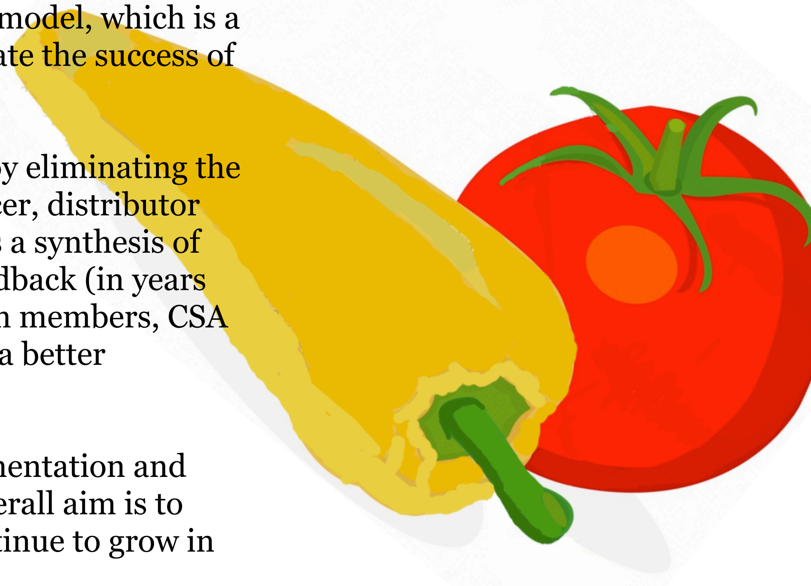
ACORN

TREND REPORT

Insights for the Community Supported Agriculture Model in Atlantic Canada

Strengthening the local food system: growth of the CSA model

Consumers are becoming increasingly concerned with where their food is coming from and how their food is grown. As a result, transparent and local food production systems are being sought to mitigate these concerns. The Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) model, which is a common direct marketing strategy, is a key lens to evaluate the success of these initiatives.



Direct marketing strategies benefit small-scale growers by eliminating the middlemen – so the farm is acting as the primary producer, distributor and marketer of products. This three-year trend report is a synthesis of surveys conducted to solicit CSA/farmshare member feedback (in years 2010, 2011 and 2012). To compliment the responses from members, CSA operators were also surveyed (in the same years) to gain a better understanding of how CSAs are operated in our region.

In this report, we take a closer look at the design, implementation and trends of CSAs currently operating in our region. Our overall aim is to provide perspective on how this exciting market can continue to grow in Atlantic Canada!

A brief history of CSAs

Historically, the CSAs began as a consumer-driven approach to food production. The adaptation of this model was one of the efforts used to address concerns regarding food security and the urbanization of agricultural land.

During the 1960s, groups of consumers and farmers in Europe joined forces to cooperatively own and fund farming operations that were both healthy for the environment and socially equitable. In Japan, a similar movement occurred. A group of Mothers, concerned about rising prices of imported food and the loss of arable land, formed CSA projects to grow their own (Demuth 1993).

In the beginning the word “supported” or “shared” in CSA meant that members were highly engaged; they not only helped to fund the project but also worked hands-on to produce the food.

CSA: an expanding concept

In the 1980s the CSA model entered the North American market.

CSA, defined by the USDA, “consists of a community of individuals who pledge support to a farm operation so that the farmland becomes, either legally or spiritually, the community’s farm, with the growers and consumers providing mutual support and sharing the risks and benefits of food production.”

Today CSA members don’t necessarily want to be volunteering or working on the farm to get a share; it’s more common that they are looking for value in terms of food quality. Households will buy member shares in return for weekly packages of food from their local farmers. CSAs aren’t limited to only vegetables, as new types of community supported shares are being developed all the time.

CSA/farmshares in Atlantic Canada: Member profiles

In the last three years, half or more of responding CSA members are new subscribers.

In 2012, 186 surveys were submitted with 185 finished to completion. The response rate was between 45% and 99% per question. The percentage of members that previously held a CSA subscription (49.7%) was almost equal to those that were currently in their first year of subscription (50.3%) (Fig. 1). In 2012 we included a question about the household size. Answers ranged from 1-7 people (Fig. 2) with an average household of 2.89, so approximately 3 individuals.

In 2011, 503 surveys were submitted with 489 finished to completion at a response rate of 45-98% per question. Percentage of share holders that had previously belonged to a CSA (40.8%) was more or less equal to those that were in their first year of membership (59.2%) (Fig. 1).

In 2010, 485 surveys were submitted by CSA share holders with 465 surveys being completed at a response rate of 45-97% per question. Again, there was an even mix of members that had previously belonged to a CSA (56.3%) compared to those that were in their first year of CSA membership (43.7%) (Fig. 1).

In conclusion, this information implies that in all three years, new CSA subscribers accounted for 50% or more of all responding CSA members. The average household size of members that joined in 2012 was 3.

NOTE: A lower sample number in 2012 is attributed to, in part, less farms participating (so less surveys sent to CSA members); this was due to the fact that some farms had already sent feedback surveys of their own. It is not indicative of less CSA members in total. Synthesized information is based on members that chose to respond to the surveys; this is not necessarily a reflection of all members who subscribed to a CSA in 2010-2012.

Fig. 1) Is this your first year belonging to a CSA/farmshare?

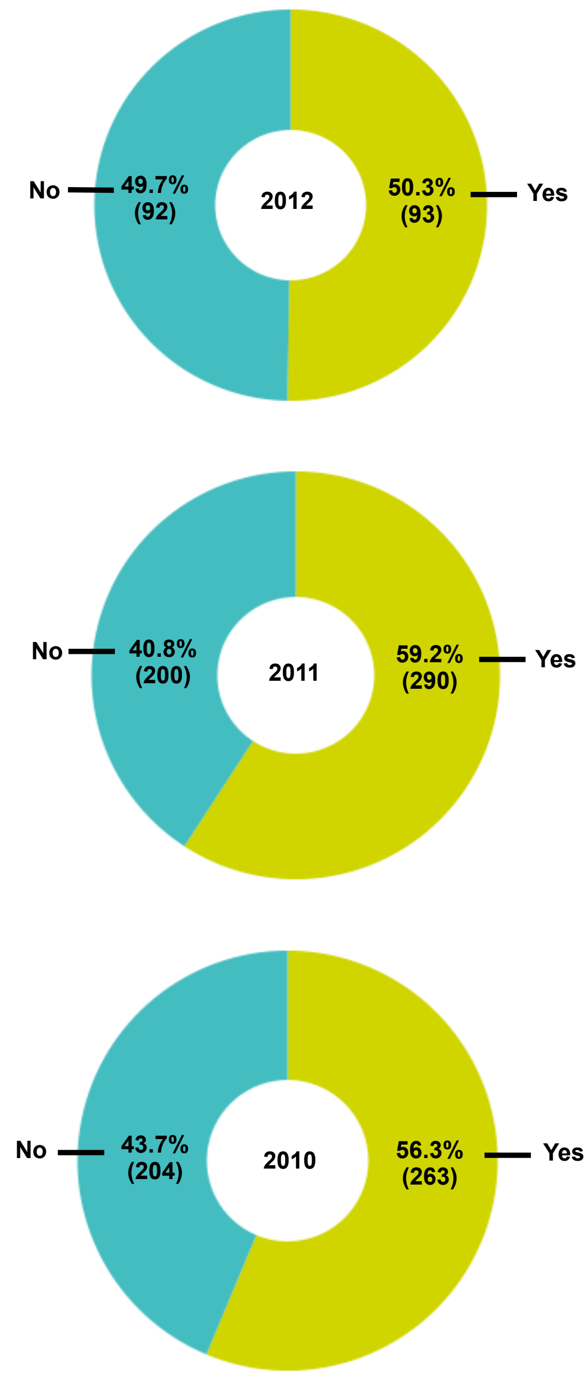
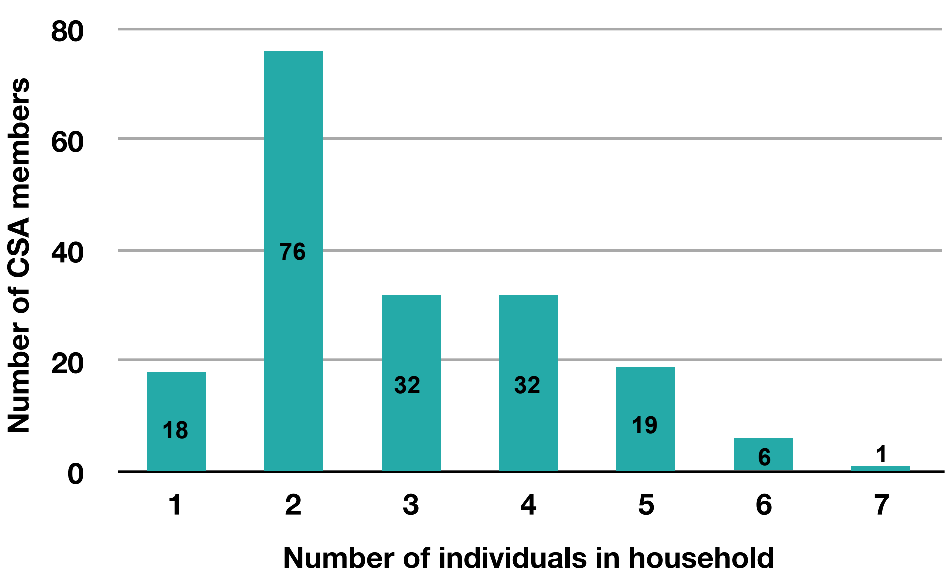


Fig. 2) CSA member household size in 2012



CSA/farmshares in Atlantic Canada: Farm profiles

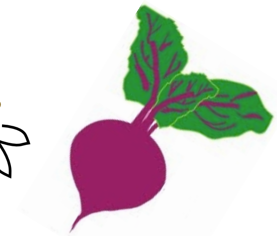


Fig. 3) What province is your CSA operating in?

