

***Research Symposium on Nutrient Requirements for Humans  
and Animals in the Era of Precision Nutrition:  
UF/IFAS Center for Nutritional Sciences: March 21, 2024***

**Developing Nutrient Requirements for Large Animals:  
Precision Nutrition and Practical Applications**

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**C**enter for  
**N**utrition and  
**P**regnancy

**NDSU**

Animal Sciences Dept.

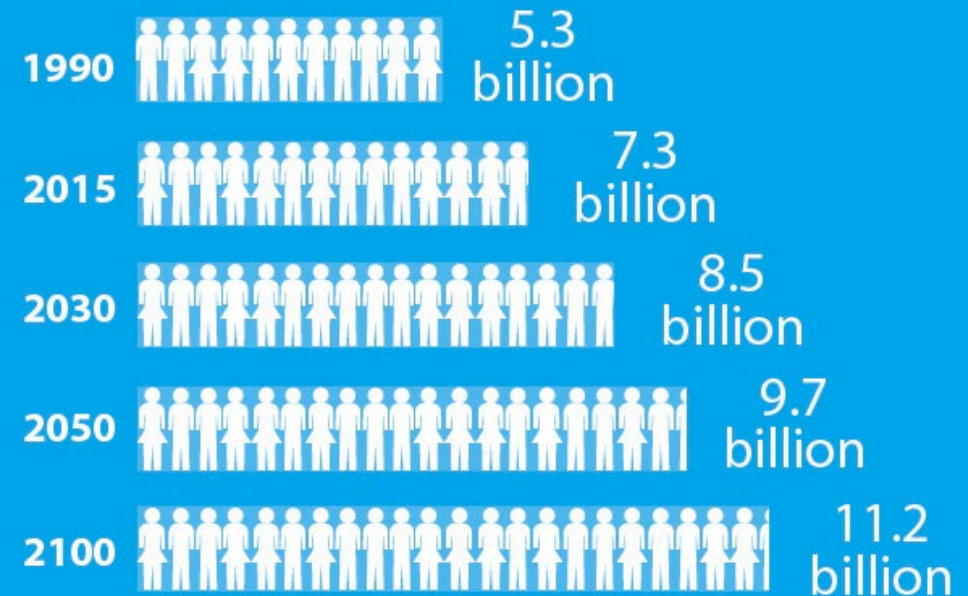
# Importance to Society: Broader Impacts

- ▣ Obesity, Metabolic Disease, Cancer
- ▣ Feeding the world population
- ▣ Sustainability
  - Biosphere,
  - Hydrosphere,
  - Atmosphere



## World Population

Projected world population until 2100



Source: United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division, *World Population Prospects: The 2015 Revision*  
Produced by: United Nations Department of Public Information

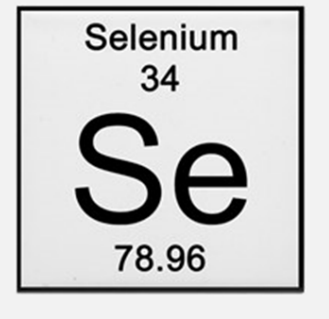


# Defining and Delivering the Nutrient Requirements: The Essence of Precision Nutrition

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- Long history of discovery and application
- More in front of us than behind us
- Requirements for nutrients range from percentage of the diet to mg or mcg/kg DMI
  - Most expressed as proportion of diet
  - What about per unit of BW or Metabolic BW
- Requirements are fickle and depend upon many things
- Where the best of science and the art of management merge





# Selenium History



- ❑ 1817: Discovered by Berzelius
- ❑ 1930's: Se highly toxic to grazing livestock
- ❑ 1940's: Implicated as causing cancer in laboratory animals
- ❑ 1957 to 1980's:
  - Essential nutrient for laboratory animals, food animals, and humans; relationships with Vit. E; narrow range between requirement and toxicity
- ❑ 1996- Anticarcinogenic
- ❑ 2008- Involved in diabetes
- ❑ 2015- Se and 1-C metabolism

