

# One Health and food safety and security in the 21st Century

Nigel French

One Health Aotearoa, Dec 14<sup>th</sup> 2017, Wellington



Collaborating Centre



New Zealand  
FOOD SAFETY SCIENCE  
& RESEARCH CENTRE



Te Kunenga  
ki Pārehuroa



MASSEY UNIVERSITY

# Food

- Essential for survival
- One of our greatest pleasures
- In NZ:
  - Food production drives our economy and shapes our landscape
  - ...but public health issues arise from food production



## Christchurch's pure drinking water could be contaminated due to farming

CHARLIE MITCHELL  
Last updated 05:00, July 27 2017



# Going without food...



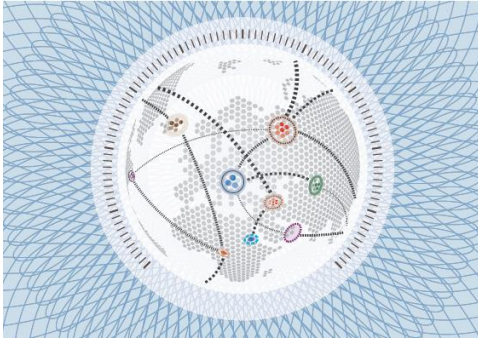
**“A hungry world is a dangerous world  
Without food, people have only three options:  
they riot, they emigrate or they die”**

*Josette Sheeran, World Food Program*

Source: [www.data2dairy.com.au](http://www.data2dairy.com.au)  
Images various sources, Google Images

Slide from  
Martin  
Cole





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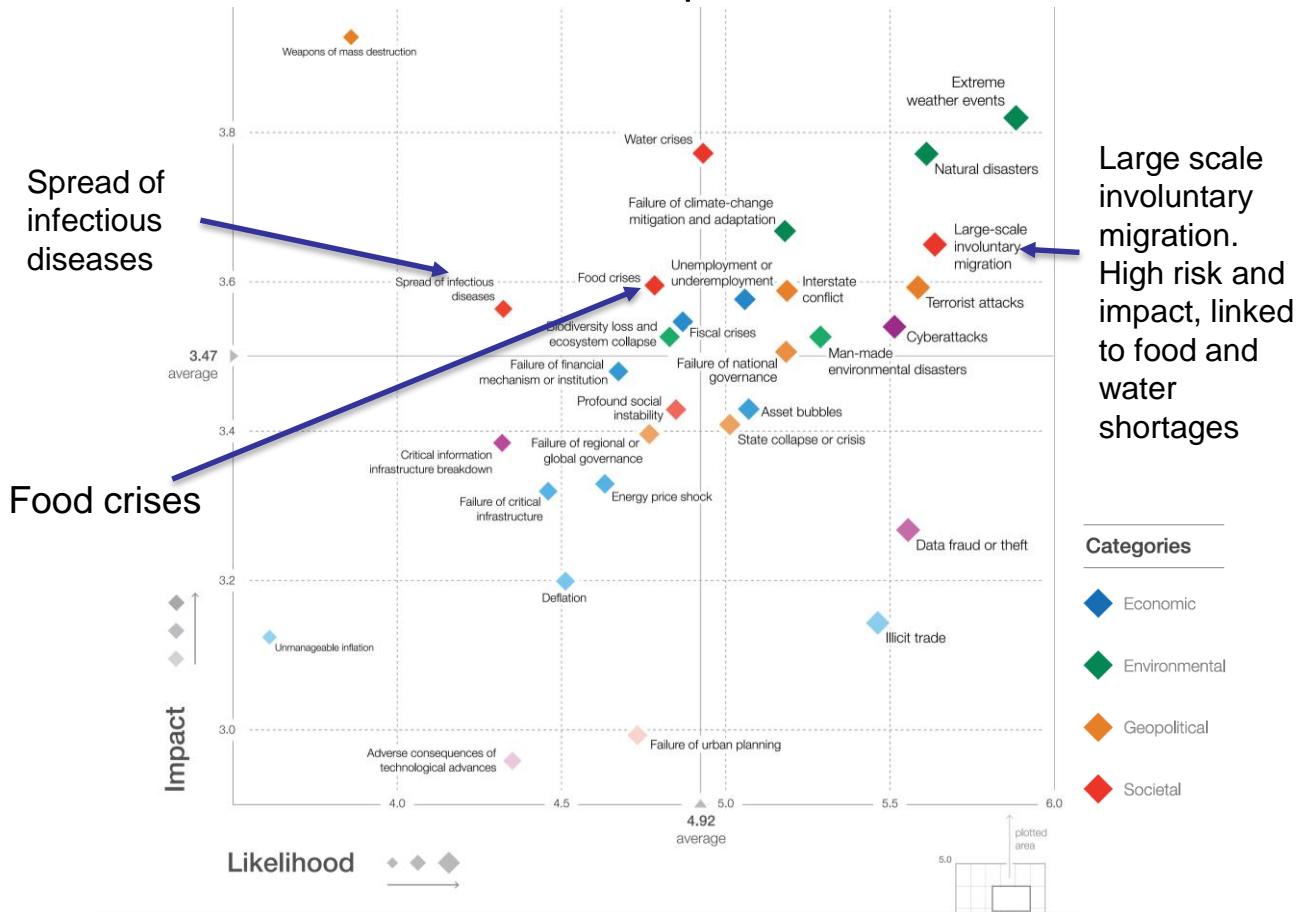
COMMITTED TO  
IMPROVING THE STATE  
OF THE WORLD

