

# INCLUSION AND PRODUCTIVITY

## FAMILY FARMING

Degraded pasture areas can occur on all rural properties, with the number of small-scale producers standing out: 80% of the properties with pasture in poor condition, are from family farming (IBGE, 2019). This shows that recovery of degraded pastures is not just an environmental goal, but a priority to guarantee income and inclusion for more than 400,000 families whose income and well-being depend on this activity.

## THE OPPORTUNITY

The transformation of degraded pastures can occur through the recovery of the pasture itself or through productive conversion, based on integrated and sustainable crop-livestock and crop-livestock-forest systems. It is an opportunity that allows for increased food production with environmental responsibility, without the need to clear new areas. Recovery optimizes inputs, increases productivity and income on the rural property, and improves the quality of agricultural and livestock products.

# CONNECT WITH US

The theme of pastures connects global challenges, such as food security, land use, social issues, and adaptation to the global climate crisis, attracting interest from various areas. Connect with us.

Register to receive information about events, publications, and technological solutions.



# RECOVERY OF DEGRADED PASTURES

Estrategies to recover degraded pastures improve income of small and medium-scale farmers and contribute to food security and adaptation to the global climate crisis.

## DEGRADED PASTURE RECOVERY PROGRAM



Cattle in an integrated crop-livestock-forestry system (ILPF).

Photo: Juliana Sussai

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## THE BRAZILIAN SCENARIO

Brazil has 164 million hectares of pastures (MapBiomas, 2024), constituting the main land use in rural properties. Around 60% of these areas present some level of degradation, which threatens food supply for the population and the income of the farmers.

## THE CHALLENGE

A significant portion of the pasture areas in Brazil shows evident signs of degradation, but the statistics associated with this process are highly variable and inconsistent. Effective diagnosis and quality monitoring of these pasture areas represent a scientific and technical challenge due to the wide diversity of forage plants (grasses and legumes) and the peculiarities of Brazil's biomes and production systems.



Photo: imagem @2026 airbus

Pastures in small extensive dairy farms - Exposed soil and invasive plants as indicators of degradation

## SCIENCE-DRIVEN PASTURE RECOVERY

Embrapa's Program for the Recovery of Degraded Pastures uses science to offer a reliable diagnosis and identify the best technological alternatives to reverse the degradation process. The Program prioritizes solutions that increase income, help mitigate the climate crisis, and strengthen families in the countryside, without expansion over native areas.

More than a set of projects, it is an integrated national strategy, capable of offering solutions adapted to the specificities of each biome and each segment of the Brazilian farmers.



Photo: Henrique Antunes de Souza

Degraded pasture with grazing goats

# TECHNOLOGICAL ROADMAP

*Shortening the path between scientific knowledge and the adoption of technologies in the field.*

- Uses satellites, precision technology and modeling to obtain accurate and accessible tools.
- Creates the technical basis for certification protocols and Payment for Environmental Services (PES).
- Identifies the best technological alternatives for each biome, to reverse degradation with a focus on real socioeconomic and environmental benefits.

## SUSTAINABILITY AND CLIMATE

- A well-managed (cared for) pasture helps in the fight against climate change, as it sequesters carbon and reduces the intensity of greenhouse gas emissions.
- Recovering pastures is an efficient way to protect our water resources and ensure fertile soil for the future.
- The Program strengthens policies such as the ABC+ Plan\* and the PNCPD/Caminho Verde\*, and offers support for global commitments, such as the SDGs and climate goals, strengthening production chains.

*\*Brazilian national plans for low-carbon agriculture.*