

The high price of cheap food

The controversial American film *Food Inc.*, released last summer, said that the way we eat has 7 more in the past 50 years than it had in the previous 10,000. They say that in recent years food producers have concentrated on making food faster, fatter, bigger and cheaper. Scientists now realise that the emphasis has been wrong.



Sir David King, who used to be the Chief Scientific Adviser to the government, said in a recent lecture that food production has to be looked at for its impact on climate change and how much land, water and energy it uses. Cheap food is often not cheap for the environment. Cheap burgers, 8, are only possible because of deforestation. In the film *Food*



Inc. a mother pointed out that it was cheaper for her to buy two burgers than 1lb of vegetables, yet it cost the environment much more to produce the burgers.

There is also the problem of a growing population. It is predicted that by 2050 there will be nine billion people living on earth. They all have to be fed. We have to grow the right foods to keep that number of people healthy without ruining the environment. Sir David says we need to 9 cheap food and think about what the real cost is. We need to change what we buy and what we eat in order to 10 our carbon footprint¹⁾ and eat healthily, and we need to produce food with a better nutritional value rather than just more of it.

Environmentalists say it is within our own power to make a real difference. We can eat more locally grown fruit and vegetables when they are in season, and by being more careful about what we put in our supermarket trolleys we can use our buying power to encourage food producers to produce better food.

thenewspaper.org.uk, 2010

noot 1 carbon footprint: our impact on the environment

Tekst 3 The high price of cheap food

Kies bij iedere open plek in de tekst het juiste antwoord uit de gegeven mogelijkheden.

1p 7

- A changed
- B cost
- C improved

1p 8

- A as a result
- B by contrast
- C for instance
- D on top of that

1p 9

- A accept
- B consume
- C reconsider
- D redistribute

1p 10

- A defend
- B emphasise
- C ignore
- D increase
- E lower

Bronvermelding

Een opsomming van de in dit examen gebruikte bronnen, zoals teksten en afbeeldingen, is te vinden in het bij dit examen behorende correctievoorschrift, dat na afloop van het examen wordt gepubliceerd.