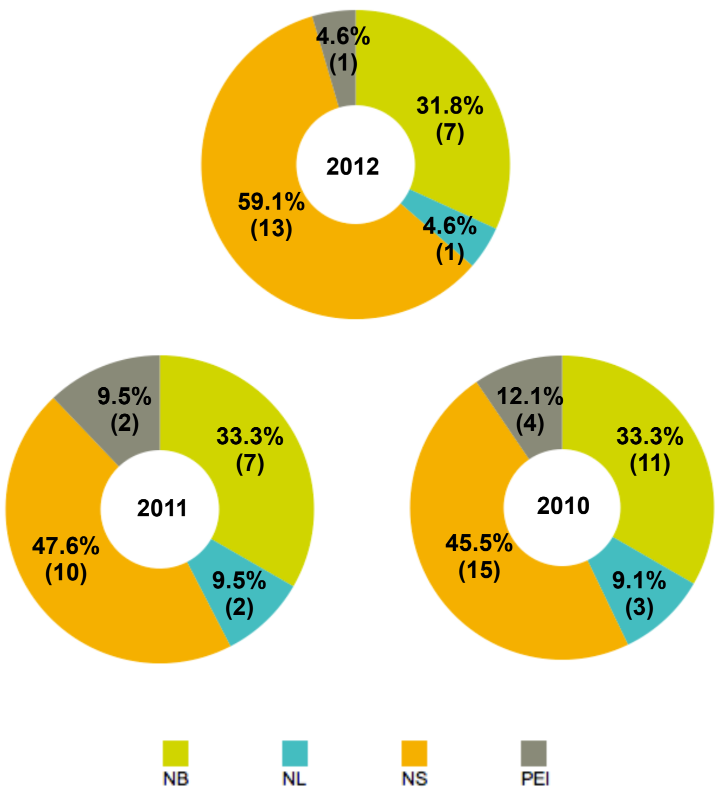
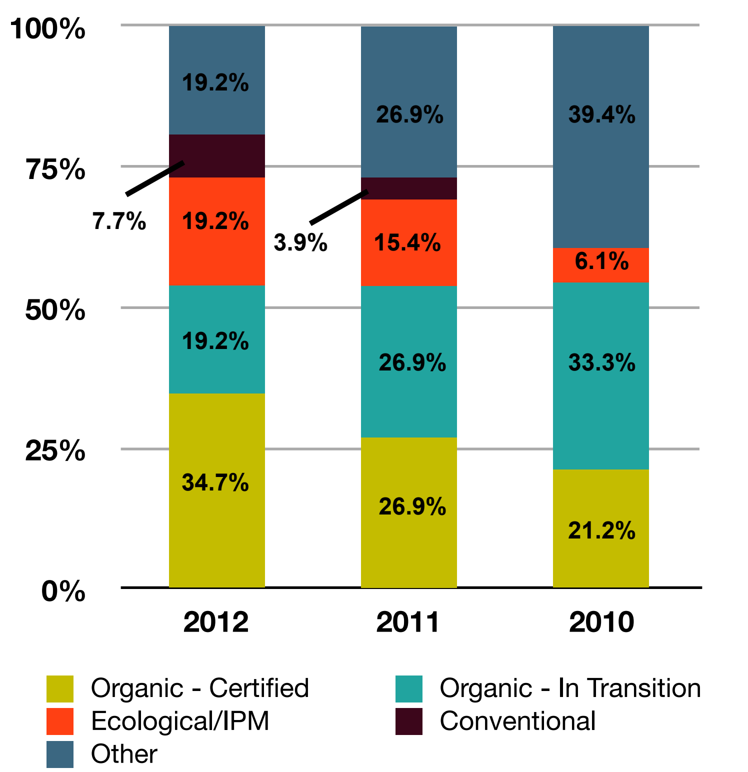


Fig. 4) What type of business/farm are you operating? Select all that apply.



Operators of CSAs participated in surveys, giving detail to the profile of CSA/farmshare operations in the Atlantic provinces.

- **In 2012**, 22 surveys from farms conducting CSAs were submitted. The response rate was between 50-100% per question.
- **In 2011**, 21 surveys were submitted at a response rate of 52-100% per question.
- **In 2010**, 33 surveys were submitted at a response rate of 41-100% per question.

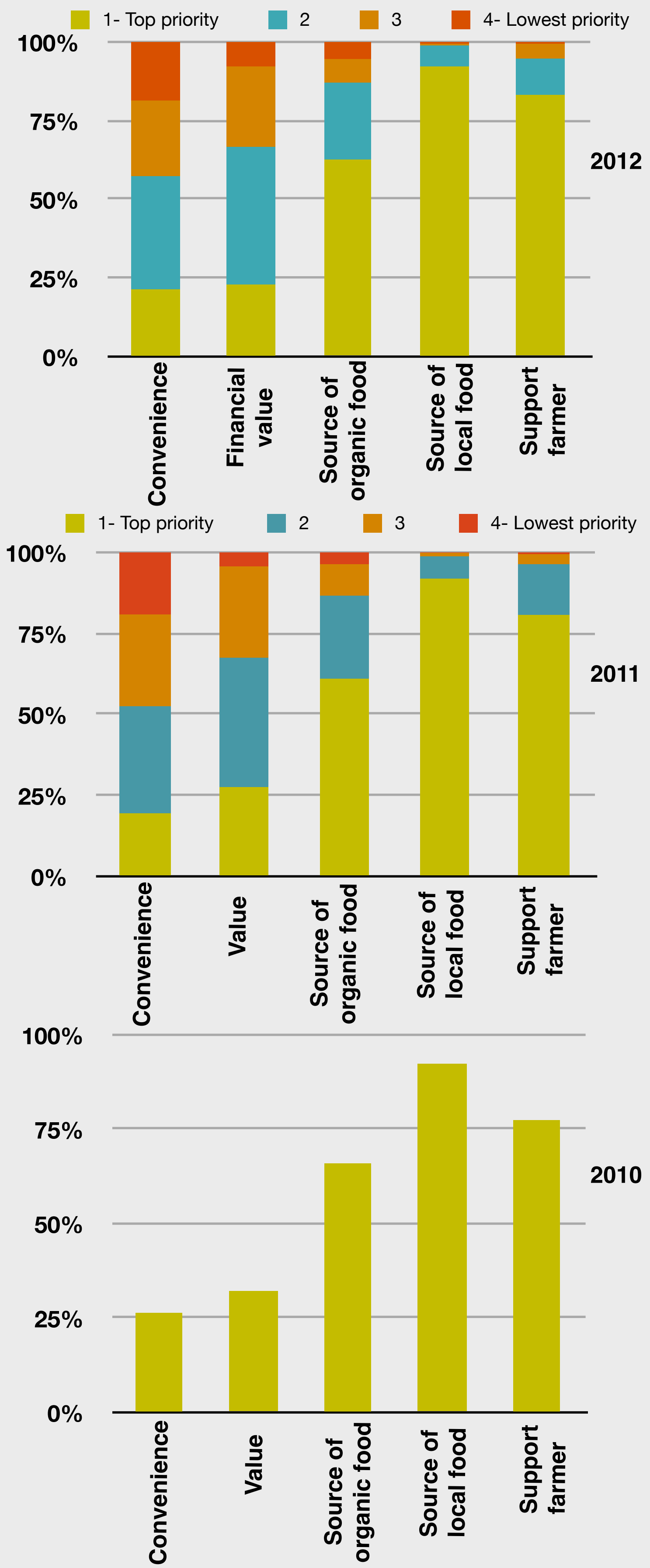
The majority of operators surveyed started their CSAs in years 2009-2012, emphasizing that CSA operations are relatively new in Atlantic Canada. Half or more of respondents were operating their CSAs in Nova Scotia (for all years; Fig. 3). New Brunswick had the next highest representation (11 in 2010, 7 in 2011, 7 in 2012), followed by Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland (Fig. 3).

