Food losses in the Life Cycle of Lasagne Bolognese: ready-to-serve vs. home-made

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Key questions

- What is better from an environmental point of view?
 Ready-made lasagne or home-made lasagne?
- How do the following factors influence the performance of both types of lasagne?
 - amount and type of food waste
 - energy consumption in production and preparation
 - efficient preservation vs. fresh ingredients

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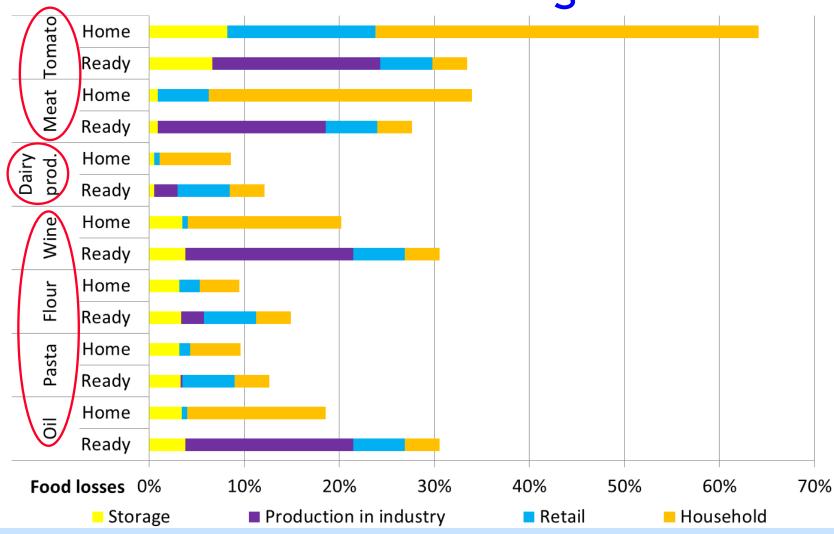


Important system boundaries

- Ready-made vs. home-made lasagne
- FU: Preparation of two portions (400g) of lasagne Bolognese ready to be heated in oven at home
- Same composition for both types of lasagne
- Ready-made packed in aluminium container, chilled
- Fresh ingredients: seasonal, conventional, regional
- Food waste data from Gustavsson et al. (2011), Kranert et al. (2012), Lorrayne (2008) and industry data

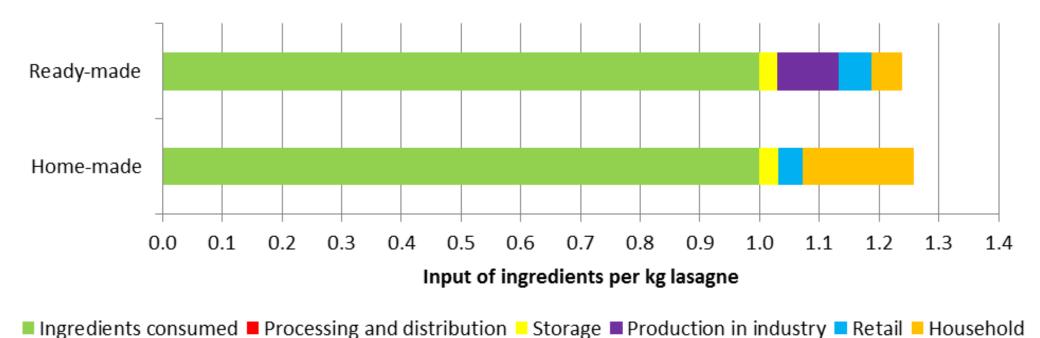
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Losses of selected ingredients



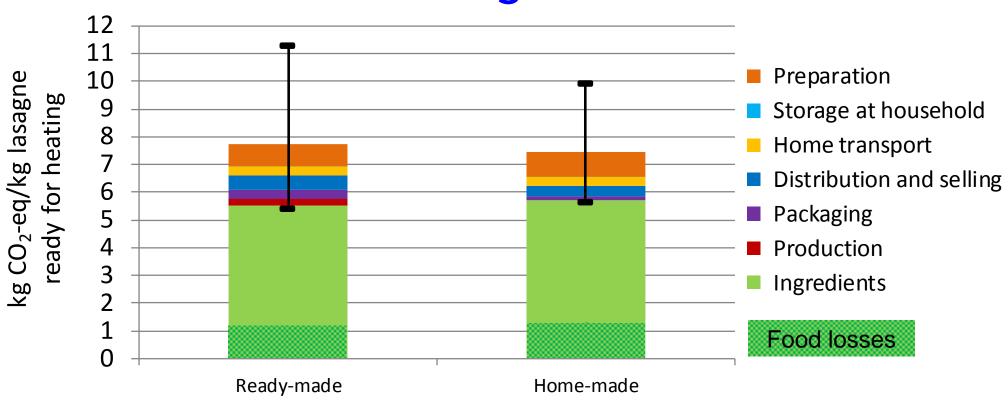
> Ready-made lasagne leads to more food losses for conservable ingredients

Food losses



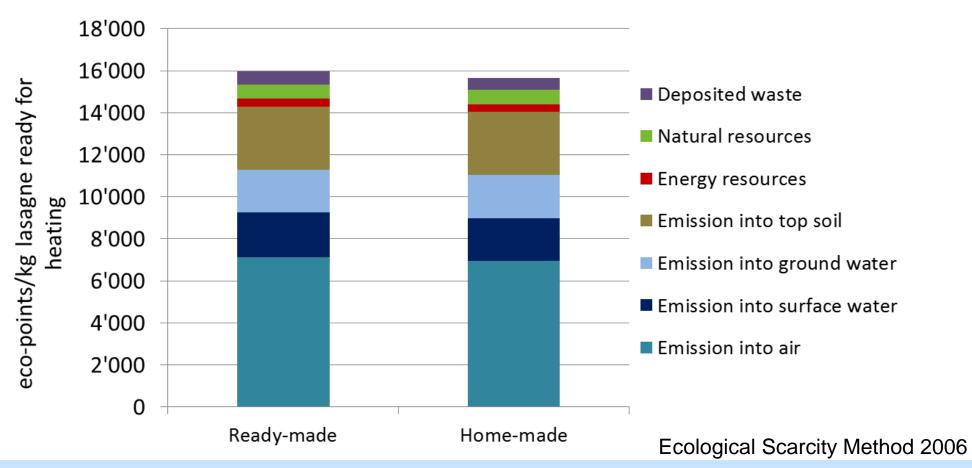
- > Total about the same (24% to 26% losses from farm to oven)
- > Differences in the life cycle stages

Greenhouse gas emissions



- > Total GHG emissions about the same
- > High uncertainties
- > Main differences in distribution, production and preparation

Total environmental impacts



- > Total environmental impacts are comparable
- Ingredients production is most important



Summary

- No clear ranking of losses or impacts is possible
- Ready-made lasagne leads to more food losses for conservable ingredients than home-made lasagne
- Differences not based on the food losses but on energy consumption for preparation and storage, packaging etc.
- Ingredients are most important
- Best case assumption for fresh ingredients → greenhouse production or ingredients from abroad worse impacts
- Function of both products is slightly different

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General conclusions

- Food losses are important when considering environmental impacts of food consumption
- More and better data is needed in order to make detailed comparisons
- Avoidance of food losses can reduce costs and environmental impacts

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Thank you very much for your attention

Executive summary:

www.esu-services.ch/projects/lcafood/waste/

Further information:

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Thanks for financial contributions: European Aluminium Foil Association e.V. (EAFA)