Insight Report

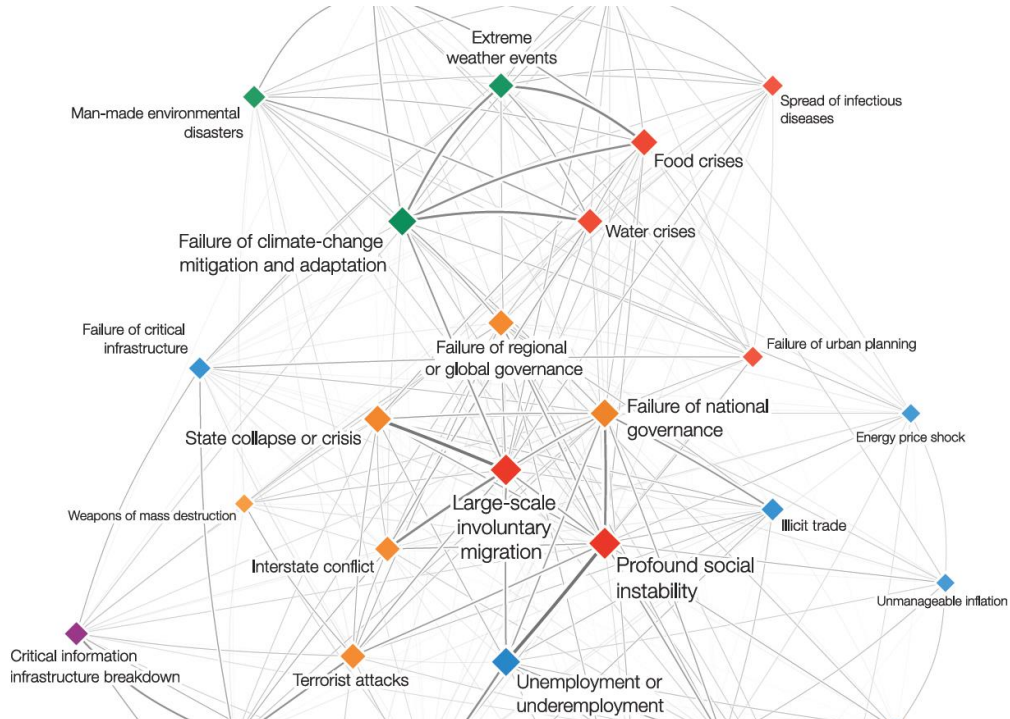
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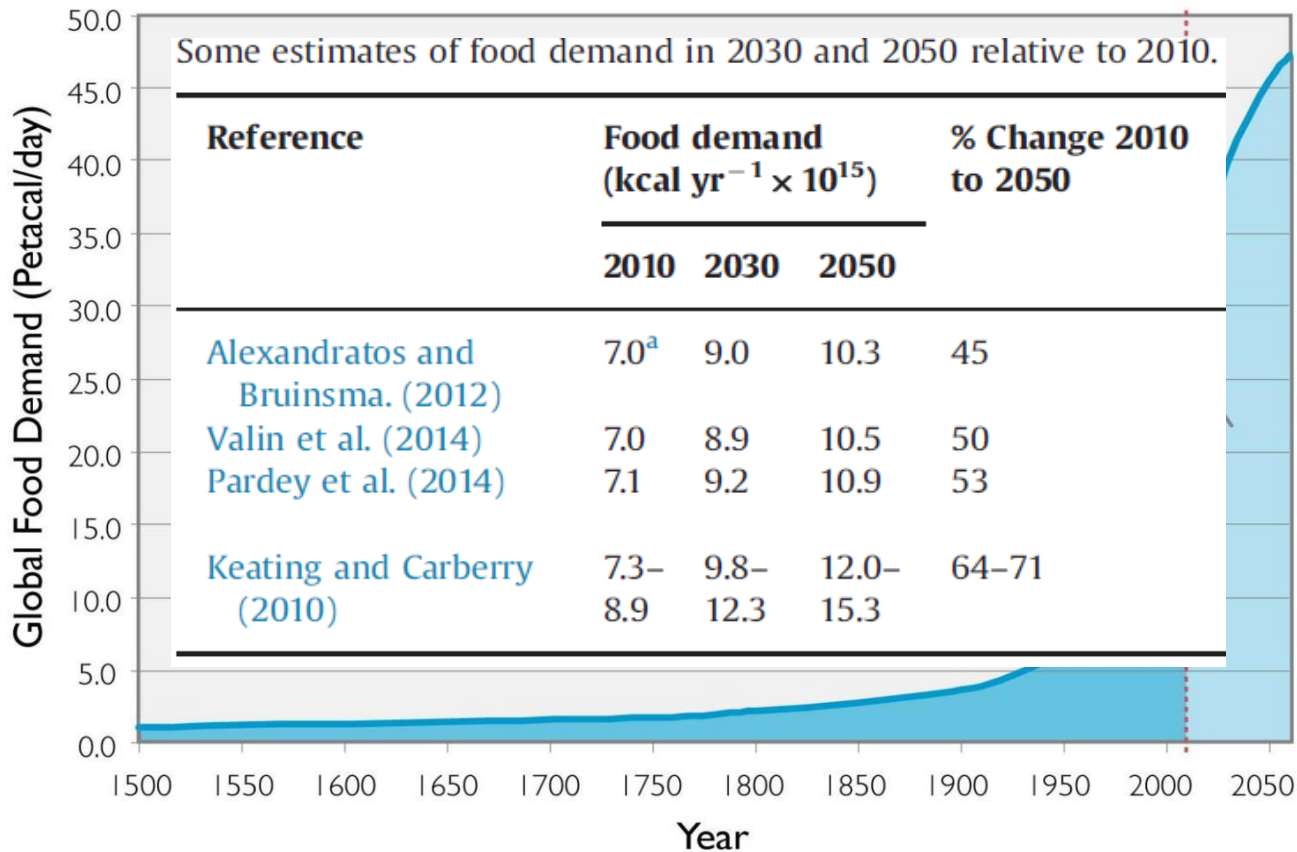
# The Global Risks Report 2017

