

## Structuring initiatives on edible insects in Quebec.

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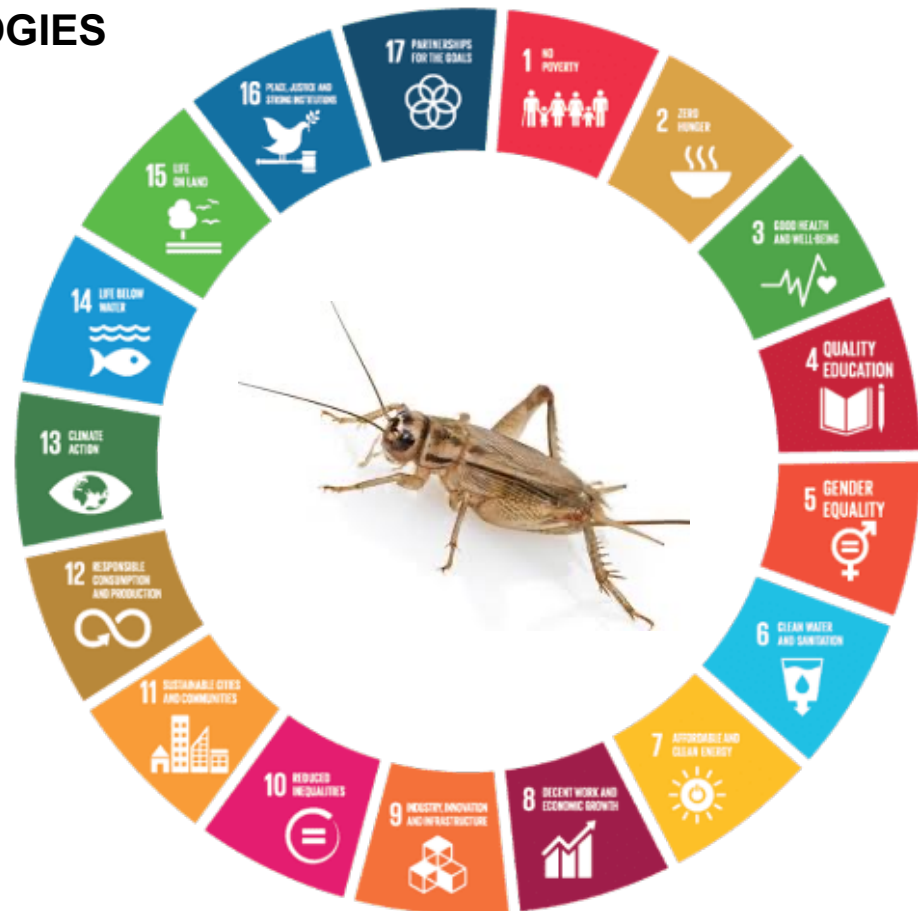
Leadership Chair in Edible Insect Production and Processing at Université Laval (CLEIC: <https://cleic.fsa.ulaval.ca>).

President of the table filière des insectes comestibles du Québec (<https://insectescomestibles.ca>)

## ENTOMOPHAGY & ENTO(MO)TECHNOLOGIES

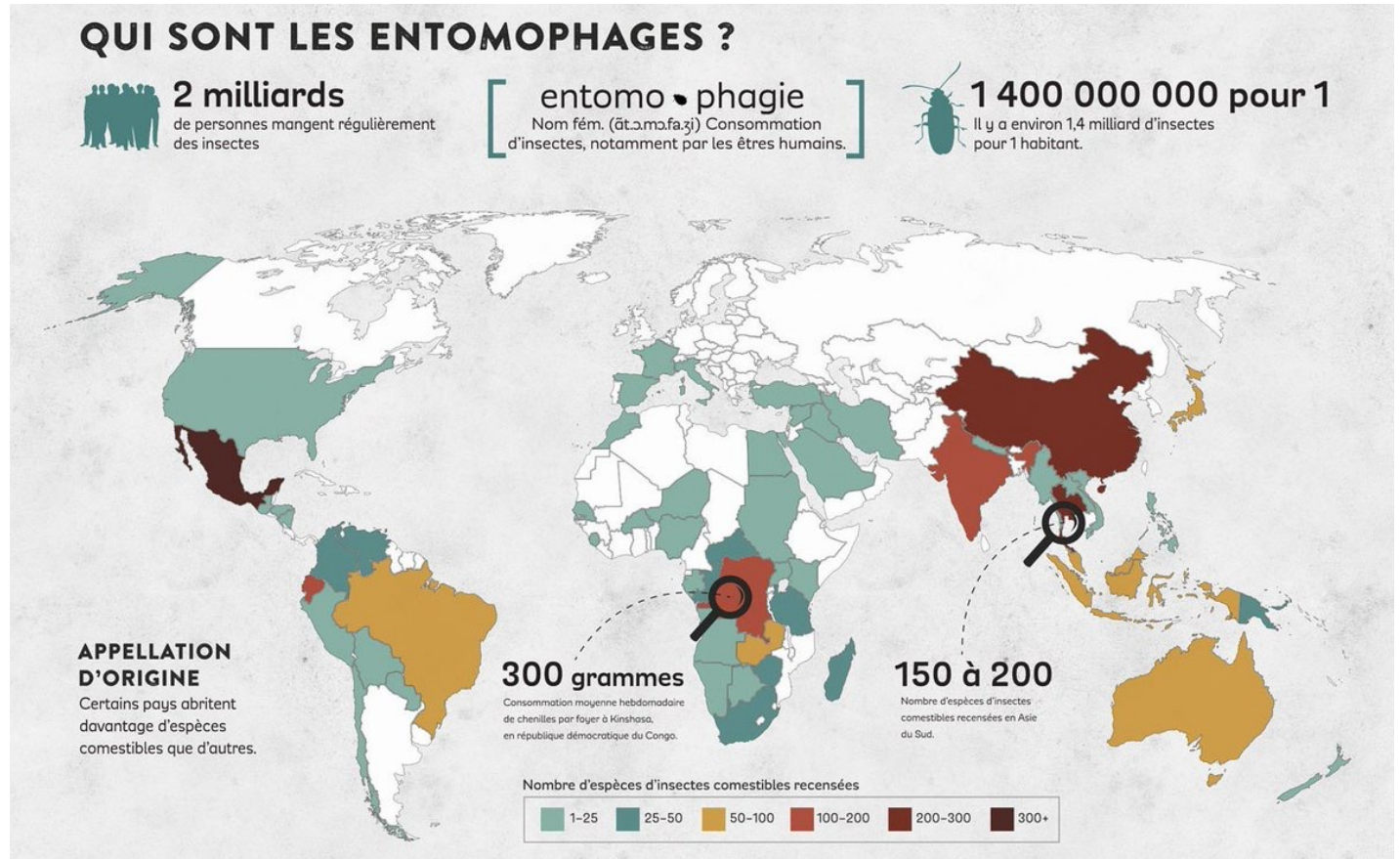
CONTRIBUTE DIRECTLY TO THE ACHIEVEMENT OF THE UNITED NATIONS (UN) SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT TARGETS BY 2030.

