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End-of-life and waste management in life cycle assessment
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Food Waste and the Myth of Packaging Impact

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- Packaging often seen as a big contributor to the environmental impact of food products
- But LCA studies have shown that for most food products and most environmental indicators, the negative impact of packaging production and disposal is often negligible compared to the **positive impact from preventing food loss**
- Sustainable packaging design should aim at finding packaging solutions that will **decrease the total environmental impact of packaged goods**

Food loss vs. packaging impact



- The impact of food waste occurs both through additional volume of waste to treat and **additional food volume to produce**
- Between a quarter and a half of the global food supply is wasted
- **Roughly 1 in every 3 calories produced in the world ends up being wasted**
- Totally avoidable waste in the European Union's 27 represents about 10-15% of total waste in the supply chain
- Manufacturing food waste was estimated at almost 35 million tons per year in the EU27 (70kg per capita)

Quantifying global food waste



- Waste reduction is more and more considered a strategic issue by the private food sector
 - **Directly linked to resource management and cost savings**
- In order to optimize waste reduction efforts, it is important to **measure waste hotspots** along the supply chain
- There is also an urgent need to better model food loss in life cycle studies
- **Carbonostics**, the smart lifecycle tool for food products, allows users to capture waste at every stage of a product's lifecycle and to assess the impact of food loss along the supply chain

Waste measurement strategic for food industry



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Dashboard > **Pâtés de campagne Hénaff**

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Graph Settings

Chart Style



Stacked Bar



Grouped Bar



Pie



Points

Measures to Graph

CO2e emissions

Cost

Calories

Protein

Fat

Carbs

Sodium

Sugar

Options:

Show percents

Overlay CO2e and Cost


Combine CO2e and Cost

Orientation: Normal Flipped

Group By

Raw material categories (dairy, fruit, etc.)

Supply chain phase (sourcing, shipping, etc.)

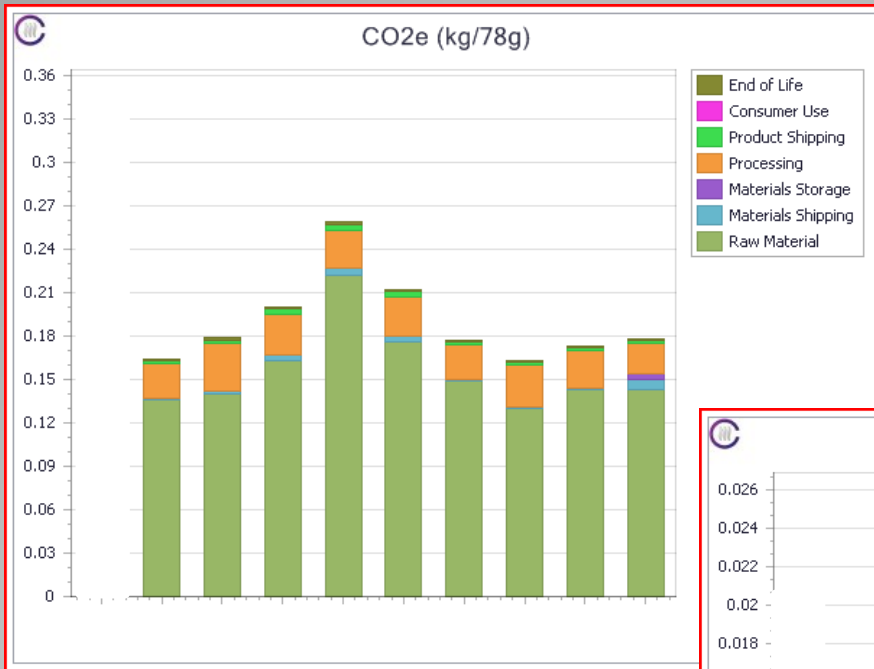
From waste only 

Nutritional categories (protein, fat, carbs)