***ISSBM 13, Oct. 26-29, 2025;  
Daejeon, South Korea***



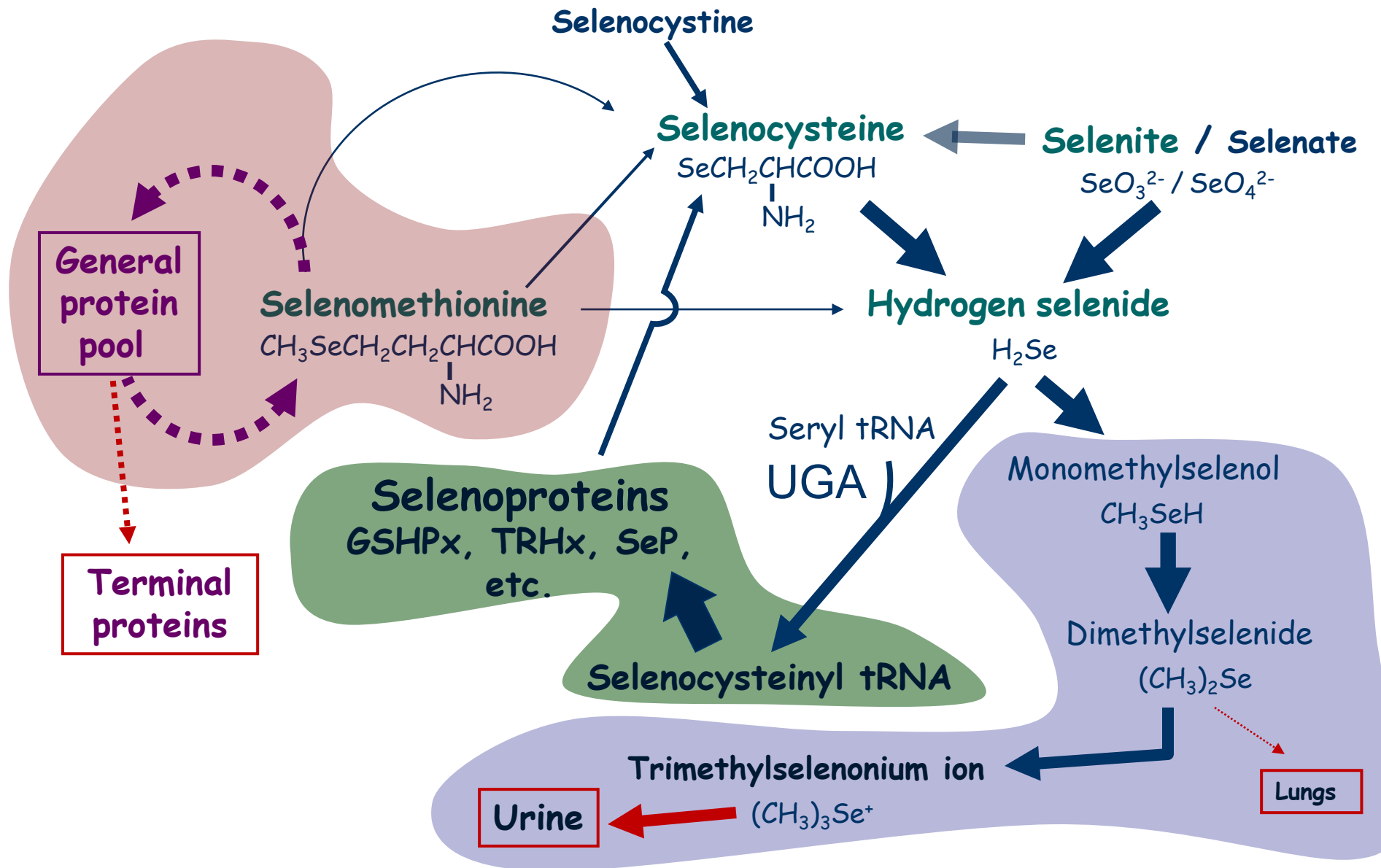
The 11th International Symposium  
on Selenium in Biology and Medicine

