













Comparison of evaluation approaches

For question :
pbq@upa.qc.ca

	Carbone balance	GHG inventory	LCA Life Cycle Assessment
Scale	A farm 	Quebec and Canada 	The entire cattle industry 
Goal	To determine how much CO ₂ a farm emits and sequesters 	To determine an area's GHG emissions 	To assess all environmental impacts of a product (e.g., beef cattle) 
How it's done	Measure outputs (emissions) and inputs (sequestration) on the farm 	Record all of Canada's emissions and subtract what is absorbed 	Review everything needed to produce the animal from the field to slaughter 
What it's good for	Making improvements on the farm and targeting good actions 	Tracking the country's emissions and setting targets 	Seeing where the production impacts are in order to act 
Limits	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Covers only the farm ➤ Totalling to create an industry-wide portrait not possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Does not include imports ➤ Results sometimes misunderstood or misinterpreted for agriculture ➤ Uses a coefficient to calculate the number of units 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ➤ Applies only to a product, not a business ➤ Results vary according to the methods chosen