



METROPOLI AGRICOLE

Il contributo dell'agroecologia alla sostenibilità dei sistemi alimentari nelle aree metropolitane

Agroecology: the most sustainable approach to urban and periurban agriculture (and not only)

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Talk overview

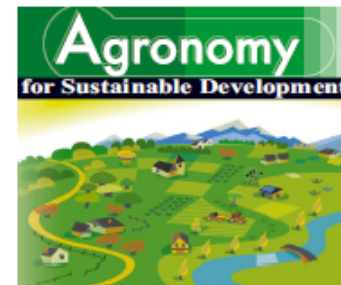
- The three pillars of Agroecology
- The context of UA and PUA and its relationship with Agroecology
- Case studies
 - PUA in the Pisa area
 - Linking research, practices and movements: the role of University
 - Agroecology and local food chains: a thrust for climate change mitigation
- Conclusions



The three pillars of Agroecology

Agron. Sustain. Dev. (2009)
© INRA, EDP Sciences, 2009
DOI: [10.1051/agro/2009004](https://doi.org/10.1051/agro/2009004)

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Review article

Agroecology as a science, a movement and a practice. A review

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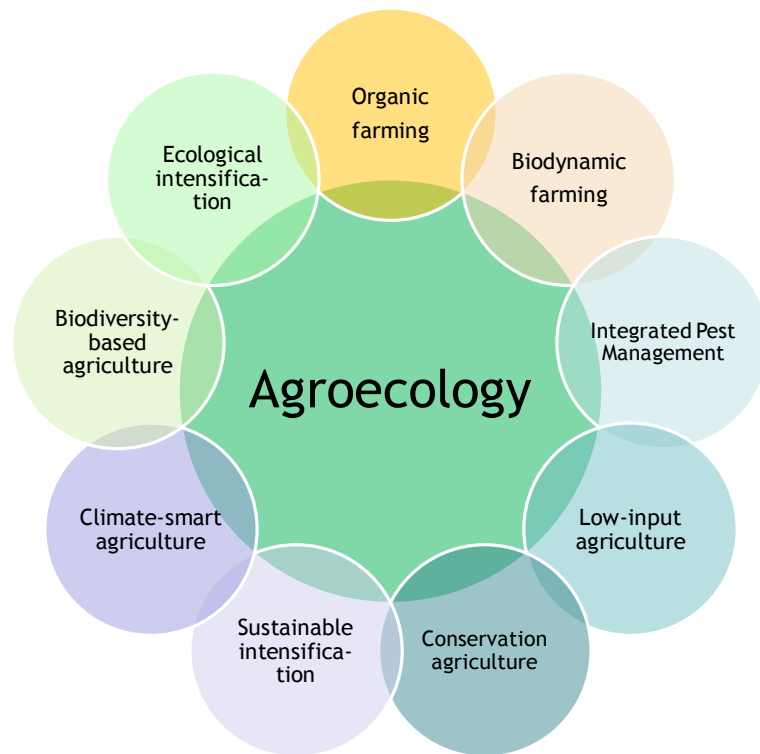
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Agroecology and ...





UA/PUA and Agroecology

- 2/3 of world population expected to live in cities by 2050 (UN, 2012 – World Urbanization Prospects)
- Food (i) security, (ii) safety, (iii) quality, (iv) sovereignty
- Environmental degradation
- Typologies of UA
 - Community gardens, allotments, rooftop gardening, vertical farming, ...



Regione Toscana

Sei in: Regione Toscana | Speciali | Centomila orti in Toscana

Speciali | Centomila orti in Toscana

- Centomila orti in Toscana**
- L'iniziativa
 - Gli orti urbani
 - Il modello toscano
 - La normativa
 - Il progetto Giovani si
 - I progetti dei comuni aderenti
 - La banca della terra
 - Archivio notizie



In Primo Piano

Convegno: 100mila orti in Toscana
 Martedì 12 Luglio 2016. Sala Pegaso, Palazzo Strozzi Sacratì n. 10, Firenze

Toscana *Notizie*

Agricoltura e foreste
 14/11/16 14.28
 Enogastronomia, oggi e domani la

Project 100,000 urban gardens in Tuscany

Priority to:

- (i) Gardeners < 40 years
- (ii) Organic farming methods



Gli elementi essenziali del **modello Toscano** sono:

- **cambiamento radicale del concetto di "orto urbano"** che viene inteso come un insieme di appezzamenti di terreno inseriti in strutture (denominate **"Complessi di orti"**) che si presentano come luoghi moderni, destinati a persone di tutte le età (**soprattutto giovani**), **centri di aggregazione e di scambio culturale fra i coltivatori, visitatori occasionali, studenti, ecc...**;

- nel **"Complesso di orti"** sono **inseriti servizi, spazi comuni, punti di aggregazione**. La presenza delle persone non si limita allo svolgimento delle cure colturali nel **"proprio"** appezzamento, quanto a condurre una vita sociale volta anche allo **scambio di informazioni, all'aggiornamento delle conoscenze, al confronto con le altre persone e le altre generazioni**. **Tali orti possono diventare anche punti di riferimento importanti per la coltivazione di germoplasma di antiche varietà locali;**



Home » [Notizie](#) » Oscar Green, i finalisti sono una comunità di innovatori

OSCAR GREEN, I FINALISTI SONO UNA COMUNITÀ DI INNOVATORI

giovedì 17 novembre 2016





PUA: the case of Pisa



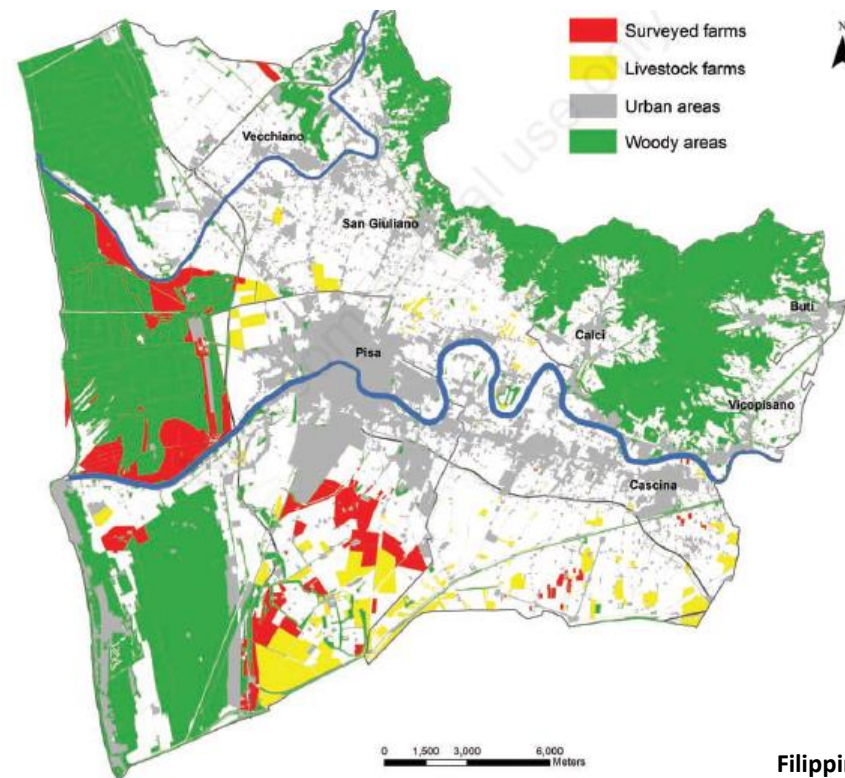
Italian Journal of Agronomy 2014; volume 9:569

Assessing food production capacity of farms in periurban areas

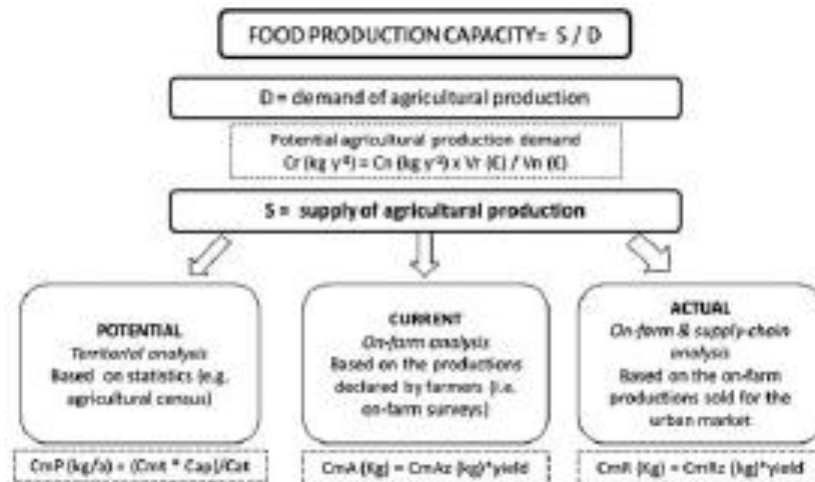
Rosalia Filippini,^{1,2} Elisa Marraccini,^{1,2} Sylvie Lardon,^{2,3} Enrico Bonari¹