# Global risks landscape and One Health

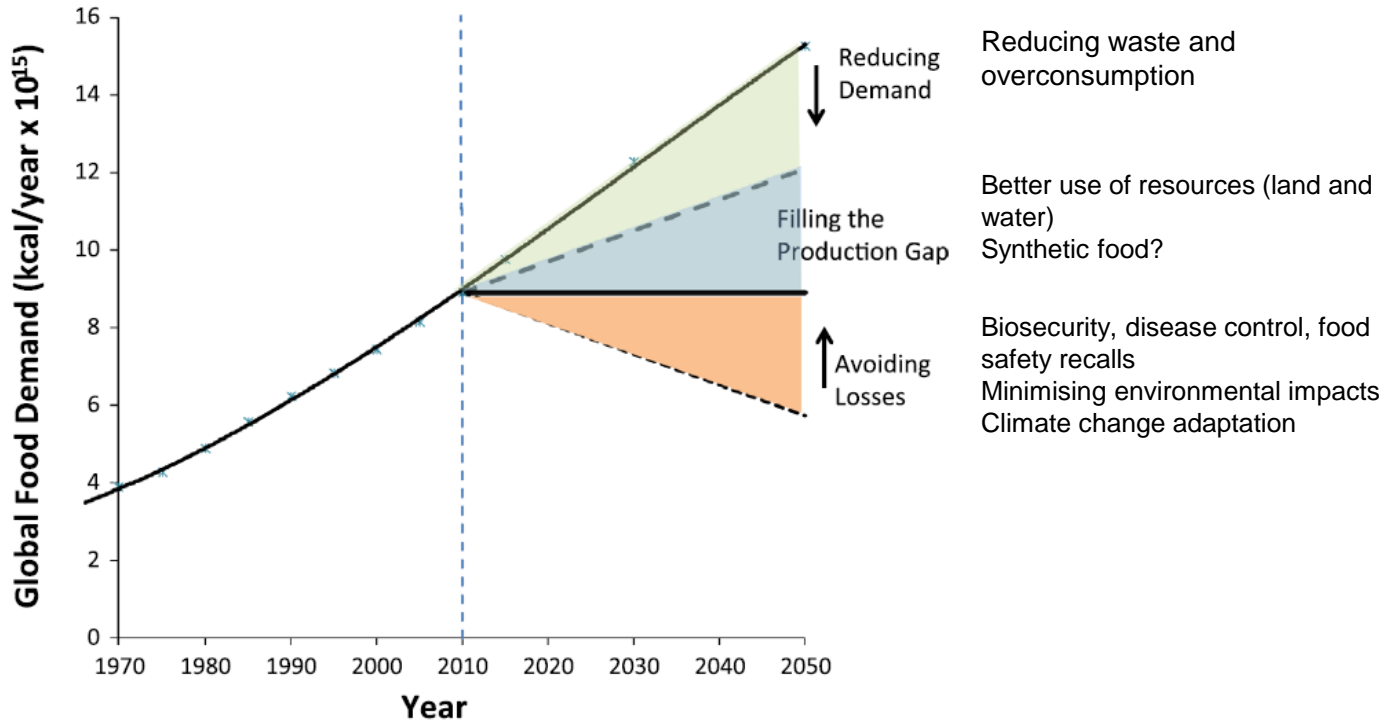


# Issues are linked





Source: Brian Keating, CSIRO



**Keating, B.A.,** Herrero, M., Carberry, P.S., Gardner, J. and Cole M.B. (2014) Food wedges: framing the global food demand and supply challenge towards 2050. (Global FoodSecurity (2014) 125–132.)

