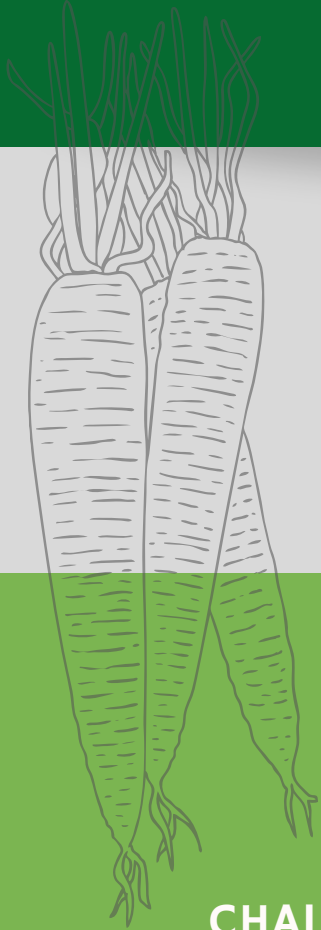


COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE IN THE UK THE CURRENT PICTURE



PEOPLE AND LAND

- 89% of CSAs feel robust and able to adapt to unexpected changes
- On average 3.19 hectares of land
- 35% started trading since the pandemic in 2020
- The CSAs produce food for on average 66 households
- 74% were affected by adverse weather conditions in the last year
- CSAs farm agroecologically and produce a diverse range including vegetables, salads and herbs (3/4 CSAs), fruit (1/2 CSAs), eggs, meat, dairy, honey, herbs, flowers, wheat and bread

ACHIEVEMENTS

“Producing food in northern Scotland for 40 weeks of the year with no support from local authority or Scottish government.”

“Increasing to 50 shares (from 20) and taking them all through the year, as well as some wonderful community events, camp-outs and open days.”

CHALLENGES

CSAs biggest concerns moving forward include not having enough time or labour (27% of CSAs), extreme weather events (20%), insufficient finances and paying a living wage (24%) and retaining and attracting members (20%) while the cost of living rises.

WIDER IMPACTS

- 65% CSAs donate food to food banks or similar
- All our CSAs support volunteers
- UK CSA farms support over 120,000 farm visits a year
- CSAs hire on average 1.33 FTE staff. On average CSAs hire 2x more workers per hectare than the UK horticultural sector as a whole*
- Only 17% of CSAs own the land they farm compared to half as a national agricultural average**



230+ CSA FARMS IN THE UK OF WHICH 190 ARE
CSA NETWORK UK FARM MEMBERS
FEEDING 15,000+ HOUSEHOLDS EACH WEEK

The entire sale price goes to the CSA farm compared to the UK farm average of 41%**

Involvement in a CSA has significant mental health benefits

A survey of members of our CSA farms found 82% feel that being involved in a CSA has improved their quality of life, 79% feel it improved their cooking and eating habits

This document was created using data from our UK CSA member survey 2024 and 2022 and statistics from Defra.

*[https://www.farminguk.com/content/knowledge/Agricultural-Workforce-in-the-UK\(5677-4829-6761-769\).pdf](https://www.farminguk.com/content/knowledge/Agricultural-Workforce-in-the-UK(5677-4829-6761-769).pdf)

**https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/834432/evidence-compendium-26sep19.pdf