¹Institute of Life Sciences, Scuola Superiore Sant'Anna, Pisa, Italy; ²AgroParisTech, UMR 1273 Métafort, Aubière, France; ³INRA, UMR 1273 Métafort, Aubière, France

PUA: the case of Pisa



Beef and lamb meat



Filippini et al. (2014). Italian J. Agron. 9, 63-70

PUA: the case of Pisa

Local demand

26.0 kg/yr/capita (beef)

1.6 kg/yr/capita (lamb)

Local supply

POTENTIAL

16% (beef)

62% (lamb)

CURRENT

17% (beef)

37% (lamb)

ACTUAL

14% (beef)

0.6% (lamb)

BEEF

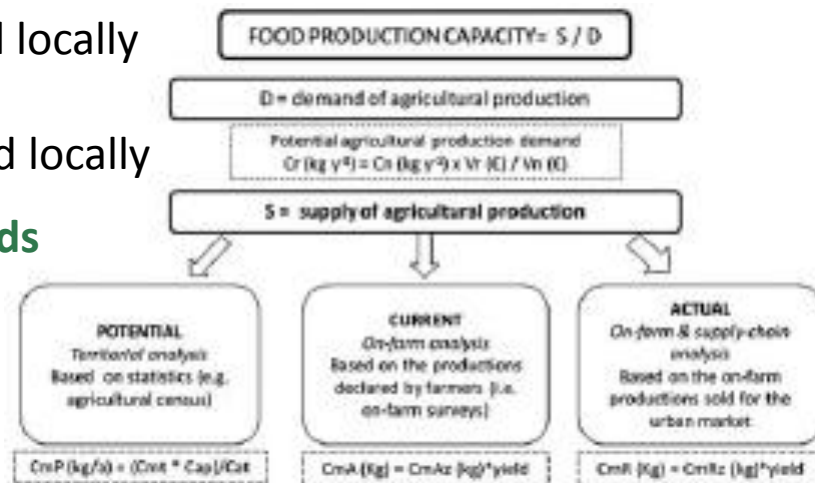
70% of local production sold locally

LAMB

1.6% of local production sold locally

Organic beef and local breeds

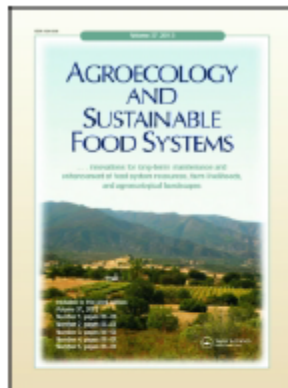
Beef and lamb meat



Filippini et al. (2014). Italian J. Agron. 9, 63-70



PUA: the case of Pisa



Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems

ISSN: 2168-3565 (Print) 2168-3573 (Online) Journal homepage: <http://www.tandfonline.com/loi/wjsa21>

Food production for the city: hybridization of farmers' strategies between alternative and conventional food chains