Specifications were asked regarding the type of business respondents were operating. Choices were certified organic, organic - in transition (meaning operators were in the process of gaining certification), ecological/IPM (using ecologically sound techniques/integrated pest management), conventional practices or *other* (Fig. 4).
A high proportion of operators were either certified organic or in transition to certification (greater than 50% combined; Fig. 4), indicating potential growth in this sector in relation to CSA production. Comparatively, almost no farms surveyed were practicing conventional techniques.
The operators that chose *other* were either businesses running CSA-style operations but not growing vegetables (ie: a sustainable seafood share, bakery) or vegetable growers that indicated that they were using *organic methods without certification* or *pesticide-free and transparent practices*. Some farms specified that they had previously been certified organic but had moved to new land that was in transition.

NOTE: This synthesized information is based on operators that chose to respond to the surveys; this is not necessarily a reflection of all operators who ran a CSA in 2010-2012.

Reasons for joining a CSA

Fig. 5) Why did you choose to join a CSA/farmshare?



CSA members are primarily concerned with having access to quality food (fresh produce with high nutritional value) that is locally grown. The CSA experience has been described as a “collective enterprise” - one that does not feel like commerce but rather a unique cooperative for developing a stronger local food system.

Members surveyed in 2011 and 2012 were asked to rank their reasons for joining the CSA (on a scale from 1 to 4, 1 being the top priority and 4 being the lowest; Figure 5). Top priority reasons for joining the CSA were to have access to a “source of local food”, to “support farmers” and to have a “source of organic food”. Similarly, when asked to pick their reasons for joining in 2010, all three of these options were top choices. Two other top priority reasons for joining a CSA in 2012 and 2011 (not shown in Figure 5) were food quality (85.8% in 2012; 81.1% in 2011) and health/nutrition (81.1% in 2012; 72.3% in 2011).

“The best part of being involved with this CSA has been the opportunity to be connected with where my food comes from and how it is grown. It is economical for me and I feel good about where my money is going. The quality of food is excellent!”

Convenience was the choice of least priority. Likewise, “value” was also not considered a top priority in 2011 and 2010. Since “value” can have different meanings, we qualified this term in the 2012 surveys by changing the choice to “financial value”. Regardless of this additional clarification, the response rating was similar (Figure 5).

Members specified other reasons, including the common responses of: environmental concerns; reducing carbon footprint and cooking with in-season vegetables; to support a food system that is centered on small-scale farmers instead of large corporations/ wholesalers; increasing food security; and the satisfaction of discovering new varieties of vegetables. Some members were keen on trying something new and learning how to cook with heirloom varieties that cannot be bought at a grocery store. Many members agreed that the overall food quality was excellent.

“The vegetables taste better than what we get at the grocery store. If the vegetables weren't fresh and delicious, it would be hard to continue to support the CSA.”

CSAs are diverse!

There are various permutations of CSAs. Many more subscription styles are being implemented to suit both operator and member needs. Members may receive a pre-packed share (offers operators more control when certain produce is in short supply) or pack their own (offers members more choice/interaction). Delivery/ pick-up options are different depending on CSA - some farms offer pick-up at the Farmer's market, at their farm, or delivery to specific locations. Shares are being customized differently in CSAs across Canada. Some offer a number of items/share size each week as well as a trading box (where members can trade in unfavorable vegetables for more favorable ones), others use a point-system (members have a certain amount of points to use each week and each vegetable is equal to so many points), and others use a book of vouchers (members purchase vouchers to be redeemed throughout the year - the earlier you buy them the bigger the discount you receive).

CSAs in Atlantic Canada

CSA membership start date

Most operators surveyed began their CSA in the summer (89.5% in 2012; 98.5% in 2011; 78.1% in 2010). April was the earliest month specified; typically June or July were the months memberships began.

Weeks of operation

Commonly CSAs ran for 15-20 or 21-30 weeks. The highest number of operational weeks was 52; 8-12 weeks was the lowest. Not many producers were capable of running a year-round operation (2 respondents in each year the survey was conducted).

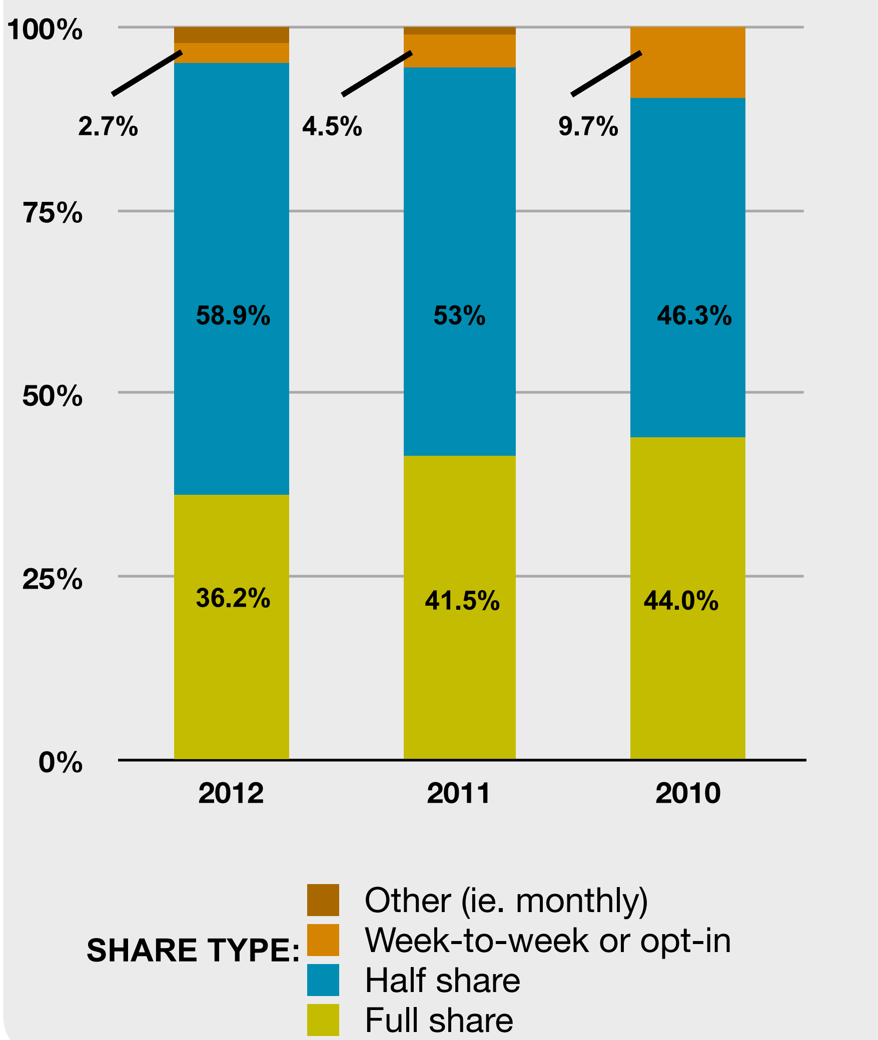
Share types (Fig. 6)

Typical share choices for members were week-to-week/optional buy-in (some members indicated that this allowed them to join and supplement vegetables from their own gardens), half (the most popular choice in all three years) and full share. In 2012 the average household size of members surveyed was 3 (Fig. 2, page 2).

