Leading | Protecting | Enhancing

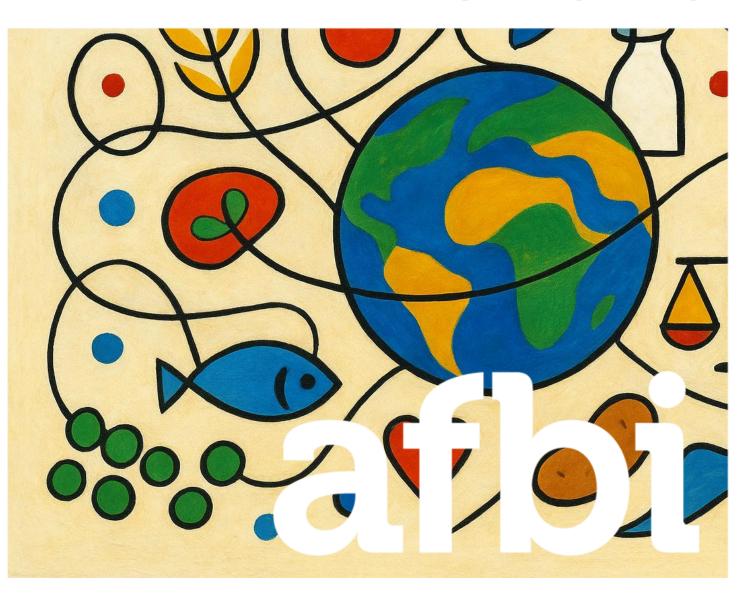
TUKFS Project Event, Cranfield University

International trade and the environmental benefits of diet change in the United Kingdom

Erin Sherry

21 October 2025

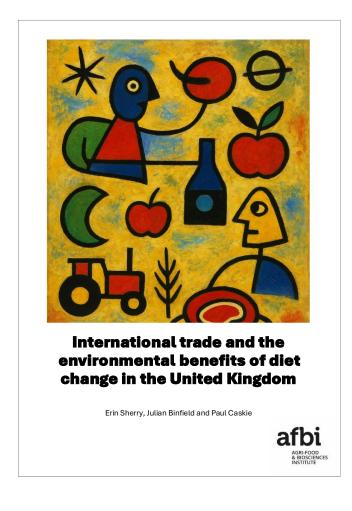
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Acknowledgements