R. Filippini, E. Marraccini, M. Houdart, E. Bonari & S. Lardon

PUA: the case of Pisa

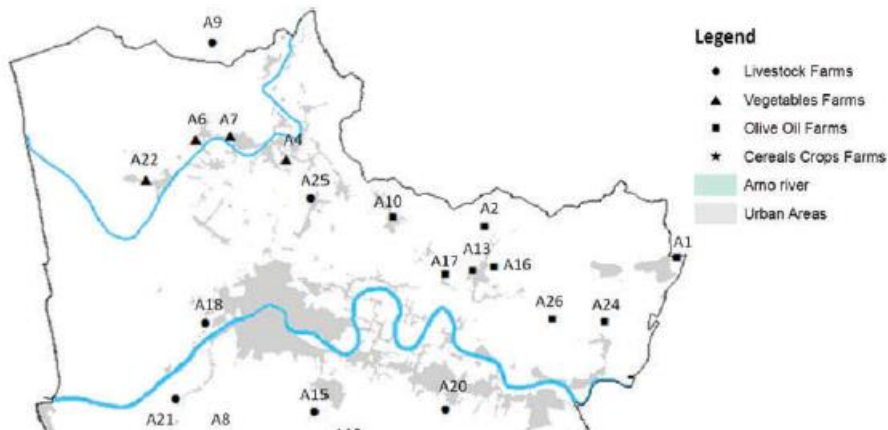
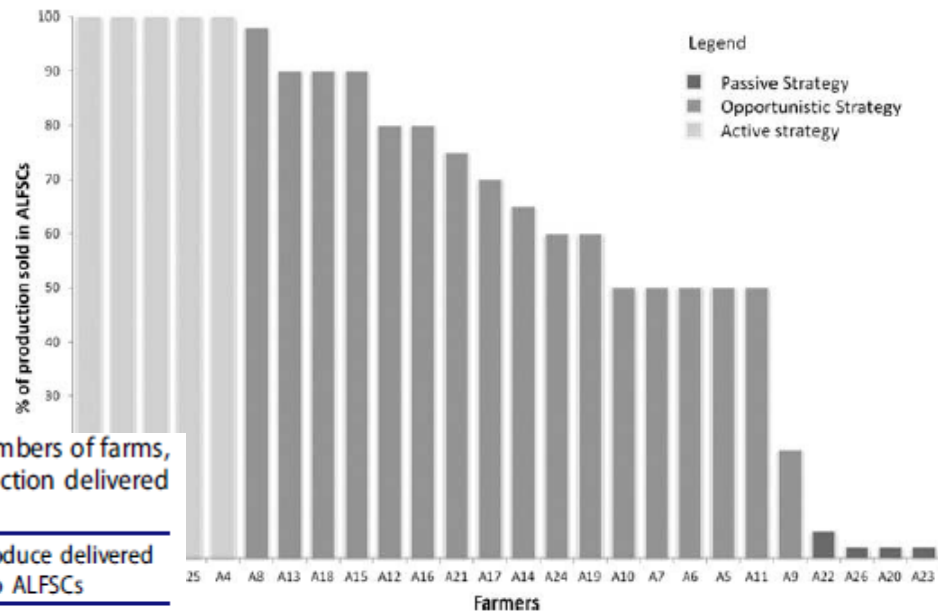


Table 7. Main characteristics of the sampled farming systems, considering the numbers of farms, the corresponding percentage, the average of hectares, the percentage of production delivered to ALFSCs.

| Farming system | Number of farms | % of the farms sampled | Average UAA (ha) and (standard deviation) | % of produce delivered to ALFSCs |
|----------------|-----------------|------------------------|---|----------------------------------|
| Cereal | 3 | 12 | 134 (103) | 27 |
| Livestock | 10 | 38 | 6 (4) | 73 |
| Olive oil | 8 | 31 | 12 (6) | 68 |
| Vegetables | 5 | 19 | 273 (280) | 51 |

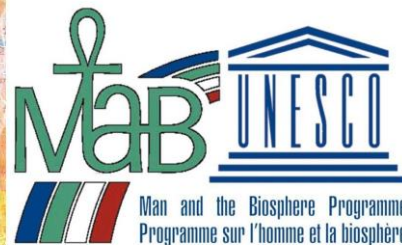
ALFSCs = local and alternative food chains; UAA = usable agricultural area.



Filippini et al. (2016). *Agroecol. Sustain. Food Syst.* 40, 1058-1084



Agroecology for PUA: the role of Universities



'Selva Pisana'

- Ca. 1,400 ha
- 50% agriculture
- 50% forestry
- 380 ha arable land
- 50% forage crops
- 40% cereals, pulses, industrial crops
- 5% bioenergy crops
- 1% vegetable crops
- 4% other crops
- 133 Friesian dairy cows
- 115 Mucco Pisano cows
- 1,200 sheep
- Mixed woodland
- Poplar (e.g. SRF)
- Nut pine



Agroecology for PUA: the role of Universities



CIRAAs



UNIVERSITÀ DI PISA
centro interdipartimentale
di ricerche agro-ambientali
Enrico Avanzi

ACTIVITIES

- Agriculture, livestock and forestry
- Research
- Education & Training
- Didactic farm
- A point of reference for peri-urban multifunctional agriculture in the Pisa area and beyond

CIRAA

0-m raw milk distributor ('Bancolat')



Italia - Quadro storico di confronto fra i prezzi
del Latte alla stalla (Lombardia) e del Latte fresco al consumo (Milano)

