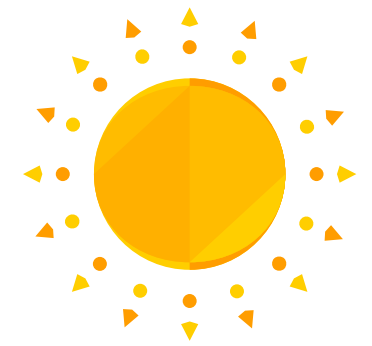


# How methane from livestock contributes to climate change



Cattle, sheep and deer produce methane, a greenhouse gas which contributes to climate change.



Methane is a potent greenhouse gas with a warming effect much greater than carbon dioxide.



The production of methane is part of the cycle of carbon moving through the environment in different forms.

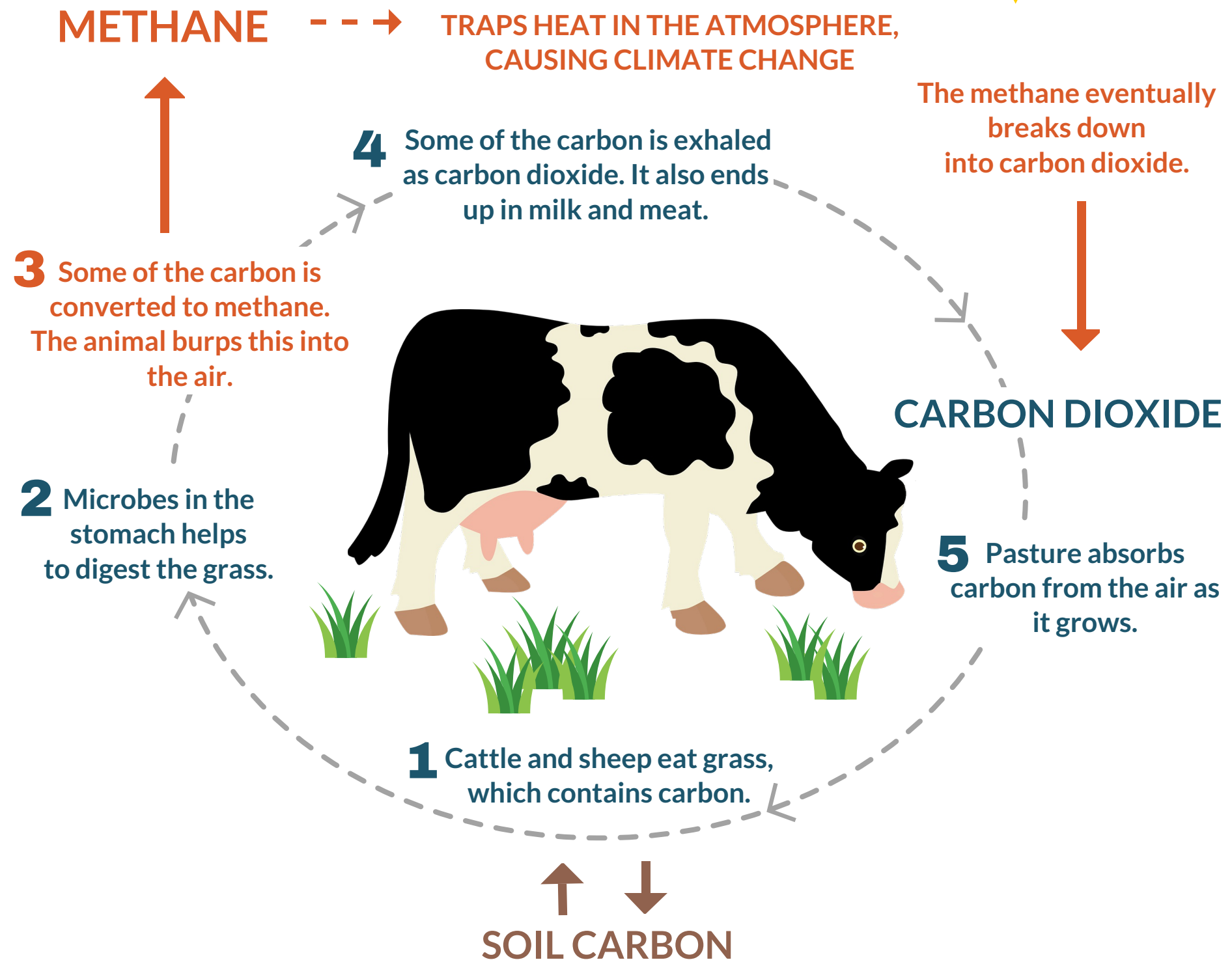


Over 100 years, warming from one tonne of methane is equivalent to 25 tonnes of carbon dioxide - even when taking into account methane's shorter lifetime in the atmosphere.



Ministry for the  
**Environment**  
Manatū Mō Te Taiao

Publication number: INFO 834



Carbon can be stored in the soil, but it is unclear whether New Zealand's pastures are gaining or losing soil carbon overall.