Integrating crops, livestock and forestry systems can increase farmers income in Querência while restoring forest reserves

Transitioning to a regenerative approach represents a net gain opportunity of 250M USD in additional profits for Querência farmers over 10 years.¹²

Brazil Querência City

Current state of agricultural landscape

Agronomic & Environmental

 Dominance of monoculture soybeans and extensive cattle ranching, degraded pasturelands and legal forest reserve deficits.

Economic

 Stricter deforestation exporting regulations, concentrated revenues on three products, and limited cattle profitability.

Social

 Tensions over Indigenous land rights, rapid population growth driven by agricultural expansion.



Transition pathway hypothesis

Integrated livestock and forestry systems

• Implement silvopasture systems to increase cattle productivity, diversify income and reduce pressure for new agricultural land.

Integrated crop and livestock systems

Sequence soy with maize in association with forage, permitting animal weight gains during the dry season and lower synthetic input use.

Natural forests

• Zero legal reserve forest deficits for compliance and environmental gains



Results of economic modelling

- Over 10 years, the cumulative effect of a transition to regenerative agriculture is positive with an average added value of 471 USD/ha and a payback³ by the mid of year 6 (10% discounted).
- Profitability lowers during an interim
 period and reaches a point of equilibrium
 34% higher after year 6.
- New revenue stream from timber, cost savings on synthetic inputs and higher cattle productivity are the main contributors to the positive net change.

Change in net profitability over a 10 years period for proposed transition

pathway (alternative state/current state) Indicated in relative terms



Summary

- Integrating crops, livestock and forestry systems can increase farmers income by 34% after transition (nominal terms).
- Farmers can diversify income through forestry and reduce vulnerability to market shifts, as timber acts as a stabler financial asset.
- Transition is viable even with legal forest reserve restoration, easing compliance burden and improving environmental outcomes.
- For transition to be possible, we need:
- Rural credit and financing options that permit initial investments in the transition with repayment terms that match delayed revenues.
- Farmers, particularly in the city rural settlements, to be assisted with affordable technical aid and land tenure regularization.
- Overcoming cultural resistance to change.

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Note: ¹Net Present Value 10% rate. ²Costs and returns will vary significantly based on the farm's portfolio. Model focuses on the agricultural landscape and do not contemplate eventual investments in new landscape level infrastructure and market channels. Conservatively assumes no carbon revenues or green premiums and a cyclic approach for earlier timber harvesting. Landscape transition happens all at once. ³ When accumulated profits from alternative state surpasses those from current state. Systemiq analysis for **Regen10.org**