
Slaughtering the Chaco forests

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Executive Summary

Beef export: The silent killer of the Gran Chaco jaguars

The uncontrolled expansion of the livestock industry is generating a historical atrocity in a unique place: The Gran Chaco, the second largest forest ecosystem in South America, after the Amazon. There live 3,400 plant species, 500 bird species, 150 mammals, 120 reptiles, 100 amphibians, and over 4 million people, around 8% of whom are native people who depend on the forest to obtain food, water, lumber and medicine.

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) ranked Argentina, Paraguay and Bolivia among the ten countries with the most deforestation between 2010 and 2015. The Secretary of the Environment of Argentina estimates that between 1990 and 2017, a forest surface area of about 8 million football fields was lost. Around 80% of the land clearing is concentrated on the Chaco region in the provinces of Santiago del Estero, Salta, Chaco and Formosa, where over the last five years, deforestation due to intensive livestock farming has been more than double that of agriculture.

The livestock farming industry sets its huge bulldozers in motion, demolishing everything in their way with impunity and making the Chaco forest and almost all its species disappear. This land, now laid bare, will be used for planting pastures for cattle, with the end goal of fattening a product that will later be exported and will end up on a supermarket shelf. In this way, the famous Argentine beef reaches the tables of consumers around the world. However, it will arrive there at the expense of the destruction of the Gran Chaco forests and the extinction of their king: the jaguar.

After an investigation that took over one year, Greenpeace revealed some of the players behind this brutal business that is destroying the Chaco forests: large slaughterhouses from Argentina (*Carnes Pampeanas*, *Bermejo*) that export beef to large supermarkets and wholesale traders in Europe and Israel (*Albert Heijn*, *Metro*, *Lidl*, *Shufersal*, *Zandbergen*, *Global Fleisch*, *Intervlees*).

Greenpeace demands that companies adopt a Zero Deforestation Policy and, if they already have one, that it be rigorously implemented. This implies that companies must ensure that both their production system and their suppliers will not cause deforestation and respect the rights of the indigenous people.

If the MERCOSUR-European Union agreement is implemented, the demand for Argentine beef will increase, the exporting business of the large Argentine slaughterhouses will become more profitable and the threat to forested areas will rise. The ambitious plans to increase cattle livestock in the northern provinces of Argentina by 10 million will endanger 10 million hectares of forests. Their degradation, deforestation and fragmentation will almost entirely eliminate the possibility of survival for the 20 jaguars left in the Chaco region. There is still time to prevent this.

The extinction of the jaguar and its territory

The jaguar or *yaguareté* (*Panthera onca*) is the largest feline in America and the third in the world after the Asian tiger (*Panthera tigris*) and the lion (*Panthera leo*). It is between 150 and 180 cm long, with its tail adding 70 to 90 cm. It reaches a height of between 65 and 80 cm and its weight ranges from 70 to 90 kg, on occasion reaching up to 135 kg.



Photo: Greenpeace

It is the most important predator in its habitat, therefore feeding on almost any species in its territory, such as tapirs, peccaries, red brockets, capybaras, caimans, armadillos, snakes, turtles, birds and monkeys.¹

Its imposing figure, strength and mettle have made of it a species with high cultural and spiritual value to the people who have inhabited and still inhabit the American continent.

The jaguar's range used to extend from the south of the United States to the north of the Argentine Patagonia, along almost all ecosystems, with the exception of extremely arid regions or higher altitudes. Today, however, the jaguar is no longer easy to find: It has practically disappeared from the north and south ends of its former territories, as well as in most of the densely populated areas, and many of its populations are seriously threatened.

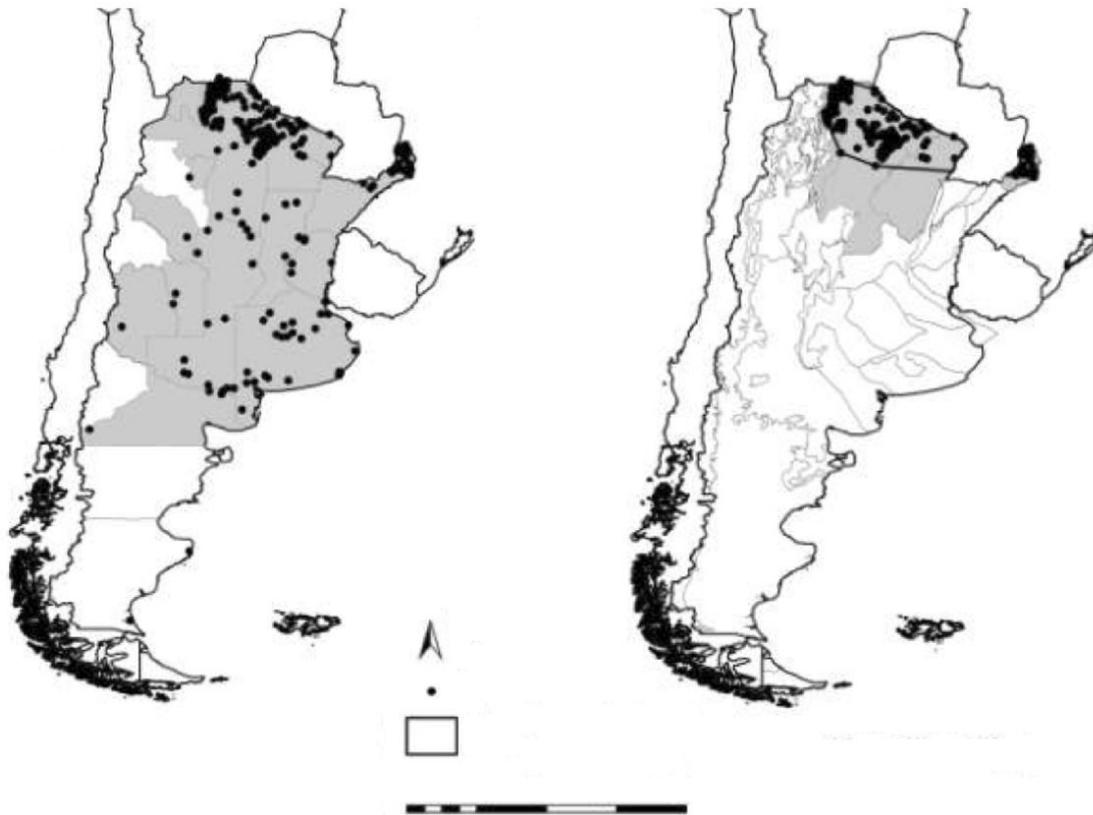
Scientists estimate that jaguars take up less than 50% of their original distribution, and in Argentina this contraction process has been the most extreme – over the last two centuries, the jaguar population distribution has been reduced to 5% of its original surface area.²

¹Red Yaguareté. <https://www.redyaguarete.org.ar/> (Accessed 22.07.2019).

²Proyecto Yaguareté. <http://proyectoaguarete.com.ar/> (Accessed 22.07.2019).

Cuyckens, G. A. E., Perovic, P. G. & Herrán, M., 2017. Living on the edge: regional distribution and retracting range of the jaguar. *Animal Biodiversity and Conservation* http://abc.museocienciasjournals.cat/files/ABC_40-1_pp_71-86-web.pdf (Accessed 22.07.2019).

Records of historical (between 1741 and 2011) and current (between 1994 and 2011) presence and distribution range of jaguars in Argentina



Source: Cuyckens, G. A. E., Perovic, P. G. & Herrán, M., 2017. Living on the edge: Regional distribution and retracting range of the jaguar. *Animal Biodiversity and Conservation*

Jaguars in the Gran Chaco depend on very large territories to live (400 to 2,900 km²) and their reduction has brought this species to the verge of extinction in the region. Between 1985 and 2013, over 20% of the Chaco forests (142,000 km²) were turned into pastures and cultivation lands, reducing biodiversity, in particular that of the larger mammals.³

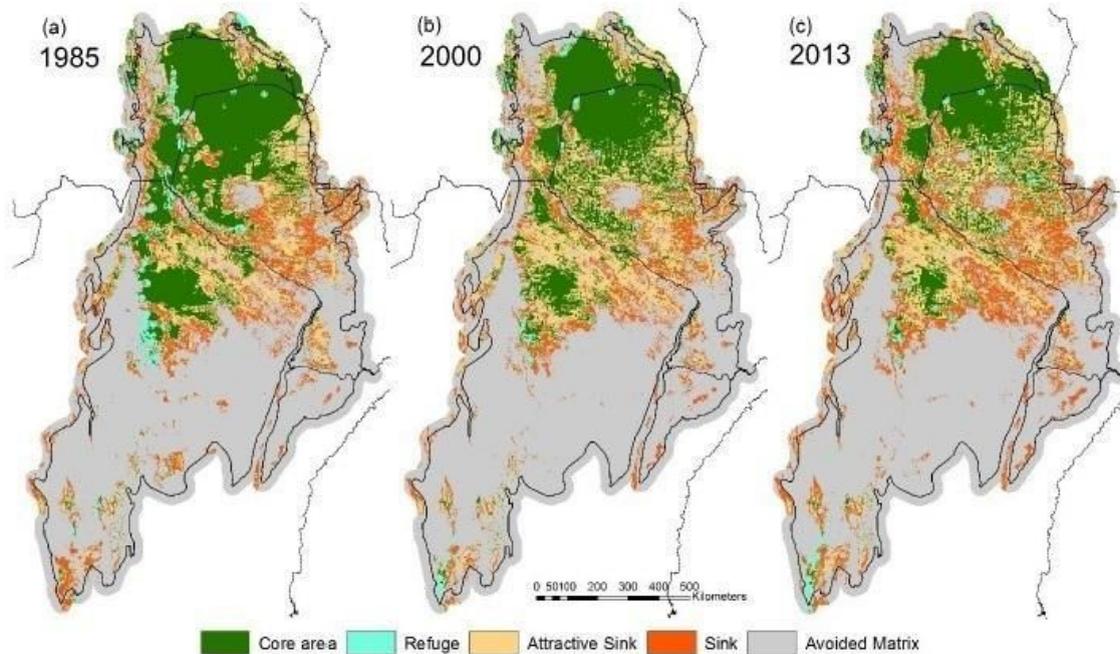
In turn, the large predators in Chaco, especially the jaguar and the cougar, are often hunted, mainly by cattle farmers, due to the real or perceived risk of the animals attacking livestock.⁴

³Alfredo Romero-Muñoz. Habitat loss and overhunting synergistically drive the extirpation of jaguars from the Gran Chaco. (Accessed 22.07.2019).

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/ddi.12843>

⁴Ibidem.

Changes in jaguar habitat in 1985, 2000 and 2013



Change of jaguar source/sink habitat for (a) 1985, (b) 2000 and (c) 2013 in the Gran Chaco ecoregion. The captions for habitat categories and the scales apply to all three maps.

Source: Alfredo Romero-Muñoz. Habitat loss and overhunting synergistically drive the extirpation of jaguars from the Gran Chaco.

Specialists claim that the core area of jaguars went down by 82,400 km² between 1985 and 2013 as both the loss of their habitat and the risk of hunting increased in Chaco. Considering that the whole Chaco region was a suitable habitat until the 18th century, jaguars lost 77% of their core areas by 1985 and 85% by 2013.⁵

The jaguar is one of the few species in Argentine wildlife that was declared a National Natural Monument in 2001 by Act No. 25,463. This legislation establishes that the National Parks Administration and the National Wildlife Service should implement a management plan to ensure its survival. The jaguar is also a Natural Monument in the provinces of Chaco, Salta, Formosa and Misiones.

The jaguar is classified as “Near Threatened” on the IUCN Red List.⁶

For the Secretary of the Environment of Argentina, the species has received the national category of “Endangered” according to Resolution 1030/2004. In the

⁵Alfredo Romero-Muñoz. Habitat loss and overhunting synergistically drive the extirpation of jaguars from the Gran Chaco.

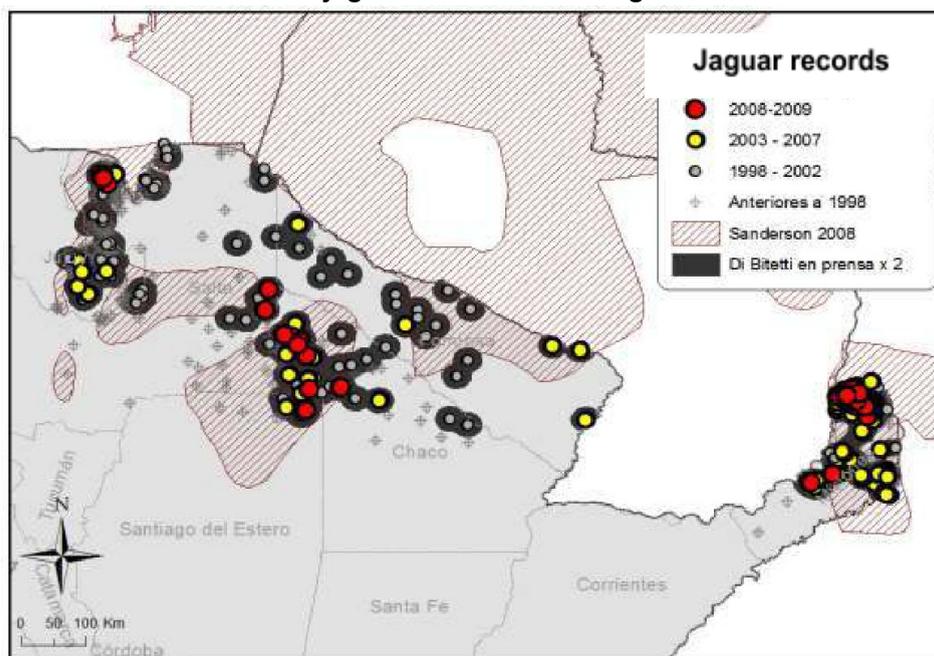
<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/ddi.12843> (Accessed 22.07.2019).

⁶International Union for Conservation of Nature and Natural Resources (2016). Jaguar (*Panthera onca*). [ONLINE] Available at <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/15953/123791436>. (Accessed 22.07.2019).

Red Book of Mammals of Argentina, the species had been classified as “Endangered,” but it was re-categorized as “Critically Endangered” in a revision made in 2012, taking into account that the Argentine jaguar population may have been reduced by over 80% in the last three generations and the causes for this decline continue to prevail.⁷

The estimated jaguar population for the whole of Argentina is 250 individuals (approximately 160 individuals in the Yungas rainforest, around 80 in the Paranaense rainforest and under 20 in the Chaco region). The Chaco jaguar population is isolated from the other two populations present in Argentina and there has been a significant reduction in this population over the last ten years – the species has disappeared from zones in which it had previously been reported.⁸

Recent jaguar distribution in Argentina



Source: Di Bitetti et al, 2015.