*and*

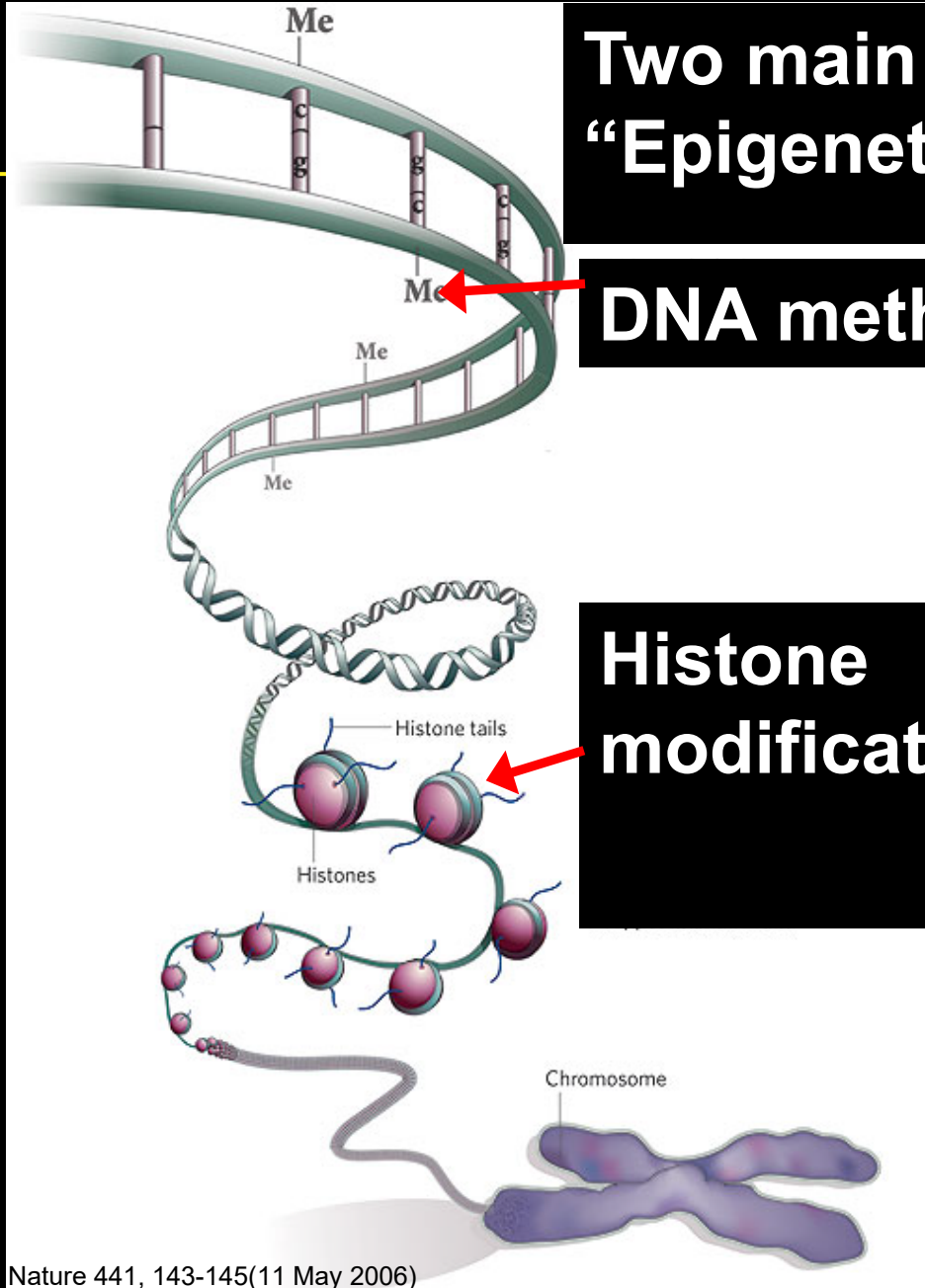
The 5th International Conference on  
Selenium in the Environment and  
Human Health

Stockholm  
13 - 17 August 2017

# Selenium Metabolism (abbreviated)



# Developmental Programming and Epigenetics



Two main components of the  
“Epigenetic Code”

DNA methylation

Histone  
modifications

Selenium status  
alters 1-C  
metabolism

Influenced by  
Epigenetic  
Modifiers or One  
Carbon  
Metabolites (OCM)



