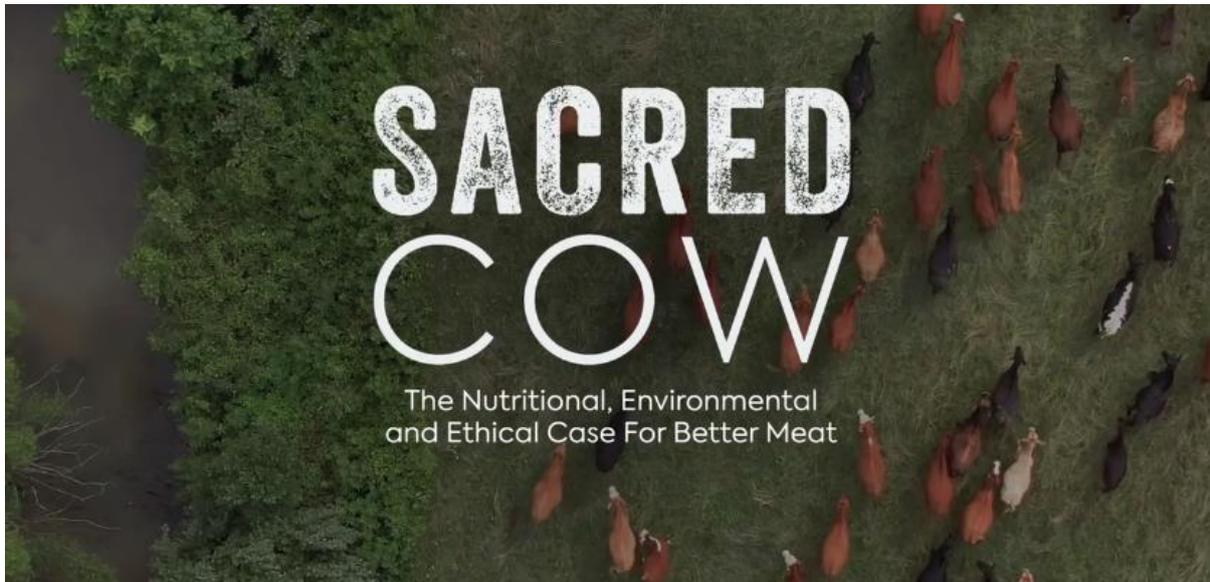


Chris Henggeler, Kachana: **Caring people need to watch this movie at least once!**



www.sacredcow.info

To date I have watched **the movie "Sacred Cow"** three times. I enjoyed it each time!

Information contained in the movie allows every viewer to reassess their circle of (direct) influence and to proactively respond with immediate effect. I find that marvellous!

My hope is that "Sacred Cow" will assist in providing rapid change that is both radical as well as beneficial to all.

During 2020 we witnessed that:

- Rapid change is possible.
- "Greenwashing" is now an industry with global tentacles and environmental discussions often become infused with political overtones and undercurrents.
- At highest political levels, the seriousness of our "exposed Achilles heel" has either not been registered, or it is being ignored.

Being responsible for managing land on a continent where, in many regions, herbivores continue to be replaced by fire, this movie certainly got me ruminating.

As somebody who has been proactive on the environmental front for close to three decades, I therefore offer well-intended, but critical "**in house feedback**", targeted at key players at the cutting edge of the regenerative paradigm.



Sure, I'm biased, but I genuinely believe it is a brilliant movie that will have (and probably already is having) significant positive impact on educating a public, otherwise "devolving into disconnectedness".

The movie is also a great tool to offer confidence to those already on a journey towards life-styles and activities that are integrated with how nature functions.

My only concern is that "Sacred Cow" not only ignores the "elephant" in the room, but potentially, it directs focus away from it.

For broadscale effectiveness of the movie, excluding the "elephant" seems justifiable. Including the "elephant" would have added a layer of complexity. This may have compromised the effectiveness of a message directed at the full spectrum of humanity.

The "elephant" is however a direct result of our collective influence, but for over 99% of individuals, it will (at best) remain within their circle of concern.