The remaining jaguar populations are most likely due to the presence of protected areas or flood-prone areas with low human density and little deforestation. Scientific research studies have detected a significant reduction in the jaguar population in the Argentine Chaco Seco ecoregion, with a probability of extinction in some areas. In addition to the increasing risk from hunting, another significant threat to the preservation of jaguar populations is the reduction in environmental quality and the fragmentation and loss of large

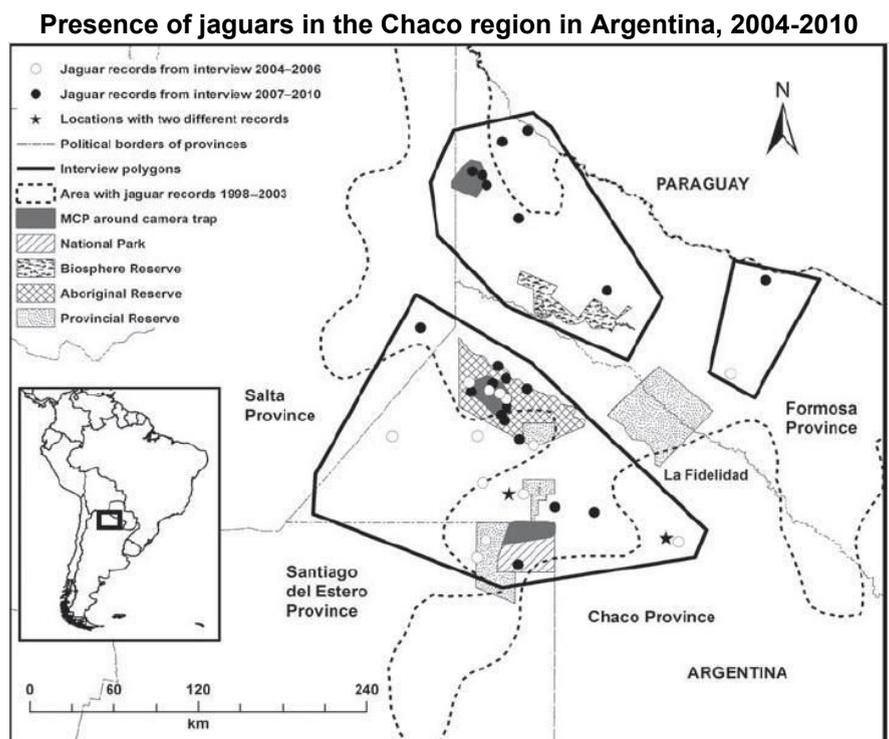
⁷Quigley, H., Foster, R., Petracca, L., Payan, E., Salom, R. & Harmsen, B. 2017. *Panthera onca* (errata version published in 2018). The IUCN Red List of Threatened Species 2017: e.T15953A123791436. <http://dx.doi.org/10.2305/IUCN.UK.2017-3.RLTS.T15953A50658693.en>. Downloaded on 23 July, 2019. <https://www.iucnredlist.org/species/15953/123791436>

Alfredo Romero-Muñoz. Habitat loss and overhunting synergistically drive the extirpation of jaguars from the Gran Chaco. <https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/full/10.1111/ddi.12843> (Accessed 22.07.2019).

⁸Emergency Plan for the Preservation of Jaguars in the Argentine Gran Chaco. Rocío Palacios (editor). National Parks Administration. Argentine North-East Regional Office. 2017. https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bzx09nScu5rAZk1VU3VURWNI_QjQ/view (22-07-2019)

forest surface areas caused by the advance of agricultural and livestock farming borders.⁹

The increasing livestock activity in the region over the last 20 years has favoured the opening of new roads for vehicles, providing greater accessibility to this area for hunters. Moreover, increased livestock activity has brought about a rise in the clearing of large forested areas to plant exotic pastures for fodder for intensive cattle breeding. Unfortunately, these activities are seriously impairing the environment in the Chaco forests, which endangers not only the jaguar populations, but also the fauna and flora diversity in this important ecoregion. If the surface occupied by stable jaguar populations continues to decrease at this pace, the species may become extinct in the Argentine Chaco in a few years.¹⁰



Source: Quiroga, V. et al. Critical population status of the jaguar *Panthera onca* in the Argentine Chaco: Camera-trap surveys suggest recent collapse and imminent regional extinction.

Despite its critical status, specialists estimate that approximately 81,000 km² of the semi-arid Chaco region of Argentina still has potential to harbour jaguars. This area is in the northern end of the region, where there are still records that are less than 10 years old. This share of territory only has seven protected

⁹Emergency Plan for the Preservation of Jaguars in the Argentine Gran Chaco. Rocío Palacios (editor). National Parks Administration. Argentine North-East Regional Office. 2017. <https://drive.google.com/file/d/0Bzx09nScu5rAZk1VU3VURWNLQjQ/view> (Accessed 22.07.2019).

¹⁰Quiroga, V. et al. Critical population status of the jaguar *Panthera onca* in the Argentine Chaco: camera-trap surveys suggest recent collapse and imminent regional extinction. <https://www.caja-pdf.es/2015/01/29/quiroga-et-al-2014-jaguar-in-argentinean-chaco-oryx/> (Accessed 22.07.2019).

areas that are lightly enforced, which amount to only 6% of the surface area of the region.¹¹



Photo: Greenpeace

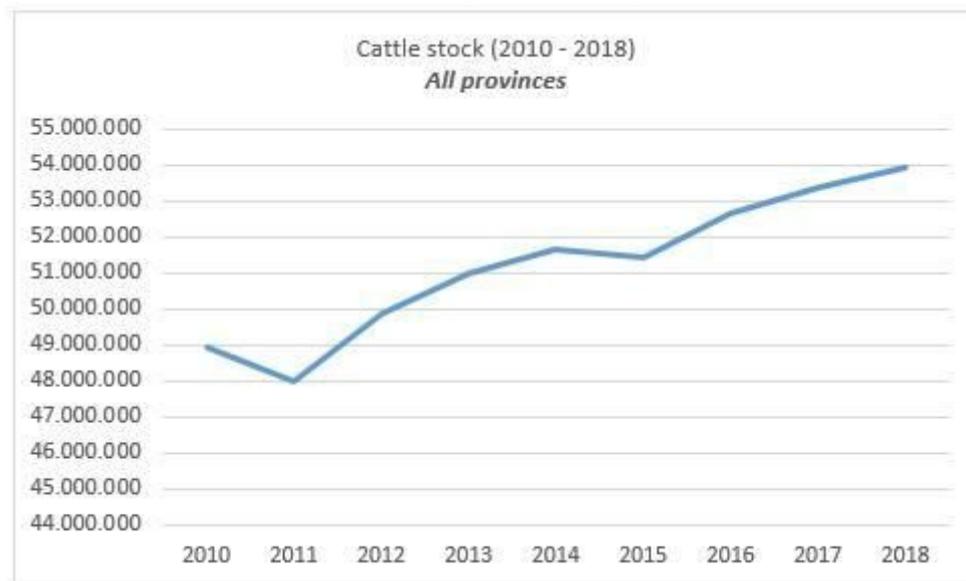
¹¹Quiroga, V. et al. Critical population status of the jaguar *Panthera onca* in the Argentine Chaco: Camera-trap surveys suggest recent collapse and imminent regional extinction. <https://www.caja-pdf.es/2015/01/29/quiroga-et-al-2014-jaguar-in-argentinean-chaco-oryx/> (Accessed 22-07-2019)

Growth of intensive livestock farming and deforestation

Historically, Argentina has been and is an important beef producer, consumer and exporter. It is currently the sixth country with the largest cattle stock, the sixth producer country and the sixth exporter country (in 2016, it was ranked 11th).¹²

For many years, the cattle stock in Argentina remained stable, which is why, in 2011, the Argentine government launched the 2010-2020 Agroalimentary and Agroindustrial Strategic Plan with the goal to increase cattle stock by 10%, from 49 million to 54 million. This goal is very close to being reached.¹³

Cattle stock in Argentina – All provinces



Secretary of Agroindustry of Argentina ¹⁴

In 2015, one of the first measures of the new Argentine government was to eliminate taxes on beef export (which were 15% of the selling price).¹⁵

This decision, coupled with a significant devaluation of Argentina's currency, considerably increased exports and they are expected to continue growing.

¹²Ministry of Production and Labor. Agroindustry. Argentina. [ONLINE] "Argentina is consolidated as the 6th world beef exporter". Published: 26.10.2018.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/noticias/argentina-se-consolida-como-6deg-exportador-mundial-de-carne-vacuna>

<https://beef2live.com/story-world-beef-production-ranking-countries-0-106885>

<https://beef2live.com/story-world-cattle-inventory-ranking-countries-0-106905>

¹³National Institute of Agricultural Technology. Argentina. Agrifood and Agroindustrial, Participatory and Federal Strategic Plan, 2010-2016 (PEA)

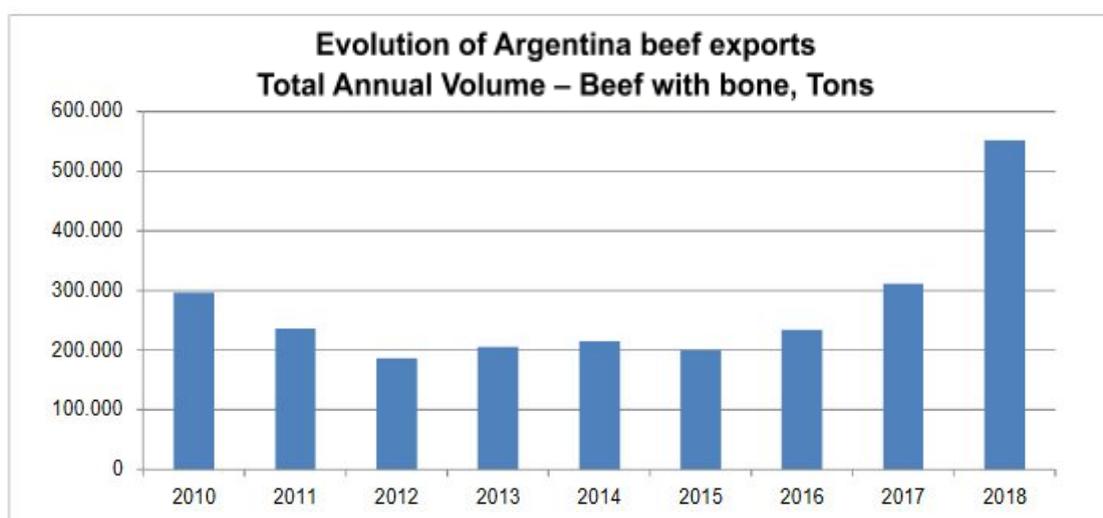
<https://inta.gob.ar/documentos/pea%C2%B2-argentina-lider-agroalimentario-2010-2020>

¹⁴Argentina Ministry of production and work. Secretary of Agroindustry. Report Section. [ONLINE]. (Accessed 22.07.2019).

https://www.agroindustria.gob.ar/sitio/areas/bovinos/informacion_interes/informes/

¹⁵Online article. Argentina eliminates taxes on agricultural and industrial exports to encourage economy. DECEMBER 14, 2015.

<https://lta.reuters.com/articulo/latinoamerica-economia-argentina-retenci-idL TAKBN0TX1GP20151215>



Source: IPCVA¹⁶

Between 2017 and 2018, Argentine beef exports rose by 77%. The main importing countries were China (56%), Russia (11.5%), Chile (9.2%), Germany (6.8%), Israel (5.3%), the Netherlands (3.6%), Brazil (2.2%) and Italy (1.7%).

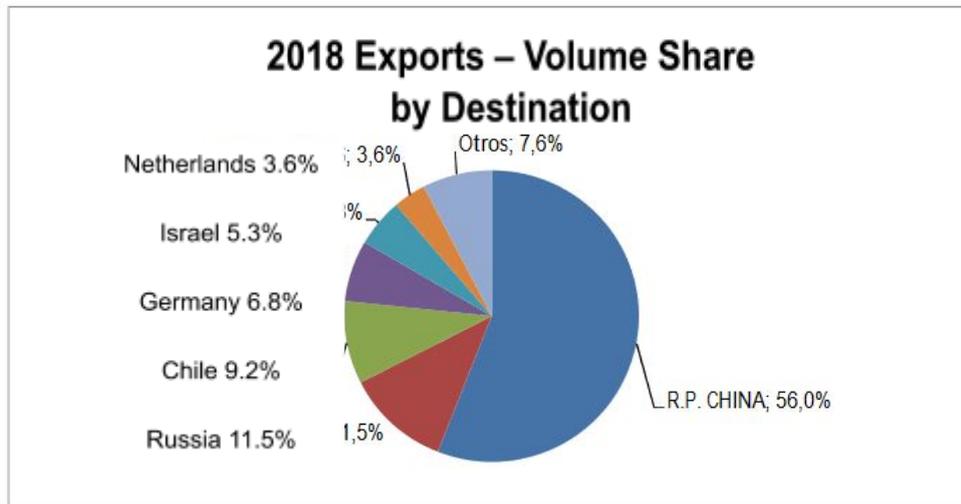
Argentina – 2017/2018 exports – Chilled, Frozen and Processed Meat (offal not included)
– Destinations – Volume in tons of product weight¹⁷

Country	12 months, 2017	12 months, 2018	% Var. 2018/2017	Share (%) 2018
China	95,996	206,607	115.2%	56.0%
Russia	5,273	42,380	703.7%	11.5%
Chile	27,798	33,986	22.3%	9.2%
Germany	22,345	24,942	11.6%	6.8%
Israel	20,551	19,716	-4.1%	5.3%
Netherlands	10,320	13,322	29.1%	3.6%
Brazil	6,910	7,950	15.1%	2.2%
Italy	4,969	6,244	25.7%	1.7%
Hong Kong	1,884	2,124	12.7%	0.6%
Others	10,974	11,742	7.0%	3.2%
TOTAL	207,977	369,012	77%	%

Source: INDEC

¹⁶Argentine Beef Promotion Institute. December 2018.
http://www.ipcva.com.ar/documentos/1964_1548258366_informemensualdeexportacionesdiciembre2018.pdf (Accessed 22.07.19).

¹⁷Ibidem.



Source: IPCVA

Most European fresh beef imports come from South America, and Argentina is the main provider.

European Union: Fresh beef imports in 2018¹⁸

Trade Statistics (Imports - Exports)		
Indicators	Import Value to the EU/MS (EURO)	Import Qty to the EU/MS (Kg)
EU Member State(s)	EU28	EU28
Years	2018	2018
Partners		
Total EXTRA-EU28	1.233.998.465	136.721.000
Argentina	427.169.897	45.996.000
Uruguay	209.030.714	24.681.000
Brazil	166.489.577	22.179.000
United States	159.257.747	14.743.000
Australia	153.221.178	15.379.000
New Zealand	28.188.203	2.216.000
Namibia	21.511.378	3.598.000
Paraguay	19.975.017	2.914.000
Botswana	17.549.308	2.783.000
Japan	12.828.947	588.000

¹⁸Statistics extracted from: European Commission / Trade / Market Access Database. [ONLINE]. (Accessed 22.07.2019). https://madb.europa.eu/madb/statistical_form.htm

The Hilton Quota is a tariff quota for the import of high-quality, de-boned beef (pasture-fed) that the European Union grants to exporting countries. Almost 50% of this quota is granted to Argentina.

