

Comments on: Livestock in south-eastern China by G. Chan

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Comments on Prof. Chan paper (Livestock in south-eastern China)

The description of the uses of pigs in the Chinese communities certainly reminds me of the many uses they have in Mexico as well. Probably the biogas production is not a major role for pigs in many countries, but undoubtedly they do have the role of disposing the otherwise 'inedible' garbage, meat factory, money saving 'account', weed controller and so on.

Probably the pig's role in back-yards and rural communities seems at first sight undeveloped, but, is it?

This role has been developed several times in cultures throughout the world and probably reflects an approach for integrated systems in the small communities, where not only a recycling bin for fibre is needed (ruminants, and why not, pigs?) but for an animal for recycling a 'higher quality' residues, as food residual, vegetables and so on. It is only the 'traditional "agro-industrial" view' of animal factory which has made this kind of production somewhat 'forgettable', and now we are re-discovering when looking for animals or systems to fit in our "sustainable/integrated farms"

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