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How do eaters take into account the climatic impact of food?

Taking climate change seriously requires a profound review of our lifestyles, on an individual and collective scale. In order to comply with the Paris Agreements, we would have to divide our carbon footprint by 5 by 2050, i.e. reduce emissions from all sectors. In terms of food, most of the emissions come from animal husbandry, which encourages us to reinvent our food practices. This reduction in the consumption of animal products has been referred to in the literature as a food transition.

But while such a change may seem a priori less complex than massive work on our infrastructures or the insulation of our housing, it is in fact not so obvious. Certain sociological works (theory of social practices) encourage us to look at food practices and what they are composed of: the images (e.g. norms), skills and tools that make up these practices, in order to go beyond the individual perspective often favoured for analyzing changes in behavior. Such changes can only be envisaged on the basis of a global understanding of the factors that make up eating practices.

The preponderant place of meat in our food culture (carnocentrism) makes the dietary transition delicate. In order to study the conditions of possibility of the food transition, an approach through practices that allow to observe the images and skills related to meat and its preparation. Such an approach makes it possible to consider perspectives that could facilitate this transition, ranging from symbols attached to meat to normative and nutritional dimensions.



Main organizers