

Standardization of accounting is also necessary for retailers and supply chains

Like the banks, supply chains are now discussing the need to be accountable. At the end of the supply chain are retailers, who likewise are going to feel the need to be responsible for the climate footprint of what they sell.

For the red meat industry, GWP100 paints a dismal picture, whereas GWP* represents the red meat industry here in Australia as producing Net Zero Warming.

Supermarkets:

The report, "Food choices could slice greenhouse gas emissions" was the source of this article, "How leaving the meat off your lasagne can help save the planet".

"New research has found that switching food and drink purchases can reduce greenhouse gas emissions from household groceries by up to 71 per cent.

The study found around 31 million tonnes of greenhouse gas emissions were the result of products consumed at home in 2019, with meat and meat products contributing to almost half of that."

Thomas Foods International:

Thomas Foods International's farm assurance and supply chain manager Mark Inglis said the expectation of TFI's customers is that the products the company sells will be "net zero."

"They do not want to inherit anything."

He said TFI's US operations have done their emissions baselines, and the Australian operations were now being baselined. The company's Australian and our overseas customers are now asking for that information and wanting to know what TFI's Scope 1, 2 and 3 emissions are.

Mr Inglis TFI's Scope 1 and 2 emissions can be handled, but it was the Scope 3 emissions that it could not manage.

"The work done in the US showed us that 98pc of the carbon emissions of our US business came from the meat that we actually bought in.

"So, something that is out of hands makes up 98pc of our carbon emission total in our business."

He said high-end analysis of the Australian business showed that 96pc of the emissions is in the livestock that TFI buys in.

"Based on the carbon price at the moment, which is around \$30 a tonne – if we were to offset that as a company, we are talking \$85 million a year.

"Do you think we are going to get that back from our customers?" he asked.

McDonalds:

The use of GWP100 to measure methane will put the likes of McDonalds in a difficult position. They will never be able to represent to consumers that the red meat in their product is carbon neutral. This is because carbon neutral is based on GWP100.