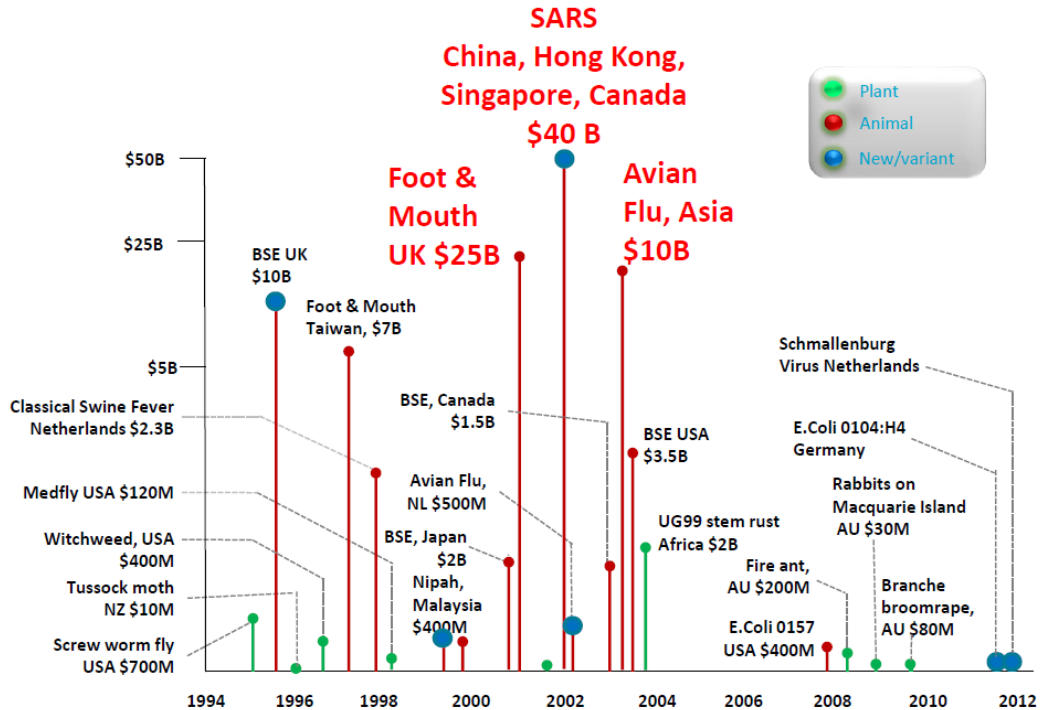


# Zoonoses (many foodborne) animal to human infection in numbers

- >\$120Bn p.a cost of epidemics
- >200 zoonotic diseases of critical importance to human health
- 60% of human infectious disease agents zoonotic.
- 75% of Emerging infections: over zoonoses (80% bioterror agents)
- 2.3 billion human infections in developing countries caused by zoonotic diseases
- 2.2 million deaths
- >50,000 rabies deaths, >150 countries

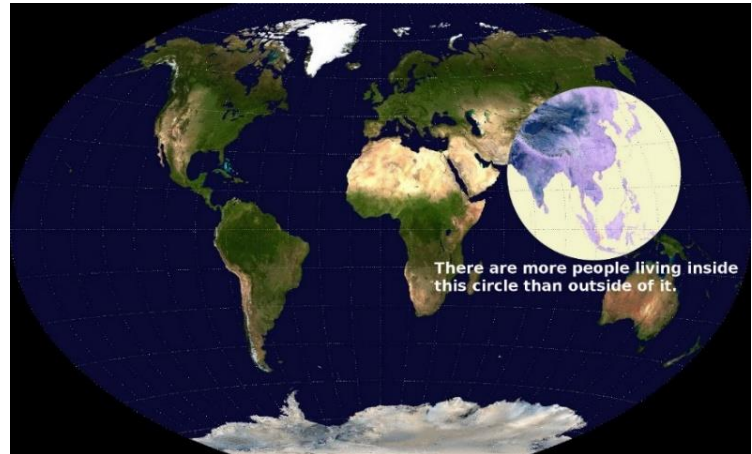


# Economic impacts of (emerging) IDs can be large



# Emerging Infectious Disease

- Human risk factors
  - Population density, urbanisation and growth
  - Increased global travel
  - Poverty
  - Changing dietary habits



3908 cases  
(800+ HUS) 41  
deaths

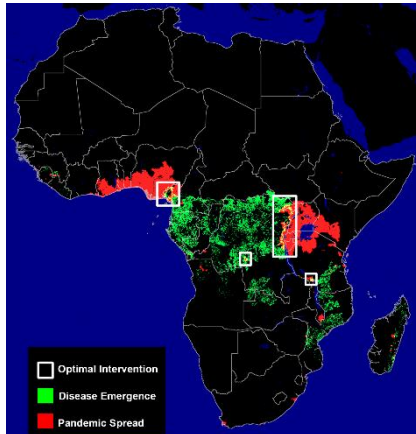
# Emerging Infectious Disease

- Domestic animal risk factors
  - Expanding production, globalisation
  - Poor biosecurity, inadequate animal health
  - Antimicrobial use
  - Poor food safety practices
  - Environmental pollution
  - Occupational exposure



# Emerging Infectious Disease: why the increase?

- Wildlife risk factors
  - Human encroachment
  - Habitat destruction
  - Climate change



Global biomass



# Real and perceived risks cost money



Under  
cooked  
burgers  
\$160M



Popeye spinach  
\$350M

## Fonterra fined \$183m over contamination scandal

01/12/2017 | Newshub staff Cleo Fraser

Like 201



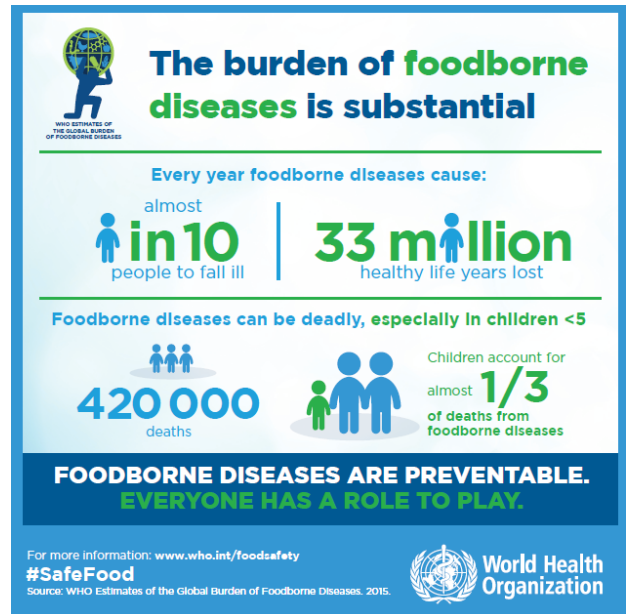
Danone had sued Fonterra as a result of the whey protein concentrate contamination scandal in 2013. Credits: Newshub.

