Methane

• Breaks down in approx. 12 years
• 2 variants:
- Fossil methane
- Biogenic methane

CH4

What can we do?

Fossil Methane

Approx.
12 years

Precipitation Photosynthesis CH₄

CH₄

CO2

CH4 CO2

CO2

O2

O2

C
C

C

C

H2

O

H2

O

CH₄ Biogenic Methane

Cows emit biogenic methane, including through
belching and via manure, particularly in manure
storage. Methane breaks down a!er
approximately 12 years into H₂O and CO₂
among other things. Plants and grass absorb this
CO₂ through photosynthesis. A large proportion
of it is stored as organic ma#er in the soil. The
cycle restarts when the cow eats the grass again.

Fossil methane is released
during the extraction,
transport and use of fossil
fuels. Fossil methane
introduces new CO₂ into
the atmosphere.

GWP100 measures the effect of methane emissions
over a 100-year period and converts this into the
warming potential of CO₂.
GWP* takes into account the shorter atmospheric
lifetime of methane.

Water

Carbon dioxide

Carbon

Oxygen

CH4 Methane

GWP100 or GWP*

C

CH4

C

C

Adjusting the ration
Reducing concentrate feed

Manure

processing

Grazing Improving
feed efficiency

Manure storage
measures

We too

must

act

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