0

[DD Month YYYY]

Developed by:

Acorn [Planting a better future with smallholder farmers | Acorn Rabobank](#)

Approved by:

Contents

1	Summary	2
2	Sources	2
3	Definitions	2
4	Applicability Conditions	2
5	Procedures	2
5.1	Baseline	2
5.2	Livestock emissions	3
5.3	Enteric fermentation	4
5.4	Manure decomposition	4
6	Parameters	6
7	References	<u>127</u>

1 Summary

This module provides procedures for the estimation of emissions of methane (CH_4) from *enteric fermentation* in livestock digestion system, and the emissions of methane and nitrous oxide (N_2O) from manure. Silvopastoral activities can result in greenhouse gas emissions including CH_4 and N_2O through grazing practice and *manure decomposition*. As a result, it is important to take into account these sources of emissions when calculating *carbon benefits* from *project interventions*. This module can be applied to *Smallholder Farmers* that carry out silvopastoral land management activities.

2 Sources

This module is based on the following existing methodology:

- **PU003** Estimation of baseline and project GHG emissions from emission sources in Plan Vivo projects.
- This methodology refers to the following IPCC Guidance:
- **IPCC 2006** Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories Volume 4 Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use.
- **IPCC 2019** Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories. Volume 4 Agriculture, Forestry and Other Land Use.
- **IPCC 2021** Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change

3 Definitions

Definitions used in this module follow the latest version of the Acorn Glossary available on the [Acorn website](#).

4 Applicability Conditions

For this module, the applicability conditions of Methodology **AM-001 v2.0** should be met. The module is designed to account for the emissions from livestock of silvopastoral land management activities carried out by *Smallholder Farmers*. This module is only to be applied for projects focusing on *silvopastoral projects*. These projects are those where the *Agroforestry Design* is purposefully designed and applied for farming on *plots* where the main economic dedication is *animal husbandry* with ruminants (cattle, buffalo, sheep and goat).

5 Procedures

5.1 Baseline

A *silvopastoral project* will define a farmer baseline group of a minimum of 100 farmers. These farmers should be selected reflecting the diversity of all project farmers, taking into account factors such as farm size, productivity level, geographical spread, climate, manure practice, and livestock purpose. The baseline emissions from *enteric fermentation* and *manure decomposition* from this farmer baseline group are calculated according to the equations under Section 5.2.

5.2 Livestock emissions

Silvopastoral systems that combine trees and *animal husbandry* are eligible. If *Local Partners* decide to include these types of activities in a *project*, the emissions from *enteric fermentation* (CH₄) and *manure deposition* (CH₄ and N₂O) must be determined following the Tier 1 approach in IPCC 2019 for ruminant animals.

$$LE_{\Delta,y} = LE_y - LE_{UBy}$$

Equation 1

Where:

$LE_{\Delta,y}$ = Change in livestock greenhouse gas emissions for a *project area* between year y and upper bound livestock greenhouse gas emissions in the baseline year (t CO₂e/ha)

LE_y = Livestock greenhouse gas emissions for a *project area* in year y (t CO₂e/ha; see Equation 3)

LE_{UBy} = Upper bound livestock greenhouse gas emissions for a *project area* in the baseline year (t CO₂e/ha; see Equation 2)

$$LE_{UBy} = LE_{By} \times ELHFF$$

Equation 2

Where:

LE_{UBy} = Upper bound livestock greenhouse gas emissions for a *project area* in the baseline year (t CO₂e/ha)

LE_{By} = Livestock greenhouse gas emissions for a *project area* in the baseline year (t CO₂e/ha; see Equation 3)

$ELHFF$ = Expected livestock herd fluctuation factor, which is based on a value of 1.15

$$LE_{y/By} = (ENT_{y/By} + MD_{y/By}) / P$$

Equation 3

Where:

$LE_{y/By}$ = Livestock greenhouse gas emissions for a *project area* in year y / the baseline year (t CO₂e)

$ENT_{y/By}$ = *Enteric fermentation* greenhouse gas emissions in the *project area* in year y / the baseline year (t CO₂e; See Equation 4)

MD_{y/B_y} = Manure decomposition greenhouse gas emissions in the *project area* in year y / the baseline year (t CO₂e; see Equation 6)

P = Total *project area* in year y / the baseline year (ha)

5.3 Enteric fermentation

Change in emissions from *enteric fermentation* are calculated and quantified following Equations 4 to 5.

$$ENT_y = ENT_{CH4,y} \cdot GWP_{CH4}$$

Equation 4

Where:

ENT_y = Enteric fermentation greenhouse gas emissions in the *project area* in year y (t CO₂e)