More From Newshub



# Food safety

- Global burden of foodborne infections
- Outbreaks down but recalls up
- A One Health approach to reducing the burden of foodborne disease
  - Interdisciplinary, whole of food chain approach
  - Source attribution – informing public health policy
  - Enteric zoonoses from the food production environment



# Food safety and security in 21<sup>st</sup> Century

- Balancing food supply and demand
- Complex (and simple) supply chains
- Free Trade Agreements
  - Non-tariff barriers
- Emerging issues
  - Fresh produce
  - Fipronil in eggs in Europe





# Food safety and security in 21<sup>st</sup> Century

Era of:

- Novel processing
- Novel foods
- Raw food
- Functional food
- Source attribution, traceability
- Rapid, cheap diagnostics
- Adulteration and bioterrorism
- Block chain technology



# Food safety issues for all food sectors

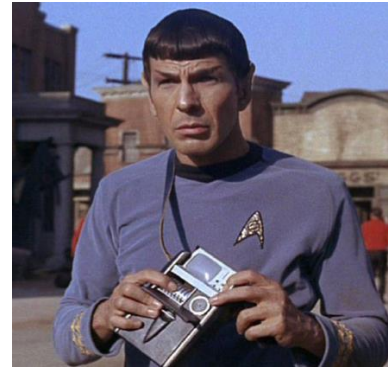
- Primary production
  - Hazard entering the supply/value chain
  - Inter-sector pathways
- Supply chain management
  - Propagation of hazards along chain
  - Integrity and trust in supply chain
  - Reducing waste - safely



Dr Miranda Miroso, UoOtago

# Food safety issues for all food sectors

- Hazard detection technologies
  - Need to be rapid, sensitive, cheap... and approved
- Traceability and provenance
- Climate change
- Food safety culture
- Markets and consumer perceptions
  - Gene editing (perceived risk)
  - Novel technologies (HPP, PEF...)
  - Biocides



Dr Spock, SSE

# Controlling foodborne infection requires:

- Understanding how pathogens propagate along the food chain
  - Systems approach
- Identifying the most important animal reservoirs / sources
  - Food animals (and wildlife?)
- Determining drivers for pathogen emergence and spread

i.e. An interdisciplinary, One Health approach



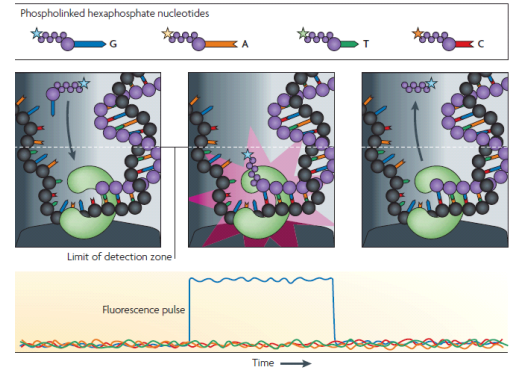
# Controlling zoonotic (foodborne) infections requires:

- Implementing the most effective control measures
  - Regulation, verification, intervention
  - Public awareness / education / behaviour and food safety culture
- Adoption of new tools and technology... (genomics, novel diagnostics, models, social science, block chain technology...)

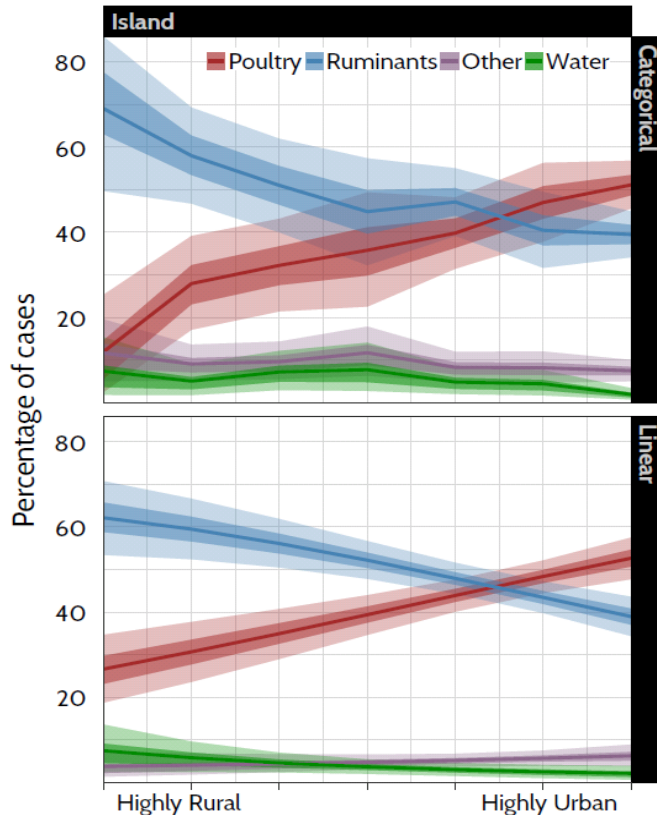


# Pathogen genomics and food safety

- Identifying 'source' and transmission of pathogens
  - Along production chain
  - Processing environments
  - Time and origin of incursions
- Diagnostic test development
- Establishing normal and abnormal 'flora' in supply chain
- Evolution and virulence