Share quantity: "Too much", "just enough" or "too little" food

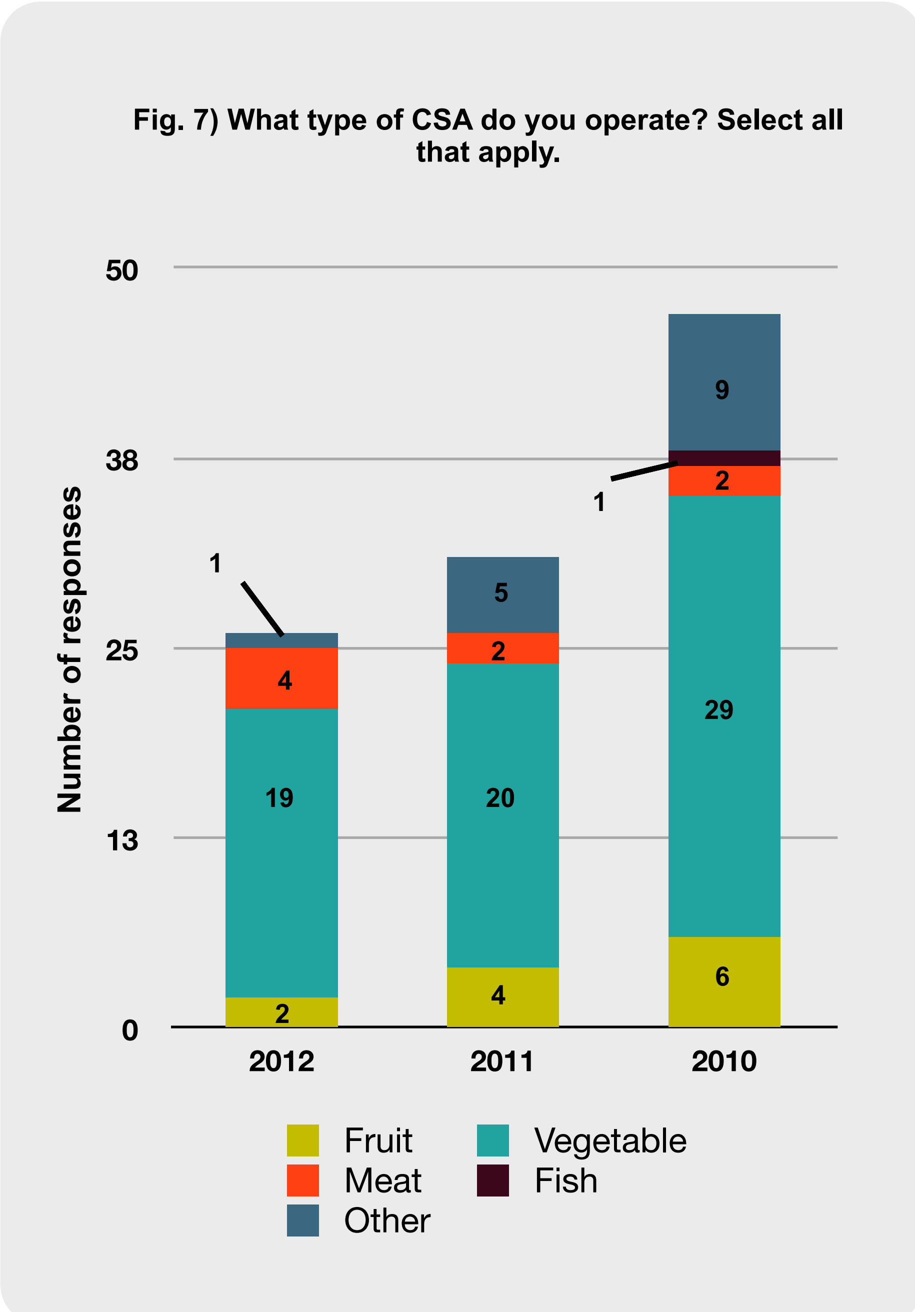
Based on member responses, this can be a hard balance to strike. Many members were satisfied by the amount of food they received. Few complained about there being "too little" food. Depending on diet (for instance, whether the member(s) were vegetarian) and how many were in a household, the potential for wasting food varied. Members pointed out if they weren't able to use all of their CSA each week. It's apparent that individuals who join CSAs don't like to see food go to waste.

Fig. 6) CSA members: What type of share do you have?



"Tons of food--I'm a vegetarian and did not have to buy veggies at the grocery store from June until November! Fantastic value and wonderful food."

CSAs are diverse!



Types of CSAs being operated (Fig. 7)

Most CSA operators that answered these surveys are primarily offering vegetable shares (19 respondents in 2012; 20 in 2011; 29 in 2010). Less are offering fruit and meat (Fig. 7). Operators that chose "other" were offering additional add-ons, including bread/baked goods, eggs, preserves, dry goods (ie: beans) and cheese. Other models of "community supported" initiatives (other than solely produce) exist. These include a community supported bakery (CSB), community supported fishery (CSF) and community supported restaurant (CSR)! These examples are explained further on page 12.

Weekly food value

The weekly food value of CSAs ranged from $20-65 for a full share (typically between $23-35) and $10-34 for a half share (most commonly respondents answered ~$15-20) in years 2010-2012.

Number of weekly food items/share

Additionally, in the 2012 surveys we collected information to gauge how many food items are in each share (per week). Of the CSA producers that responded, the most common response was a weekly range of 8-10/8-12 items for a full share. Only three operators indicated they offered more than this range (10-12/10-15 items). For half shares the common responses were 5-7, 6-8 and 7-9 food items/week.

Share availability

CSA operators were asked about the number of shares (in total or specific to each share type) offered. Most operators answered with regards to a summer operation. Of those that responded the highest number of summer shares offered were 60 full, 30 half (~90) in 2012; 175 in 2011 and 200 in 2010. Typically operators filled between 25-75 summer shares (2010-2012). Few operators were capable of sustaining a year-round CSA membership (10.5% in 2012; 9.5% in 2011;16% in 2010). The highest number of year-long shares offered in 2012 was 500+, 300 shares in 2011 and 100 in 2010.

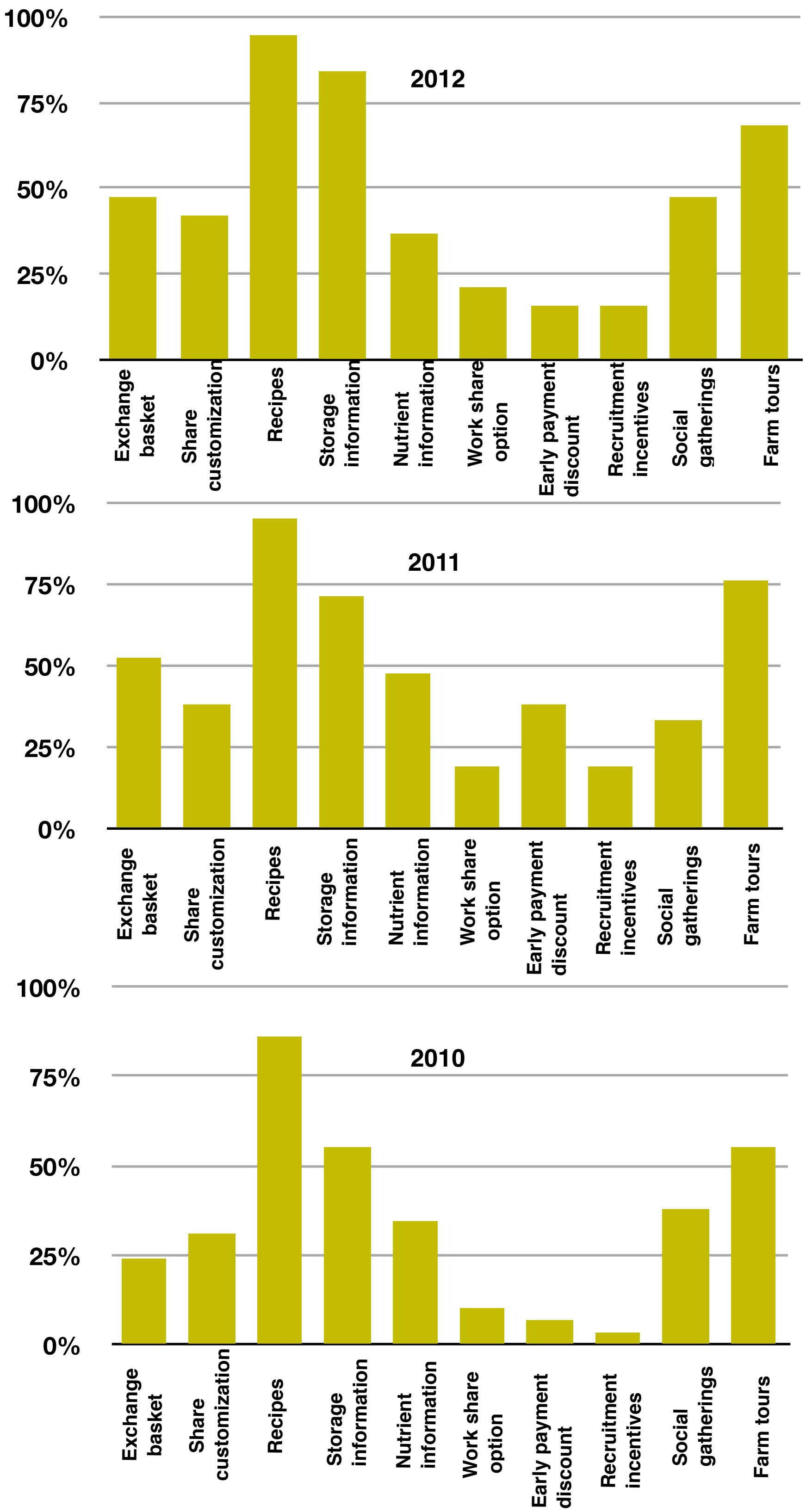
Overall share value

Members are primarily looking for value in terms of food quality. If the quality of food is high then many members agree its an economically viable investment. With that being said, not everyone is a customer of CSAs (operators should continue to observe and understand their customer base) and depending on the area in which a CSA is operated (rural or urban) prices for shares may have to be adjusted accordingly.