Hilton Quota allocations ¹⁹

Hilton Quota		Regulation (EU) N° 593/2013						
		Quantity allocated (Tons)	2016/2017		2017/2018		2018/2019*	
			Use		Use		Use	
09.4001	Australia	2 250						
09.4004	Argentina	200	12.75	6.38%	14.67	7.34%	9.48	4.74%
09.4450	Argentina	29 500	23 111.89	78.35%	28 091.29	95.22%	20 249.68	68.64%
09.4451	Australia	7 150	4 051.04	56.66%	5 333.48	74.59%	4 648.49	65.01%
09.4452	Uruguay	6 376	6 365.55	99.84%	6 363.24	99.80%	5 849.99	91.75%
09.4453	Brazil	10 000	8 572.40	85.72%	5 057.27	50.57%	3 854.07	38.54%
09.4454	New Zealand	1 300	1 161.63	89.36%	1 122.25	86.33%	915.61	70.43%
09.4002	Canada/US	11 500	421.40	3.66%	2 351.37	20.45%	3 508.99	30.51%
09.4455	Paraguay	1 000	982.60	98.26%	962.21	96.22%	836.35	83.64%
Total Beef		66 826	44 666.51	66.84%	49 281.11	73.75%	39 863.18	59.65%
Total Buffalo		2 450	12.75	0.52%	14.67	0.60%	9.48	0.39%
Total		69 276	44 679.26	64.49%	49 295.78	71.16%	39 872.66	57.56%

* up to 30/04/2019

If the MERCOSUR-European Union agreement is implemented, the demand for Argentine beef will increase, making the large Argentine slaughterhouse exporting business more profitable. Therefore, the threat to the Chaco forests will rise.²⁰

The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) estimates that between 1990 and 2005, 45% of deforestation in Argentina was due to livestock farming.²¹

In this regard, the Secretary of the Environment of Argentina has warned that *“livestock farming has been displaced towards marginal areas in the Pampean region itself, which has set the producers and agricultural companies in this region on a search for new land. In the Chaco Park region, they found suitable areas thanks to the incorporation of high-productivity, draught-resistant mega-thermal pastures. As the expansion of agriculture and livestock farming in the Chaco Park took place mainly on land covered by forests, there have been deforestation processes on large extensions, mainly in the provinces of Salta and Santiago del Estero and, to a lesser extent, Chaco and Formosa.”*²²

¹⁹Meat Market Observatory. 20.06.2019.

https://ec.europa.eu/agriculture/sites/agriculture/files/market-observatory/meat/beef/doc/quota_en.pdf

²⁰Article. La Nación. Mercosur-EU: what does the agreement mean for agriculture and a star product like meat. 29.06.2019

<https://www.lanacion.com.ar/economia/campo/mercosur-ue-que-implica-acuerdo-campo-nid2262688>

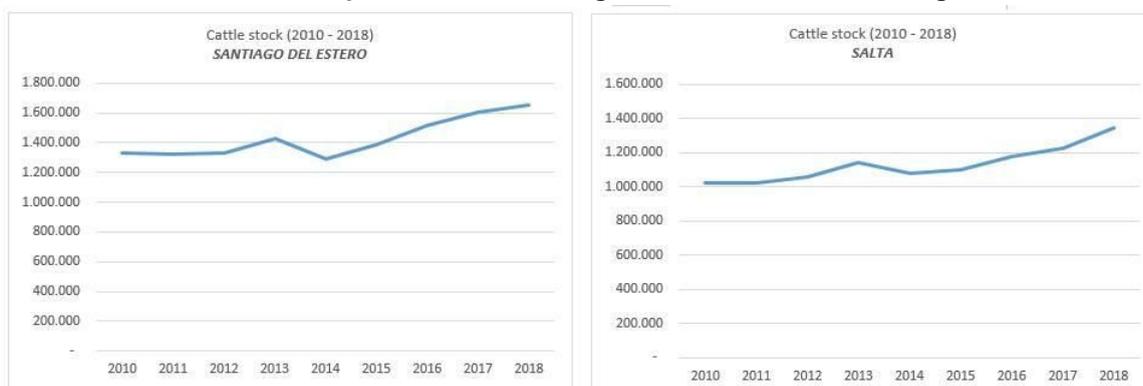
Online media article in Valor Carne 01.07.2019

<https://www.valorcarne.com.ar/el-impacto-del-acuerdo-mercosur-ue-sobre-la-carne/>

²¹FAO Report <http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4793e.pdf> (Accessed 01.02.2019).

²²Argentina National Cabinet of Climate Change. National forest and climate change action plan. Version 1 - 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/sustentabilidad/planes-sectoriales/bosques>

Cattle stock in the provinces of Santiago del Estero and Salta, Argentina



Source: Secretary of Agroindustry of Argentina²³

Deforestation for cattle in a farm in Salta province



Photo: Greenpeace (2018)

Official data reveals that, during 2014, over 100,000 hectares of forest were destroyed in the Argentine Chaco due to livestock farming, more than double than that due to agriculture.²⁴

²³Argentina Ministry of production and work. Secretary of Agroindustry. Report Section. [ONLINE]. (Accessed 22.07.2019). https://www.agroindustria.gob.ar/sitio/areas/bovinos/informacion_interes/informes/

²⁴Argentina National Cabinet of Climate Change. National forest and climate change action plan. Version 1 - 2017. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/sustentabilidad/planes-sectoriales/bosques> (Accessed 22.07.19).

Deforestation due to agriculture and livestock farming in 2014 ²⁵

Forest Region	Native Forest to Agriculture (hectares)		Native Forest to Livestock Farming (hectares)		Total (hectares)	Area %
	Forest Land	Other Forest Land	Forest Land	Other Forest Land		
Chaco Park	42,197	4,699	88,145	13,880	148,921	80%
Espinal	3,844	4,664	9,410	4,259	22,177	12%
Woodland	0	0	10	0	10	0%
Misiones Jungle	0	0	876	168	1,043	1%
Yungas	12,811	643	0	0	13,455	7%
Total	58,853	10,006	98,441	18,306	185,606	100%
Area (%)	32%	5%	53%	10%	100%	

The comparison of satellite images on land use of MapBiomias reveals that this trend has continued for the last four years.²⁶

Deforestation for cattle in a farm in Santiago del Estero province

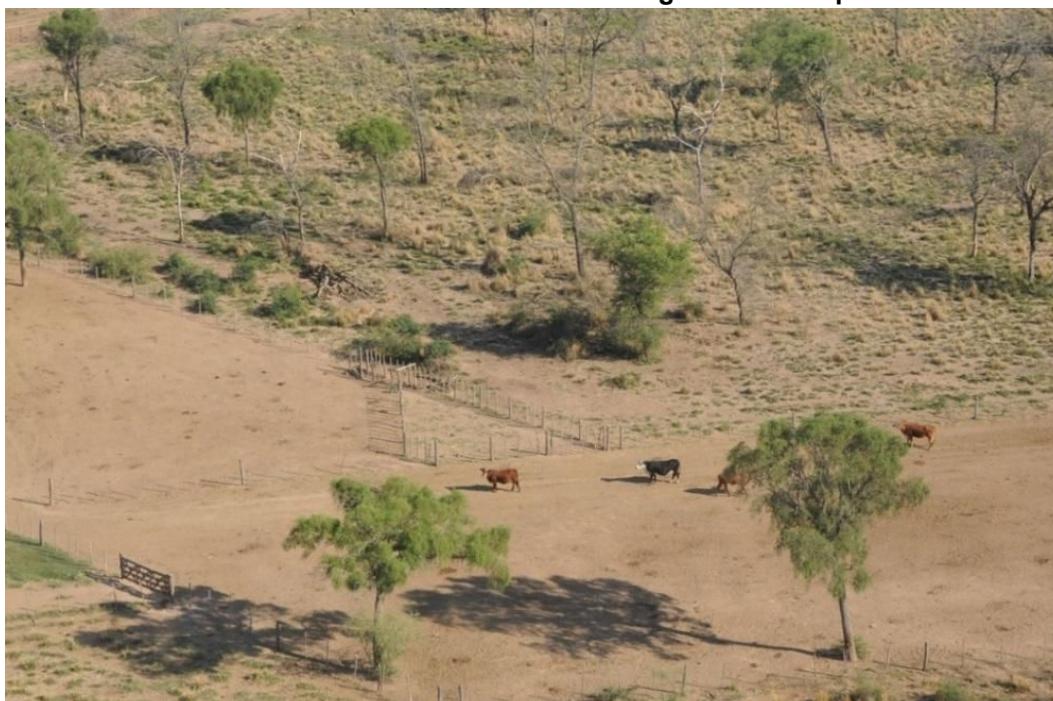


Photo: Greenpeace (2011)

²⁵https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/plan_de_accion_nacional_de_bosques_y_cambio_climatico_0.pdf (Accessed 22.07.19).

²⁶MapBiomias <http://mapbiomas.org/> (Accessed 22.07.19).

The deforestation monitoring carried out by the Secretary of the Environment in Argentina considers *“the loss of native forest areas as those areas in which bush or lower species clearing techniques are carried out in such a high degree of intensity that it allows them to be detected through medium spatial resolution satellite imagery.”* These areas are considered loss areas due to the fact that *“they stop functioning as a forest ecosystem, and in turn the environmental benefits they provide are largely reduced.”*²⁷

Deforestation by silvopastoral model in a farm in Santiago del Estero province



Photo: Greenpeace (2011)

The silvopastoral model (intensive livestock farming and logging in forest areas) was responsible for 40% of the deforestation that took place during 2016 in the provinces of Chaco and Santiago del Estero.²⁸ Meanwhile, in 2017 it amounted to *“almost 65% of the total areas that were identified as loss of native forest areas in the province of Santiago del Estero, which will possibly be intended for silvopastoral use.”*²⁹

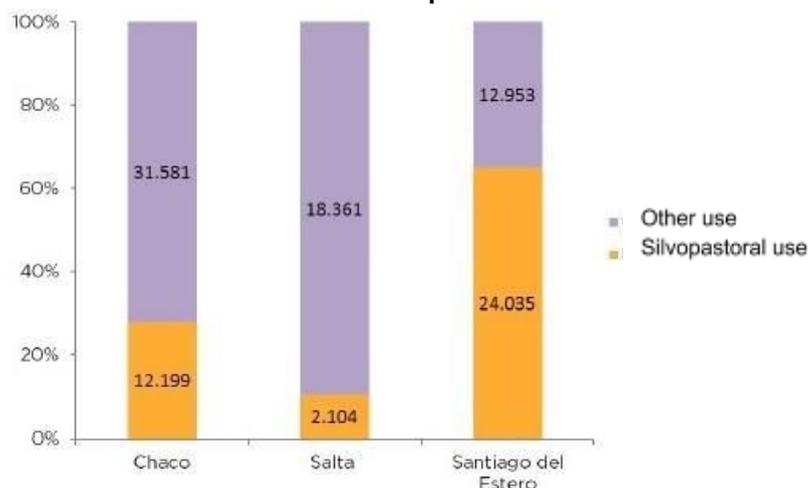
²⁷Argentina Forest Evaluation System Management Unit (UMSEF). (Accessed 22.07.2019).

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/tierra/bosques-suelos/manejo-sustentable-bosques/umsef>

²⁸Ibidem.

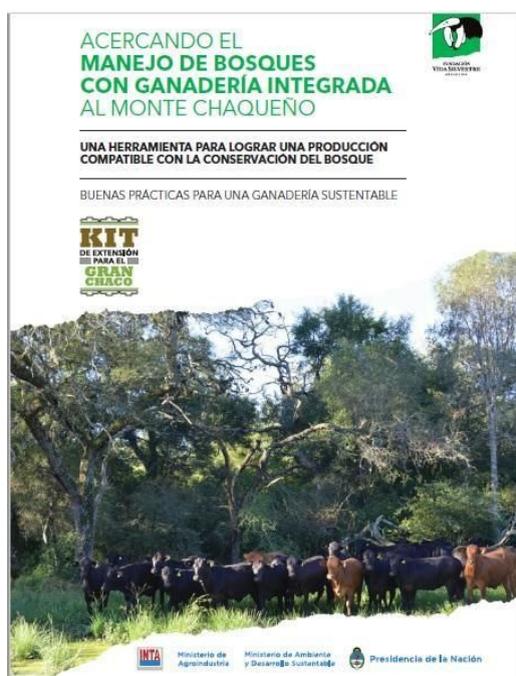
²⁹Ibidem.

Deforestation due to silvopastoral use in 2017



Percentage distribution of possible silvopastoral use and other uses of areas with loss of native forests as of 2017 in the provinces of Chaco, Salta and Santiago del Estero (values are in hectares).

Since 2015, the Argentine government has been promoting the Management of Forests with Integrated Livestock Farming (MBGI in Spanish) in the Chaco region, similar to the silvopastoral model (which has been causing deforestation for two decades).³⁰



The MBGI allows bush clearing to sow exotic pastures. Moreover, it allows clearing of 10% of the property for fodder, which violates Article 14 of the National Forest Act 26,331, which prohibits provincial governments to “authorize clearings of forests classified as categories I (red) and II (yellow)”.³¹

³⁰Argentina National Forest Management Plan with Integrated Livestock. <https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/tierra/bosques-suelos/manejo-sustentable-bosques/ganaderia-integrada> (Accessed 22.07.19).

³¹Argentina, National Forest Act 26.331.

To clarify, each provincial government defined the zoning of its forests into three categories: I (red), reserve; II (yellow), sustainable use; and III (green), which allows for deforestation only if it does not affect indigenous territories, after an environmental impact evaluation and a public hearing. All provinces have already defined their forest zones and, on average, 80% of them have been classified as categories I (red) and II (yellow).³²

It is worth pointing out that the ambitious development plans for intensive livestock farming in the northern provinces of Argentina (increasing cattle stock by 10 million) have not been modified after the implementation of the MBGI (silvopastoral system) was agreed upon, and therefore these development plans endanger nearly 10 million hectares of Chaco forests (taking into account that they usually allocate one cow per hectare, like in the Pampas region).³³

Current and projected stock in the Chaco provinces

Province	2018 Cattle stock	Projected Cattle Stock
Salta	1.4 million	4 million
Santiago del Estero	1.7 million	5 million
Formosa	1.7 million	3.5 million
Chaco	2.7 million	5 million
Total	7.5 million	17.5 million

Source: Greenpeace, based on official documents and officer statements.³⁴

The degradation, deforestation and fragmentation of these forests will practically eliminate the possibility of survival for the 20 jaguars left in the Chaco region.

<http://servicios.infoleg.gob.ar/infolegInternet/anexos/135000-139999/136125/norma.htm>

³²UMSEF. Forest National Direction.

<https://www.argentina.gob.ar/ambiente/tierra/bosques-suelos/manejo-sustentable-bosques/umsef>

³³Formosa Province. Livestock Program <https://formosa.gob.ar/programa/ganadero>

MBGI. Salta province.

https://www.agroindustria.gob.ar/sitio/areas/cfa/actividad/2017/_reunion2/_material/ordenamiento//000000__Propuesta%20MBGI.pdf

Salta 2030 Plan (24.02.2018)

<http://plansalta2030.com.ar/pdf/Informe%20Final%20-%20Completo.pdf>

Online Article. Norte Newspaper. "The Chaco Cattle Plan has been launched". 21.05.2010

<http://www.diarionorte.com/article/43458/se-lanzo-el-plan-ganadero-del-chaco->

The Book of Livestock Farming in Santiago del Estero 2007. Ministry of Production, Natural Resources, Forestation and Lands.

<https://www.greenpeace.org/archive-argentina/Global/argentina/report/2011/bosques/informe-ganaderia-silvopastoril-1.pdf>

Ministry of Agroindustry of Argentina.

https://www.agroindustria.gob.ar/sitio/areas/bovinos/informacion_interes/informes/

³⁴Estimated by Greenpeace with info of reference 33.