# ANIMAL FRONTIERS

The review magazine of animal agriculture

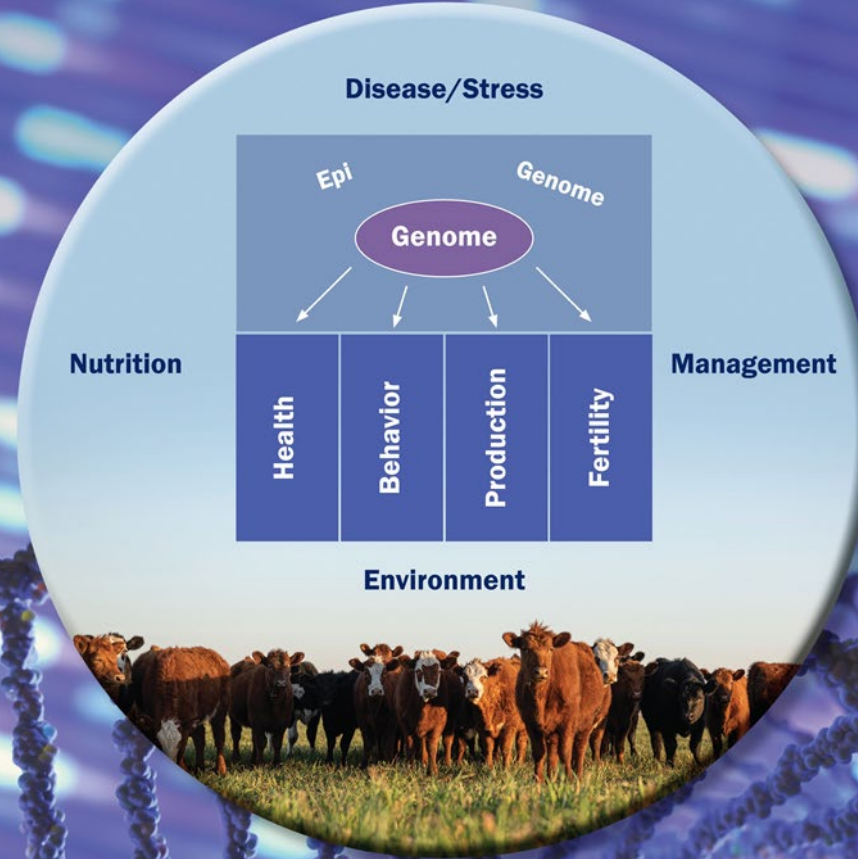


**Farm Animals  
Important Biomedic**

December 2021 • Volume 11, No. 6

# ANIMAL FRONTIERS

The review magazine of animal agriculture



**Prospects for exploiting  
epigenetic effects in  
livestock production**

July 2017 • Volume 7, No. 3

# ANIMAL FRONTIERS

The review magazine of animal agriculture



**Environmental programming:  
What you eat matters!**

# Epigenetic events

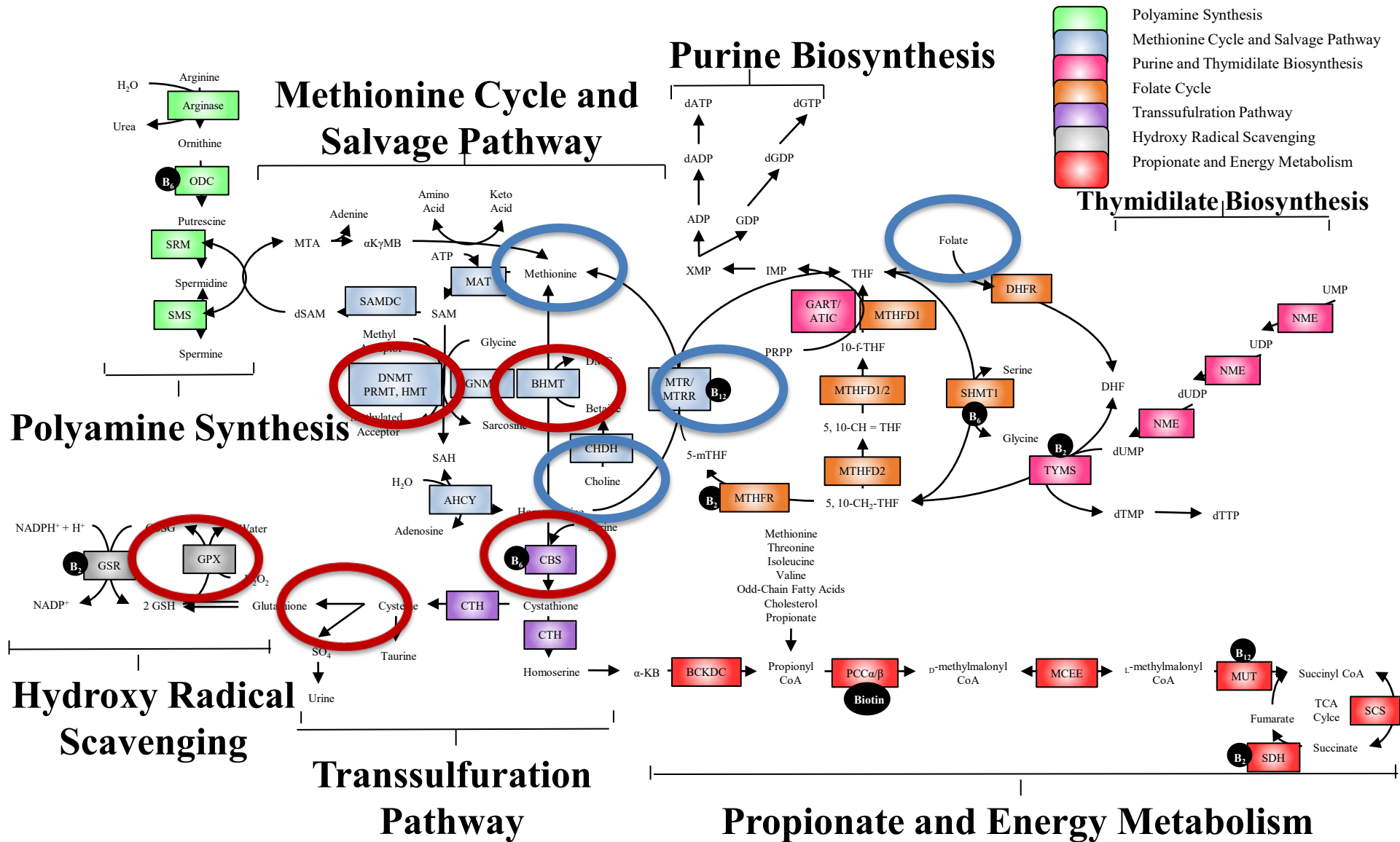
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- Can be caused by perturbed maternal or neonatal nutrition and/or other “events”
- Specific nutrients are required for and “drive” epigenetic events.
- Remember the Human Folic Acid Example!
- Physiological events, like blood flow, can alter nutrient supply to developing offspring and are in fact themselves responsive to maternal nutrient supply.