No category

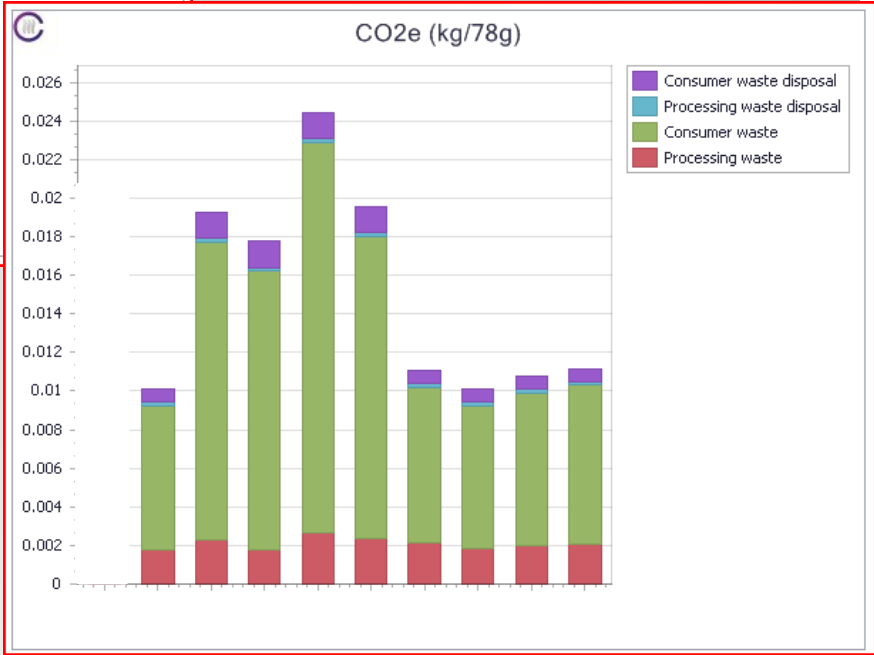
Scenarios

Carbonostics: waste graph option

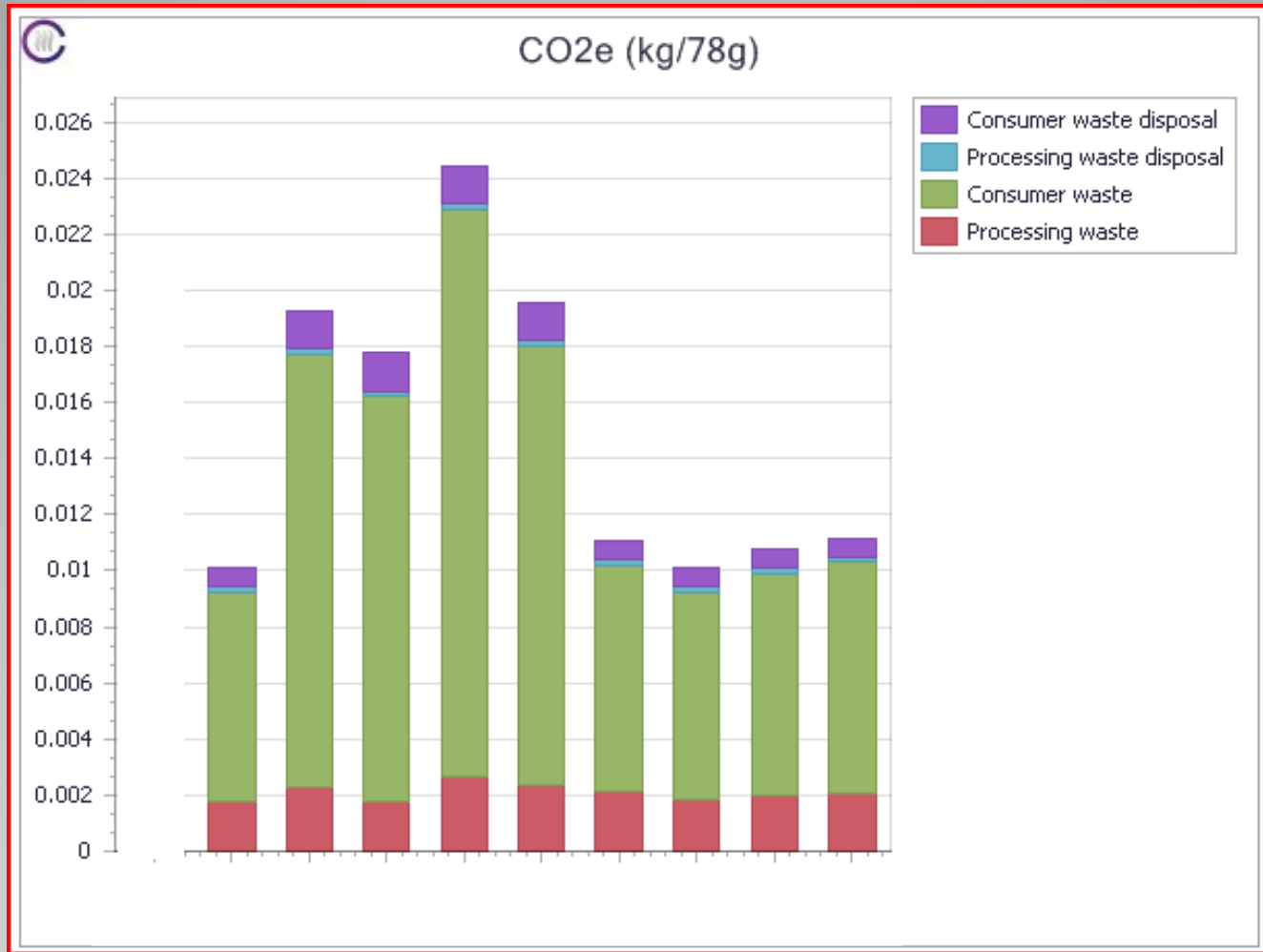


Total product footprint

Waste footprint



Total footprint vs. waste footprint



Categories in waste footprint

Thank you for your attention. Questions ?

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