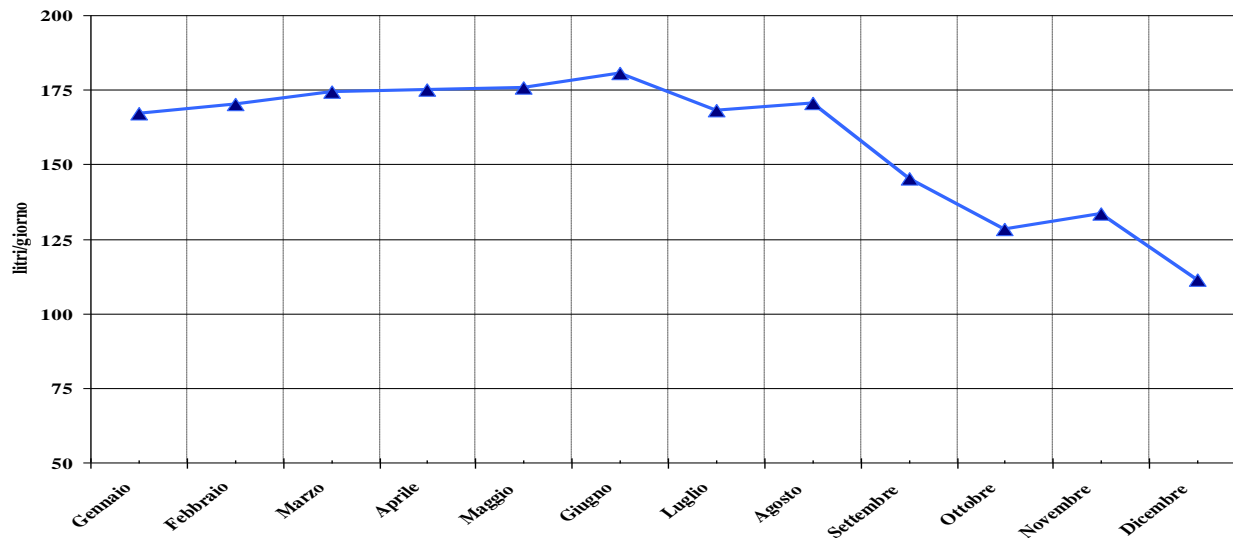
Elaborazione CLAL



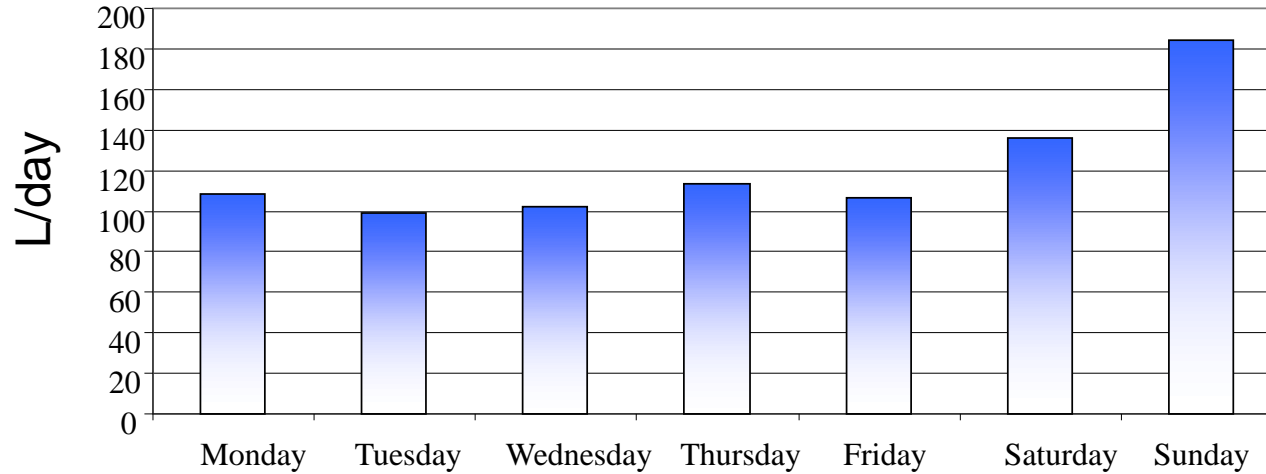
1 €/L (Bancolat) vs 0.35 €/L (producer) vs 1.40 €/L (consumer):