The bloody side of the Argentine beef: linked to deforestation, ends up in Europe and Israel

In Europe and Israel, Argentine beef is being sold at a high price as high quality beef. Behind the deceptive image of cattle grazing on the Pampas lies the destruction of Argentina's last remaining forests.

The following case study shows how large-scale slaughterhouses and their parent companies from Argentina, which export beef to supermarkets and wholesale suppliers in Europe and Israel, are linked to the deforestation of the Chaco forests.

Carnes Pampeanas S.A.: Argentine beef for sale in Germany, the Netherlands and Israel



(Annual) slaughter capacity: 100,000 head of cattle.³⁵

High-quality beef quota for the EU (2018/2019): 1,344 Tn³⁶

Markets: Argentina, EU, Israel, Brazil, Chile, Russia.³⁷

Carnes Pampeanas S.A. (Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A.) is a slaughterhouse, a subsidiary of Cresud S.A.C.I.F. y A., and it is located in the province of La Pampa, a traditional cattle-breeding territory in Argentina. In addition to supplying cattle to its own slaughterhouse, Cresud also supplies cattle to other export companies.³⁸

Cresud is a major agricultural player in Latin America, with businesses in plantations, sugarcane and livestock in Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil and Paraguay, and it owns over 800,000 hectares.³⁹

Its largest shareholders and executive officers are Eduardo Elsztain and Alejandro Elsztain.⁴⁰

³⁵Based on information of Secretariat of Agroindustry – Annual slaughter report 2018.

<https://www.agroindustria.gob.ar/sitio/areas/gestion/>

³⁶Based on Resolution of Ministry of Agroindustry – Resolution 243/18 (quota allocation).

<https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/189574/20180809>

³⁷Carnes Pampeanas - Cresud. Products & Markets. [ONLINE] (Accessed 22.07.2019).

<http://www.carnes-pampeanas.com/english/markets.html>

³⁸Online searcher slaughterhouse list for export. (Accessed 22.07.2019).

http://www.argentinebeef.org.ar/exportadores/frigorificos_detalle.php?id=1020

Cresud Corporation Commercial, Real Estate, Financial and Agricultural. Report and Financial Statements corresponding to the exercises ended June 30, 2018, 2017 and 2016. PAGE 7

<http://www.cresud.com.ar/archivos/Memoria-Cresud-FY18-vF.pdf>

Cresud Corporation Commercial, Real Estate, Financial and Agricultural. Report and Financial Statements corresponding to the exercises ended June 30, 2015, 2014 and 2013.

<http://www.cresud.com.ar/archivos/Memoria-Cresud-FY15-vF.pdf>

Cresud Corporation Commercial, Real Estate, Financial and Agricultural. Report and Financial Statements corresponding to the exercises ended June 30, 2013, and 2012.

2016. <http://www.cresud.com.ar/archivos/CRESUD-ANNUAL-REPORT-2013-final.pdf>

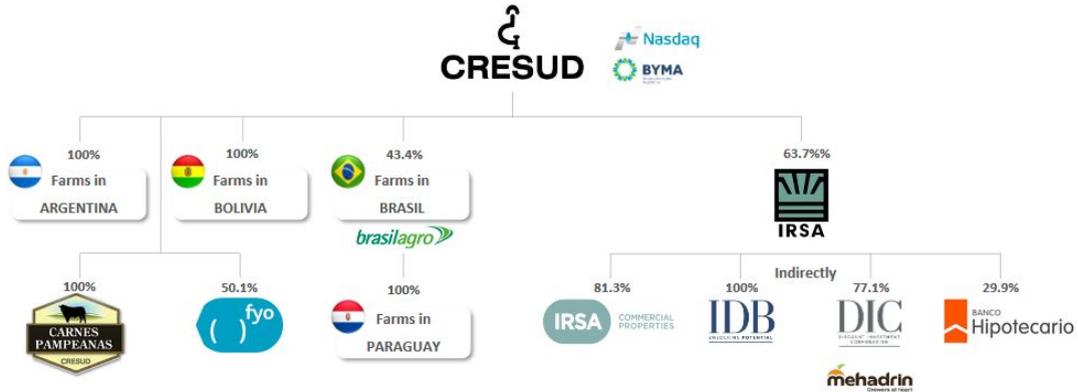
³⁹<http://www.cresud.com.ar/>

⁴⁰Online Article. La Nación Newspaper. "Eduardo Elsztain: the owner of the land". Published on 30.07.2005.

<https://www.lanacion.com.ar/opinion/eduardo-elsztain-el-dueno-de-la-tierra-nid718050>

Online Article. Forbes Argentina. "The business of the shopping malls owner (and something else)". Published on 06.03.2018.

<http://www.forbesargentina.com/el-dueno-los-shoppings/>



Through subsidiary companies, they also run businesses in shopping malls, supermarkets, banks, financial services companies, telecommunication companies, technology, energy, tourism and hotels in Argentina and Israel.⁴¹



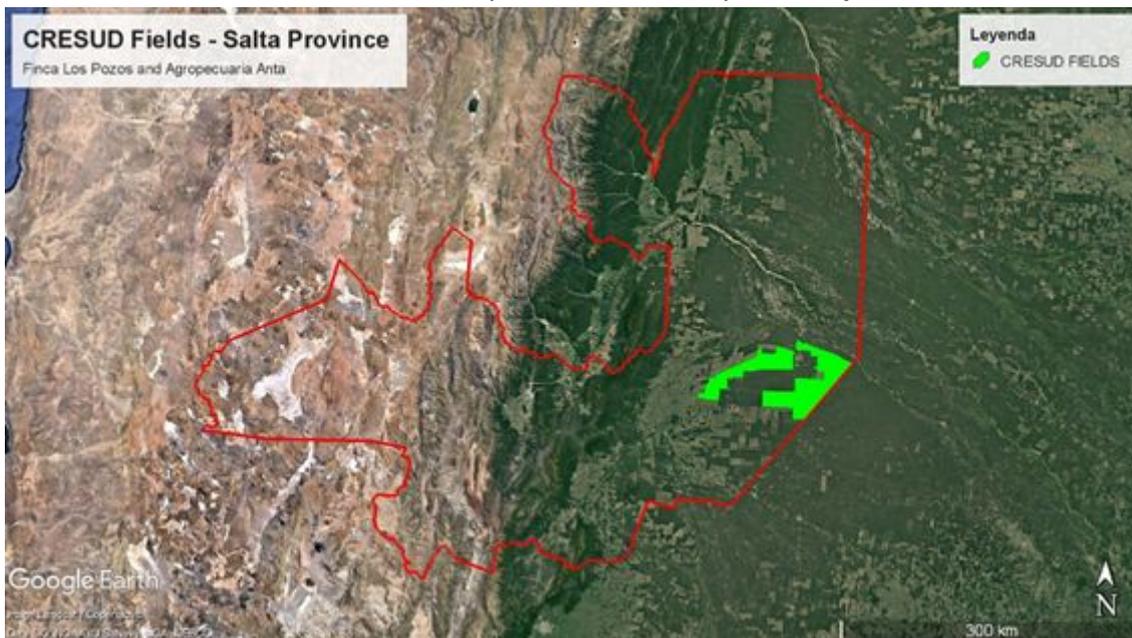
Largest and most well diversified conglomerate in Israel



* There is a non recourse intercompany loan between Dolphin (borrower) and IDB (lender) due to the transference of DIC shares. This loan is guaranteed with DIC shares sold.
 ** 29.6% stake sold through local swap transactions, holding economic rights for 54.9%.

⁴¹Cresud. Institutional Presentation. 2019.
<http://www.cresud.com.ar/archivos/Institucional-Presentation-CRESUD-IIQFY19.pdf>

Location of Cresud fields (owned and rented) in Salta province⁴²



Source: Greenpeace

Greenpeace satellite analysis has been conducted for a period of 20 years by comparing a satellite image from 1998 with other from 2018 over the fields of Cresud in Salta province. Those pictures indicate Land Use Changes in landscape coverage: 120,000 hectares of forests have been deforested.⁴³

⁴²Cresud has own and rented fields that operate under the same structure, with different business. Financial Report 2018 indicates that Agropecuaria Anta S.A. is around 130,000 hectares and Finca Los Pozos is around 230,000 hectares.

<http://www.cresud.com.ar/archivos/Memoria-Cresud-FY18-vF.pdf> (page 27)

Fields boundaries are based in the analysis of company information and what is registered in Salta Province official cadastral site. <http://www.inmuebles.gov.ar/>

Salta's General Audit Office report on Salta Forestal (2008)

<http://www.agpsalta.gov.ar/informes/zips/242-1872-08.pdf>

⁴³Greenpeace deforestation analysis based in satellite images. Fields boundaries are based in the analysis

of company information and what is registered in Salta Province official cadastral site.

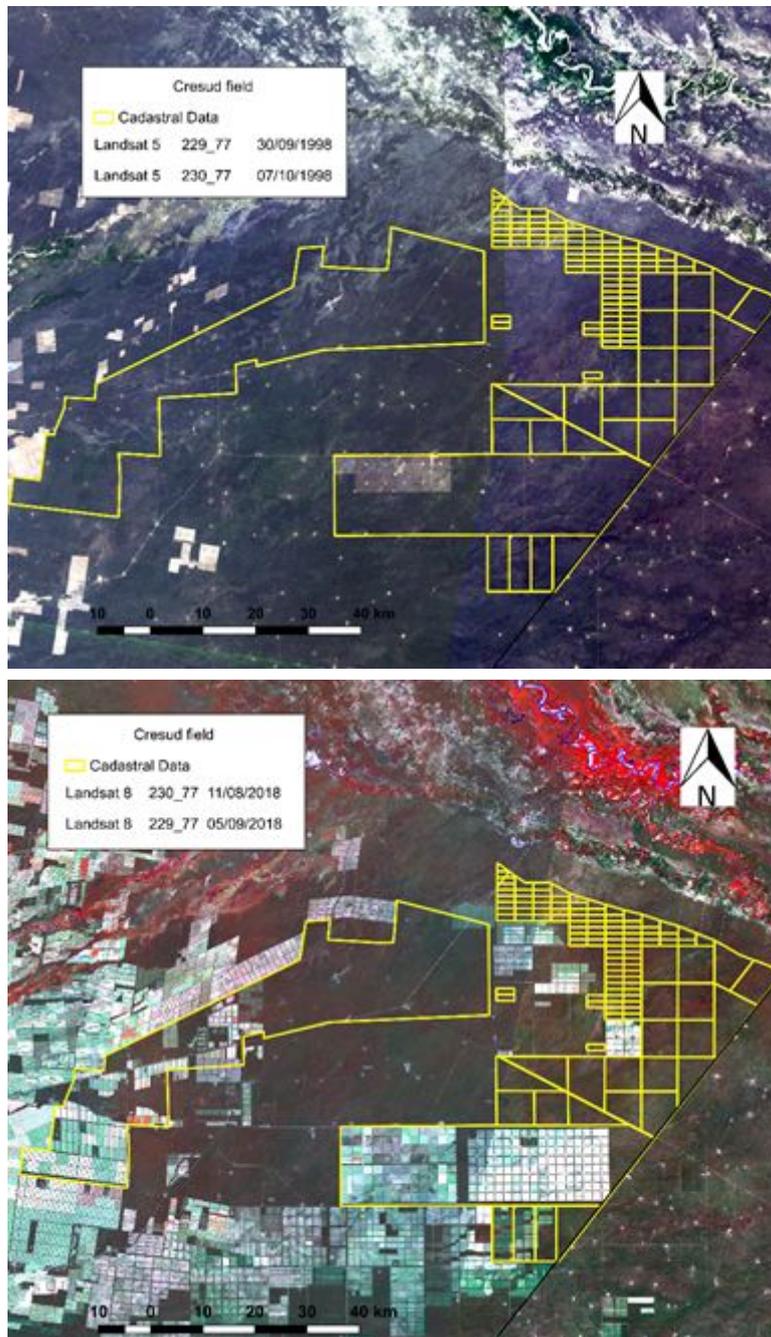
<http://www.cresud.com.ar/archivos/Memoria-Cresud-FY18-vF.pdf> (page 27).

<http://www.inmuebles.gov.ar/>

Salta's General Audit Office report on Salta Forestal (2008).

<http://www.agpsalta.gov.ar/informes/zips/242-1872-08.pdf>

Deforestation of 120,000 hectares in Salta Forestal and Los Pozos, Cresud fields (1998-2018)



Source: Satellite Images Landsat 5 and Landsat 8

The following zoomed-in satellite images and photographs show the deforestation on Los Pozos field (owned by Cresud) in Salta Province.

Deforestation of 70,000 hectares in Los Pozos, Cresud field (2004-2008)



Deforestation of 3,000 hectares in Los Pozos, Cresud field (Sept-Dec 2018)



Deforestation in Los Pozos, Cresud field in Salta province



Photo: Greenpeace (2018)

Los Pozos, Cresud deforested field and feedlot in Salta province



Photo: Greenpeace (2018)

Los Pozos, Cresud deforested field and feedlot in Salta province



Photo: Greenpeace (2018)

Cresud recently requested a permit from the Salta province government to deforest 7,559 hectares for livestock in its Los Pozos farm.⁴⁴

Fragment of Salta Official Bulletin No. 20528 from June 24, 2019 with a public hearing call to grant Cresud authorization for land use change of 7,559 hectares in Los Pozos farm.



The image is a screenshot of the Salta Official Bulletin website. At the top left, there is a logo for 'Boletín Oficial PROVINCIA DE SALTA' with the text 'GOBIERNO DE LA PROVINCIA DE SALTA. Secretaría Gral. de la Gobernación. Dirección Gral. Del Boletín Oficial.' To the right is a photograph of a street scene with a red sign that says 'BOLETÍN DIGITAL'. Below this is a red header with the text 'DETALLE CONVOCATORIAS A AUDIENCIAS PÚBLICAS'. The main content area contains the following text:

CONVOCATORIAS A AUDIENCIAS PÚBLICAS O.P. N° 100073284
F. N° 0001 - 00002041
Publicado en el Boletín Oficial de Salta N° 20528 el día 24/06/2019
PROGRAMA DE AUDIENCIAS PÚBLICAS - IMPACTO AMBIENTAL Y SOCIAL ESTABLECIMIENTO AGRAGANADERO CRESUD - DPTO. RIVADAVIA - EXPTE. N° 0090227-179590/2015-0

PROGRAMA DE AUDIENCIAS PÚBLICAS

IMPACTO AMBIENTAL Y SOCIAL ESTABLECIMIENTO AGROGANADERO CRESUD

EXPTE. N° 0090227-179590/2015-0 - DPTO. RIVADAVIA

El Secretario de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable de la Provincia de Salta convoca a una Audiencia Pública, para que quienes tengan interés o derecho, puedan expresarse sobre el impacto ambiental y social de una solicitud de autorización de Cambio de Uso de Suelo, con fines de agroganadería, en finca Establecimiento Agroganadero CRESUD, inmueble matrículas N° 5.414, 5.417, 5.423 y 5.424 del Dpto. Rivadavia, expediente N° 0090227-179590/2015-0, iniciado por la firma Cresud Sociedad Anónima, Comercial, Inmobiliaria, Financiera y Agropecuaria, de acuerdo a lo establecido por el artículo 49 de la Ley N° 7070/00. El proyecto se ejecutará en tres módulos productivos, a realizarse la habilitación de 2.904 ha netas en la primera etapa, 2.901 ha netas en la segunda etapa y 1.754 ha netas en la tercera etapa, con 3.305 ha de protección y reserva, quedando supeditada la habilitación de los módulos a control, monitoreo y aprobación por parte de la Secretaría de Ambiente y Desarrollo Sustentable, de un Informe Circunstanciado a cargo del proponente.

