

Opening session

4th Int. LCA conference

Purpose of the conference

- Share experience from the use of LCA in the food sector and to set the agenda for the future
- Report recent developments in LC inventories and LCA methodology

The overall aim is to strengthen the use of LCA as a tool for product development, management/operations, policy and guidelines for sustainable food production and consumption.

My role here?

Three caps on my head:

1. Chairman of the Advisory Research Committee of the Ministry of Food Agriculture and Fisheries
2. Gen. Mgr of Th. Schulz Ltd.
3. Was until very recently Mgr Private Labels Dept. of COOP Denmark Ltd.

Sustainability

a worn-out term

- The environment
- Ethical production
- Food safety
- Animal welfare
- Traceability
- Competitiveness – economic

Mixed bag of sweet candies flavoured with all good intentions.

Time for a confession hour...

There is a need to give new meaning to the word – make "sustainability" tangible.

- LCA
 - LC inventory data (book-keeping practices)
 - Methodology
 - Standardised procedures
- IPP Strategy
 - Drivers of free market forces (incentives)
 - Involve the stakeholders all along the chain
 - Work for constant improvements
 - Political instruments

The challenge

To make the abstract “sustainability” more concrete and tangible or even operational we must pass a phase where a high degree of complexity is added.

But science & research must develop the tools necessary to break down the complexity into manageable bits and pieces.

I guess that why you are here...

- *To make this tool box*
- *To exchange ideas and experience*
- *Grab experience from the non food sector*

Programs initiated by FRF

Agriculture from a holistic resource perspective.

- 10 projects, 2003- 2006
- 6 million Euro
 - Evaluation of innovation agricultural production systems through a life cycle assessment methodology
 - Improving phosphorous in the Danish agriculture from digestibility to loss
 - Integrated economic and environmental assessment of new technologies and management.
 - (Lifecycle assessments of basic foods)

Most are still addressing isolated topics....

Few are addressing the balance sheet for use of resources or environmental impact through out the entire chain

Need for a holistic approach

- Incorporate the soil to table perspective
 - At least define the role in the chain
 - At least cover adjoining links in the chain
- Promote Inter – disciplinary research
 - Agronomy and socio economics
 - Biotechnology and ethics
- Involve all players in the chain (private comp.)
- To make international networks
 - Facilitated by networks, research consortia, collaborative centres without walls etc.*
 - Remodelled our application form.*

So in the future...

You will see

- Fewer but large research programmes
- All consisting of fewer but larger projects

To accommodate for the new needs of tomorrow.



RTH. SCHULZ

*Leverandør til Danmarks
restauranter og storkøkkener*

Our company

- 80 employees
- 6500 m² under roof
 - 4000 m² ambient
 - 2000 m² frozen
 - 500 m² refrigerated
- 15 distribution vans
- 5000 articles in stock
- 1200 customers



We deliver.....



- Everything in one delivery:

- Groceries, chilled, frozen of any kind*

- At the right time

- At the right place

- By our own delivery vans and our own drivers.

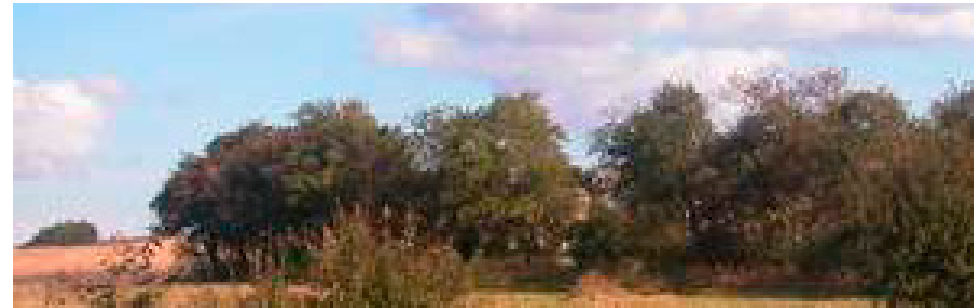


TH. SCHULZ

Leverandør til Danmarks
restauranter og storkøkkener

The environment

- Organic products
- Ethics
- Food packaging
- Route planning
- Ozone friendly refrigerants
- IT surveillances of all refrigeration or frozen units.



- Work safety
- Bring down unit weights



The environment

Our Green Annual Account.

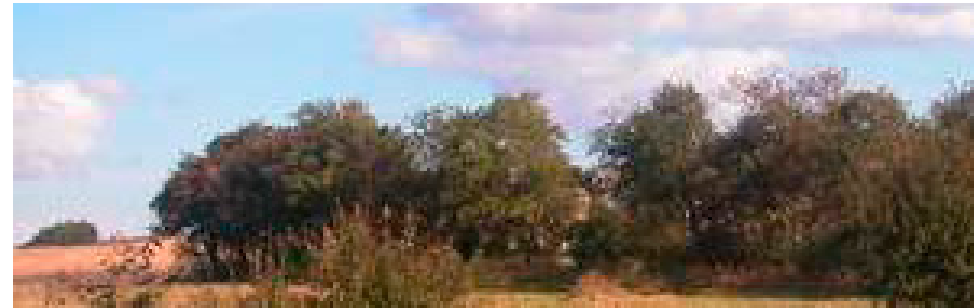
Major impact is the emission of CO₂

-Freezers

-Trucks

We do set up targets to reduce

Now what is the result?



**Grønt regnskab
for perioden
1/10/2001 - 30/09/2002
(3. miljøregnskab)**

**Th. Schulz A/S
Solbjerg Hovedgade 11
8355 Århus -Solbjerg**



Labelling – a solution???

No?

Lasagne-box case

Sophisticated by Impact categories

- Acidification
- Green house gas emission
- Eutrophication

Simple Declaration mark (label)

- 19 diff marks, only one is widely known



No simple solutions

LCA/IPP must be applied in a broader context

- Background information for consumers (buyers)
- Differentiated producer incentives
- Economic regulation (read taxes).

This is only the 4th int. conference – don't expect to hit bulls eye at the very first trials!!!

