

Food miles

Recent years have seen not only an increased interest _____ freshness of what we eat but _____ where the food was actually grown. This is because ecologists have pointed out that the distance the food _____ travelled to arrive in the supermarket or greengrocer has an important influence _____ the environment. The term 'food miles' was invented as a way _____ measuring _____ distance a food has _____ transported until it reaches the dining table. For example, a shopper in London may _____ prepared to pay a relatively high price _____ Japanese prawns that have been caught and flown over _____ the same morning. However, this badly damages the environment _____ the plane and the lorry _____ have delivered the prawns have polluted the environment. Research that has been carried out _____ environmental groups has found that the environmental cost of food is more _____ 15 million euros a year. _____ food miles make up only one part _____ the total cost of food production, they should be taken _____ consideration in any discussion on the future of the world _____ which we live.

What are food miles?

Food miles are the distance your food has to travel to get from the grower to your plate.

Boat carries the equivalent of 4 gallons of fuel per ton mile. (about 2,000 miles)

Truck carries the equivalent of 14 gallons of fuel per ton mile. (about 1,000 miles)

Plane carries the equivalent of 3700 lbs of fuel per ton mile. (about 1,000 miles)

Car carries each about 3700 lbs of carbon per ton mile. (about 1,000 miles)

Check food labels for country of origin!