Fecha y Hora de la Audiencia: Viernes 05 de julio de 2019, a las 10:00 horas.

Lugar de Realización: Salón Shing Ran, sito en calles Belgrano y Constituyente.

© COPYRIGHT 2.018. REGISTRO NACIONAL DE PROPIEDAD INTELECTUAL N° 5351401. DIRECCION GENERAL DE BOLETIN OFICIAL SALTA

As a lack of traceability regarding the supply chains it is not possible to trace meat, that is being sold in Europe, back to the specific piece of land in Argentina, where it has been bred and raised. Hence, from a consumer perspective it is very difficult to make sure not buying products which are linked to deforestation. Even more worrying is that big agribusiness companies, such as Carnes Pampeanas/Cresud do operate and export meat to Europe and Israel. Meat products from Carnes Pampeanas have been recorded at Lidl Germany, Metro Germany, Albert Heijn Netherlands, Zandbergen Brothers BV, Shufersal Israel.

⁴⁴Salta Official Bulletin No. 20528 of June 24, 2019 with a Public Hearing call for authorization for Cresud for Land Use Change of 7,559 hectares in Los Pozos field.
http://boletinoficialsalta.gob.ar/NewDetalleAvisosAdministrativos.php?orden_pub=100073284

Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. (Carnes Pampeanas) products at German supermarket Lidl



Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. is listed in the EU import register “Non-EU country establishments database” with the approval code: 2520⁴⁵



Rump Steak with the EU approval code 2520 - Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. - recorded at Lidl, Berckhusenstr. 95, 30652 Hannover (25.05.2019) and Lidl, Carl Kistnerstr. 2, 79115 Freiburg (17.05.2019).

About Lidl: With more than 3,000 supermarkets, Lidl is one of the leading discounters in Germany.⁴⁶ According to their own specifications, the company is operating in almost all European countries.⁴⁷ Lidl is (next to Kaufland) part of the German trading company Schwarz Group⁴⁸, which is one of the leading companies in the German retail food sector (market share 15.7% in 2018).⁴⁹

⁴⁵European Commission (2019) Import Conditions - Food. Argentina Meat of domestic ungulates. [ONLINE] Available at: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/sanco/traces/output/AR/RM_AR_en.pdf (accessed 23.07.2019).

⁴⁶Statista (2019) Anzahl der Filialen von Lidl in Deutschland in den Jahren 2007 bis 2017. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://de.statista.com/statistik/daten/studie/240200/umfrage/anzahl-der-filialen-von-lidl/>. (Accessed 23.07.2019).

⁴⁷Lidl (n.d.) Geschichte. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.lidl.de/de/geschichte/s1243> (Accessed 23.07.2019).

⁴⁸Statista (2019). Bruttoumsatz der Schwarz-Gruppe (Lidl/Kaufland) in Deutschland nach Vertriebslinien in den Jahren 2009 bis 2018 (in Millionen Euro). [ONLINE] Available at: <https://de.statista.com/statistik/daten/studie/153752/umfrage/gesamtumsatz-der-unternehmen-der-schwarz-gruppe/> (Accessed 18.07.2019).

⁴⁹Statista (2019) Lebensmitteleinzelhandel in Deutschland: Marktanteile führender Unternehmen in Jahr 2018. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://de.statista.com/statistik/daten/studie/4916/umfrage/marktanteile-der-5-groessten-lebensmitteleinzelhaendler/> (Accessed 18.07.2019).

Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. (Carnes Pampeanas) products at German wholesaler Metro



Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. is listed in the EU import register “Non-EU country establishments database” with the approval code: 2520⁵⁰



Roast beef with the EU approval code 2520 - Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. - recorded at Metro, Werner-Heisenberg-Straße 10, 34123 Kassel (15.05.2019) and Metro, Großmoorbogen 1, 21079 Hamburg (20.03.2019).

About Metro: According to their own specifications, the German wholesaler Metro is operating with 103 stores and 4 million clients in Germany⁵¹, such as restaurants, caterers and agencies.⁵² Metro Group is one of the leading companies in the German retail food sector (market share 4.8% in 2018).⁵³

⁵⁰European Commission (2019) Import Conditions - Food. Argentina Meat of domestic ungulates. [ONLINE] Available at: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/sanco/traces/output/AR/RM_AR_en.pdf (accessed 23.07.2019).

⁵¹Metro (n.d.) Unternehmen. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.metro.de/unternehmen> (Accessed 18.07.2019).

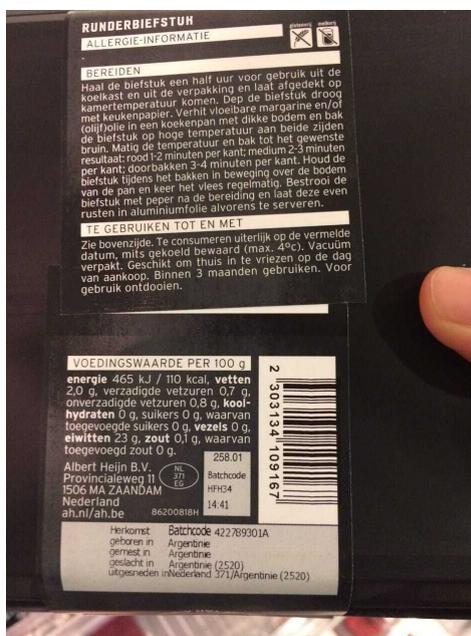
⁵²Metro (n.d.) Services. Kunde werden. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.metro.de/service/kunde-werden> (accessed 18.07.2019).

⁵³Statista (2019) Lebensmitteleinzelhandel in Deutschland: Marktanteile führender Unternehmen in Jahr 2018. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://de.statista.com/statistik/daten/studie/4916/umfrage/marktanteile-der-5-groessten-lebensmitteleinzelhaendler/> (Accessed 18.07.2019).

Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. (Carnes Pampeanas) product at Dutch supermarket Albert Heijn



Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. is listed in the EU import register “Non-EU country establishments database” with the approval code: 2520⁵⁴



Product Beefsteak recorded at Albert Heijn, Stadhouderskade 101D, 1073 AW Amsterdam (16 March 2019).

Albert Heijn is part of the Ahold Delhaize Group⁵⁵: According to the website of Ahold Delhaize, they are one of the world’s largest food retail groups, with a market share of 34.7% in 2018⁵⁶. Their brands can be found in more than 6,700 local grocery, small format and specialty stores. Their brands are active in Belgium, the Czech Republic, Greece, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Romania, Serbia and the United States and they participate in joint ventures in Indonesia and Portugal. Ahold Delhaize’s international headquarters is in Zaandam, the Netherlands.

⁵⁴European Commission (2019) Import Conditions - Food. Argentina Meat of domestic ungulates. [ONLINE] Available at: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/sanco/traces/output/AR/RM_AR_en.pdf (accessed 23.07.2019).

⁵⁵Ahold Delhaize (n.d.) About us. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.aholddelhaize.com/en/about-us/> (accessed 23.07.2019)

⁵⁶Ahold Delhaize (2018) Leading together. Annual Report 2018. [ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.aholddelhaize.com/media/8833/ahold-delhaize-2018-annual-report.pdf> (accessed 23.07.2019)

**Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. (Carnes Pampeanas)
products in Netherlands imported by Dutch Meat Import Zandbergen
Brothers BV**



Certificate of origin from Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. to Meat Import Zandbergen Brothers BV has been recorded at 12.10.18



31/10 272004

1. Exportateur (nom et adresse) Exportador (nombre y dirección) EXPORTACIONES AGROINDUSTRIALES ARGENTINAS S.A MORENO 877 - C1091AAQ CIUDAD AUTÓNOMA DE BUENOS AIRES - CABA ARGENTINA		2. Certificat N° Certificado N° N° 0.070.438	ORIGINAL
4. Destinataire (nom et adresse) Destinatario (nombre y dirección) MEAT IMPORT ZANDBERGEN BROTHERS BV INDUSTRIEWEG 66, 2382 NW ZOETERWOUDE NL - NETHERLANDS		3. Organisme émetteur Organismo emisor  Ministerio de Agroindustria	
6. Moyen de transport Medio de transporte Marsilme - MSC ELODIE 03/10/2018 NL - NETHERLANDS CIRCU 526948 AAX 98609		5. CERTIFICAT D'AUTHENTICITÉ VIANDES BOVINES CERTIFICADO DE AUTENTICIDAD CARNE DE VACUNO REGLAMENTO UE 593/13	
7. Marques, numéros, nom et nature des colis; désignation des marchandises Marcas, números, y tipo de bultos; descripción de la mercancía		8. Poids Brut (kg) Peso Bruto (kg)	9. Poids Net (kg) Peso Neto (kg)
CARTONS CAJAS			
CARNES BOVINAS ENFRIADAS DESURBESADAS		517	12.236,310
TOTAL		517	12.236,310
Permis de Embarque: 1809BEC019005975-S Licencia de Exportación: 01-30678157194-EXPORTACIONES AGROINDUSTRIALES ARGENTINAS S.A			
10. Poids net (en toutes lettres) ELLEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED SEVENTY-TWO WITH SIX HUNDRED NINETY Peso Neto (en letras) ONCE MIL QUINGENTOS SETENTA Y DOS CON SEISCIENTOS NOVENTA			
11. ATTESTATION DE L'ORGANISME EMETTEUR Je soussigné atteste que la viande bovine décrite dans le présent certificat correspond aux spécifications figurant au verso. CERTIFICACIÓN DEL ORGANISMO EMISOR El abajo firmante certifica que la carne de vacuno descrita en el presente certificado corresponde a las especificaciones que figuran al dorso. Pour cause de vacuno de calidad superior.			
Lieu (Lugar): BUENOS AIRES		Date (Fecha): 12/10/2018	
 Ministerio de Agroindustria		Signature et cachet (ou sceau imprimé): Firma y sello:  Ministerio de Agroindustria	

About Zandbergen: According to their own website they source chilled and frozen meat from the USA, Argentina, Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, Chile, Thailand, Australia and New Zealand. They import beef, lamb, veal, pork and poultry from these countries and supply it to customers in all the EU Member States, Switzerland, Norway and the United Arab Emirates. Their customers include multinationals, Cash & Carry companies, supermarket chains such as Ahold Delhaize, catering suppliers, meat processing companies and the ready-made meal market. Their office and warehouse is in Zouterwoude, the Netherlands.⁵⁷

⁵⁷Zandbergen (n.d.) Who we are. [ONLINE] Available at: <http://www.zandbergen.com/who-we-are/our-company/> (accessed 23.07.2019)

Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. (Carnes Pampeanas) product at Israel in supermarket Shufersal



Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. is listed in the EU import register “Non-EU country establishments database” with the approval code: 2520⁵⁸



Beef with the approval code 2520 - Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. was recorded at a Shufersal store (June 2019).

About Shufersal: according to their own website, Shufersal is Israel's leading retailer. Since 1958, Shufersal opened hundreds of branches across Israel, in which there are on average 2 million weekly customers and 1.8 million customer club members.⁵⁹ It is a subsidiary company of Cresud, leading Argentine agricultural company engaged in the production of basic agricultural commodities with a growing presence in Latin American countries.⁶⁰

⁵⁸European Commission (2019) Import Conditions - Food. Argentina Meat of domestic ungulates. [ONLINE] Available at:

https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/sanco/traces/output/AR/RM_AR_en.pdf (accessed 23.07.2019).

⁵⁹IDB Support Consulting. Shufersal.

[ONLINE] Available at: <https://www.idb.co.il/support-consulting> (accessed 23.07.2019)

⁶⁰Cresud. Corporate Profile. [ONLINE] (accessed 23.07.2019) Available at:

<http://www.cresud.com.ar/campania-perfil-corporativo.php?language=en>

Companies responses

After notification of meat related to deforestation in their supermarket and a request for confirmation Ahold Delhaize stated *“that a limited amount of that meat as supplied by Zandbergen came from Carne Pampeanas S.A., part of Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. (Cresud). We have full traceability for these supplies”*. In addition they mention that to their knowledge *“this particular meat supplier has not been directly linked to deforestation”* but *“if [Greenpeace] has information that proves otherwise we would like to learn more and would be happy to discuss this further with you”*.⁶¹

In response to our notification of the meat linked to deforestation in their supply chain, Zandbergen stated Greenpeace has done *‘insufficient research’* and asked Greenpeace to correct the allegations by sending a letter to its *‘relations’*. Furthermore, Zandbergen forwarded Greenpeace’s letter to Carnes Pampeanas. And Carnes Pampeanas replied stating it complies with *“the standards required by the international markets in which it operates”*. Furthermore, Carnes Pampeanas wrote *“the use of the term ‘deforestation’ is incorrect and inadequate”* and claimed *“the developments carried out by Cresud were done under the regulations in force in each province”*.⁶²

⁶¹Complete letters are in the Annex.

⁶²Complete letters are in the Annex.

Frigorífico Bermejo S.A.: Argentine beef for sale in Germany and the Netherlands



(Annual) slaughter capacity: 105,000 head of cattle.⁶³

High-quality beef quota for the EU (2018/2019): 267 Tn⁶⁴

Markets: Argentina, EU, Chile.⁶⁵

Frigorífico Bermejo is located in the Chaco region, in the province of Salta. Its parent company is Inversora Juramento S.A., the largest agribusiness company in the northwest of Argentina.

