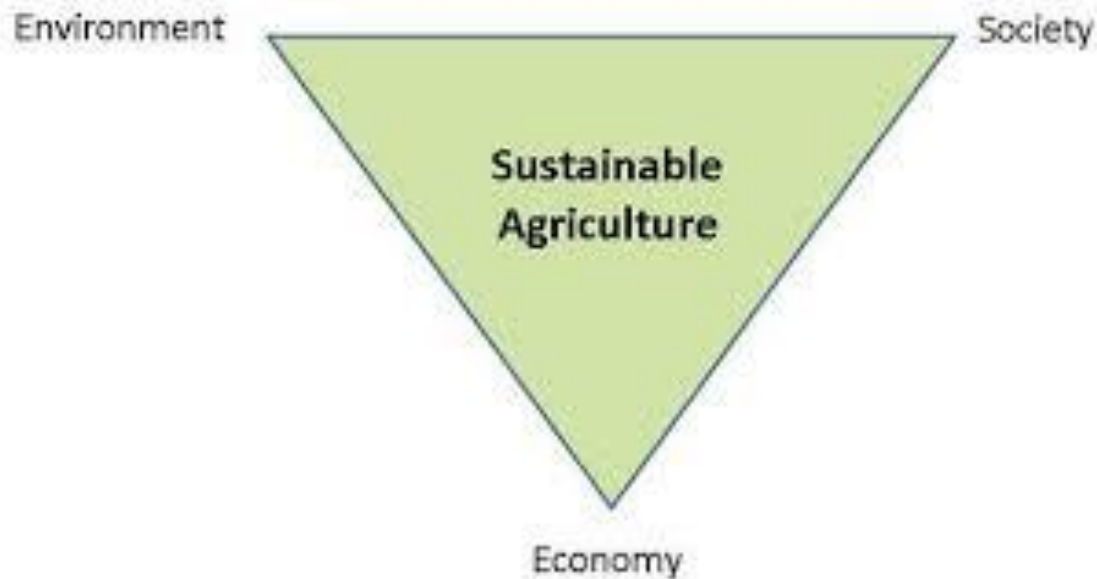


CROCODILE FARMING A FRESH APPROACH

By
Robert Reader
International Wildlife Symposium
Namibia





- ▶ Natural resource
- ▶ Moral obligation
- ▶ International pressure
- ▶ Benefits of good farming practices
- ▶ Marketing benefits
- ▶ Increased crocodile population





Versus



- ▶ DEAT or Agriculture?
- ▶ Removal of unnecessary permits
- ▶ Ensuring improved stock control
- ▶ Ensuring good norms and standards
- ▶ Ensuring good practices by participants
- ▶ Separating wild crocodile from farm reared crocodiles
- ▶ Putting back into nature





Flaws

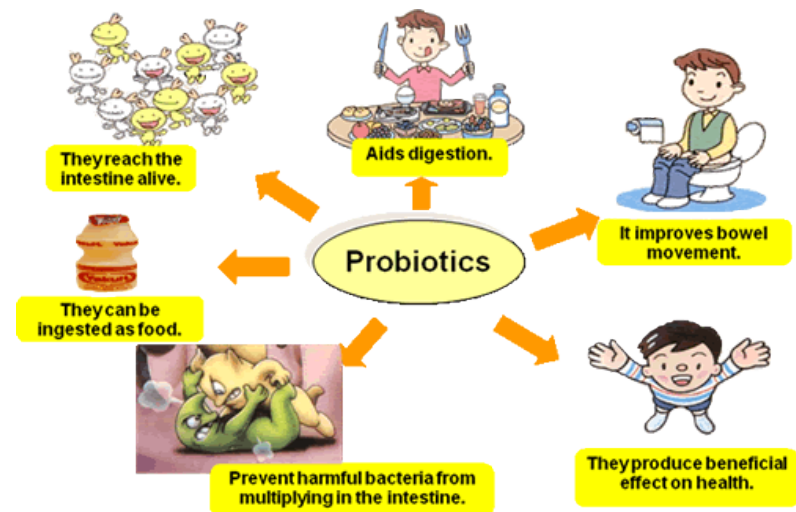
How to minimize negative effects of mass production of crocodiles and improve production through renewed practices

Water– A scarce resource

- Filtration/Recycling ?



Sanitation – disinfectants versus Pro-biotics



Green Energy versus traditional heating and lighting



Free Food or Dry Mix



Vitamins & Minerals

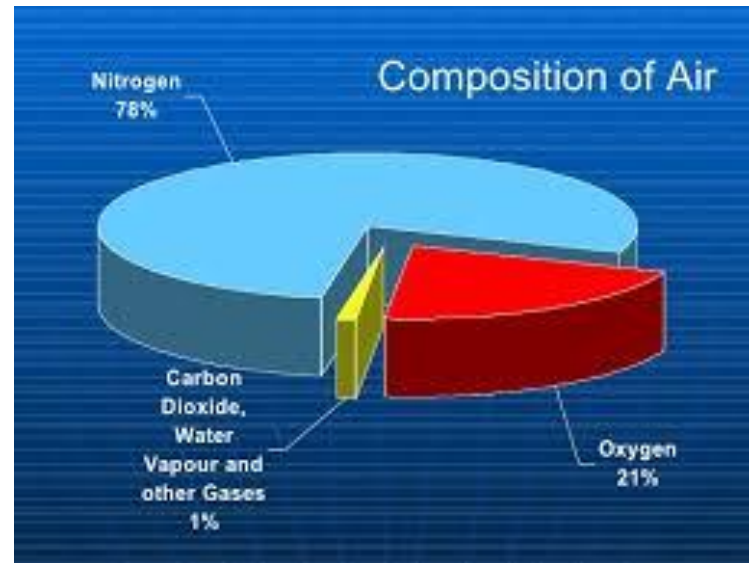
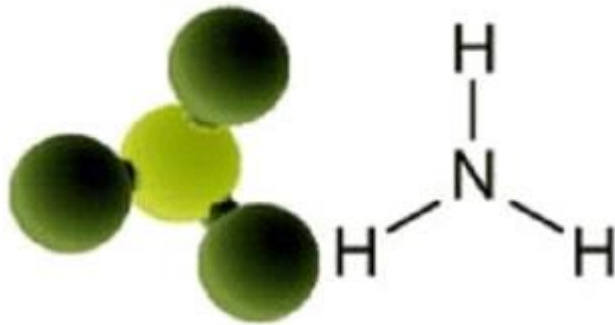


Extensive or Semi Extensive Farming



Ammonia – a killer of clean fresh Air

NH_3 ammonia





- ▶ Do we look at quality or quantity?
- ▶ At what price is it economical to produce 2nd Grade skins?
- ▶ Do we cultivate own breeding stock or purchase hatchlings/yearlings?
- ▶ Do we focus on an integrated system or do we specialise in a specific level of crocodile farming?

The focus on beneficiation

- ▶ Export of wet skins
- ▶ Consideration of a tannery
- ▶ Belly skins or Horn Backs
- ▶ Abattoir – what additional meat processing can be done
- ▶ Beneficiation of food mixtures for crocodiles





Additional matters which a crocodile farmer should consider

- ▶ Transformation
- ▶ The role of co-operation with other producers
- ▶ Utilisation of own market or agents
- ▶ What lessons can we learn from the poultry industry



Thank You