Less than 1% of humanity, (only if empowered,) could tend the "elephant", it is thus critical that:

- the "elephant" is pointed out and well described
- incentives are devised to address relating challenges
- individuals in the position to provide effective solutions are incentivised to get on with the job
- the majority of the "99%" support such action (or at least do not restrict it)

Specifically

I refer to the part in the movie where a gentleman draws attention to the portion of the landscape that actually feeds people.

He folds a piece of paper twice, to indicate the proportion land-surface on the planet.

Then he rips his business card into two pieces: A (one third), and B (two thirds)

- Only A can support plant-based diets for humans.
- **B cannot support plant-based diets for humans.** It can however support animals who can in turn provide humans with vital nutrients.



"available landscapes"



"landscape area available for the production of food"

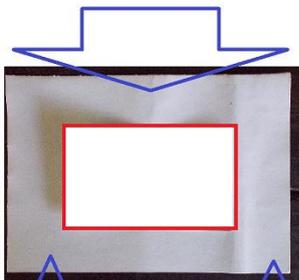


political focus

landscape area suitable for permaculture



landscapes where the use of large animals is required to feed people and to provide ecological services



Desertifying landscapes contribute to:

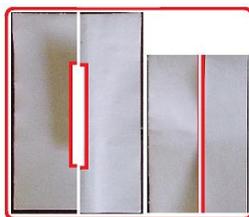
- droughts
- floods
- wildfire
- feral weather

They are our "Achilles' heel"

So what must happen in these areas if ecosystem-function has been disrupted?

Over forty years ago, Allan Savory began pointing out the elephant in the room.

Using the "scale" presented in Diana Rodgers' great movie "Sacred Cow", here is a visual impression of his/her size.



our "Achilles' heel"

the extended focus that is fast reaching mainstream acceptance



political focus

The point here is: This is one very big elephant*! - But it is manageable, if we respect contexts. (* It remains huge, even when we exclude cliffs and [at least for the present] areas that lie under permanent snow & ice or at altitudes above 10'000 feet)

The good news is that we have enough people already in position to commence immediate action. We also have pilot projects that can be replicated or scaled up.

- At the icy extreme we have Pleistocene Park.
- In a 750mm rainfall tropical desert we have Kachana. ([CLICK here for further elaboration: Challenging North Australian landscape management paradigms](#))

We may find that the growing acceptance of the good news presented by the regenerative paradigm is in part a reaction to awareness of possible **food scarcity**, and in part a proactive response to the need to **provide food that has integrity**.

Possibly the driving force is a significant proactive element of environmentally literate people demonstrating the **compatibility of nutrient production and the custodianship of landscapes**.

Water security is a different “beast”! - Yet it is related.

In Europe, but also in parts of Africa, India and the America’s we stand a good chance to effectively address many of the water-woes by adopting regenerative practices.

However here in Australia, because of what is happening in unmanaged areas, we risk running out of water (with escalating climate chaos in tow) long before we run out of food to eat.

Water security that is attained through regenerative pastoral practices can (as a by-product) provide food that has integrity.

As with the purification of air and soil, water-security (purification, storage and availability) too, depends on effective eco-system function.

Climate-challenges merely represent a further facet of this complexity.

Conclusion:

People proactively engaged at the cutting edge of the regenerative movement, ought to maintain a global focus on stabilising climate and thus the rehydration of landscapes. This, I suspect, needs to be a major point of reference for any strategic thinking.

That we begin by encouraging and initiating action at farming and nutrient-production levels, is certainly a logical tactic that promises quick results and potential for further leverage. – However, if we remain with only that tactic we will win “battles”, but we risk losing the “war”.

Only this “war” (i.e. surviving climate related challenges) is not about winning against Mother Nature. The challenge is to realign the expectations and actions of our species with the processes that offer biodiversity and abundance.

It is all about learning to win with Mother Nature!

This calls for action (a focus at operational levels) in those areas primarily contributing to weather-extremes.

These areas tend to be out of sight and out of mind.

Over 40 years ago Allan Savory began alerting us to such areas as well as to the undesirable trends that had been initiated therein.

Already then, he labelled them as our exposed Achilles’ heel.

If we are to reshape climate at the necessary scale, we urgently require teams of land-doctors operating in many such areas.