A WIN-WIN SITUATION

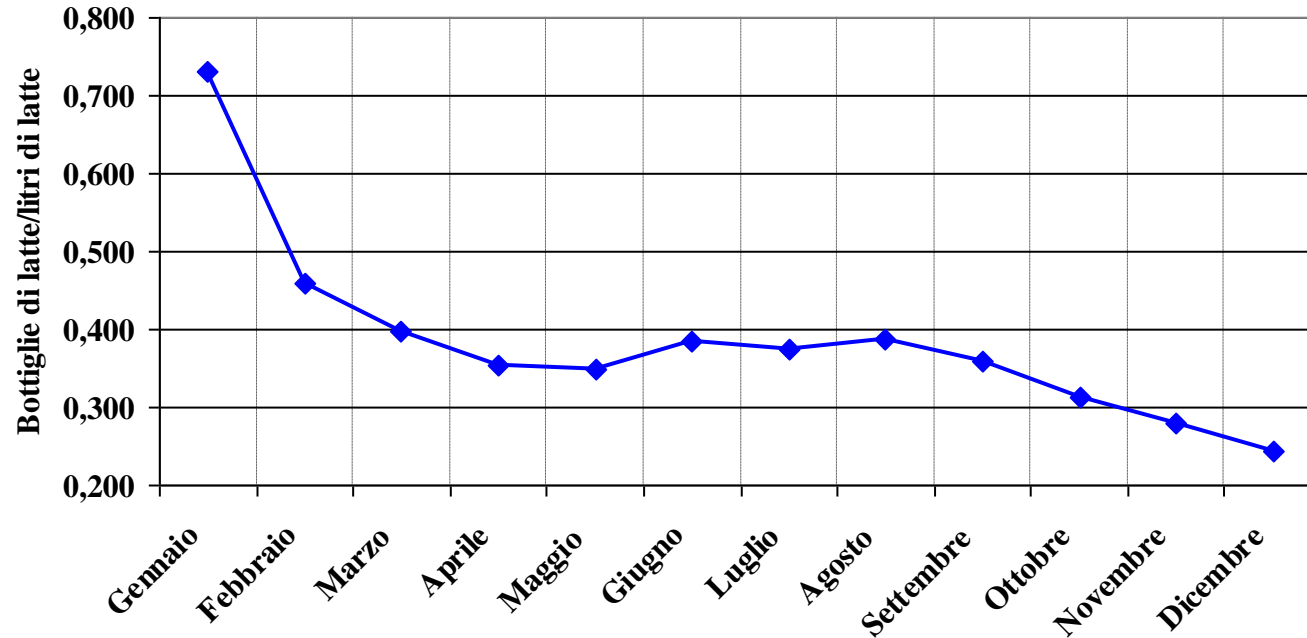
IL MIO LATTE
appena munto



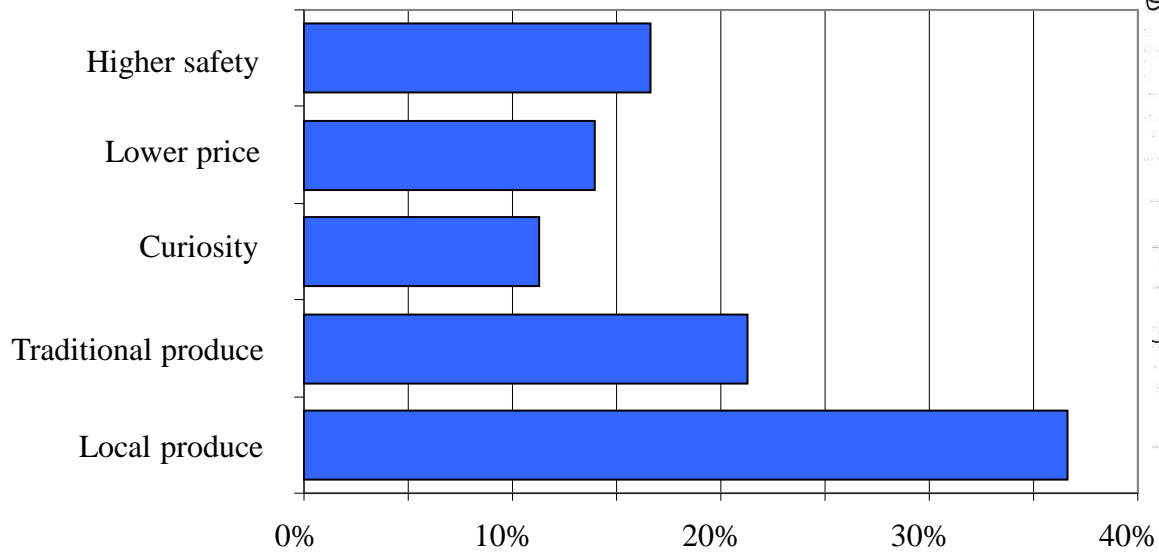
Average sales of raw milk at CIRAA's Bancolat (L/day) in 2009-11



