

Waste not, want not – Questionnaire

For Farmers

Familiarise yourself with the chain of people involved in getting the food from the ground to your table. Invite them to answer the questions below most relevant to their work. Then form a study group to look at the responses and come up with action that your community can take to reduce waste. Why not promote a community compost initiative or lobby for a waste reduction law?

Send in stories about the responses you have received and the actions your community is taking to ccampeau@e-alliance.ch

C. Farmers

1. What is the biggest challenge that you face in preventing your agricultural produce going to waste?
2. Do you have the necessary storage and cooling facilities available to avoid loss and waste?
3. Has your produce ever been rejected from a market for reasons related to freshness or appearance?
4. Do you have access to transportation and distribution systems to get your produce to the market? If so, how many hours or days does it take? Are you able to package your produce in a way that it will not spoil in transit?
5. a) Do government policies/subsidies in your country affect the growth/sale of food that you produce? If so, does this have any effect on the amount of food waste?
b) Do government policies/subsidies of countries you trade with affect the growth/sale of food that you produce? If so, does this have any effect on the amount of waste?
6. In what ways, if any, do farming practices in your country affect agricultural yields and contribute to waste?
7. Does your ability to gain access to fertile seeds at planting time influence what and how much you plant? Please explain.
8. Do you follow an internal control quality system (ICQS) to meet the quality that your buyers require from your products?