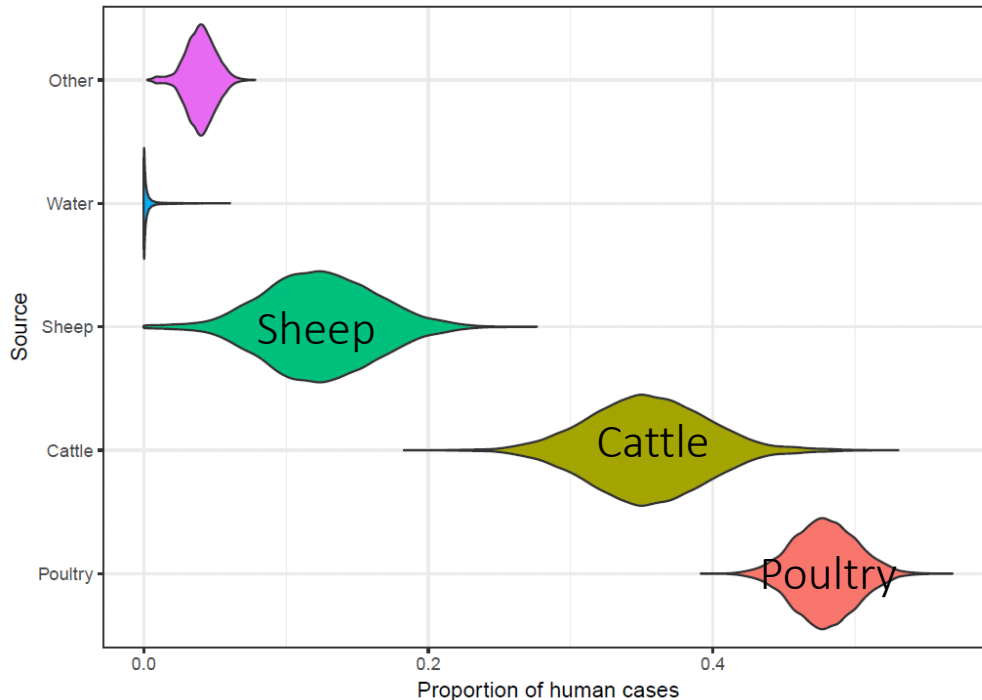
# Determining the source of human campylobacteriosis



- Using MLST genotyping and evolutionary modelling

Jonathan Marshall, Jing Liao and Martin Hazelton

# Distinguishing between ruminant sources: source attribution using whole genome MLST

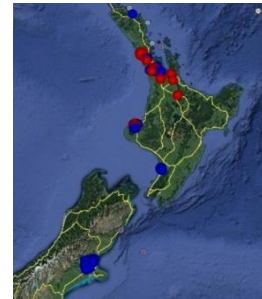
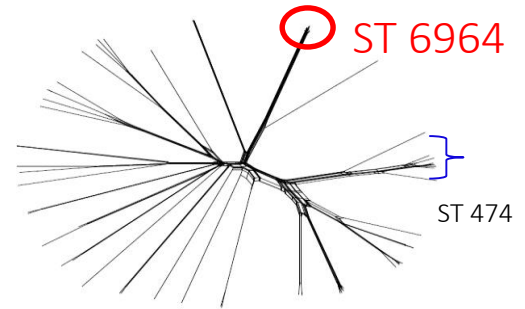




# Emergence of resistant *Campylobacter jejuni* ST-6964

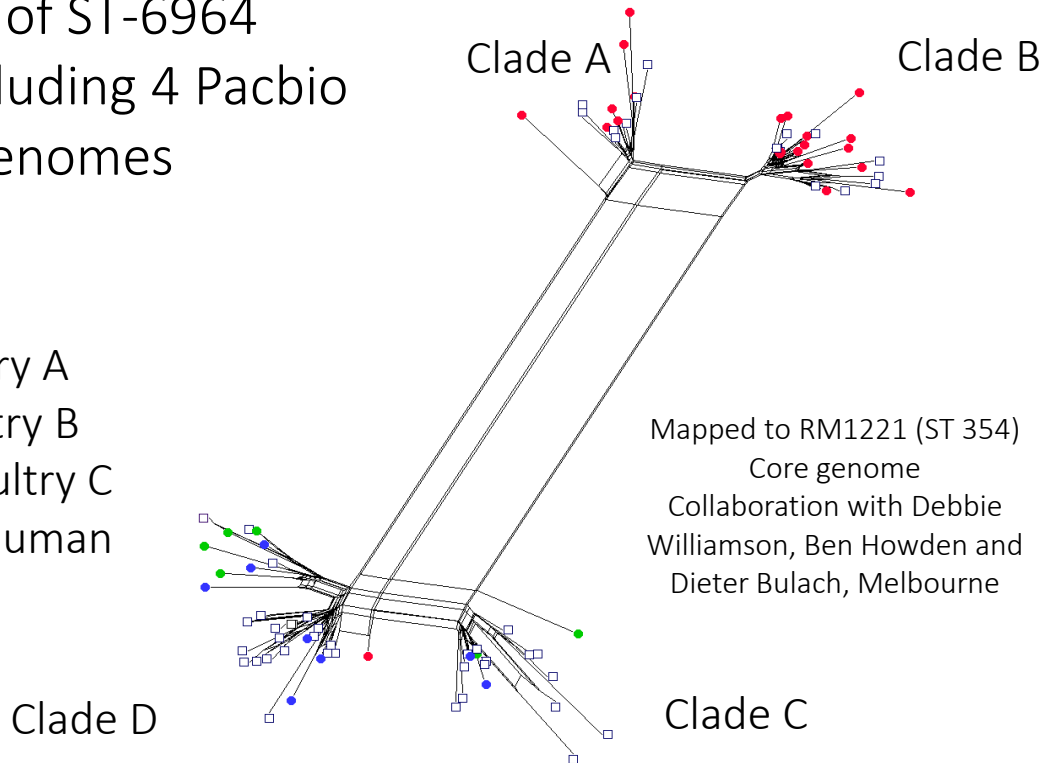
- Genetic basis for resistance to antibiotics?
- How long has it been in NZ?
- How has it been transmitted between poultry companies?
- What has driven the emergence?
- What is the main source of human infection?
- How is it evolving?

