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Evaluation of food quality from the point of view of consumer health and environmental protection

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Project development

Five research visits in the partner country were done within the bilateral cooperation project.

One book and six papers were published in relation to the topic of the project, project results were disseminated on the occasion of five international conferences and five workshops or lectures.

Objective

The main objective of the project is to create a model for the assessment of food quality from the point of view of consumer health and environmental protection, consisting of variables identified by consumers. The model could be used by different actors in the agro-food chain to better understand consumers and thus develop actions to protect human health and the natural environment.

Research methodology

A complex questionnaire was elaborated and a survey was implemented in both partner countries - Romania and Belgium on over 200 consumers.

Research questions: What information do consumer use to evaluate food quality?

Some of the types of information frequently used by consumers o evaluate food quality that were investigated: price, smell, taste, fat content, sugar content, freshness, organic logo, genetically modified organisms, being a free range product, etc.

Preliminary results

Partial results indicate that freshness is one of the most important indicators of food quality for tested consumers.

Research project name: "The creation of a model for the evaluation of food quality from the point of view of consumer health and environmental protection"

Framework: bilateral cooperation between the Romanian Academy and Wallonia – WBI, FRS-FNRS.