



Food Loss in Flanders

Drivers

Part of the FOLOU activities is the identification and mapping of the main drivers for food loss generation¹. These are categorised into the following categories:

- A. Behavioural: Human or individual factors in place within the farm boundaries, which can be categorised as the presence or absence of motivations, perceptions and beliefs, knowledge, skills and abilities that lead agricultural operators to cause food losses (e.g. harvesting techniques, knowledge).
- B. Societal: Factors that come from external human sources of socio-cultural, economic, technical, political and regulatory nature and that influence or condition the behaviour and decisions of farm operators. These factors are beyond the direct control of people and can influence food losses (e.g. market price, standards & regulations, coordination & cooperation, supply chain capacity, overproduction).
- C. Environmental: Environmental factors that have a consequence on food losses generation (e.g. climate and weather conditions, pests and diseases).

The following Table lists the number of reasons driving food loss in Flanders under the sources that were identified by the FOLOU project. More information on drivers in Belgium can be found in the Deliverable 2.2².

Table 6: Food Loss drivers in Flanders per commodity category

Commodity Category	Driver
Fish and Fisheries Products	survival rate, discard due to size and age of fish, low commercial value of fish (e.g. for dogfish)
Roots, Tubers and Oil Crops	Mechanical losses (e.g. oversized tuber)

¹ As is produced in the Deliverable 2.1: https://www.folou.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/D2.1_Standard_protocol_vF.pdf

² https://www.folou.eu/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/D2.2_ReportreviewFLdrivers_VF.pdf