Member benefits

In most CSAs, members will benefit from not only receiving food but by being a part of a community. Many CSA operators try to create this communal experience for their shareholders by writing blog posts, sending weekly emails, sharing their favorite in-season recipes and more.

Fig. 8) What services/incentives do you offer your members? Check all that apply.



Helpful information

Some CSA operators will offer information on the nutrient content of produce and how to properly store vegetables to ensure the longevity of members' shares (Fig. 8). Many operators included recipes in their weekly emails/updates, or posted at their pick-up sites, to assist members in their cooking plans (94.7% in 2012; 95.2% in 2011; 86.2% in 2010). Certain vegetables were new to members (examples given: kohlrabi, bok choy) and they appreciated the culinary inspiration (Fig. 8).

Meeting the farmer

Most operators offer opportunities for CSA members to meet them (developing the community experience of a CSA and connecting the eaters to the growers) through farm tours (68.4% in 2012; 76.2% in 2011; 55.2% in 2010) and social gatherings. Some farms will offer on-site events/"work-bee days". Work-bees are used to help operators with farm work (harvesting the last of potatoes, for instance) while also encouraging members to visit the farm and provide a contribution in volunteer time (Fig. 8).

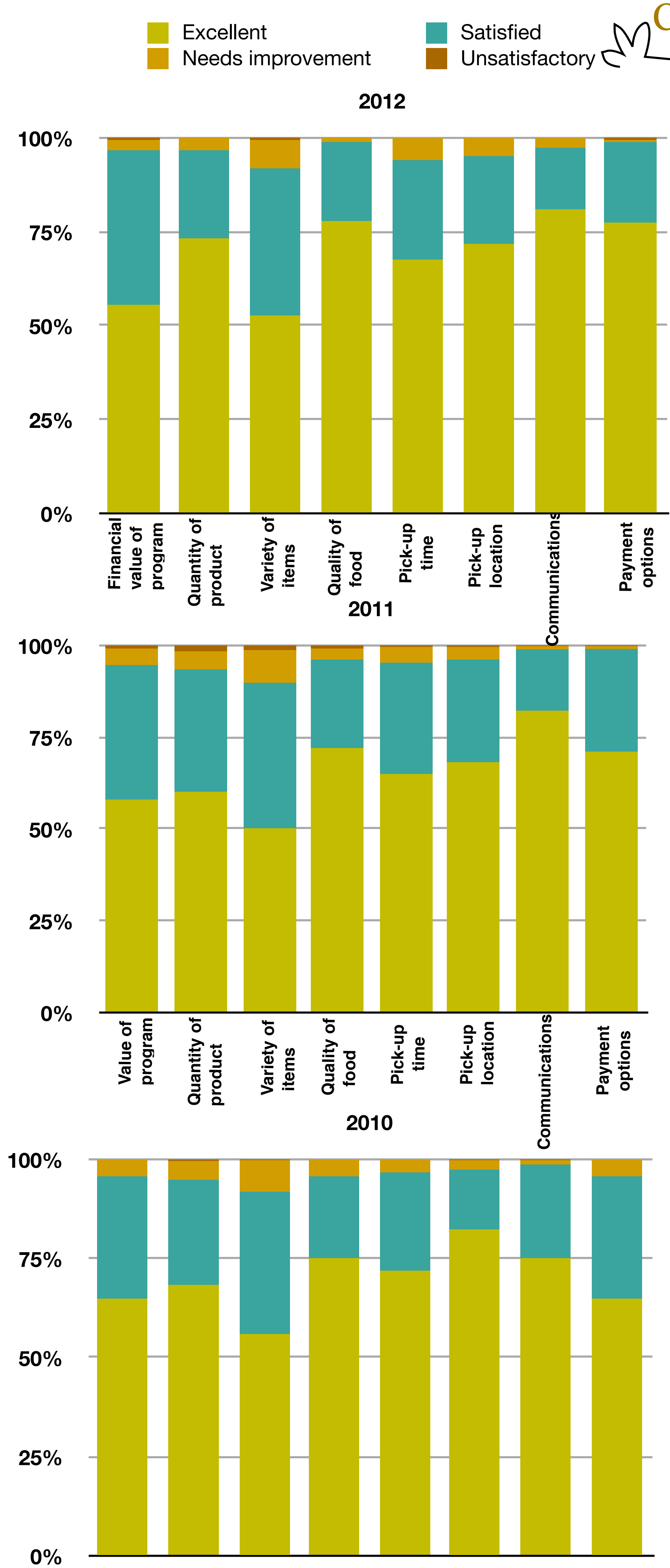
"There is a sense of community around this food; we know where our food came from."

Food choice

50% or less of operators (2010-2012) offer choice in food with the use of share customization (if customers have allergies, for instance) and exchange baskets (members can exchange unfavorable for more favorable produce) (Fig. 8).

CSA/farmshare member satisfaction

Fig. 9) What was your level of satisfaction?



Overall members surveyed rated satisfaction as high across all years, 2010-2012 (Fig. 9). The majority chose the options “excellent” or “satisfied” on all elements of their CSA experience; 50% or more of members ranked satisfaction as “excellent” in all three years; and when combined with “satisfied”, close to 100% of members agreed that their CSA experience was fulfilling (Fig. 9).

Variety of items was one section that members, when compared to the other aspects of satisfaction, ranked lower. Members wrote that they appreciated trading boxes and optional buy-ins; some indicated that it was an incentive for them to participate in the CSA. A few commented on particular limitations in conveniences, such as pick-up times/ locations.

Quality of food was very important, as revealed in the comments given by CSA members. If quality was lacking, members highlighted this as a source of dissatisfaction. They appreciated the extra efforts from operators to ensure good communication, helpful customer service and suggestions on how to store and cook with the produce.

“There is such a beautiful sense of community. I love that I can check in with my farmer on facebook, email and on the farm. I love the recipes that come along with veggies I would not usually buy from the store. I love how accommodating the farm is around pick up times because I am a shift worker. I love how open and honest the operators and their team are. I am so proud to be a part of this CSA!”

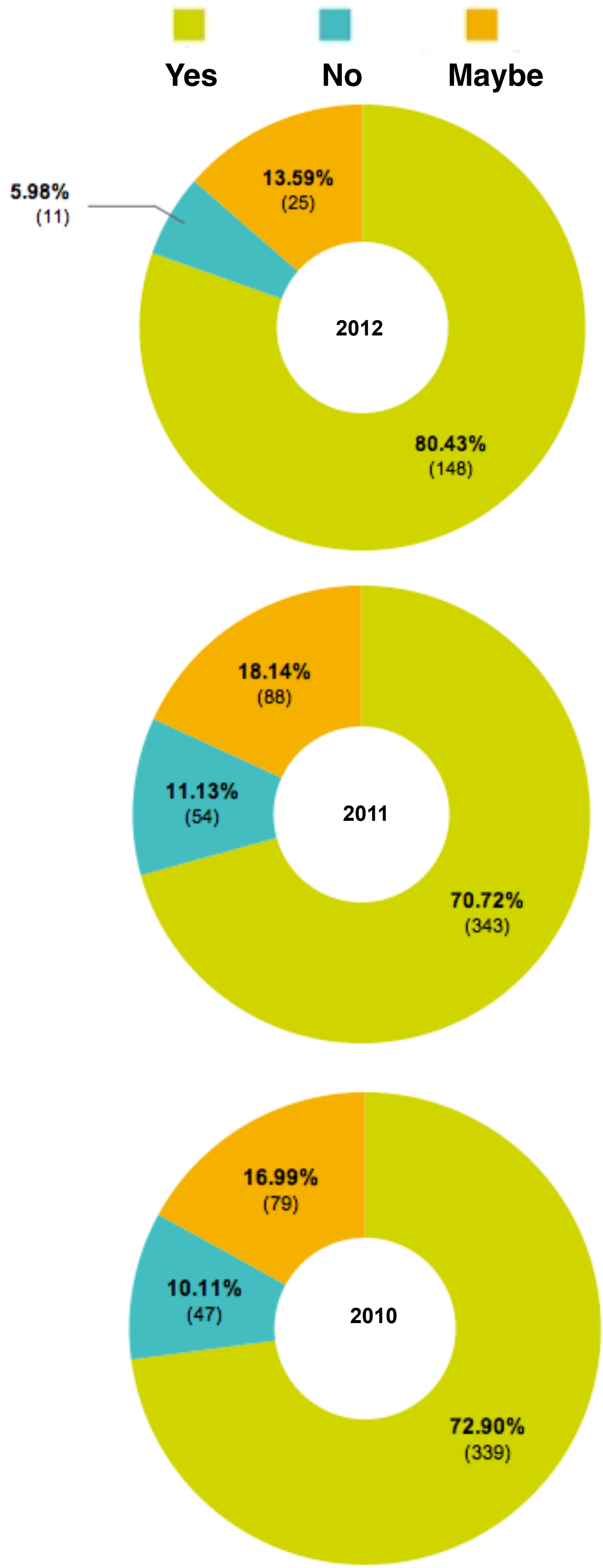
Retention rate

In the 2010-2012 surveys, members were asked if they planned on renewing their CSA/farmshare subscription for the following year. Retention rate, based on the consumer responses, was consistently high in all three years (80.4% in 2012; 70.7% in 2011; 72.9% in 2010).

