

# Measuring up on climate impact.

## Comparing select food co-operative produce items to their counterparts in other production and distribution systems.

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- Test assumption that food co-operative produce is ecologically superior to supermarket produce:
  - Climate change as impact/indicator- which system of production and distribution has the greatest impact?
  - What expectations did food co-operative members have? Were they met?
- LCA and participative observation methods; primary data from farmers,ecoinvent Database, literature/agricultural handbooks; OpenLCA software; comparison studies

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Comparing select food co-operative produce items to their counterparts in other production and distribution systems.

- Results:
  - Food co-operative produce +/- competitive with one exception:
    - Food co-operative impact for **commercial transport** approx. **6 x greater** (carrots) and **10 x greater** (tomatoes) than supermarket
  - Food co-operative members expected different outcome
- Target audience:
  - Food co-operatives and other local/alternative food actors (encourage greater cooperation/coordination to reduce climate impact)
  - Local/alternative food researchers