

Study on food waste and consumer behavior in Moldavian households

Dimitrie Stoica

Micu A-E.*

Maria Basarab

Adrian Micu

Maricica Stoica.

„Dunărea de Jos” University of Galati, Galati 800008, Romania

Food waste is one of the biggest challenges today. It can occur at every point of the agri-food supply chain, from farm to final consumption (mainly at the public food services and households). The households are responsible for a significant amount of food waste, being influenced by a number of factors (e.g. household size and type, improper shopping planning, cooking, age, gender, education, professional status, income, etc.). The aim of this study was to carry out an investigation in the Moldavian households in order to identify the opinion of consumers regarding food waste. To do this, a number of 200 respondents from Republic of Moldova were interviewed using an online designed survey. A vast majority of surveyed participants (90%) makes shopping lists, following the need for consumption; they do not buy on impulse. The most of respondents (about 91%) prepare meals at home. Another interesting aspect identified is the fact that they do not throw away uneaten food, more than half (52%) saving the leftover for feeding domestic animals, while 48% reuse of the leftover to prepare new food or freeze it to consume later. As expected, the surveyed Moldavians appear to waste less food.

Biography

DIMITRIE STOICA is PhD Student at Doctoral School of Socio-Human Sciences, Domain Management, within „Dunărea de Jos” University of Galati - Romania. He is coauthor for 3 book chapters published by Springer (first author for two of these). He presented/published around 28 papers in international conferences, and published around 8 papers (two ISI articles with impact factor 9.29 and 4.46; and 6 BDI articles). He is also coauthor for a patent application, receiving numerous awards (gold and silver medals, special prizes at invention saloons). A big part of his research was focusing on food engineering, food waste management, food packaging.

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***Corresponding author:** Dimitrie Stoica, Micu A-E.*, Maria Basarab, Adrian Micu, Maricica Stoica. „Dunărea de Jos” University of Galati, Galati 800008, Romania

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