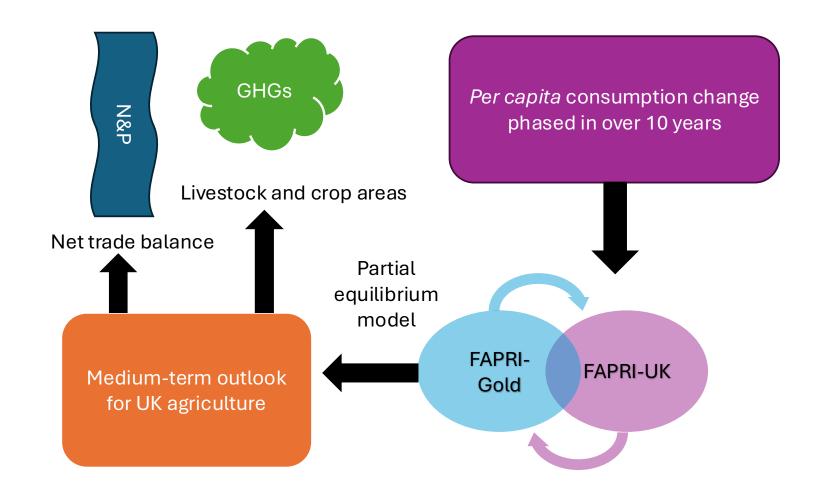




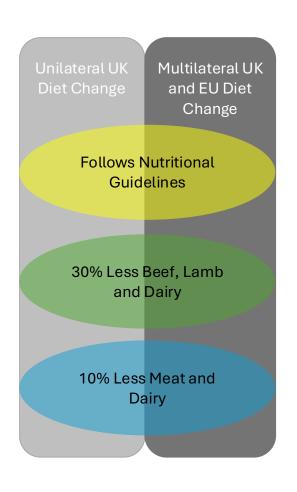




Overview



Six scenarios compared to status quo

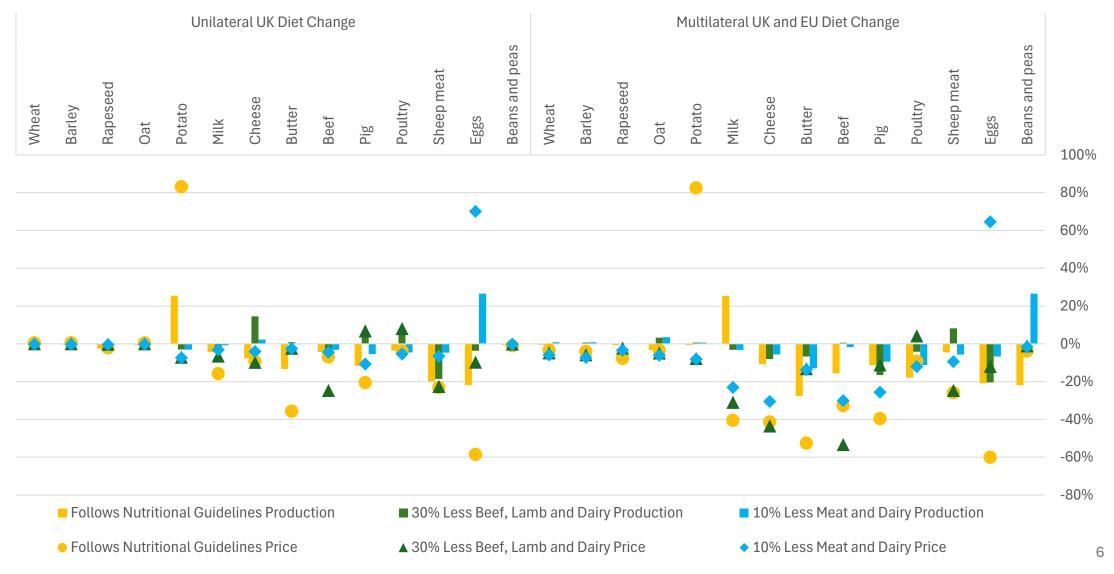


- Three patterns of diet transition
 - WP1 diet mapped to agricultural commodities
 - Ruminant-derived foods reduced
 - Replaced primarily with chicken, pigmeat
 - All meat and dairy reduced
 - Replaced primarily by eggs and fish
- Two assumptions about scope of adoption
 - Diets only change in the UK
 - Diets change in the UK and the EU-15
 - Half the magnitude, but same pattern
 - -30% in UK, -15% in EU-15

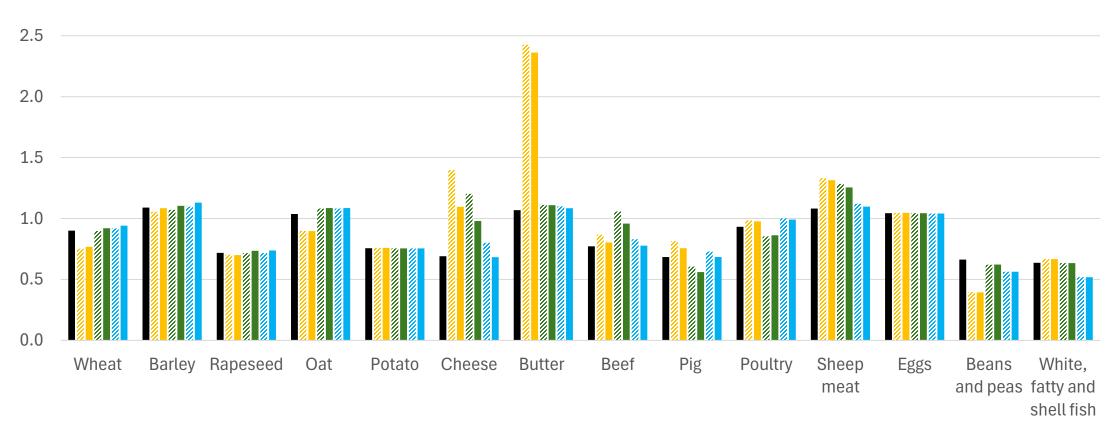
Diet transitions modelled (tenth year)