When CSA operators were asked to give their perspective on retention rate, most responses were in line with the average percentages of responding CSA members (65-80%). However, a few indicated a lower rate (25-50%) while others stated a higher one (90-98%).

Overall, the retention rate is an indicator of high quality/successful CSAs currently in operation, as more members are returning. Based on the responses from CSA operators, many emphasize that a standard must be maintained. These farmers caution anyone who is interested in starting a CSA to wait until they are ready (and to begin small while building a member base).

Fig. 10: Do you plan on renewing your CSA/farmshare subscription?



Characteristics of successful CSAs

As the Atlantic region moves forward in its CSA operations, it is helpful to keep in mind some key characteristics of successful CSAs currently in operation:

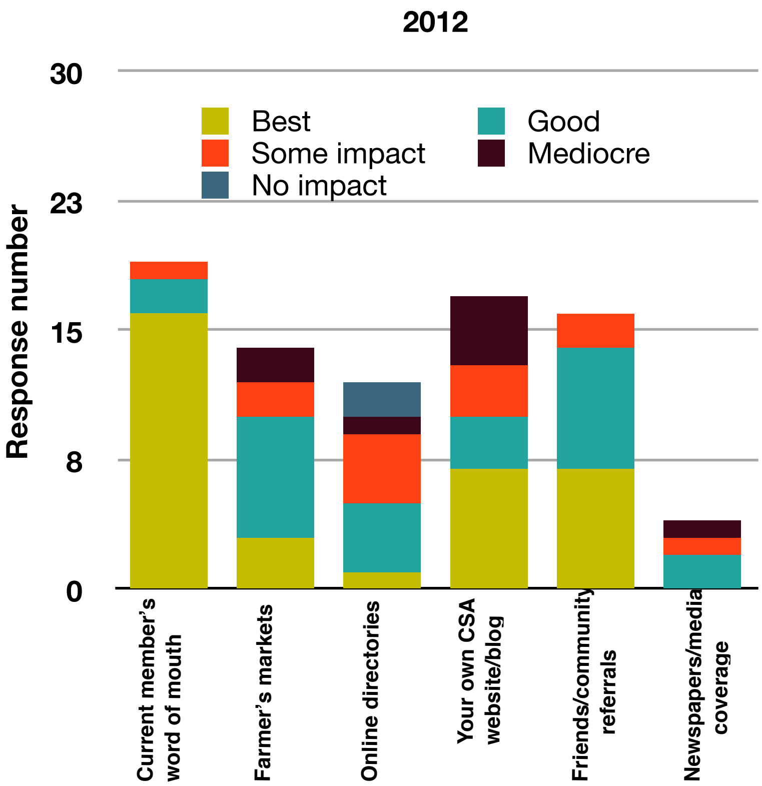
1) Consistency - in pricing and number of food items per week
2) Quality - in food value and customer service
3) Direct and helpful communication - at delivery time, through blog posts/newsletters, emails, etc.
4) Farmer to member connections - developing a rapport with members and creating a communal experience.
5) Member education - an essential element to ensuring that retention rate remains high. CSA operators will take the time to discuss the CSA model with members and teach techniques/offer recipes on how to use certain produce.

Adapted from a presentation by Tarrah Young of Green Being Farm (Farm Management Canada).

CSA advertising methods

An important aspect to any business is to market products accordingly. CSA operators shared their advertising methods and techniques, indicating which they found to be the most and least useful. Currently ACORN offers a free online directory for ACORN members, as well as individual member feedback surveys, who run CSAs. Our organization is aiming to expand this online directory to create a larger, more comprehensive and accessible database.

Fig. 11) What have been the best ways to market your CSA?

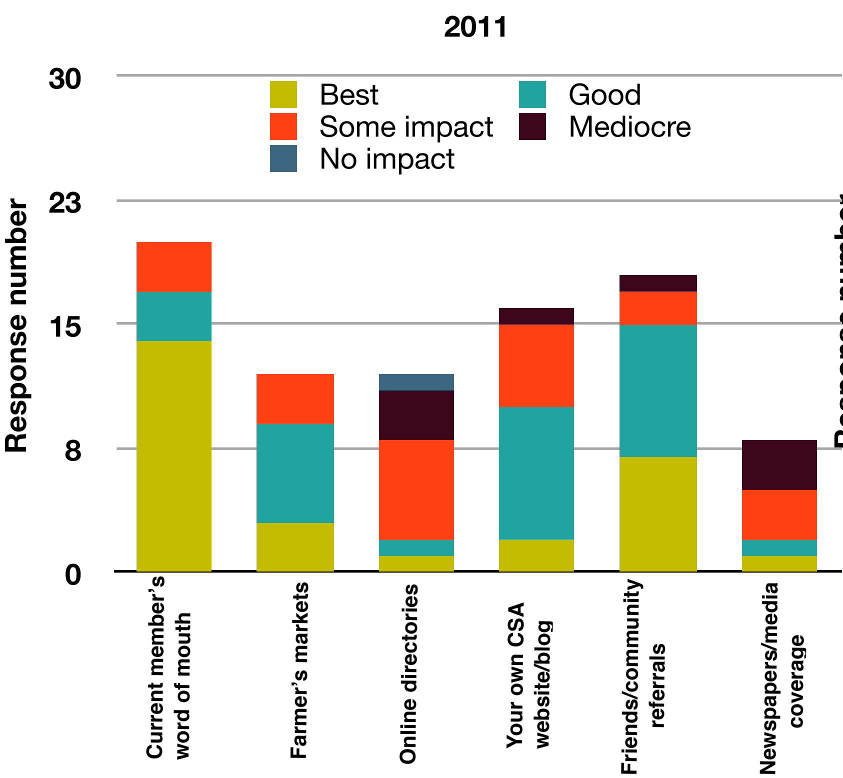


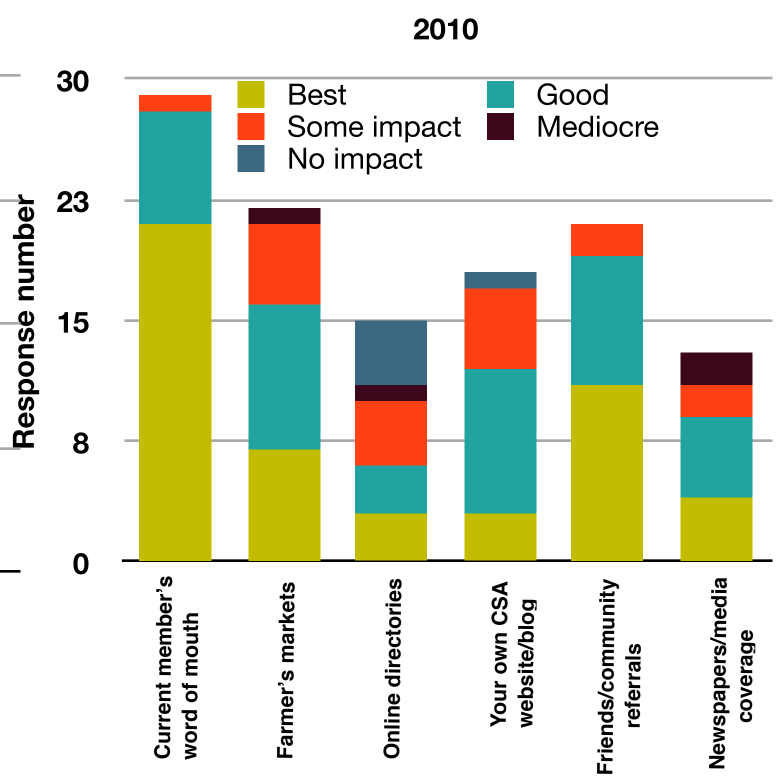
Marketing strategies

Most operators responded that *current members' word of mouth* was one of the best ways to market their CSAs and increase memberships (Fig. 11). Other promising avenues were *advertising at farmer's markets*, *participating in online directories*, increasing web presence through CSA *blogs and websites*, and getting *referrals from other members of the community* (Fig. 11). Some operators also used posters/ brochures.