Average sales of raw milk at CIRAA's Bancolat by week day (2011)



Ratio plastic bottles sold/raw milk sold in the first year of Bancolat activity (2008)



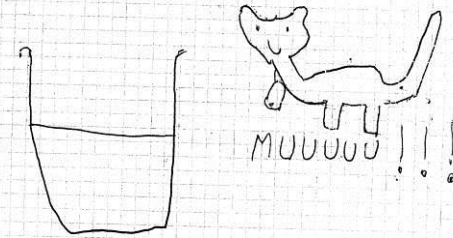
Main motivations driving consumers' purchase of raw cow milk at CIRAA's Bancolat

Ho ritrovato il latte della mio infanzia
B R A V I

U. Curti

È da Febbraio che ho preso e in casa è triplicato il consumo del latte !!!
grazie a questo

IL LATTE È BUONO



CIRAA's ethical gardens



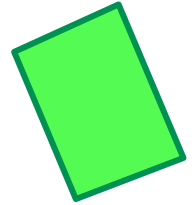
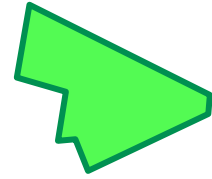
Partners (since 2008):

- Cooperativa Sociale Ponteverde Onlus
- Cooperativa Sociale Arnera
- BioColombini organic farm
- University of Pisa and CIRAA

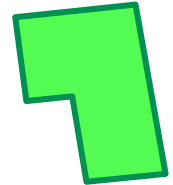
AN INNOVATIVE FOOD SYSTEM ENTANGLING:

- (i) Agroecological (organic) production**
- (ii) Social inclusion of marginalized people (e.g. people with physical/mental disabilities, formerly jailed or drug addicts)**
- (iii) Valorization of agricultural land**
- (iv) Consumers engagement through short-supply chains**

Vegetable production is located in three areas formerly abandoned or underutilized (property of the University of Pisa)



From 2009 9 ha have been progressively converted to organic vegetable farming



These areas were brought back to production upon CIRAA's self-funding, saving them from sale/rental

> 20 t/year of vegetables sold

> 60 crops

Until 2014 = 100% of produce sold to local bulk market

2015 = 25% of produce sold to local bulk market

2016 = 90 % of produce sold through short-supply chain

(UNIORTO: box scheme + direct sale, presently limited to employees of the University of Pisa, activated in July 2015)

Box: mixed seasonal vegetables (5 to 7 €)

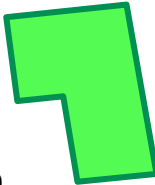
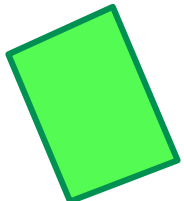
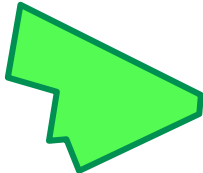
On average, 40 boxes/week sold

Possibility to integrate it with direct sale of these and other products at the time of purchase (income = 2x that of boxes)

Direct sale only is also possible

Present limitations:

(i) Limited winter production (1 glasshouse of 400 m² + 6 tunnels of 100 m² each). Sales drop in February/March; (ii) Distance from the city



- ✓ **Non-chemical weed control methods**
- ✓ **Cropping system design and comparison**
- ✓ **Green manure/cover crops**
- ✓ **Novel transplanting techniques**