They run the “full cycle” of livestock farming: plantations and feedlots, breeding (89,504 hectares with 95,636 head of cattle), slaughter and distribution (domestic and for export).⁶⁶

San Severo, field of Inversora Juramento in Salta province



Photo: Greenpeace (2018)

⁶³Inversora Juramento S.A. - Presentation to investors – December 2017

http://www.ijsa.com.ar/images/preins_i.pdf

⁶⁴ Based on Resolution of Ministry of Agroindustry – Resolution 243/18 (quota allocation)

<https://www.boletinoficial.gob.ar/detalleAviso/primera/189574/20180809>

⁶⁵Frigorífico Bermejo. Who are we. [ONLINE] Accessed 22.07.2019

<https://frigorificobermejo.com.ar/quienes-somos/>

⁶⁶Inversora Juramento S.A. - Presentation to Investors - Dec 2017

http://www.ijsa.com.ar/images/preins_i.pdf

Feedlot of Inversora Juramento in Salta province

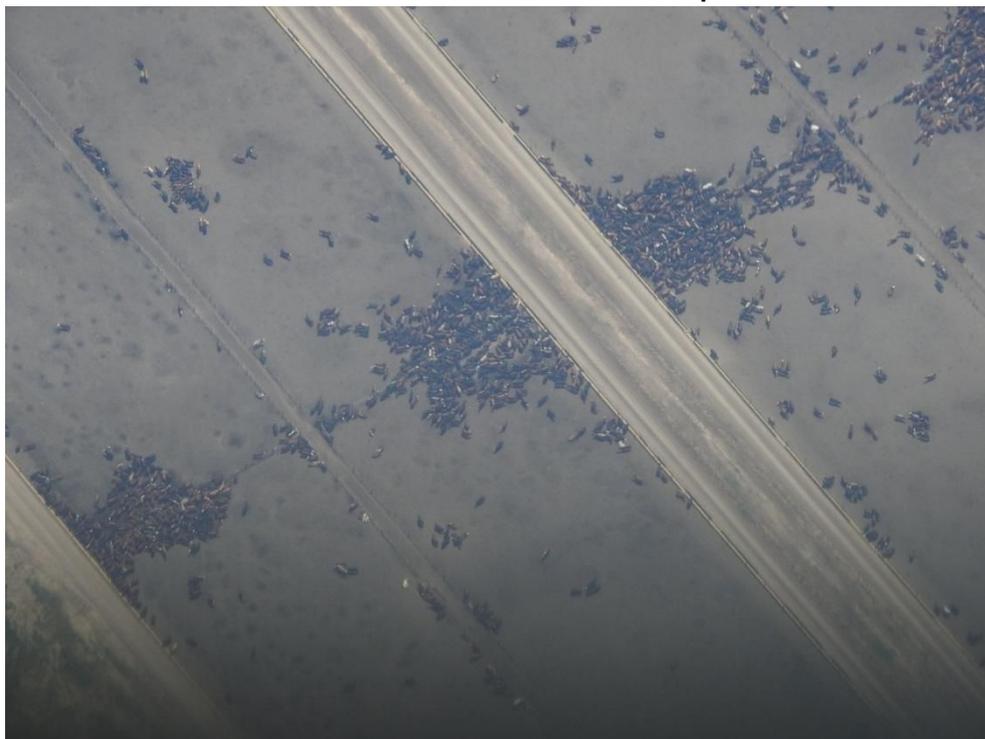


Photo: Greenpeace (2018)

Its main owners, Jorge Horacio Brito and Jorge Pablo Brito, are the owners of Macro Bank, energy and real estate development companies.⁶⁷



The company vice president is also the vice president of River Plate, one of the most popular football clubs in Argentina.⁶⁸

Greenpeace research discovered that Frigorífico Bermejo obtains cattle from Inversora Juramento and from large producers from the province of Salta, such as Cresud and Desdelsur.⁶⁹

⁶⁷Jorge Brito. Latest Publications. Accessed 22-07-2019 <http://www.jorgehoraciobrito.com/>
Forbes Article. <https://www.forbes.com/profile/jorge-horacio-brito/#695bb750394b> (22.07.2019)

⁶⁸River Plate Institutional Webpage. CLUB AUTHORITIES. [ONLINE] Accessed 22.07.2019
<http://www.cariverplate.com.ar/autoridades2>

Inversora Juramento. About us. Accessed 22.07.2019 <http://www.ijsa.com.ar/>

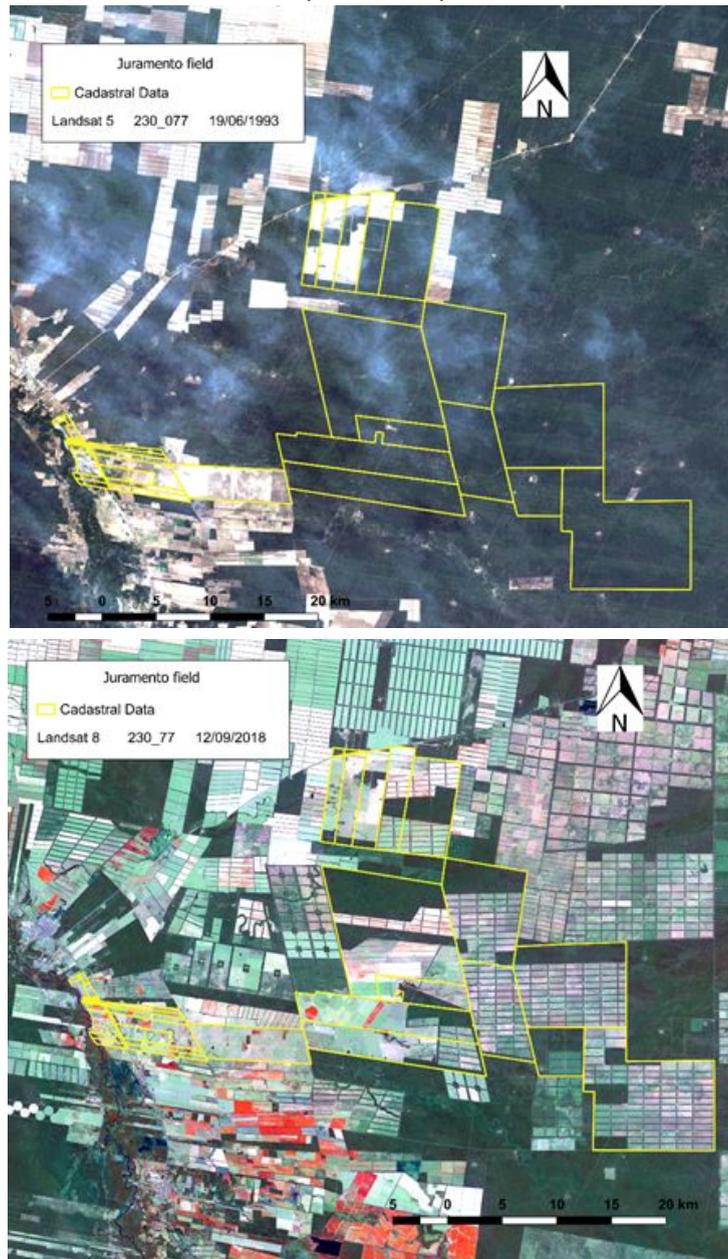
⁶⁹Cresud Corporation Commercial, Real Estate, Financial and Agricultural. Report and Financial Statements corresponding to the exercises ended June 30, 2018, 2017 and 2016.

<http://www.cresud.com.ar/archivos/Memoria-Cresud-FY18-vE.pdf> (page 8)

Desdelsur. From Argentina to the world. [ONLINE] Accessed 22.07.2019
<https://desdelsur.com/>

Greenpeace satellite analysis has been conducted for a period of 25 years by comparing a satellite image from 1993 with other from 2018 over the fields of Inversora Juramento in Salta province. Those pictures indicate Land Use Changes in landscape coverage: 50,000 hectares of forests have been deforested.⁷⁰

Deforestation of 50,000 hectares in fields of Inversora Juramento in Salta province (1993-2018)



Source: Satellite Images Landsat 5 and Landsat 8

⁷⁰Greenpeace deforestation analysis based on satellite images. Fields boundaries are based in the analysis of company information and what is registered in Salta Province official cadastral site.

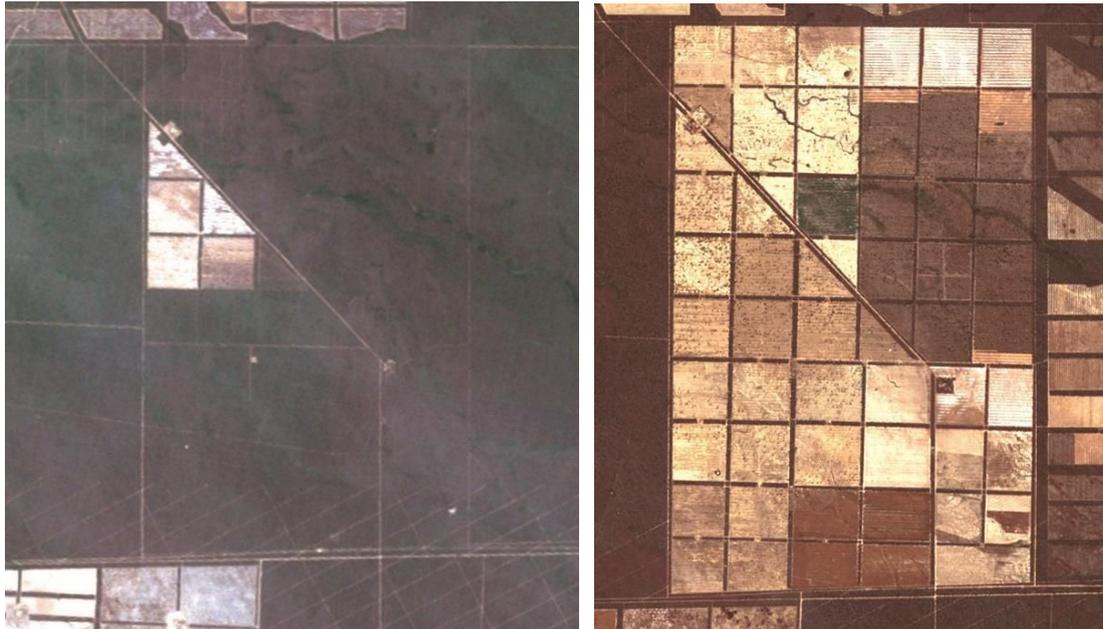
<http://www.inmuebles.gov.ar/>

Appraisal of Real Property – Inversora Juramento S.A. (April 2017)

http://www.ijsa.com.ar/images/IV_IJSA2016.pdf

Recently, the company has purchased the Caraguatá field, which has 5,500 hectares deforested by means of an irregular permit issued by the Salta provincial government, as it is within an area protected by the National Forests Act No. 26,331.⁷¹

Deforestation in the Caraguatá field, Salta province (2010 – 2014)



Source: Satellite Images Landsat 8

In 2018, Inversora Juramento carried out an illegal clearing of 700 hectares in its Jumealito, Pozo del Breal and Pozo de la Pichana properties, which has been publicly denounced by Greenpeace.⁷²

⁷¹Appraisal of real property. Inversora Juramento S.A. April 2017
http://www.ijsa.com.ar/images/IV_IJSA2016.pdf

⁷²Greenpeace: "In Salta, impunity to destroy forests continues". Greenpeace detected, through satellite images and overflights, that Inversora Juramento S.A. illegally deforested 700 hectares of protected forests on Jumealito, Pozo del Breal and Pozo de la Pichana farms. It is the largest agribusiness company in northwestern Argentina, whose main shareholders and directors are Jorge Horacio Brito and Jorge Pablo Brito, also directors of Macro Bank.
<https://www.greenpeace.org/archive-argentina/es/noticias/Greenpeace-En-Salta-continua-la-impunidad-para-arrastrar-los-bosques/>

Deforestation of Inversora Juramento in Pozo de la Pichana field, Salta province



Photo: Greenpeace (2018)

Deforestation of Inversora Juramento in Pozo de la Pichana field, Salta province



Photo: Greenpeace (2018)

Desdelsur S.A. is one of the main agricultural and livestock producers in the north of Argentina, mainly for export purposes and, in addition to Frigorífico Bermejo, it supplies beef to several slaughterhouses in the country.⁷³



Fields and feedlot of Desdelsur in Salta province



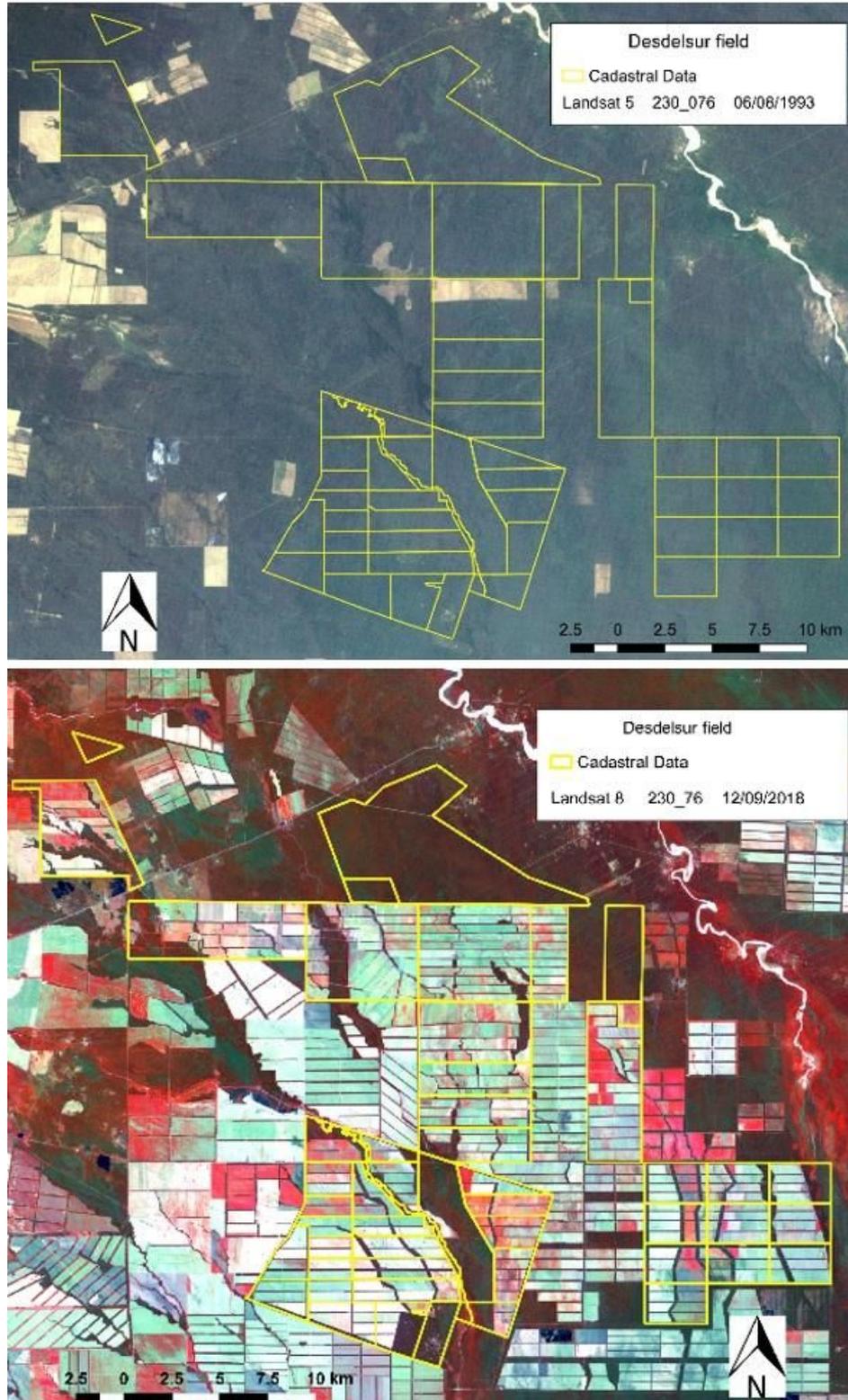
Photo: Greenpeace (2018)

Greenpeace satellite analysis has been conducted for a period of 25 years by comparing a satellite image from 1993 with other from 2018 over the fields of Desdelsur in Salta province. Those pictures indicate Land Use Changes in landscape coverage: 27,000 hectares of forests have been deforested.⁷⁴

⁷³Desdelsur. Home Page. Accessed 22.07.2019 <https://desdelsur.com/>

⁷⁴Greenpeace deforestation analysis based in satellite images. Fields boundaries are based in the analysis of company information and what is registered in Salta Province official cadastral site. <https://desdelsur.com/> <http://www.inmuebles.gov.ar/>

Deforestation of 27,000 hectares in fields of Desdelsur in Salta province (1993-2018)



Source: Satellite Images Landsat 5 and Landsat 8

In 2004, Desdelsur was denounced by Greenpeace for the clearing of one of its farms. After documenting deforestation, Greenpeace activists were arrested. .⁷⁵