Not many operators were utilizing *newspapers/media coverage*. Likewise, paid advertisements were infrequently used.

Some CSA operators also indicated that they have been increasing their public relations by speaking at events/ giving presentations and workshops. Also, designing a logo for the farm and creating signage (for stands and vehicles) is another way of circulating a producer's name.





CSA profitability

Fig. 12: What were your annual CSA related sales in 2012?

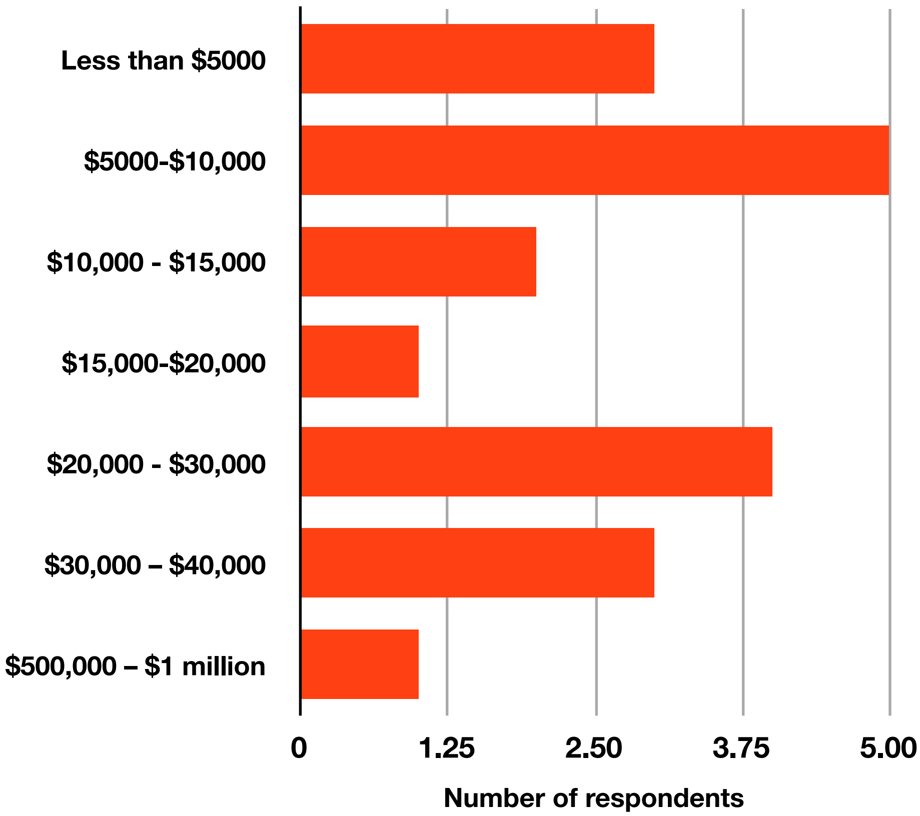
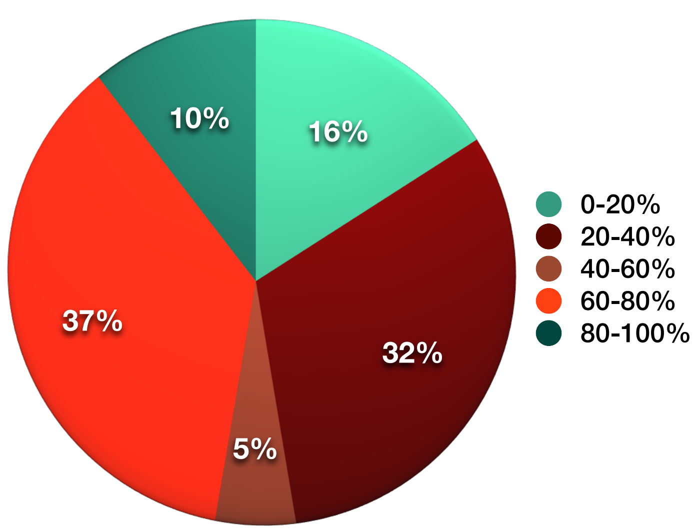


Fig. 13: What approximate percent of your net farm income does this represent?



Share prices

In 2012, the price of full shares ranged from $375-$450 for a 12-20 week membership to $500-$760 for a 21-30 week season. Half shares ranged from $200-$325 for a 12-20 week membership to $300-$400 for 21-30 weeks.

Sales

In 2012, CSA operators were asked what their annual CSA related sales were (Fig. 12). Of the 19 that answered, 7 respondents were earning between $20,000-$40,000 (36.8%; offering 70-120 memberships), 3 sold $10,000-$20,000 worth of goods (15.8%; offering ~40 or more CSA memberships) and 8 operators had annual sales of $10,000 or less (42%; offering typically less than 20 memberships). Only one operator was selling $500,000-$1 million worth of goods; this farm was operating year-round CSAs with 500+ members. Most operators said that this represented either 20-40% or 60-80% of their net farm income (Fig. 13).

Acreage

In 2012 operators were asked to indicate acreage in production and what percentage of it was designated to CSA operations. The most common answer was between 2-4 acres (one operator had 200 acres). Most of those surveyed indicated that currently 40-60% of their land was for CSA produce. It is estimated that for one acre of land 20-25 summer shares can be grown.

Supplemental markets

Close to a 100% of operators indicated that they sold their produce at the farmer's market for additional revenue. On-site sales were also conducted, but to a lesser degree. Other markets specified were wholesale, restaurants, health food stores/small retail outlets and crop share (growing for another farm stand).

Other models

Member interest

When asked in 2011 and 2012 if members were interested in other types of CSAs/bulk purchasing, a high proportion indicated “yes” or “maybe” to meat and fruit (Fig. 14). Members were also interested in fish, grains/dry goods, and baked goods – with preserves being the option of least interest (Fig. 14).