Agroecology in action



Agroecology and climate change mitigation at the food system level

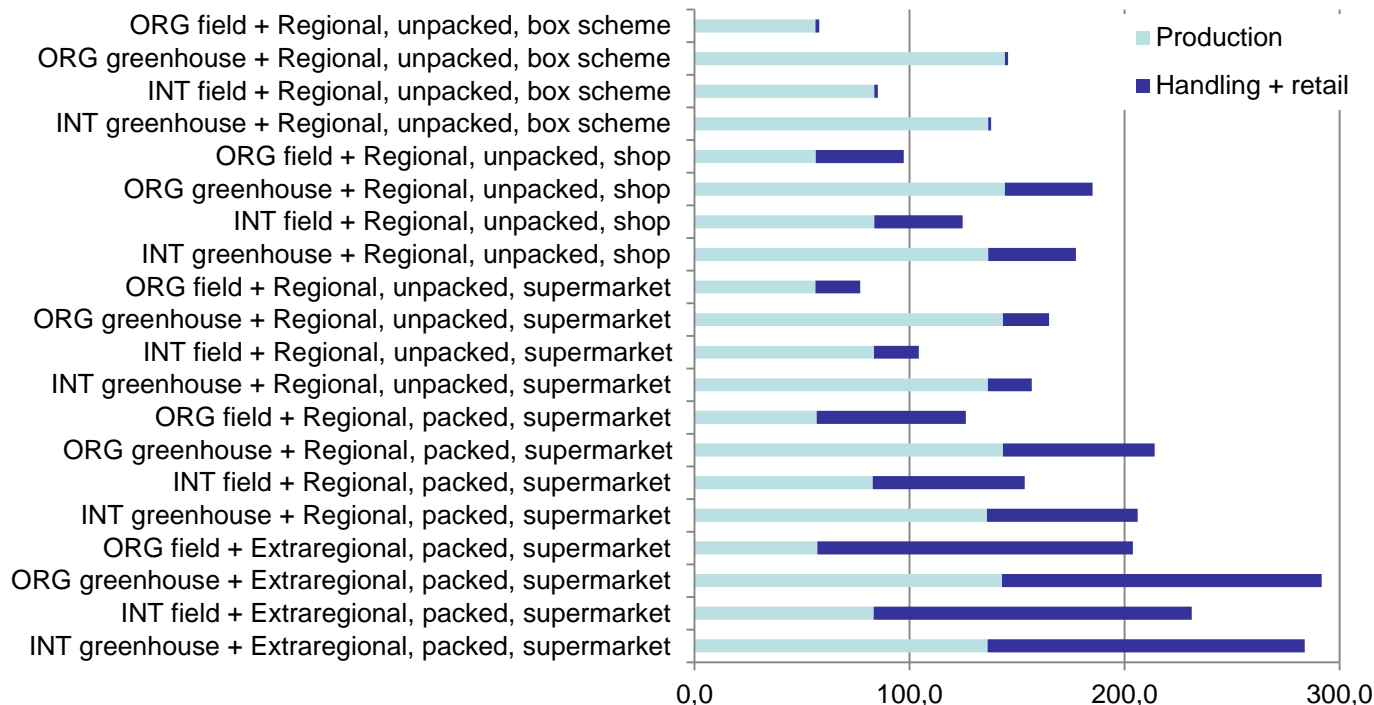
ARIA & SATREGAS projects (Region Tuscany)

- Aim: to analyze the environmental sustainability of **integrated and organic production and retail systems**
- Example (tomato for fresh consumption):
 - Estimated unit emissions ($\text{kg CO}_2 \text{ kg prod.}^{-1}$) as based on LCA analysis for 20 tomato systems
 - 4 production systems x 5 retail systems (including both 'multifunctional' and 'specialized' systems)

CO₂ emissions (kg/kg produce)

4 production systems x 5 handling & retail systems

TOMATO – FRESH CONSUMPTION



Conclusions

- Agroecological techniques rely on knowledge/wise use of agrobiodiversity and can **meet multiple goals**, e.g. better resource use efficiency, reduction of external inputs, buffering climate-change and its effects (mitigation + adaptation)
- Agroecology allows to find **tailor-made solutions** to improve the sustainability of urban and peri-urban food systems
- A basic pillar of the agroecological approach is **local stakeholders engagement** and, as such, Agroecology can fully meet the expectations of farmers, consumers and the civil society on sustainable urban and periurban agriculture and – in a broader sense – on **environmental education of citizens**
- Need to profile Agroecology for better recognition
- www.agroecology-europe.org

Acknowledgements

- Fondazione Cariplo & Prof. Stefano Bocchi
- Prof. Marco Mazzoncini, Dr Daniele Antichi, Dr Marco Ginanni (CIRAA, University of Pisa)
- Prof. Elisa Marraccini (Université LaSalle, Beauvais, Francia)