These can best/only be addressed by Whole Genome Sequencing



# Sequencing of ST-6964 (N=230) including 4 Pacbio reference genomes

Red=Poultry A  
Blue=Poultry B  
Green=Poultry C  
Squares=Human



# Key questions

- Genetic basis for resistance?
  - *tetO* plasmid and C257T mutation in *gyrA*
- How long has it been in NZ?
  - ~mid-late 2013.
- What drove the emergence?
  - Reverse zoonosis?
  - Limited tetracycline use in breeder flocks?
- How has it been transmitted between poultry companies?
  - Shared parent and grandparent stock? Feed?
  - Local spread seems likely
- Source attribution
  - All companies causing human infection

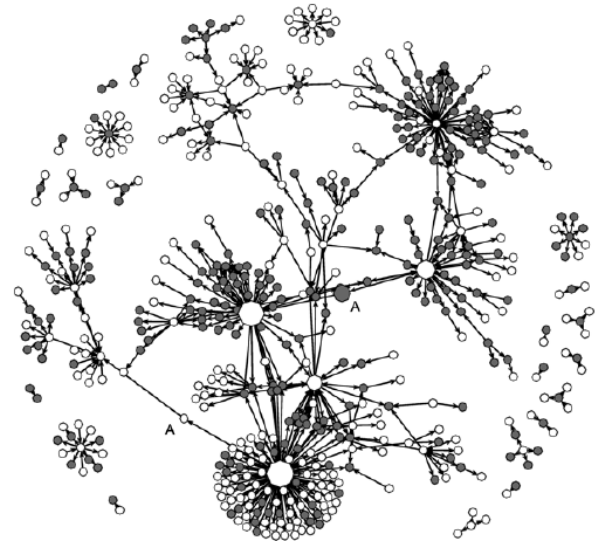


Fig. 2. Social network analysis of feed-related contacts in the New Zealand

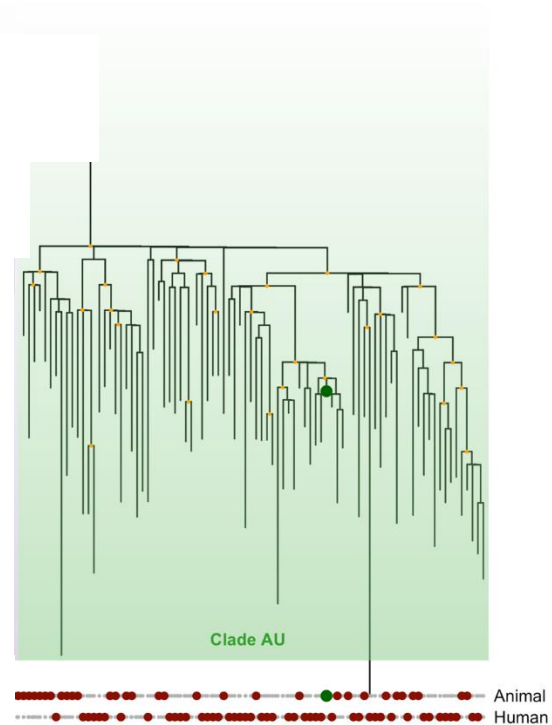
Poultry farm network  
(from Lockhart et al 2010)

Required cooperation and support from  
poultry industry

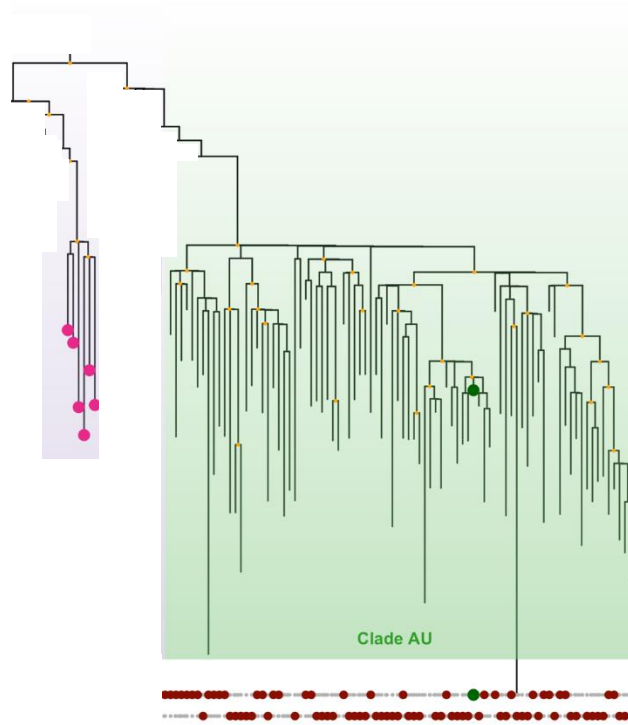
# Salmonella DT160 in Australia

First locally acquired case in 2008. Associated with sparrows (predominantly in Tasmania).