Commodity	Follows Nutritional Advice		30% Less Beef, Lamb and Dairy		10% Less Meat and Dairy	
	Assumed <i>per capita</i> consumption	Percent difference from status quo	Assumed <i>per capita</i> consumption	Percent difference from status quo	Assumed <i>per capita</i> consumption	Percent difference from status quo
Wheat	170.9	40%	122.6	0%	120.8	-1%
Barley	30.9	23%	26.1	4%	26.1	4%
Maize	20.6	61%	11.8	-7%	11.8	-7%
Oats	10.3	25%	7.6	-7%	7.6	-7%
Rapeseed oil	7.3	-35%	10.7	-5%	10.7	-5%
Sunflower oil	3.5	-25%	4.5	-3%	4.5	-3%
Soy oil	2.9	-41%	4.7	-4%	4.7	-4%
Potatoes	116.5	37%	81.9	-4%	81.9	-4%
Peas and beans	23.1	127%	11.5	12%	13.6	34%
Sugar	0.0	-100%	29.1	-3%	29.1	-3%
Beef	12.9	-15%	10.2	-33%	13.6	-10%
Sheepmeat	2.6	-35%	2.7	-31%	3.7	-8%
Pigmeat	14.8	-26%	23.3	17%	17.7	-11%
Poultry	27.3	-9%	35.0	17%	26.6	-11%
Eggs	12.2	-22%	15.1	-4%	19.9	27%
Milk	87.7	5%	57.8	-31%	77.4	-7%
Cheese	5.1	-54%	7.3	-34%	9.8	-12%
Butter	1.3	-62%	3.2	-3%	3.2	-3%
White fish	4.8	34%	3.7	4%	5.0	39%
Oily fish	4.4	-39%	6.2	-15%	8.3	14%

Price and production (% difference)



Self-sufficiency (production: domestic use)

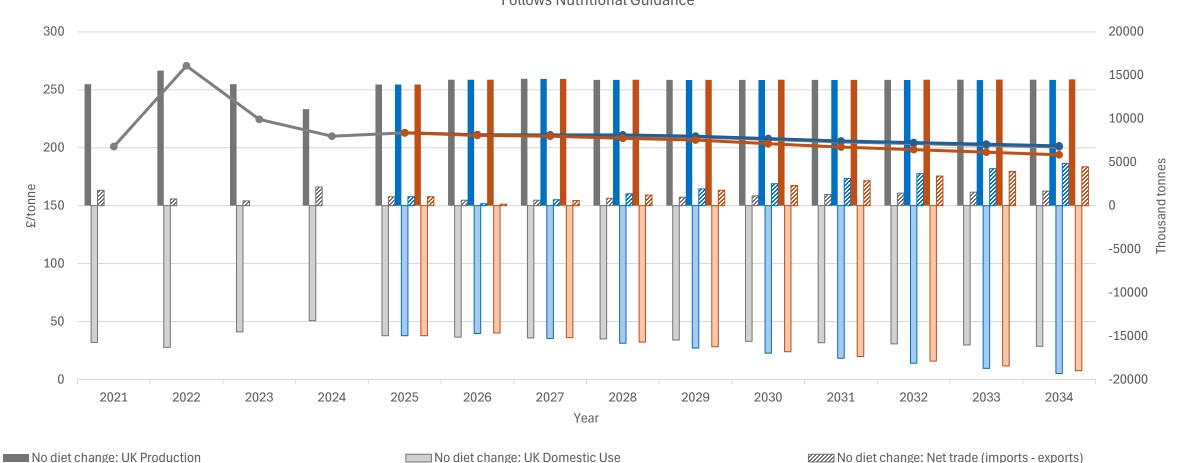


- No diet change
- Follows Nutritional Guidelines Multilateral UK and EU diet change
- 30% Less Beef, Lamb and Dairy Multilateral UK and EU diet change
- 10% Less Meat and Dairy Multilateral UK and EU diet change

- Follows Nutritional Guidelines Unilateral UK diet change
- 30% Less Beef, Lamb and Dairy Unilateral UK diet change
- 10% Less Meat and Dairy Unilateral UK diet change

Wheat supply and use (right) and price (left)

Follows Nutritional Guidance



Unilateral UK diet change: UK Production Multilateral UK and EU diet change: UK Production

No diet change: UK Price

No diet change: UK Domestic Use Unilateral UK diet change: UK Domestic Use Multilateral UK and EU diet change: UK Domestic Use Unilateral UK diet change: UK Price

No diet change: Net trade (imports - exports)