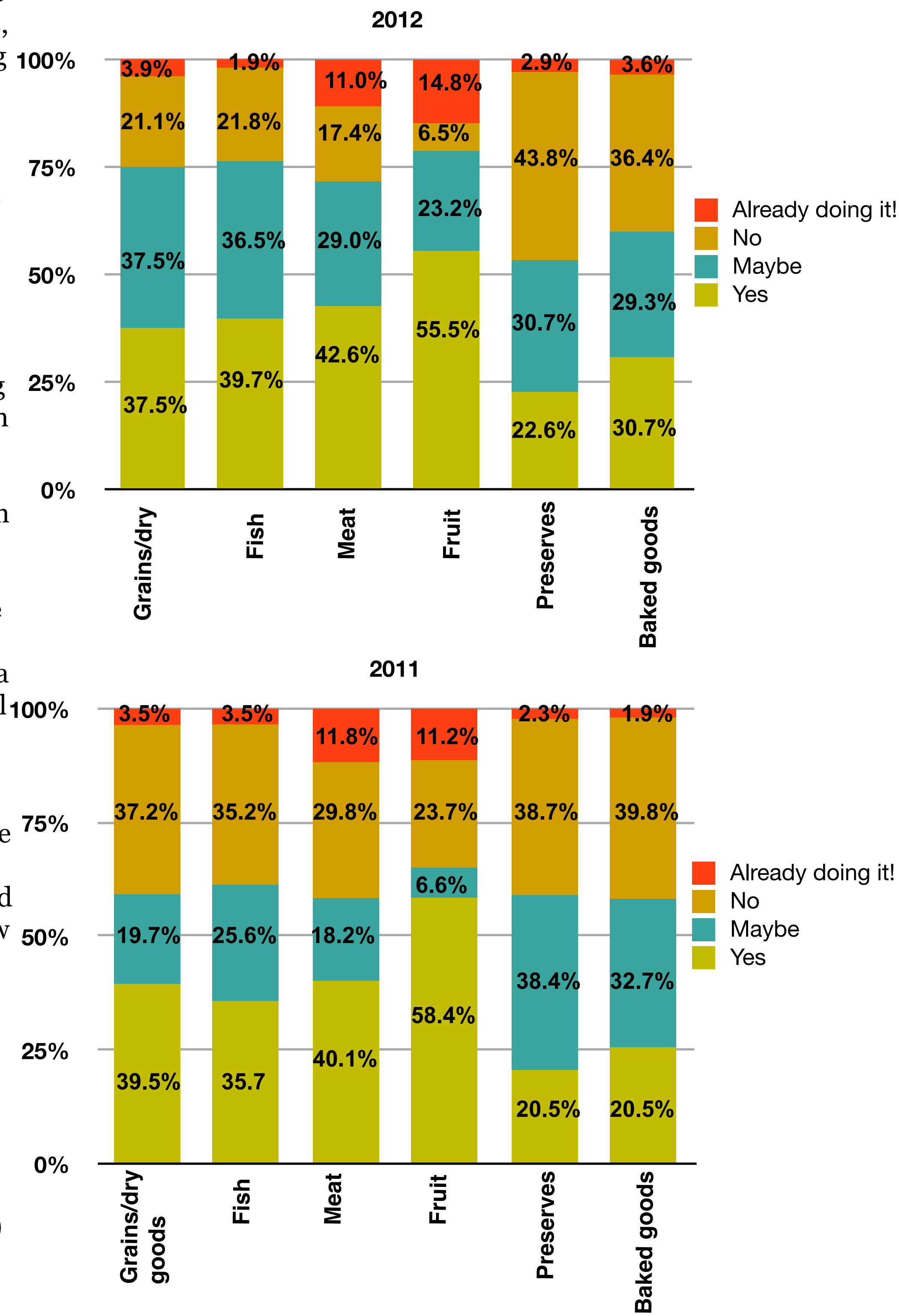
Low-income programs

This is a relatively unexplored addition to the CSA model (when asked if operators offered a program specific to those with low-income, very few did.) Understandably, CSA operators are trying to already make their memberships affordable while profiting themselves. This may not be an addition that CSA operators can accommodate. Rather, programs created by local organization/food banks may assist with this process. For instance, the Ecology Action Centre in NS teamed up with a family resource centre to pilot this type of project. Funds were raised via donations to support the purchasing of a CSA from a local farmer for confidential families (upon consultation with the resource centre) to ensure that healthy and local food could be enjoyed by all, regardless of income. Additionally, some farms offer work shares to assist individuals who cannot financially afford a share or are interested in learning how to grow food.

“CSB” and “CSF”

Community Supported Bakeries (CSB) and Community Supported Fisheries (CSF) are two other models being utilized. There is a bakery that runs a share program in Halifax, NS (Gold Island Bakery; bread delivered by bike) as well as Kingsville Farm in Cape Breton, which supplies weekly bread-bags for local customers. There are CSFs in both NS (Off the hook) and NB (Fundy North Fishermen's Association). It is apparent that these community shares can extend beyond the realm of the agriculture model (vegetables, fruit, livestock) and into other aspects of our food system.

Fig. 14: Are there any other types of CSAs or bulk purchasing you’d be interested in?



“CSR” / Pre-made meal shares

Share models have even extended beyond units of food to pre-made meals and Community Supported Restaurants (CSR). Two excellent examples of this are the Impossible Pie (pre-made meals ready for delivery in Hants County, with drop offs in Halifax) and The Townhouse restaurant, a CSR located in Antigonish. Both businesses either grow their ingredients and/or purchase locally from farms.

Future of CSAs and local food systems: Farmer perspectives

Operators offered their dreams and perspectives on the future of CSAs in Atlantic Canada. Untapped markets (schools, hospitals, work-places) were discussed, the need to invest in cooperative structures (like storage facilities, central selling areas) were noted, as well as emphasizing that CSAs can increase in economic viability. There was brainstorming on how to increase interest in CSAs (from both operators and members), including ideas for CSA mentoring programs (to encourage entrant operators but also ensure they are well-trained) and thoughts on developing a stronger CSA advertising network and database.

"CSAs can be the backbone of farming enterprises"

"The industry has much room for growth… especially in urban areas. We intend on increasing our farm sales significantly and CSA will remain approximately 80% of our gross. Within the next 4 years we intend to serve approximately 400 families. I would like to see the industry work together to ensure all CSAs offer good value and customer service. This will benefit all of us."

"I could see a model in the future for an opportunity to mentor other people who wanted to start direct marketing."

"I think we're missing out by not tapping into existing communities in a workplace. A partnership with a business or building that had a wellness plan could have potential. A secure semi-public place for a drop-off, employer subsidy to participate, good food on your lunch breaks, team building while weeding the carrots!"

"We could reverse the horrible food import ratio for the Maritimes and create an incredible extension support network for farms and consumers. I see our role as small scale producers, enthusiasts and community members sharing input and taking part in efforts to reach a more sustainable and secure food system."

"I would like to see the 'C' in 'CSA' broadened beyond a single season investment… to sustained structural investment in cooperative farm and farm- related businesses."

"Supporting and developing small local farms is the only way we're going to have local food! CSA is ideal for local food as there's no 'middleman', benefiting the farmer with more cash in pocket and the consumer with a direct relationship with the farmer- and so the opportunity to better understand what it takes. I hope my farm continues to be a CSA farm in the years to come; infrastructure is in place, location excellent, markets in place."

"It would be nice to see more home-grown food served in schools and hospitals. As more CSA's come on-line and competition forces farmers to diversify, eventually someone will push to enter these markets."

"I think we need to lobby government more…so that local producers can have access to items like storage facilities, central selling area (government aided) and marketing help."

"We are in need of a larger network for CSAs, like Equiterre is for Quebec."

Take away messages

An interest in increased collaboration

Many current CSA operators indicate their interest in an increased collaboration to ensure that the calibre of CSAs remains high. This includes providing mentoring programs for entrant CSA operators and investments in cooperative farm structures, like storage facilities. This collaboration would not only include current and future CSA operators but also local environmental organizations and government institutions.

Collaborative CSAs (cCSA) also exist. This model is different than single proprietor operations because it includes a group of producers collaborating in providing goods to its members (Flora & Bregendahl 2012). While most farms/businesses work together informally, the cCSA is a more formal means of shared communication, decision-making and production. An example scenario: a farm may not have enough land (or the means for extensive nutrient replenishment for heavy-feeding crops) to grow certain vegetables (example: potatoes). Therefore, they might want to form a cCSA with a farm that does (sharing costs/benefits and growing vegetables that are most suitable for their respective properties.)

ACORN

About ACORN:

The Atlantic Canadian Organic Regional Network (ACORN) is a membership-based non-profit organization that strives to connect and educate Atlantic Canada on organic food. We aspire to link all aspects of the food process – from seeds to farmers to consumers.

Since 2000 we have accomplished this by being a source of information on organic agriculture, promoting the organic food sector and building connections between consumers and organic farmers in the Atlantic region.

We strongly advocate the strengthening of local food systems through a unified regional network.

Join today and help shape the face of organics in Atlantic Canada!

www.acornorganic.org

CSAs: a sustainable business

CSAs can be a profitable endeavor, depending on number of shares offered and memberships purchased. Most operators agree that this could act as a backbone for many farm businesses. There are untapped markets and room for further growth in CSA models, which extends beyond agriculture to other food-products as well.

Lets develop larger networks!

We hope this report has succeeded in its aim to inspire and provide perspective on the trends of CSA operations in our region. The goal is to assist in the continued growth of this market, as well as offer a guide to beginner CSA operators. As CSA members, operators and supporters, let's work together to develop a larger network while increasing awareness and interest in this important local food system.

Resources/Networks

http://www.equiterre.org/en
http://www.organicpricetracker.ca/
http://www.fmc-gac.com/home
http://www.foodsofthefundyvalley.ca/
DeMuth 1993: http://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/pubs/csa/at93-02.shtml
Flora & Bregendahl 2012: http://ijsaf.org/archive/19/3/flora_bregendahl.pdf
http://adventuresinlocalfood.wordpress.com/

Acknowledgements

We would like to thank the work of our local producers for developing stronger food systems through many avenues, including their quality CSAs! We greatly appreciate the time CSA members and CSA operators gave; this report would not be possible without your cooperation. We look forward to working with you in the future to build a stronger network of CSAs.

Release date: April 2013

CSA farm listings

Find a CSA near you! Below we've listed names of some producers in the Atlantic region, categorized by province.

New Brunswick

Alva Farm
Amarosia Organic
Back Acre Farm
Bantry Bay Farm
Chestnut Acres Ltd.
Hope Farm
Jemseg River Farms
Les Jardins du Berceau
Natural Grown Food CSA
Nature's Route Farm
Peaceful Mountain Organics
Strawberry Hill Farm
Sunshine Miles Farm

Prince Edward Island

Crystal Green Farms
Fortune Organics
Jen and Derek's Farm
Olde MacKenzie Farm
Shepherd's Farm Organics

Newfoundland

Eastport Organics
Growdat Farm
Seed to Spoon Worker Cooperative
The Organic Farm

Nova Scotia

Abundant Acres
Bruce Family Farm
Cochrane Family Farm
Emily teBogt's Produce
Good Lake Farm
Grass Roots Up
Highland Farm
Horse and Garden Organic Farm
Hutten Family Farm
Lafrayere Gardens
Lake City Farm
Localmotive Farm
Ironwood
Moon Fire Farm
Nature's Script Farm
Olde Furrow Farm
Scenic Valley Farm
Shani's Farm
Snowy River Farms
Southfield Organics
Taproot Farms
Vista Bella Farm
Waldegrave Farm
Watershed Farm
Waxwing Farm
Whippletree Farm
Wild Mountain Farm
Wild Rose Farm
Wysmykal Farm