

**PhD title and study topic:**

*"How Does Grazing Management Affect Carbon Exchange in Intensively Managed Temperate Pasture?"*

University of Waikato, School of Science and Environmental Research Institute

**Host Institute and Supervisor:**

1. University of Waikato, Prof Louis Schipper

**NZ-GRADS Project:**

My research project is driven by the critical need to address the environmental and economic challenges posed by greenhouse gas emissions in the context of New Zealand's dairy farming industry. With dairy farming contributing significantly to the country's greenhouse gas emissions, there is a pressing urgency to find sustainable solutions. My motivation stems from the belief that by understanding and optimizing grazing management practices, we can positively influence net CO<sub>2</sub> uptake in dairy pastures. This, in turn, can have a substantial impact on reducing overall greenhouse gas emissions from the agricultural sector. The potential to offer practical, evidence-based recommendations to farmers on how to manage grazing to enhance CO<sub>2</sub> uptake and soil carbon storage is a key aspect of this work. By providing these insights, I aim to contribute to more climate-resilient and sustainable farming practices, aligning with global efforts to mitigate climate change through carbon sequestration.

**About you... [ Please enter here a little about you, where are you from? What are hoping for the future?**

I was born and raised in the picturesque landscapes of Nepal. My early years were immersed in the natural beauty and rich biodiversity of this country, which ignited a deep passion for nature and the environment within me. This childhood connection inspired my academic journey, leading me to pursue both a Bachelor's and Master's degree in Forestry Science. I completed my undergraduate studies in Nepal, where I gained a strong foundation in forestry and environmental science. However, I wanted to expand my horizons and explore different perspectives on environmental conservation. With this in mind, I embarked on a new adventure, pursuing my Master's degree in Forestry Science in New Zealand, a country renowned for its commitment to sustainable practices.

Currently, I am living in New Zealand with my wife and our two wonderful children. The pristine natural landscapes and abundant greenery of this country resonate with my deep appreciation for the environment. I have had the privilege of working in a field-based environment, allowing me to actively contribute to environmental conservation.

My hobbies include visiting new wilderness sites, swimming, and trekking. I also have a fondness for comedy movies. Weekends are a precious time for me, and I dedicate most of it to my family. I find immense joy and fulfilment in creating lasting memories with my wife and children, exploring the natural wonders that New Zealand has to offer. These moments spent with my loved ones are a true source of happiness and a reminder of the importance of preserving our natural world for future generations.

In terms of my future aspirations, I hope to continue contributing to the field of environmental science. My goal is to bridge the gap between scientific research and practical solutions, ultimately working towards more sustainable and climate-resilient practices that can make a positive impact on reducing greenhouse gas emissions while cherishing the moments I spend with my family.

**Favourite quote...**

"The Earth does not belong to us: we belong to the Earth." - Chief Seattle