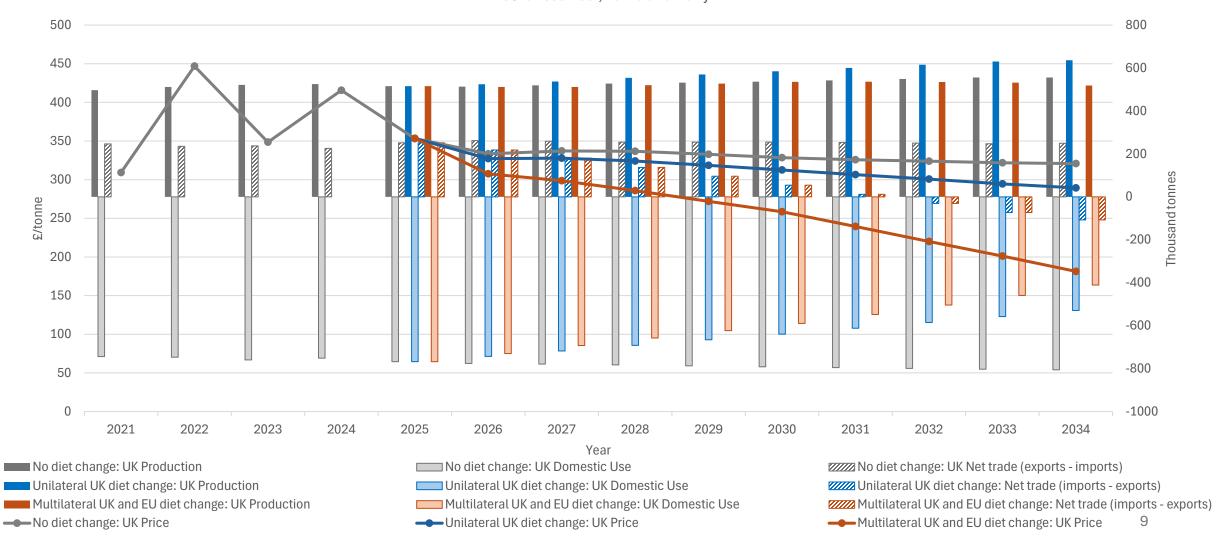
Unilateral UK diet change: Net trade (imports - exports)

Multilateral UK and EU diet change: Net trade (imports - exports)

Multilateral UK and EU diet change: UK Price

Cheese supply and use (right) and price (left)

30% Less Beef, Lamb and Dairy

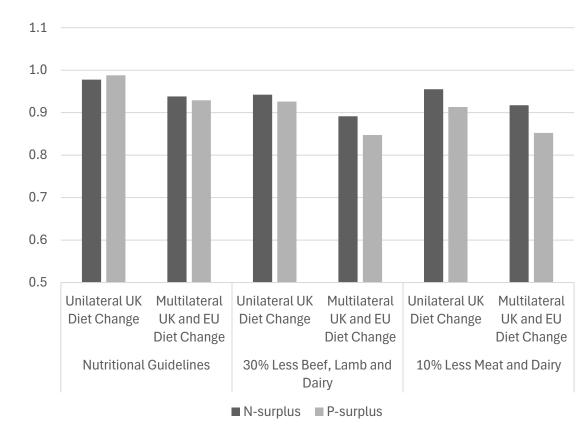


Ratio of the status quo in the tenth year

Methane and Nitrous oxide emissions

1.1 Unilateral UK Multilateral UK Unilateral UK Multilateral UK Unilateral UK Multilateral UK Diet Change Diet Change and EU Diet Diet Change and EU Diet and EU Diet Change Change Change **Nutritional Guidelines** 30% Less Beef, Lamb and 10% Less Meat and Dairy Dairy ■ Enteric fermentation

Nitrogen and phosphorus soil surplus



Key message: market signals and integration

Weak price signals

- Internationally integrated
- Diet change UK-only
- Limits production response
- Self-sufficiency
 - Encouraged foods
- Environmental sustainability
 - Discouraged foods

Strong price signals

- Less internationally integrated
- UK and EU diet change
- Production response
- Affordability paradox
 - Encouraged foods expensive
 - Discouraged foods cheaper

Key message: complexity of agriculture

Structural relationships

- Limit / delay market response
- Climactic constraints
 - Crops, varieties and quality
- Lags and uncertainty
 - Livestock breeding cycles

Secondary impacts

- Commodity interdependencies
- Intermediate inputs
 - Feed for livestock
- Biproducts
 - Beef from dairy cows

Key message: international trade

- Diet change can shift competitiveness and present arbitrage opportunities
- Can benefit either domestic or foreign producers
- Aligning diet change internationally reduces trade balance impacts and improves environmental risk outcomes



Thank you

erin.sherry@afbini.gov.uk



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