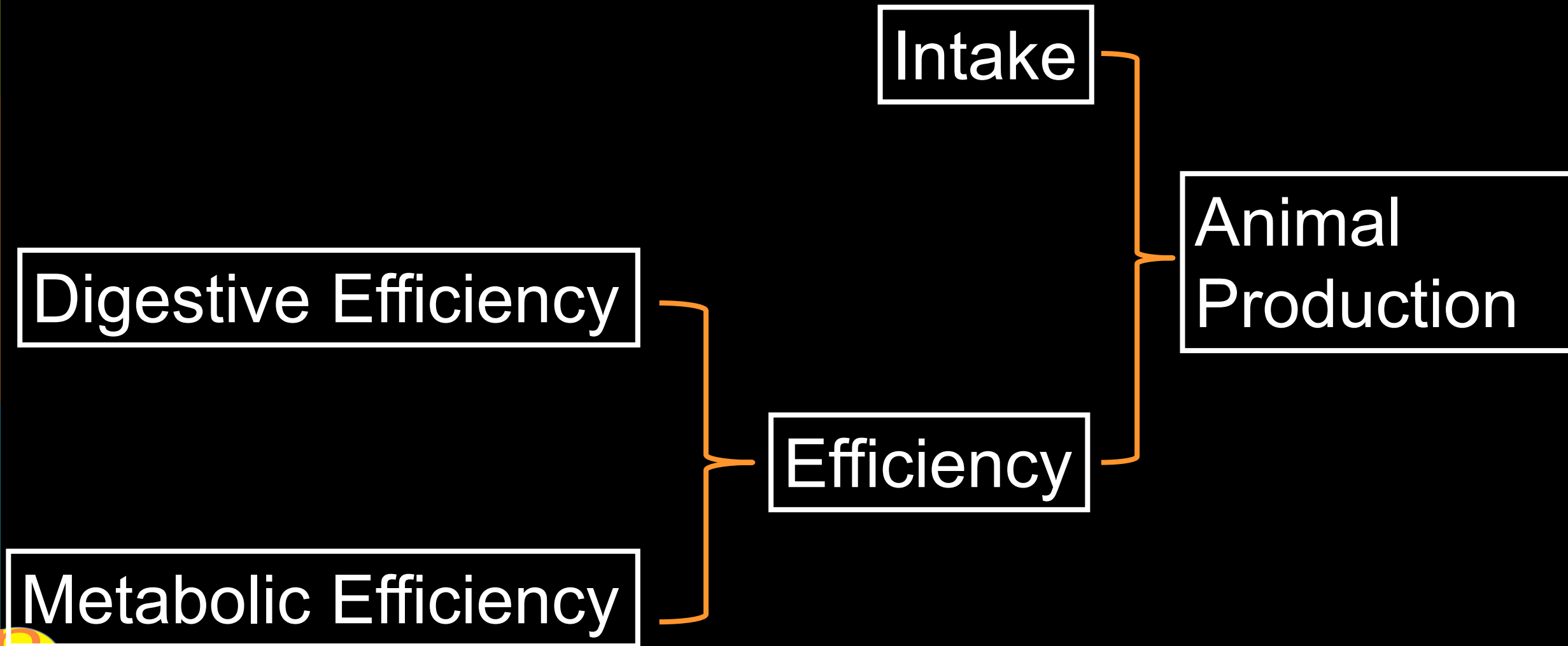




# Interconnection of One-Carbon Metabolism, Energy, Metabolism, Nucleotide Synthesis, and Hydroxy Radical Scavenging.



# Defining and Delivering the Nutrient Requirements: Nutrient Supply vs. Demand



# Establishing Nutrient Requirements; The NASEM Process

□ National Academies of Sciences, Engineering, and Medicine; Division on Earth