$ENT_{CH4,y}$ = Enteric fermentation CH₄ emissions in year y (t CH₄; see Equation 5)

GWP_{CH4} = Global warming potential of CH₄ (t CO₂e / t CH₄)

$$ENT_{CH4,y} = \sum_i EF_{ENT,i,pl} \cdot N_{i,y}$$

Equation 5

Where:

$ENT_{CH4,y}$ = Enteric fermentation CH₄ emissions in year y (t CH₄)

$EF_{ENT,i,pl}$ = Emission factor for *enteric fermentation* for livestock type i and productivity level pl (t CH₄/heads/year)

$N_{i,y}$ = Number of livestock of type i in year y (heads)

5.4 Manure decomposition

Emissions from *manure decomposition* are calculated following Equations 6 to 9.

$$MD_y = MD_{CH4,y} \cdot GWP_{CH4} + (MD_{directN2O,y} + MD_{indirectN2O,y}) \cdot GWP_{N2O}$$

Equation 6

Where:

MD_y = Manure decomposition greenhouse gas emissions in the *project area* in year y (t CO₂e)

$MD_{CH4,y}$ = Manure decomposition CH₄ emissions in year y (t CH₄; see Equation 7)

GWP_{CH_4} = Global warming potential of CH₄ (t CO₂e / t CH₄)

$MD_{directN2O,y}$ = Manure decomposition direct N₂O emissions in year y (t N₂O; see Equation 8)

$MD_{indirectN2O,y}$ = Manure decomposition indirect N₂O emissions in year y (t N₂O; see Equation 9)

GWP_{N_2O} = Global warming potential of N₂O (t CO₂e / t N₂O)

$$MD_{CH4,y} = \sum_i EF_{MD,CH4,i} \cdot N_{i,y}$$

Equation 7

Where:

$MD_{CH4,y}$ = Manure decomposition CH₄ emissions in year y (t CH₄)

$EF_{MD,CH4,i}$ = Emission factor for CH₄ from *manure decomposition* for livestock type i (t CH₄/heads/year)

$N_{i,y}$ = Number of livestock of type i in year y (heads)

$$MD_{directN2O,y} = \sum_i N_{i,y} \cdot Nex_i \cdot EF_{MD,directN2O,i} \cdot C_{N_2O}$$

Equation 8

Where:

$MD_{directN2O,y}$ = Manure decomposition direct N₂O emissions in year y (t N₂O)

$N_{i,y}$ = Number of livestock of type i in year y (heads)

Nex_i = Annual average nitrogen excretion per head of livestock type i (t N/head/year)

$EF_{MD,directN2O,i}$ = Emission factor for direct N₂O from *manure decomposition* for livestock type i (t N₂O/heads/year)

C_{N_2O} = Conversion factor from N to N₂O (t N₂O / t N)

$$MD_{indirectN2O,y} = \sum_i N_{i,y} \cdot Nex_i \cdot Frac_{gas} \cdot EF_{MD,indirectN2O} \cdot C_{N_2O}$$

Equation 9

Where:

$MD_{indirectN2O,y}$ = Manure decomposition indirect N₂O emissions in year y (t N₂O)

$N_{i,y}$ = Number of livestock of type i in year y (heads)

Nex_i = Annual average nitrogen excretion per head of livestock type i (t N/head/year)

$Frac_{gas}$ = Fraction of managed manure nitrogen that volatilizes as NH₃ and NO_x in the *manure decomposition* process

$EF_{MD,indirectN2O}$ = Emission factor for N₂O emissions atmospheric deposition of nitrogen on soils and water surfaces (t N₂O-N / t NH₃-N and NO_x-N emitted/head/year)

C_{N_2O} = Conversion factor from N to N₂O (t N₂O / t N)

6 Parameters

Data/Parameter	C_{N_2O}
Units	t (tonne)
Description	Conversion factor from nitrogen to nitrous oxide (t N ₂ O/t N)
Equations	Equation 8 & Equation 9
Source	IPCC 2006
Value	$\frac{44}{28}$
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	Common practices, well known recognized ratio of molecular weights
Purpose of Data	Calculation of N ₂ O from N
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	$EF_{ENT,i,pl}$
----------------	-----------------

