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IMPACT by T&U through SYNERGY for a
FOOD SECURE, CIRCULAR, CLIMATE NEUTRAL,
SUSTAINABLE & LOCAL Horticulture



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**A FOOD SECURE AND
CIRCULAR HORTICULTURE**

2

**A CLIMATE NEUTRAL
HORTICULTURE**



11-13 JUNI 2024

3

FUTURE VISION SESSIONS



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**TASTY & HEALTHY
HORTICULTURE**



TOPSECTOR
TUINBOUW • UITGANGSMATERIALEN

Wrap it or waste it

A prisoner's dilemma

June 11th 2024, Ulphard Thoden van Velzen



3 planetary crises

- Climate change
- Pollution of our planet with persistent chemicals and plastics
- Loss of biodiversity
- We exceed the planetary boundaries
 - Use of fossil resources (energy / materials)
 - Overfishing, land use...
 - Global use and disposal of plastic articles

Proposed Packaging & Packaging Waste regulation

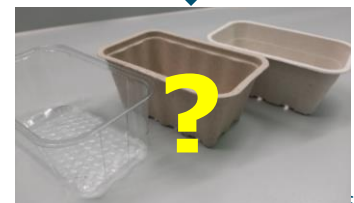
- Packages should be reusable and/or recyclable in 2030
- Use of compounds of high concern should be restricted further
- Recycled content targets in new packages
- Reduction targets for packaging waste on national levels
- Packages should be minimal (empty space minimised)
- Reuse targets for several packaging formats
- Bans for several plastic packaging formats
 - All fresh fruit & vegetable packages < 1.5 kg

What are the consequences?



Likely consequences

- If the definition of “plastic” in only the Netherlands remains the same is in the Dutch SUP regulation, then:

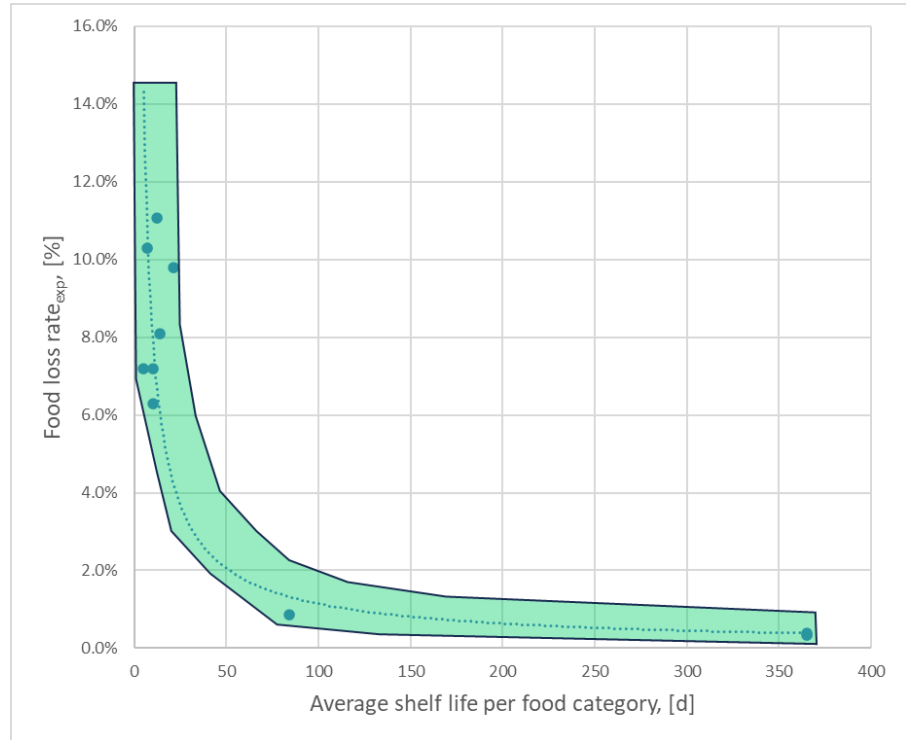


Indirect consequences

- Less plastic usage
 - But will it also result in less microplastics? **Uncertain**
- Less sales of fresh products in supermarkets
 - More unpacked produce
 - Higher spoilage rates -> more CO₂ **Fairly certain**
- More paper & board -> more CO₂ emissions **Certain**

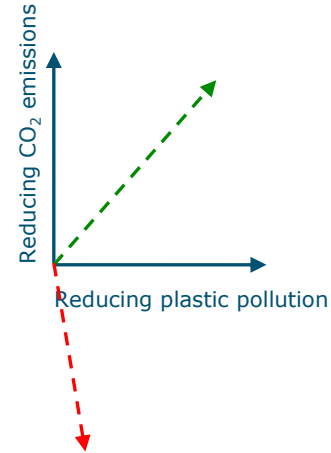
Unpacked = in most cases more CO₂ emissions

- Reciprocal relationship between Food loss rate and average shelf life
- Most food products cause much more CO₂ emissions than packages



Sustainability has many dimensions

- Reduce plastics where there are no hidden consequences
- Be careful to abolish all plastic packages
 - Might worsen climate change
 - Regrettable replacements are worse than plastics
 - Indirect social consequences



Last amendment of the PPWR

- The ban on the use of plastic packages for fruits and vegetables < 1.5 kg is maintained for the whole EU
- However, if food companies can prove that the use of plastic is essential to avoid a list of adversities, they can ask for an exemption
 - More food waste, more loss
 - Food safety issues

If this indeed holds up then

- PPWR is expected to be signed by the EC in the autumn of 2024 and hence will be effective in 18 months from then (spring 2026)
- But beware:
 - national governments can decide to add more restrictive clauses to their national laws
 - We do not know how you can apply for exemption (and save your business) and how much prove you must provide

Thank you

Proceed prudently



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