Whole genome data from Dr Debbie Williamson, Melbourne Micro Diagnostics Unit



# Salmonella DT160 in Australia

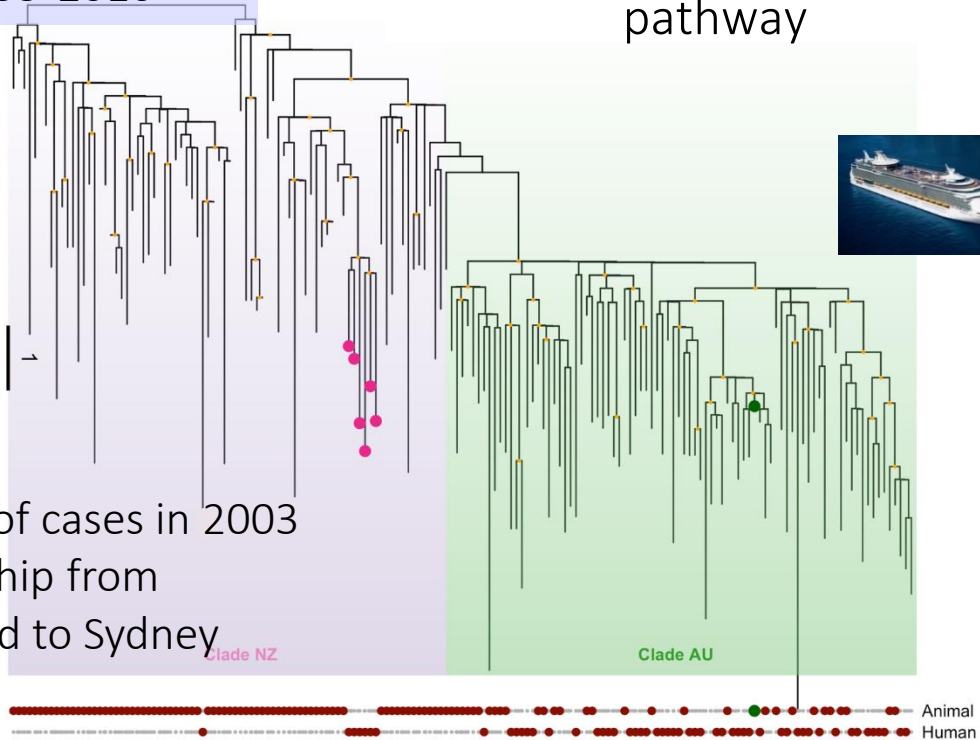


Cluster of cases in 2003

NZ isolates from humans, sparrows and livestock 1999-2010

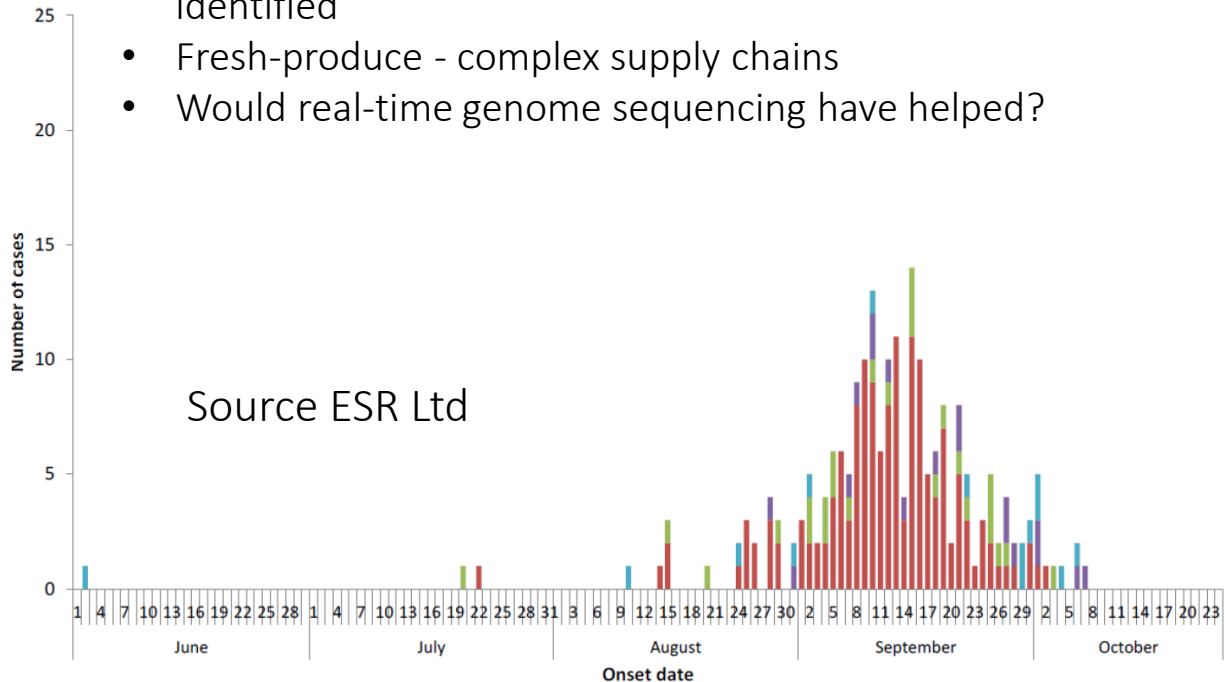
Sharing genome sequence data confirms transmission pathway

Cluster of cases in 2003  
Cruise ship from  
Auckland to Sydney



# Need for routine application of whole genome sequencing? Yersinia outbreak in NZ in 2014

- 217 cases, 65 hospitalised
- “highly unlikely that the source of contamination will be identified”
- Fresh-produce - complex supply chains
- Would real-time genome sequencing have helped?



# Conclusions

One health, integrated approach essential for food safety and security:

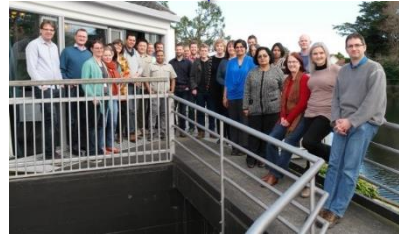
- Food production impacts environmental health and public health
  - Foodborne, occupational and environmental zoonoses
  - Pollution and degradation
  - Antimicrobial resistance
  - Encroachment and EID
- Identification of 'source' and inter-host transmission of FB zoonoses
  - Crucial for effective public health policy
- Understanding hazards and risk requires whole of food chain approach and interdisciplinary research
- New technology helping to understand and control emerging risks





# Acknowledgements

- mEpiLab team: particularly David Wilkinson, Ji Zhang, Jonathan Marshall, Patrick Biggs, Samuel Bloomfield, Anne Midwinter, Julie Collins-Emerson, Rukhshana Akhter, Lynn Rogers
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**MINISTRY OF BUSINESS,  
INNOVATION & EMPLOYMENT**  
HIKINA WHAKATUTUKI