Units	t CH ₄ /heads/year
Description	Emission factor for <i>enteric fermentation</i> for livestock type <i>i</i> and productivity level <i>pl</i>
Equations	Equation 5
Source	IPCC 2019 Table 10.10 to 10.11. The livestock category should be determined by reliable sources, including but not limited to farmer surveys, or official documentation recognized by public authorities such as veterinary services documents, licenses, permissions, or livestock inventory documentation. The productivity level should be either based on scientific studies or publications from relevant authorities for the specific country, such as an official census from the Ministry of Agriculture or farmer surveys in the <i>project area</i> .
Value	N/A
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	See IPCC 2019
Purpose of Data	Estimation of CH ₄ emissions from <i>enteric fermentation</i>
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	$EF_{MD,CH4,i}$
Units	t CH ₄ /head/year
Description	Emission factor for CH ₄ emissions from <i>manure decomposition</i> for livestock type <i>i</i>
Equations	Equation 7
Source	IPCC 2019 Table 10.14 to 10.15
Value	N/A
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	See IPCC 2019
Purpose of Data	Estimation of CH ₄ emissions from <i>manure decomposition</i>
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	$EF_{MD,directN2O,i}$
Units	t N ₂ O/heads/year
Description	Emission factor for direct N ₂ O emissions from <i>manure decomposition</i> for livestock type <i>i</i>
Equations	Equation 8
Source	IPCC 2019 Table 10.21
Value	N/A
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	See IPCC2019
Purpose of Data	Estimation of direct N ₂ O emissions from <i>manure decomposition</i>

Comments	N/A
----------	-----

Data/Parameter	$EF_{MD,indirectN20}$
Units	t N ₂ O-N / t NH ₃ -N and NO _x -N emitted/head/year
Description	Emission factor for N ₂ O emissions atmospheric deposition of nitrogen on soils and water surfaces
Equations	Equation 9
Source	IPCC 2019 Table 11.3
Value	N/A
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	See IPCC 2019
Purpose of Data	Estimation of indirect N ₂ O emissions from <i>manure decomposition</i>
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	<i>ELHFF</i>
Units	N/A
Description	Expected livestock herd fluctuation factor
Equations	Equation 2
Source	Tester et al. (2019)
Value	1.15
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	The expected livestock herd fluctuation factor takes into account the natural fluctuations in the livestock herds on farms, due to the gestation period required for cattle, and the time needed for raising calves among other factors (Tester et al, 2019). Herd size fluctuations for different herd management strategies can reach and surpass 15% compared to the baseline in livestock cycles.
Purpose of Data	Estimation of the upper bound livestock greenhouse gas emissions for a <i>plot</i> in the baseline year
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	$ENT_{y/By}$
Units	tonne CO ₂ e
Description	<i>Enteric fermentation</i> greenhouse gas emissions in <i>project area</i> in year <i>y</i> / the baseline year
Equations	Equation 3 & Equation 4
Source	Surveys or inventory of <i>project areas</i> and IPCC 2019
Value	N/A
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	See IPCC 2019
Purpose of Data	Estimation of emissions from <i>enteric fermentation</i>
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	$Frac_{gas}$
Units	t NH ₃ -N and NO _x -N emitted / t N

Description	Fraction of managed manure nitrogen that volatilizes as NH ₃ and NO _x in the <i>manure decomposition</i> process
Equations	Equation 9
Source	IPCC 2019 Table 10.22
Value	N/A
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	See IPCC 2019
Purpose of Data	Estimation of emissions from <i>manure decomposition</i>
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	GWP_{CH_4}
Units	tCO ₂ e / tCH ₄
Description	Global Warming Potential of CH ₄
Equations	Equation 4 & Equation 6
Source	2021 IPCC Sixth Assessment Report
Value	27.2
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	Global warming potential values are applied in line with common scientific values used by IPCC
Purpose of Data	Conversion of CH ₄ to CO ₂ e
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	GWP_{N_2O}
Units	t CO ₂ e / tN ₂ O
Description	Global Warming Potential for N ₂ O
Equations	Equation 6
Source	2021 IPCC Sixth Assessment Report
Value	273
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	Global warming potential values are applied in line with common scientific values used by IPCC
Purpose of Data	Conversion of N ₂ O to CO ₂ e
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	$LE_{y/By}$
Units	tonne CO ₂ e/ ha
Description	Livestock greenhouse gas emissions for a <i>plot</i> in year <i>y</i> / the baseline year
Equations	Equation 1 & Equation 2 & Equation 3
Source	See Equation 3. For the baseline year, it is suggested to use the surveys or livestock inventory of <i>project areas</i> of the 3 years prior to the <i>Project Period</i> to