and Life Studies; Board on Agriculture and Natural Resources; Committee on Nutrient Requirements:

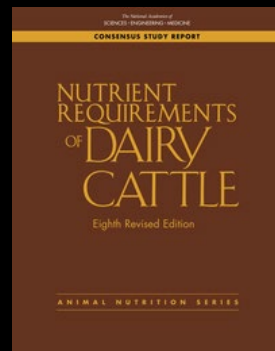
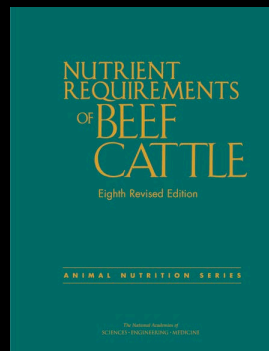
- Dairy Cattle 2021
- Beef Cattle 2016
- Swine Pending
- Poultry Pending

NANP-NRSP9

<https://animalnutrition.org/>



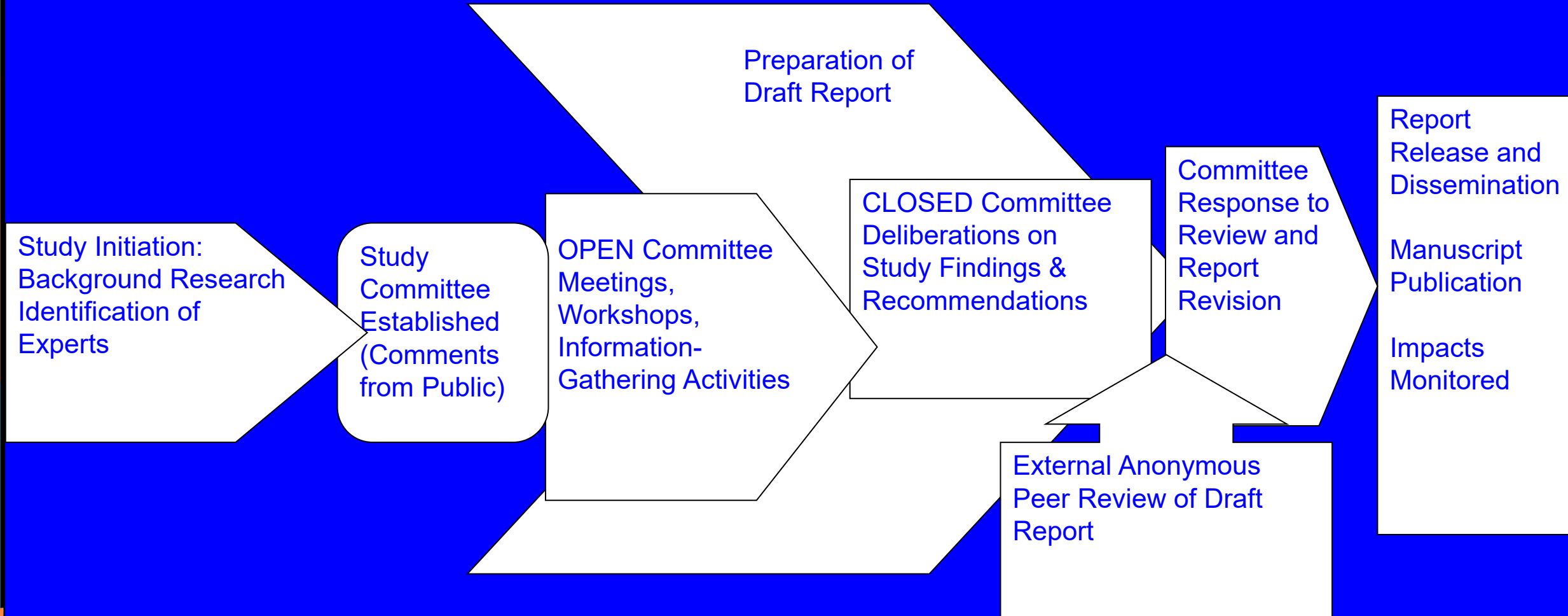
<https://www.nationalacademies.org/about>



