

It's hard to practice what you preach

How people fit urban food into the daily meal

April 2012, Esther Veen and Petra Derkzen



'When you have a garden, you eat from it'

- Theoretical background
- Methods
- Results
- Analysis
- Discussion



Theoretical background



Motivations not straightforward

- Doing things differently
- Trade-offs in daily life
- Context



Theory of practices

- Structure and agency
- Routine and consciousness



Food provisioning practices

How does food growing fit in the
rhythm of everyday life?



Methods



Case studies show different situations

- Participant observations
- Semi-structured interviews
- Questionnaires



	Witte Vlieg	Bioakker	Doarpstún	Windhoek
City (people)	Assen (± 65.000)	Zutphen (± 47.000)	Leeuwarden (± 97.000)	Almere (± 191.500)
People involved	± 8 participants	± 144 members	± 180 donors	± 120 gardeners
Starting year	1995	2009	2001	1980
System	Sharing work and harvest	Harvest yourself	Run by volunteers, garden shop	Allotments
Survey	-	61	48	81
Interview	10	13	3	8



The Doarpstún



NEDERLAND



The Witte Vlieg

The Bioakker



The Windhoek



Results



Working is eating



- Responsibility creates routine
- Procuring food is result



Deliberate choices harder



- Garden extra stop
- Shopping efficiently



Social elements



- Working as a group
- Support the garden
- Social activities
- Sharing



Analysis

Three different
practices



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1. Gardening practice

- Enjoying
- Commitment
- Time not an issue
- Food follows



2. Food procuring practice

- Several venues
- Efficiency
- Extra time needed
- Routine



Social practice

- Garden as meeting place
- Visiting for social activities



Discussion

It's hard to practice
what you preach



Important questions

- What is relevant 'urban agriculture'?
- What values are attached to that?



Thanks!
Any questions?



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