	calculate the average baseline year emissions. Only when the data of those 3 years is not available can a <i>silvopastoral project</i> use a single year prior to the <i>Project Period</i> as baseline year data.
Value	N/A
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	See IPCC 2019
Purpose of Data	Estimation of livestock greenhouse gas emissions from <i>enteric fermentation and manure decomposition</i>
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	LE_{UBy}
Units	tonne CO ₂ e/ ha
Description	Upper bound livestock greenhouse gas emissions for a <i>plot</i> in the baseline year
Equations	Equation 1 & Equation 2
Source	See Equation 2
Value	N/A
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	Determines the upper bound of emissions for the baseline due to the natural fluctuation of the livestock herd in the silvopastoral system.
Purpose of Data	Estimation of emissions from <i>enteric fermentation and manure decomposition</i>
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	$MD_{y/By}$
Units	tonne CO ₂ e
Description	<i>Manure decomposition</i> greenhouse gas emissions in <i>project area</i> in year <i>y</i> / the baseline year
Equations	Equation 3 & Equation 6
Source	Surveys or inventory of <i>project areas</i> and IPCC 2019
Value	N/A
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	See IPCC 2019
Purpose of Data	Estimation of emissions from <i>manure decomposition</i>
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	$N_{i,y}$
Units	Heads
Description	Number of livestock of type <i>i</i> in year <i>y</i>
Equations	Equation 5 & Equation 7 & Equation 8 & Equation 9
Source	For the baseline year, it is suggested to use the surveys or livestock inventory of <i>project areas</i> of the 3 years prior to the <i>Project Period</i> to calculate the average baseline year emissions. Only when the data of

	<p>those 3 years is not available can a <i>silvopastoral project</i> use a single year prior to the <i>Project Period</i> as baseline year data.</p> <p>For any year, livestock inventory should be based on reliable sources, such as official documentation recognized by public authorities such as the veterinary services documents, licenses, permissions, or inventory documentation.</p>
Value	N/A
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	See Plan Vivo Module PU003
Purpose of Data	Estimation of CH ₄ and N ₂ O emissions from <i>enteric fermentation</i> and <i>manure decomposition</i>
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	Nex_i
Units	t N/head/year
Description	Annual average nitrogen excretion per head of livestock type <i>i</i>
Equations	Equation 8 & Equation 9
Source	IPCC 2019 Table 10.19
Value	N/A
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	See IPCC 2019
Purpose of Data	Estimation of N ₂ O emissions from <i>manure decomposition</i>
Comments	N/A

Data/Parameter	P
Units	Ha
Description	Total project area in year y/ the baseline year
Equations	Equation 8 & Equation 9
Source	Plot polygon
Value	N/A
Justification of choice of data or description of measurement methods and procedures applied	See IPCC 2019
Purpose of Data	Estimation of N ₂ O emissions from <i>manure decomposition per plot</i>
Comments	N/A

7 References

IPCC 2006: *2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*. Prepared by the National Greenhouse Gas Inventories Programme, Egglestone H.S., Buendia L., Miwa K., Ngara T. and Tanabe K. (eds). Published: IGES, Japan.

IPCC 2019: *2019 Refinement to the 2006 IPCC Guidelines for National Greenhouse Gas Inventories*, Calvo Buendia, E., Tanabe, K., Kranjc, A., Baasansuren, J., Fukuda, M., Ngarize, S., Osako, A., Pyrozhenko, Y., Shermanau, P. and Federici, S. (eds). Published: IPCC, Switzerland.

IPCC, 2021: Climate Change 2021: The Physical Science Basis. Contribution of Working Group I to the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change[Masson-Delmotte, V., P. Zhai, A. Pirani, S.L. Connors, C. Péan, S. Berger, N. Caud, Y. Chen, L. Goldfarb, M.I. Gomis, M. Huang, K. Leitzell, E. Lonnoy, J.B.R. Matthews, T.K. Maycock, T. Waterfield, O. Yelekçi, R. Yu, and B. Zhou (eds.)]. Cambridge University Press, Cambridge, United Kingdom and New York, NY, USA, In press, doi:[10.1017/9781009157896](https://doi.org/10.1017/9781009157896).

Plan Vivo Foundation Technical Advisory Committee and The Landscapes and Livelihoods Group (TLLG) (2022) *PU003 Estimation of baseline and project GHG emissions from emission sources in plan Vivo projects*. Plan Vivo Foundation.

<https://www.planvivo.org/Handlers/Download.ashx?IDMF=d2a6537e-7f29-48ce-937e-c988e702a2e7> (Accessed: October 24, 2023).

Tester, C. A., Popp, M. P., Kemper, N. P., Nalley, L. L., & West, G. (2019). Impact of Weather and Herd Size Management on Beef Cow Profitability. *Journal Of Agricultural And Applied Economics*, 51(04), 545–567. <https://doi.org/10.1017/aae.2019.13>.