

Reducing "FoodPrints": What the public demands, the government is expecting and the industry can do

> Meredith Niles Cool Foods Campaign Coordinator The Center for Food Safety



- Founded in 1996 to protect human health and the environment by stopping harmful food technologies and promoting organic and sustainable agriculture
- \Box 75,000 + supporters throughout the country
- Education, Policy and Legal initiatives
- □ Founding member of the National Organic Coalition
- Wide variety of issues including organic agriculture and foods, GMOs, sewage sludge, hormones, irradiation and cloning



The Cool Foods Campaign

- Launched in April 2008 to educate about the impact of food and global warming and provide resources to reduce the impact.
- Now working with a variety of organizations, businesses, schools, city councils and policymakers
- Policy work on EPA, USDA, CCSP rules and regulations as well as AB-32 in California
- Filed our first legal suit in conjunction with Sierra Club, Waterkeepers Alliance, HSUS and others on CAFO exemptions

Global Warming Evidence

2007 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) report noted that:

"Warming of the climate system is unequivocal"

"The global increases in carbon dioxide concentration are due primarily to fossil fuel use and land use change, while those of methane and nitrous oxide are primarily due to agriculture."

Levels of greenhouse gas emissions exceed anything observed in the past 650,000 years

Does Food Really Matter?



Source: IPCC Fourth Assessment Report

Entire Food System Emissions

Considering an entire life cycle assessment of our food products highlights the significant contribution they make to global warming Responsible for up to **32%** of all global emissions (Greenpeace, 2008)

The United States food system uses **20%** of all energy in the country (Pimentel, 2008)

The United Nations estimates that animal production account for **18%** of all global greenhouse gas emissions.

Food vs. Fuel Emissions

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Household greenhouse gas emissions from food account for almost twice those produced by driving. Most of this comes from the food production process itself, rather than food-miles, as is often believed



-83% of food GHG emissions are from production

-As the public begins to recognize this, they will be seeking products with reduced "FoodPrints"

-This is a huge opportunity for industry to reduce food emissions

Not All Are Created Equal





What Are Cool Foods?

Foods and agricultural practices that contribute fewer greenhouse gas emissions than their conventional counterparts, including:

- Organic foods and practices
- Vegetable-based foods, or animal products grown organically, pastured or locally
- Whole foods minimally processed
- Locally-grown foods
- Products with reduced or recycled packaging
- Wild caught and sustainable seafood

Food System Emission Sources

Pre-Farm Emissions

- Pesticide production
- Fertilizer production
- Antibiotics and hormones
- Growth of feed crops and inputs for animal production



Food System Emission Sources

On-Farm Emissions

- Direct energy use (fuel, lighting, etc.)
- Soil management
- Water use
- Manure management
- Enteric fermentation
- Pasture management



Food System Emission Sources

Post-Farm Emissions



Transportation

Processing and Manufacturing







Packaging



Consumer handling-Cooking, Food waste Retail store energy



Landfill or Compost



Public Demand: Green Companies

-A 2007 survey found that more than half of consumers said they prefer to purchase products from a company with a good environmental reputation(IPSOS MORI poll, 2007)

-Almost 80% of global workers believe that working for an environmentally ethical organization is important(IPSOS MORI poll, 2007)

-78% of consumers surveyed want companies to make it easier to buy low impact products (IPSOS MORI poll, 2007)

-60% of consumers want companies to provide more productbased information at the point of sale (Consumers International, 2007)

Public Demand: Organic Products

Organic products have
 experienced double digit
 growth for more than a decade

Between 2005 and 2006
organic meat sales increased
55% and organic dairy
increased 24%



Source: Organic Trade Association^o

Public Demand: Farmers Markets



Federal Policy Initiatives

- Strict Federal policy still mostly non-existent
- □ Massachusetts v. EPA (2007)
 - Center for Food Safety attorneys were one of three original plaintiffs
 - The Clean Air Act can be used to regulate carbon dioxide emissions
 - Still waiting on the regulations

"Few challenges facing America—and the world— are more urgent than combating climate change. Many of you are working to confront this challenge...but too often, Washington has failed to show the same kind of leadership. That will change when I take office."

President Barack Obama

November 18, 2008, Addressing the Global Climate Summit

State Policy Initiatives

Actions focused mostly on:

- Energy Sector
- Transportation
- Buildings

• Wide variety of initiatives including:

- Regional Cap and Trade Initiatives
- Climate Change Commissions
- Climate Action Plans
- GHG Reporting
- Economy-wide Reduction Plans
- GHG Performance Standards for Vehicles
- GHG Performance Standards for Electricity

State Climate Change Initiatives



Vehicle GHG Emissions Standards



States Adopting CA Vehicle Standards Poised to Adopt CA Vehicle Standards

Source: Pew Center on Global Climate Change

Industry Initiatives and Opportunities

Increasing Public Interest and Concern

Federal and State Policies Developing

Opportunity for Industry to be Ahead of the Curve

Industry Initiatives To Date

- Offsetting energy use with renewables
- Packaging reductions/sustainable packaging
- □ Recycling
- Eliminating or charging for plastic/paper bags
- Offering local/organic products

Both consumers and policymakers will be increasingly looking to the food and products industry to do more

New Industry Initiatives

□ Analysis of GHG emissions

- Cadbury Schweppes (UK)
- Pepsi Co./Tropicana
- Walkers Crisps (UK)
- Fosters Beer
- Chiquita Banana
- Offers internal benefits for companies to determine ways to reduce GHG emissions
 - Cost benefits (Pepsi saved \$90 million in 2008)
 - Reduced environmental impact
 - Satisfies public demands for "green" products

The Newest Eco-Label: Carbon



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	Every Timberland shoe now carries a nutritional lat exactly what went into making the shoes you put	
A B	OUR FOOTPRINT NOTRE EMI	PREINTE
	Climate Impact ¹ Incidences sur le climat	1 /
SOLAR, WIND AND WA	TER Use of rer ewable energy	6.6%
OUR FACILIT	Chemicals Used ² Produits chimiques utili	sés²
FOOTWEAR T		74.4%
USES ALTERNATI	Resource consumption consommation de	e ressources
	Eco-conscious materials ³	2.101
OUR TOTAL USE RENEWABLE, ORGA		3.4%
AND RECYCLED MATERI		o de
	chaussures	100% — YOUR TRASH IS OUR BO
	Trees planted through 2006	
	Nombre d'arbres plantés en 2006	600,000 OUR GOAL IS TO PLANT 1 MILLION TREES BY 20

Communicating Carbon

Carbon Labels

- Importance of third party certification
- 70% of consumers believe that climate change claims should be proven by independent parties (Consumers International, 2007)
 - Carbon Trust
 - **D** The Climate Conservancy
 - **D** Others- ICF
- Being careful not to overwhelm customers
- NGOs are following the development (Center for Food Safety, Consumers Union)
- Need a united, effective standard that all industries should be utilizing

Evolving the Ethic

- Agriculture is uniquely situated to help mitigate climate change: organic agriculture is the most effective way
- Natural and organic product and food companies can and should play a vital role in combating climate change

The organic industry IS the future of food and products and should continue to evolve its image





THANK YOU!

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www.coolfoodscampaign.org

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