Sustainable Livestock and Crop Management with the Technology of Effective Microorganisms

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Abstract: The technology of Effective Microorganisms (EM) is a holistic concept that could be easily adopted on farms. The advantages arise from the benefits in terms of animal growth, the processing of wastes and its use in crop production. Thus studies were undertaken in Japan to evaluate the holistic concept of EM. In dairy cattle, milk yields were increased along with quality. Mastitis incidence was reduced. The foul odors of cattle sheds were lower and the time taken for composting of manure was also reduced. Thus the manure was ideal organic fertilized for cropping and was effective in supporting growth of many crops. The application of the slurry reduced weed incidence. The overall integration of EM into farm operations is presented based on these case studies in Japan.