<https://www.nationalacademies.org/banr/board-on-agriculture-and-natural-resources>



# The NASEM Report Process



# Objectives:

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- Conduct a review of the published scientific literature on nutrient requirements.
  - Create or update the databases
- Incorporate new information into the revised Nutrient Requirements publication.
  - Modeling the data
  - Balance with animal, producer, economic, environmental and societal needs
- Incorporate information from previously published NRC's (Dairy, Small Ruminants, Mineral tolerances of livestock, etc.) where appropriate.



# Approach = Questions?

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- Can we more accurately estimate the nutrient requirements for a given species based on literature published since the most recent Nutrient Requirements publication?
- Ground rule – Is there any information that supports
  - Changing existing?
  - Creating new?





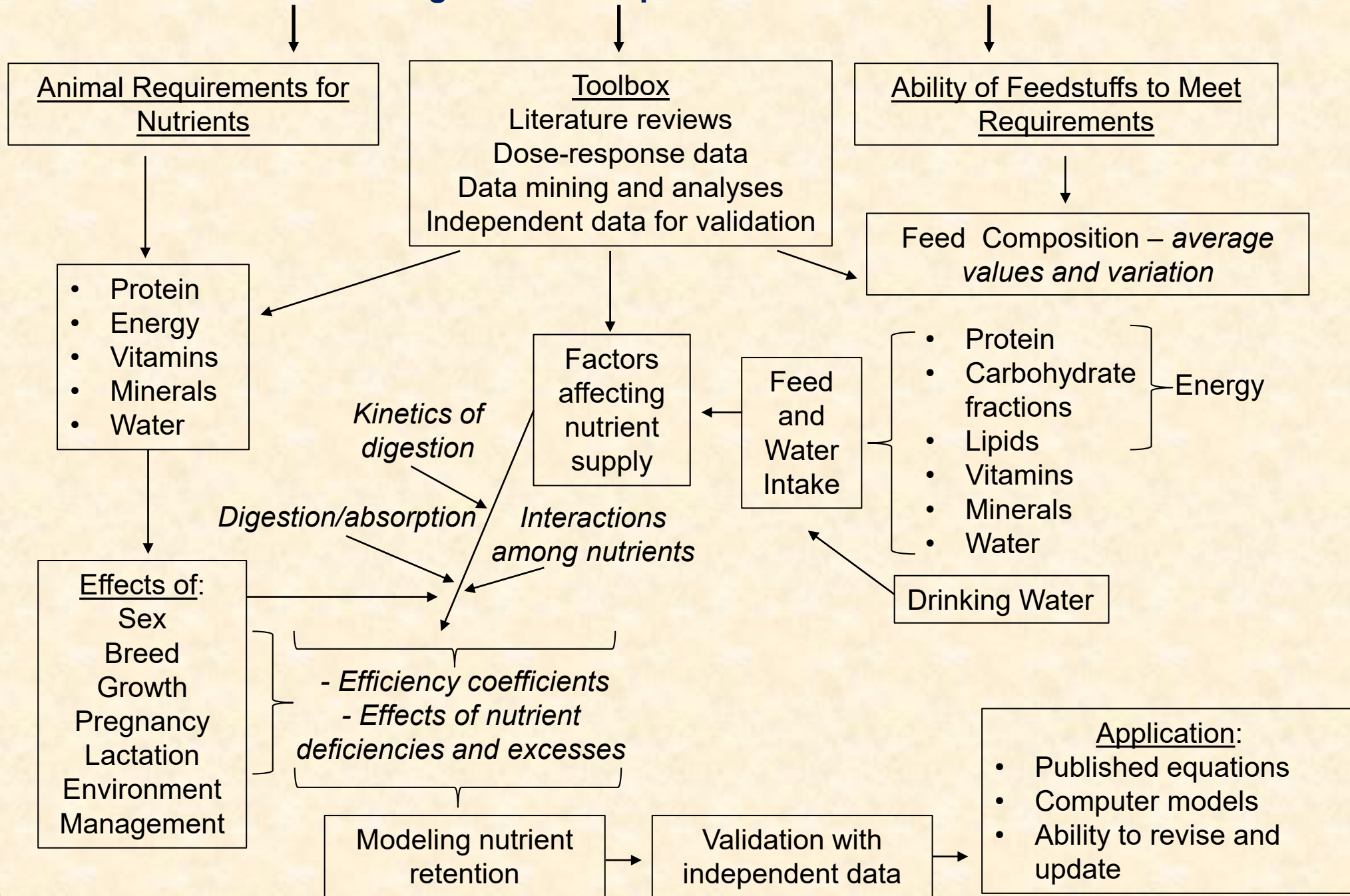


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# Determining Nutrient Requirements of Ruminants



# Defining the Demand (Requirement)

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- **Minimum dietary requirements** are amounts needed in the diet to prevent the appearance of a deficiency disease or a metabolic syndrome associated with specific nutrient deficiencies and to provide for normal life and production processes.
- It is with this classical view of nutrient requirements in mind that dietary requirements for nutrients have been traditionally established in livestock.



# Determining Requirements

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- Factorial estimates/modeling