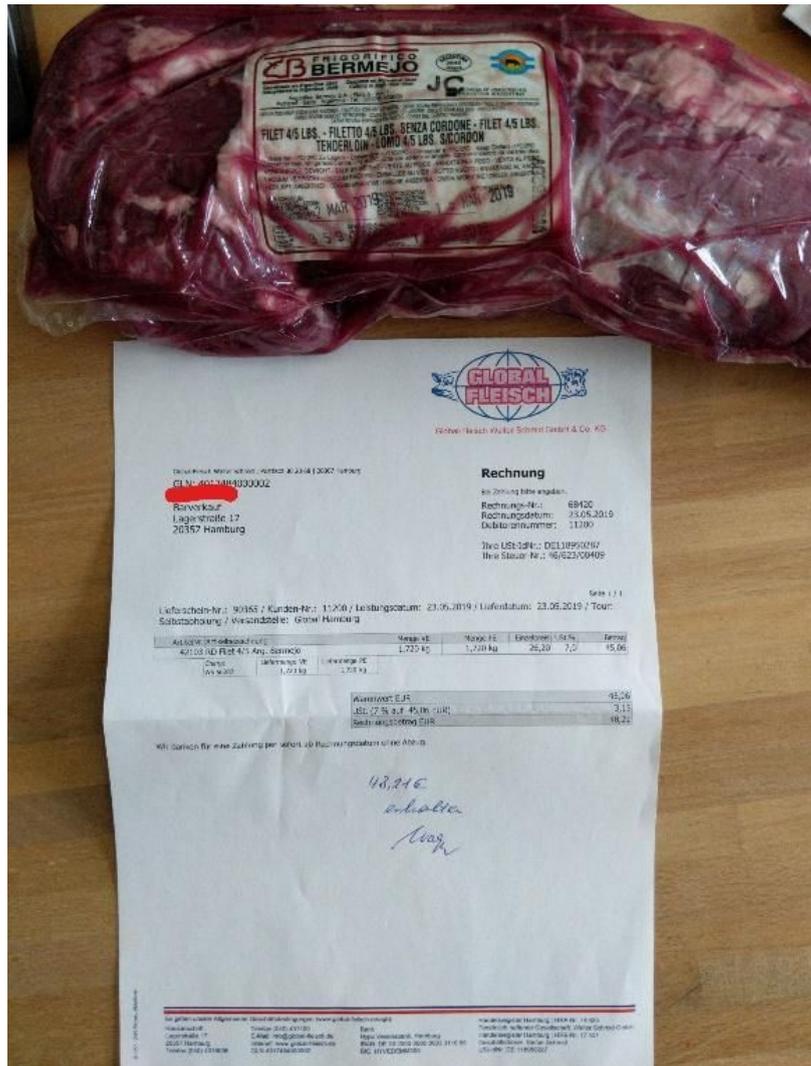
⁷⁵<http://www.greenpeace.org/argentina/es/noticias/urgente-arrestan-activistas/>

As a lack of traceability regarding the supply chains it is not possible to trace meat, that is being sold in Europe, back to the specific piece of land in Argentina, where it has been bred and raised. Hence, from a consumer perspective it is very difficult to make sure not buying products which are linked to deforestation. Even more worrying is that big agribusiness companies, such as Frijorifico Bermejo do operate and export meat to Europe. Meat products from Frijorifico Bermejo have been recorded at Global Fleisch and Intervlees.

Frigorifico Bermejo product at German wholesaler Global Fleisch



Frigorifico Bermejo S.A. is listed in the EU import register “Non-EU country establishments database” with the approval code: 2845⁷⁶



Product Filet % recorded at Fleisch Großmarkt, Lagerstraße 17, 20357 Hamburg (23.05.2019).

About Global Fleisch: Wholesaler FleischGroßmarkt in Hamburg is one of the most important beef distribution centres in Europe, of which Global Fleisch is the main shareholder in its corporate structure.⁷⁷

⁷⁶European Commission (2019) Import Conditions - Food. Argentina Meat of domestic ungulates. [ONLINE] Available at: https://webgate.ec.europa.eu/sanco/traces/output/AR/RM_AR_en.pdf (accessed 23.07.2019).

⁷⁷Creditreform (2019) Abstract economic information assessment Global Fleisch. <http://www.creditreform.de>

Frigorífico Bermejo products in Netherlands being imported by Intervlees



A certificate of origin
from Frigorífico
Bermejo to Intervlees
(21.08.17)



**CERTIFICADO DE ORIGEN
CERTIFICATE OF ORIGIN**

1. PROPIETARIO (OWNER) - Exportador (Owner, Address, Country)
FRIGORÍFICO BERMEJO S.A.
CALLE 5400 - PALMERAS
SANTA ANA - PARAGUAY

2. DESTINATARIO (RECIPIENT) - Consignatario (Client, Address, Country)
TO GROUP
TO CHECK

3. TIPO DE PRODUCTO (Type of Product) - Place of Origin (Planned)
FRIGORÍFICO BERMEJO - ARGENTINA

4. MEDIO DE TRANSPORTE PREVISTO (Mode of Transport Planned)
HULLAND

5. DESCRIPCIÓN DE MERCADERÍA (Description of Goods)
CHILLED BONELESS BEEF CUTS
5057 Cuts/CS
Comisiva BERMEJO 1870025-0
BERMEJO / INTERVLEES

6. PAÍS DE ORIGEN (Country of Origin)
ARGENTINA

7. PAÍS DE DESTINO (Country of Final Destination)
HOLLAND

8. CANTIDAD (Quantity)
21778.60 KGS

9. OBSERVACIONES (Observations)

10. DECLARACIÓN DEL PRODUCTOR FINAL O DEL EXPORTADOR (DECLARATION OF THE FINAL PRODUCER OR EXPORTER)
DECLARO QUE LA VERACIDAD DE LA INFORMACIÓN CONTENIDA EN EL PRESENTE FORMULARIO ES LA VERDADERA Y QUE LAS MERCADERÍAS MENCIONADAS EN EL PRESENTE FORMULARIO FUERON PRODUCCIONES DE LA REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.
I HEREBY DECLARE THAT THE MENTIONED GOODS WERE PRODUCED IN ARGENTINA.

11. DECLARACIÓN DEL COMERCIALIZADOR (DECLARATION OF THE EXPORTER)
CERTIFICAMOS LA VERACIDAD DE LA DECLARACIÓN QUE ANTERIORMENTE SE HIZO EN ACUERDO CON LA LEGISLACIÓN VIGENTE EN LA REPÚBLICA ARGENTINA.
IT IS HEREBY CERTIFIED THE AUTHENTICITY OF THE PREVIOUS DECLARATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE APPLICABLE LEGISLATION IN ARGENTINA.

2017
Frig. Bermejo S.A.
Sello y Firma
Signature and Seal

12. Sello y Firma (Signature and Seal)
HÉCTOR DARIO VALENZUELA
DEPARTAMENTO COMERCIO EXTERIOR
BUENOS AIRES
7 AGO 2017

About Intervlees: According to their own website, Hans Wilmink founded Intervlees in 1974. Today, Intervlees is one of the absolute world leaders in the industry. Intervlees import and export a wide range of meat with a perfect price / quality ratio from and to all parts of the world, such as Uruguay, Argentina, Brazil and New Zealand.⁷⁸

⁷⁸Intervlees (n.d.) Seit 1974. [ONLINE] Available at: (<https://intervlees.com/sinds-1974/>) (accessed 23.07.2019)

The Gran Chaco: an “impenetrable” forest

Forests and rainforests concentrate more than half the land biodiversity on Earth, and from them we obtain goods and services that prove essential for our survival, such as food, wood and medicines. They are home and sustenance for thousands of indigenous and campesino communities, and play a crucial role in climate regulation, the maintenance of water sources and streams, and soil preservation.

With over one million square kilometres, the Gran Chaco is the second forest ecosystem in South America, after the Amazon. It extends along Argentina, Paraguay, Bolivia, and a small part in Brazil.

The region presents a great diversity of environments: plains, hills, rivers, dry flood-prone savannas, marshlands, swamps, saltpetre fields, shrubs, palm tree forests; and a large extension and diversity of forests, some of them very dense, known as “impenetrable,” in which there is no surface water.

The species that live and grow in the Chaco forests tolerate temperatures that climb up to nearly 50°C in summer.



Photo: Greenpeace

Soil use and coverage map. American Gran Chaco 2017

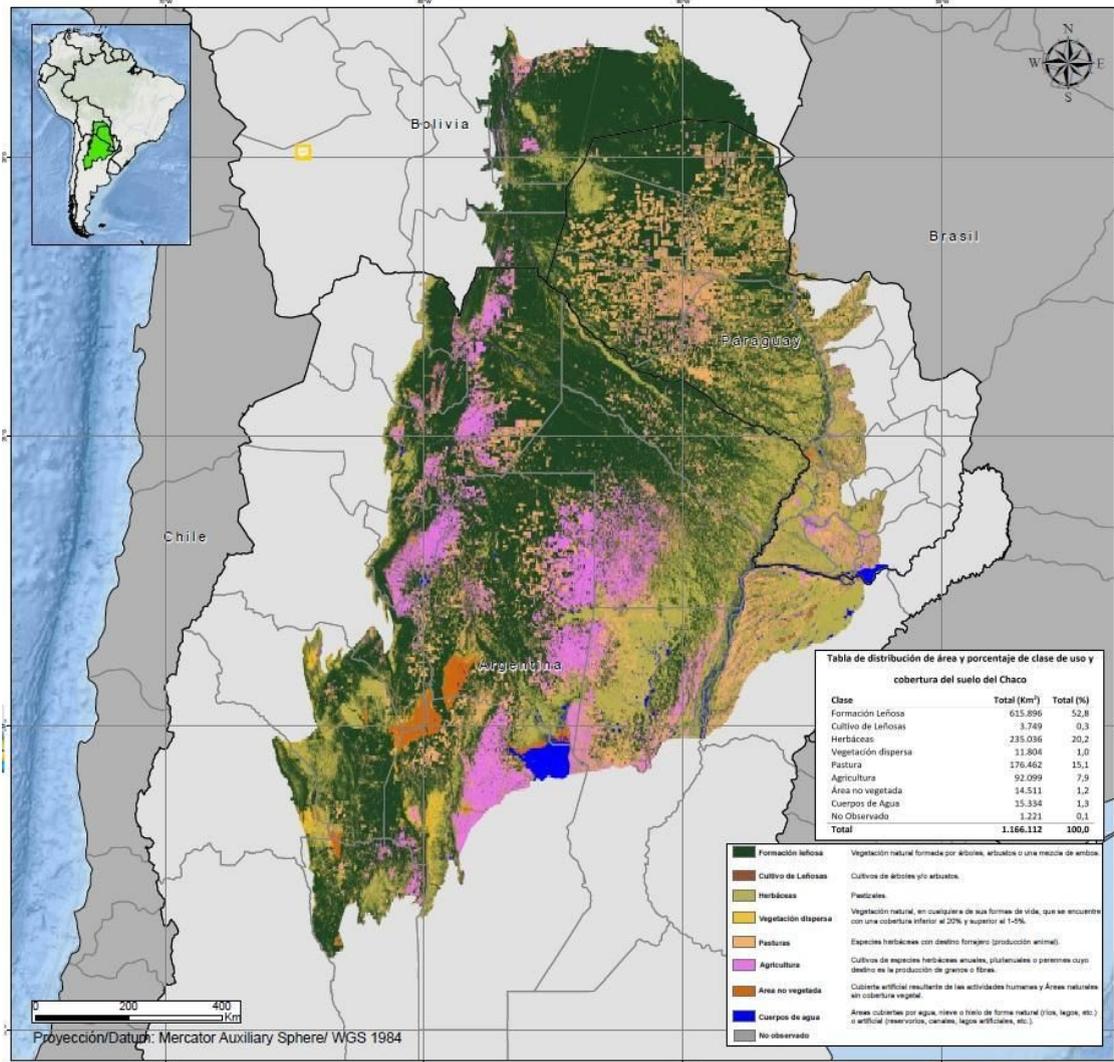


Table: Area distribution and percentage and type of soil use and coverage in Chaco

Type	Total (Km ²)	Total (%)
Ligneous formation	615.896	52,8
Ligneous cultivation	3.749	0,3
Herbaceous	235.036	20,2
Scattered vegetation	11.804	1,0
Pasture	176.462	15,1
Agriculture	92.099	7,9
Area free from vegetation	14.511	1,2
Water bodies	15.334	1,3
Not observed	1.221	0,1
Total	1.166.112	100,0

- Ligneous formation
- Ligneous cultivation
- Herbaceous
- Scattered vegetation
- Pasture
- Agriculture
- Area free from vegetation
- Water bodies
- Not observed

Source: MAPBIOMAS ⁷⁹

⁷⁹Land cover and land use map of the Great American Chaco. MapBiomias.

https://storage.googleapis.com/mapbiomas/chaco/downloads/mapas-murais/MapBiomias_Coleccion1_Chaco.pdf

Four million people live in the Gran Chaco, many of them farmers and small agricultural producers. Around 8% are indigenous peoples, who depend on the forest to obtain food, water, woods and medicines. “Chaku” means “hunting place” in the Quechua language.

In the Argentine Chaco, there are around 200,000 native dwellers from nine indigenous peoples (most of them Wichí and Qom).⁸⁰

Wichis



Photos: Greenpeace

Many of the indigenous and campesino families in the Chaco region have not become the legal owners of the lands in which they live. Over the last two decades, with the advance of agribusiness, conflicts with the businesses that buy these lands have been on the rise. The eviction and murder of farmers and native dwellers by the police or by armed guards hired by companies are more and more frequent.

The Chaco forests are one of the richest areas in biodiversity on Earth, contributing to mitigate climate change while harbouring unique vegetation and wildlife, including 3,400 plant species,⁸¹ 500 bird species, 150 mammals, 120 reptiles and 100 amphibians.

The quebracho is a tree that plays a key role, as it can reach up to 25 meters high and creates a sort of canopy in the forest, under which other hardwood trees grow (such as the carob tree and the *lapacho*), a shrub layer and an herbaceous layer.⁸²

⁸⁰<http://www.redeschaco.org/> The American Chaco. [ONLINE] Accessed 22.07.2019
Fundación para el Desarrollo en Justicia y Paz.