  - Sum of the components of net requirements for maintenance and production and divide the total by the coefficient of absorption.
- Dietary experimentation estimates
  - Supplement a diet deficient or suspected of being deficient in a nutrient with one or more concentrations of the nutrient of interest.
- Balance and retention
- Modeling the data
- Animal production objectives
  - Sustainably meeting human demands



# Dietary supply to meet requirements

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- Production objectives
- Environmental constraints
- Feed/nutrient sources and availabilities
- Intake
- Efficiencies of nutrient use
- Animal considerations
  - Species, breed, production status, health, etc.



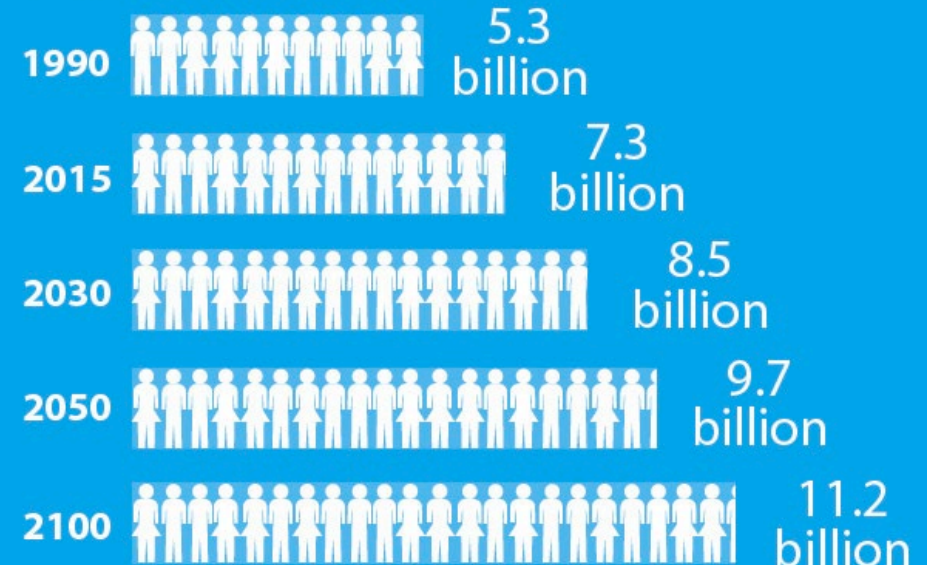
# Precision Nutrition: Practical application

- Optimal animal growth and production
- Long-term environmental sustainability
- Sustained economic viability
- Increased food security
- Broad societal impacts



## World Population

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# Challenges: Barriers: Needs

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- Robust and comprehensive scientific studies
  - Integrated across disciplines
  - Better define requirements
  - Both discovery and application based outcomes
- Stronger industry partnerships
- Expanded and targeted federal grants programs
  - Nutrient requirements
  - Precision nutrition
  - Broader societal outcomes



# **Precision Nutrition: Practical Applications**

**Optimal animal growth and production**

**Long-term environmental sustainability**

**Sustained economic viability**

**Increased food security**

**Broad societal impacts**



Thank you

**NDSU**  
Animal Sciences



**C**enter for  
**N**utrition and  
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