<https://www.fundapaz.org.ar/el-chaco-americano/presentacion-de-la-region-chaquena/>

⁸¹Paper. Sub-regional action program for the sustainable development of the great American Chaco.
http://redaf.org.ar/wp-content/uploads/2008/02/ATLAS_GRAN_CHACO_ES.pdf

⁸²Argentinian Chaco Forest Inventory 1998-2005.

http://leydebosques.org.ar/zips/bosquesargentinos/Inventario%20Nacional%20de%20Bosques%201998_2005%20Parque%20Chaque%C3%B1o%20%28SAyDS%29.pdf

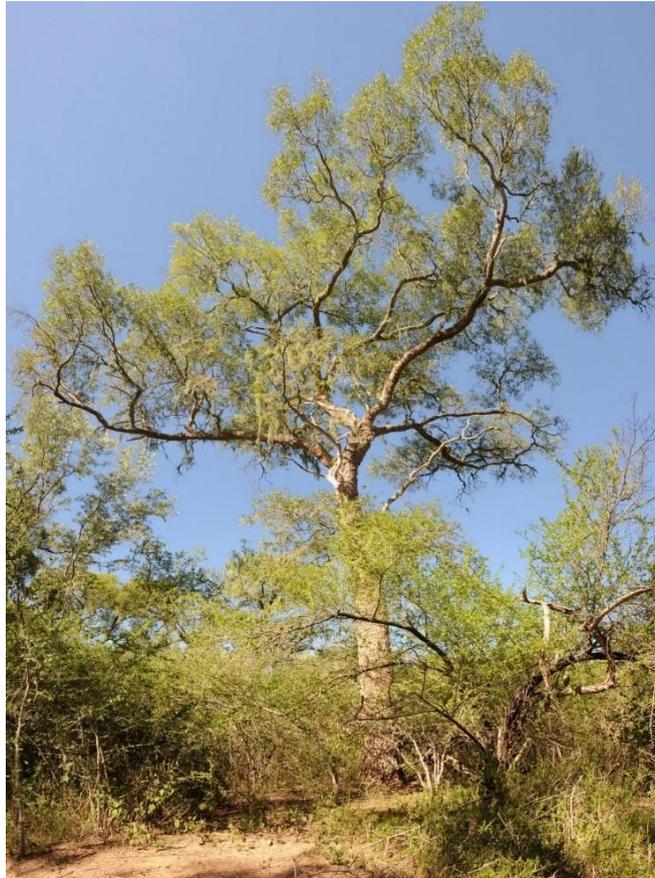


Photo: Greenpeace

Estimates show that in the Chaco region there are some 25 endangered mammal species, such as the jaguar, the giant armadillo, the tapir, the anteater, the maned wolf, the marsh deer, the neotropical otter, and the Chacoan peccary. The main causes are the constant destruction and fragmentation of their habitat and their indiscriminate hunting.⁸³

Tapir



Photo: Greenpeace

⁸³Ibidem.

Deforestation and climate crisis

The Gran Chaco has been one of the most deforested forest regions over the last three decades. The main cause is the advance of the agricultural border (for intensive livestock farming and GMO soybean).

FAO ranked Paraguay, Argentina and Bolivia among the ten countries that cleared the most land between 2010 and 2015.⁸⁴

Table: Top ten countries to report an annual net loss of forest areas, 2010–2015

	Country	Annual net loss of forest areas	
		Area (thousands of hectares)	Rate (%)
1	Brazil	984	0.2
2	Indonesia	684	0.7
3	Myanmar	546	1.8
4	Nigeria	410	5.0
5	United Republic of Tanzania	372	0.8
6	Paraguay	325	2.0
7	Zimbabwe	312	2.1
8	Democratic Republic of Congo	311	0.2
9	Argentina	297	1.1
10	(Plurinational State of) Bolivia	289	0.5

Source: FAO

In 2014, in its Fifth Assessment Report, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) warned that *“4.3% of global deforestation takes place in Argentina”*, and that *“deforestation in the Chaco forest has accelerated in the last decade after agricultural expansion, thus becoming the main source of carbon emissions in the Argentine north.”*⁸⁵

⁸⁴Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. Global Forest Resources Assessment 2015. How are the World's Forests Changing? (Second edition). 2015
<http://www.fao.org/3/a-i4793e.pdf>

⁸⁵Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). [ONLINE] at
https://archive.ipcc.ch/home_languages_main_spanish.shtml

The Secretary of the Environment of Argentina estimates that between 1990 and 2014, 7,226,000 forest hectares (a similar surface to the Netherlands and Belgium) were lost.⁸⁶

While deforestation has decreased in the last few years, current values remain significant.

Argentina. Deforested surface by province

Provinces	Deforested surface (hectares) 1998–2002 Period	Deforested surface (hectares) 2002–2006 Period <i>Preliminary</i>
Catamarca	33,198	18,650
Chaco	117,974	127,491
Córdoba	122,798	93,930
Formosa	19,977	30,296
Jujuy	6,174	45,700
La Pampa	6,156	No data, not completed
Misiones	67,233	62,412
Salta	194,389	414,934
San Luis	21,837	No data, not completed
Santa Fe	20,737	11,327
Santiago del Estero	306,055	515,228
Tucumán	22,171	36,900
TOTAL	938,699	1,356,868

⁸⁶Forest and Climate Change National Action Plan. Version 1 - 2017

https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/plan_de_accion_nacional_de_bosques_y_cambio_climatico_0.pdf

Provincia	Loss of Forest Lands and Other Forest Lands per period (hectares)						
	2007	2008-2011	2012-2013	2014	2015	2016	2017
Buenos Aires	236	396	1.668	31	43	299	528
Catamarca	9.571	12.163	6.873	272	664	3.184	2.120
Chaco	71.552	110.889	107.145	19.350	22.797	29.383	43.780
Córdoba	31.255	39.936	5.048	2.038	679	350	935
Corrientes	1.137	4.111	1.480	990	600	0	31
Entre Ríos	42.856	51.987	23.166	5.853	5.866	2.370	2.818
Formosa	44.737	129.603	96.775	25.476	19.324	29.521	23.086
Jujuy	1.826	14.843	9.082	1.492	2.032	623	1.341
La Pampa	2.643	3.164	1.504	8.040	5.357	3.890	10.925
La Rioja	6.289	25.683	17.571	7.298	10.893	14.242	3.933
Misiones	16.989	21.406	5.614	1.011	969	1.001	3.418
Salta	204.697	236.246	213.327	57.396	39.635	24.916	20.465
San Juan	0	79	765	0	0	0	0
San Luis	30.751	79.151	25.268	9.462	10.502	12.358	19.911
Santa Fe	9.580	11.692	5.397	1.958	1.700	539	1.139
Santiago del Estero	247.479	453.551	172.058	48.623	34.974	33.004	36.988
Tucumán	6.871	18.467	14.187	1.330	844	171	1.221
Total	728.469	1.213.367	706.928	190.620	156.879	155.851	172.639

Source: Secretary of the Environment of Argentina

Around 80% of deforestation of Argentina concentrates on four provinces in the Chaco region: Santiago del Estero, Salta, Chaco, and Formosa. Greenpeace estimates that in 2018 these provinces lost 113,000 hectares.⁸⁷

A recent report from the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) has estimated that the total carbon dioxide content stored in Argentine forests amounts to a value of almost 26 million Gg CO₂.

It is worth pointing out that Gran Chaco, one of the ecoregions most threatened by deforestation⁸⁸ and degradation, maintains 50% of CO₂ content in the forests of Argentina.

⁸⁷Greenpeace Annual Report (2018): "Deforestation in Northern of Argentina" Published on Jan 2019
<https://greenpeace.org.ar/pdf/Deforestacion-norte-Argentina-Informe-Anual-2018.pdf>

⁸⁸United Nations Development Program. The Native Forests of Argentina in the process of Reduction of Emissions derived from Deforestation and Degradation (REDD).
<https://www.undp.org/content/dam/argentina/Publications/Energia%20y%20Desarrollo%20Sostenible/brief-08-cambios.pdf>

Gg CO2 per region – Native Forests + Other Forest Lands

Forest Region	Green	Yellow	Red	TOTAL
Chaco Park	1,853,800	10,273,611	1,756,667	13,884,078
Andean Patagonian Forest	–	3,598,919	2,565,883	6,164,802
Bolivia-Tucuman Jungle	361,476	1,860,591	504,071	2,726,137
Woodland	41,418	988,591	542,296	1,572,306
Misiones Jungle	41,372	776,490	103,133	920,995
<i>Espinal</i>	58,065	533,614	68,639	660,318
Total	2,356,132	18,031,816	5,540,689	25,928,636

United Nations Development Programme. Fernanda Alcobé, Forest Engineer

According to the results of the second Biennial Update Report (BUR), the Forests sector was responsible for the emission of 57.4 MtCO₂eq in 2014, which amounts to 15.6% of the total greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) of Argentina that year.

Argentina: CO2 Emissions due to Deforestation for Agriculture and Livestock Farming in 2014⁸⁹

Variables	Unit of Measmt.	<i>Espinal</i>	Wood-land	Humid Chaco Park	Dry Chaco Park	Misiones Jungle	Yungas	Total	
Converted surface, 2014	hectare	22,177	10	8,855	140,067	1,043	13,455	185,606	
Native Forest Biomass	t m.s./hect.	120.11	46.00	154.90	154.90	278.90	247.06	158.12	
Native Forest to agriculture	hectare	8,508	0	1,437	45,460	0	13,455	68,859	
Agriculture biomass	t m.s./hect.	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	
Native Forest to pasture	hectare	13,669	10	7,418	94,606	1,043	0	116,747	
Pasture biomass	t m.s./hect.	8.65	13.50	12.90	6.10	13.50	–	6.90	
Biomass change	t m.s./hect.	110.94	32.50	142.47	147.53	265.40	237.06	150.07	
Annual emission, 2014	MtCO ₂ eq/yr	4.51	0	2.31	37.89	0.51	5.85	51.06	100.00%
Native Forest to agriculture	MtCO ₂ eq/yr							18.70	36.62%
Native Forest to pasture	MtCO ₂ eq/yr							32.37	63.38%

⁸⁹Forest and Climate Change National Action Plan. Version 1 - 2017

https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/plan_de_accion_nacional_de_bosques_y_cambio_climatico_0.pdf

Deforestation was the main factor responsible for the emissions in the Forests sector (89%), coming from the conversion of forests to pastures (56%) and plantations (33%) in 2014.⁹⁰

In view of the climate crisis, the need to preserve and sustainably manage forests becomes evident.



Photo: Greenpeace

⁹⁰National Forest and Climate Change Action Plan. Version 1 - 2017

https://www.argentina.gob.ar/sites/default/files/plan_de_accion_nacional_de_bosques_y_cambio_climatico_0.pdf

Greenpeace demands

Greenpeace demands that companies should adopt a Zero Deforestation Policy and, if they already have one, to implement it rigorously. This implies ensuring that both their production system and their suppliers should not cause deforestation and respect the rights of the native peoples.

Greenpeace demands governments to establish stronger, more ambitious policies, laws and agreements in defence of the forests and their historical inhabitants.

**July 2019
Forests Campaign**

Annex

T.a.v. C. van der Tak
Greenpeace Nederland
NDSM-Plein 32
1033 WB Amsterdam



Zoeterwoude, 5 juli 2019

Geachte mevrouw Van der Tak,

Wij hebben uw brief van 1 juli jl. ontvangen.

Wij betreuren het zeer dat u beschuldigingen uit zonder inzicht te geven waar deze op zijn gebaseerd en zonder een gedegen onderzoek te doen naar onze organisatie.

Desondanks hebben wij de inhoud van uw brief gedeeld met de betreffende leverancier. Wij hebben hierop een schriftelijke reactie gekregen, die u hierbij aantreft. Uit de reactie van onze leverancier blijkt dat zij zich in zijn geheel niet kunnen vinden in uw beschuldigingen.

Wij verwachten dat u op korte termijn, binnen 5 werkdagen, onze relaties aanschrijft en de gedane beschuldigingen rectificeert.

Mocht u ons bedrijf of één van onze klanten publiekelijk in een kwaad daglicht stellen, dan schromen wij een gang naar de rechter niet.

Hoogachtend,


Zandbergen World's Finest Meat



Zandbergen World's finest Meat (head office)
Industrieweg 66
2382 NW Zoeterwoude
Netherlands

Buenos Aires, July 4th, 2019

By means of this, we are writing to you in order to clarify the statements of the note sent by you.

Sociedad Anónima Carnes Pampeanas S.A. (Carnes Pampeanas) is a company dedicated to the exploitation of a meatpacking facility whose main focus and activity is to export meat, without which its operation would be unfeasible. In its operation, Carnes Pampeanas meets the standards required by the international markets in which it operates: BRC Edition 7 AA (British Retail Consortium); HACCP (Hazard Analysis and Critical Control Point), and - in the cases that correspond - Angus quality attribute (CAB - Certified Angus Beef). Carnes Pampeanas is one of the first private employers in the province of La Pampa generating more than 500 direct jobs as well as indirect employment and contributes to the economic activity. The only property owned by Carnes Pampeanas is the 70 hectares land plot where the meatpacking plant is located on Route 5, km 598.2, Santa Rosa, La Pampa.

Carnes Pampeanas, in the development of its activity, is in constant search of innovative solutions, as the case -among others- of the use of plantations of vetiver (*Chrysopogon zizanioides*) for the treatment of effluents, being the first and only meatpacking plant with that solution.

Regarding the alleged activity of the company CRESUD, it should be noted first that it is a limited company incorporated in 1936, whose shares are listed since 1960 in the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange (BYMA: CRES) and since 1997 in United States of America (NASDAQ: CRESY) being the first agricultural company in Argentina to be listed in both markets. We are aware that the status of "listed company" implies compliance with all the regulations required by those organisms, necessarily including the environmental standards of the countries in which it operates.

In this context, it is necessary to emphasize that the use of the term "deforestation" is incorrect and inadequate, since the developments carried out by Cresud were done under the regulations in force in each province, with the corresponding governmental permits, environmental impact assessments, public

hearings, monitoring and other standard requirements. We declare that it has complied with the biodiversity corridors required by law and that the hectares have been developed taking care of the ecosystem and according to the categorization of soils by the Law of Territorial Organization of Native Forests. We declare that there are no judicial and / or administrative claims on this matter, which shows that the accusation received is incorrect and unfounded.

We know that Cresud has a Corporate Social Responsibility policy that is part of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) established by the United Nations (UN) of Inequality Reduction, Gender Equality, Water Care, Production and Responsible Consumption, Waste; Alliances to achieve the Objectives, Quality Education, Nondiscrimination, Value Chain, Sustainable Cities and Communities, Health and Wellbeing, Environmental Care, Climate Action and Volunteering. In addition, several of the companies and business units collaborate actively with Greenpeace, signing collaboration agreements and allowing the work of their recruiters, and actively collaborating with more than 200 NGOs and foundations.

In the development of its activities, Cresud coexists with nature and with the social challenges that each region presents, carrying out educational and collaborative activities with the community. Cresud listens to the communities and gives particular answers to each one in order to accompany them in their development.

We know that Cresud innovates in the use of best practices for the development of its activities, including technological innovation such as the selective weed control system called "Weed Seeker" and precision sowing "Precision Planting" aimed to optimize resources by reducing the use of chemical products and minimizing the impact on the environment.

As proof of all the above mentioned, Cresud has been included in the "BYMA Sustainability Index" recently issued by the Buenos Aires Stock Exchange, which assesses the good performance of companies in four pillars: Environment, Social Responsibility, Corporate Governance, and Sustainable Development Goals.

Hoping to have clarified your query, we are available for any additional request.

Without another particular, we take this opportunity to greet you cordially


Attorney



GREENPEACE

Charlotte van der Tak
Campaign leader Biodiversity

Date: July 9th, 2017
Our reference: HB/SF

Contact: [REDACTED]

Subject: meat as sold in our AH stores from South-America

Dear Charlotte,

Thank you for your letter of July 1st, in which you ask us about meat as sold in our Albert Heijn stores from South-America.

I can confirm that a limited amount of that meat as supplied by Zandbergen came from Carne Pampeanas S.A., part of Exportaciones Agroindustriales Argentinas S.A. (Cresud). We have full traceability for these supplies.

To our knowledge this particular meat supplier has not been directly linked to deforestation. If you have information that proves otherwise we would like to learn more and would be happy to discuss this further with you.

Kind regards,

[REDACTED]
VP Product Integrity

Mobile: [REDACTED]
Email: [REDACTED]

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