- 01 - Fighting poverty
- 02 - Reduce hunger
- 03 - Improve health and well-being
- 06 - Clean water and sanitation
- 08 - Decent work and economic growth
- 12 - Responsible consumption and production
- 13 - Combating climate change
- 14 - Preservation of aquatic life
- 15 - Preservation of terrestrial life

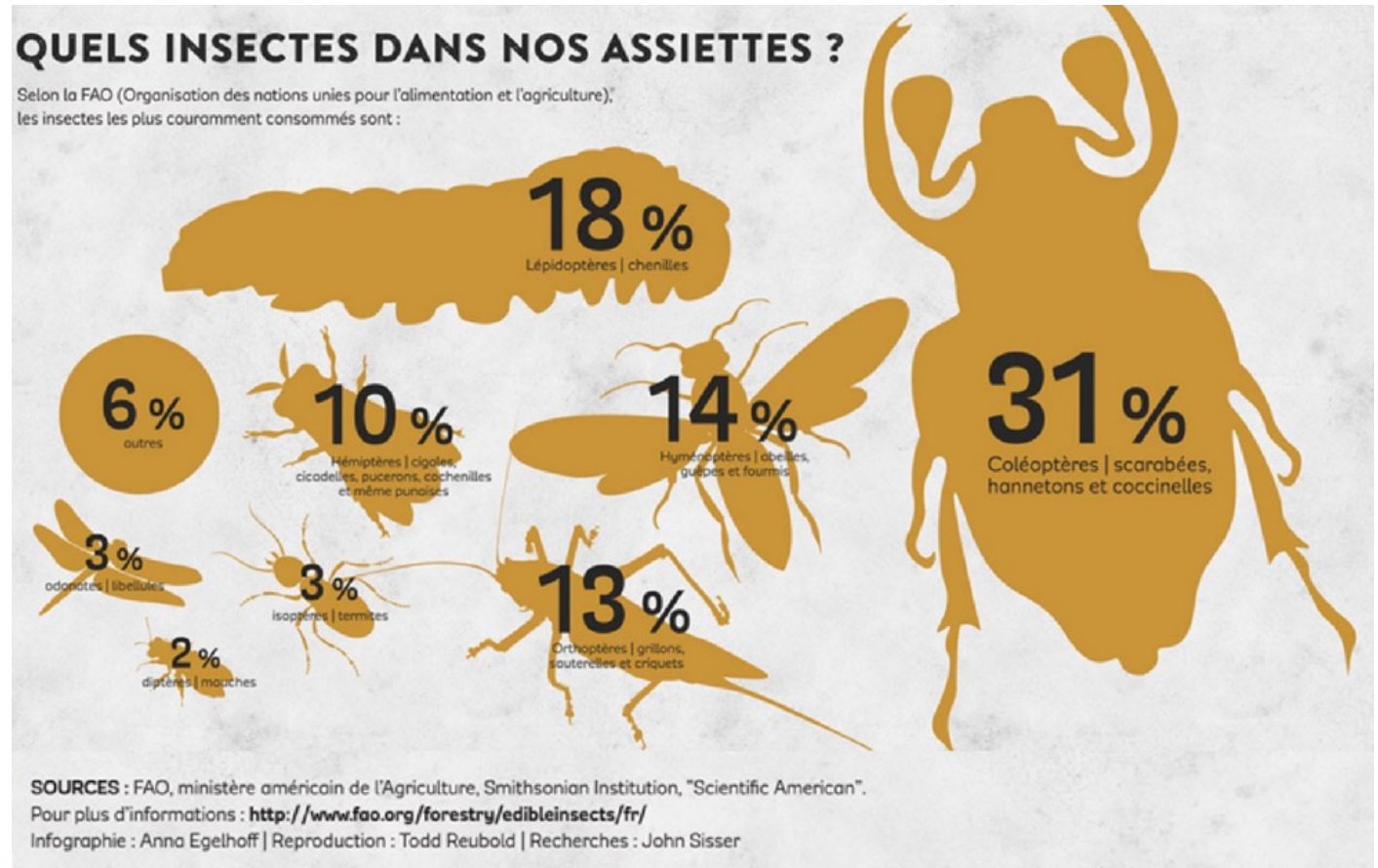


*Tiré de 17 objectifs pour sauver le monde, ONU 2021*

# ENTOMOPHAGY



# ENTOMOPHAGY





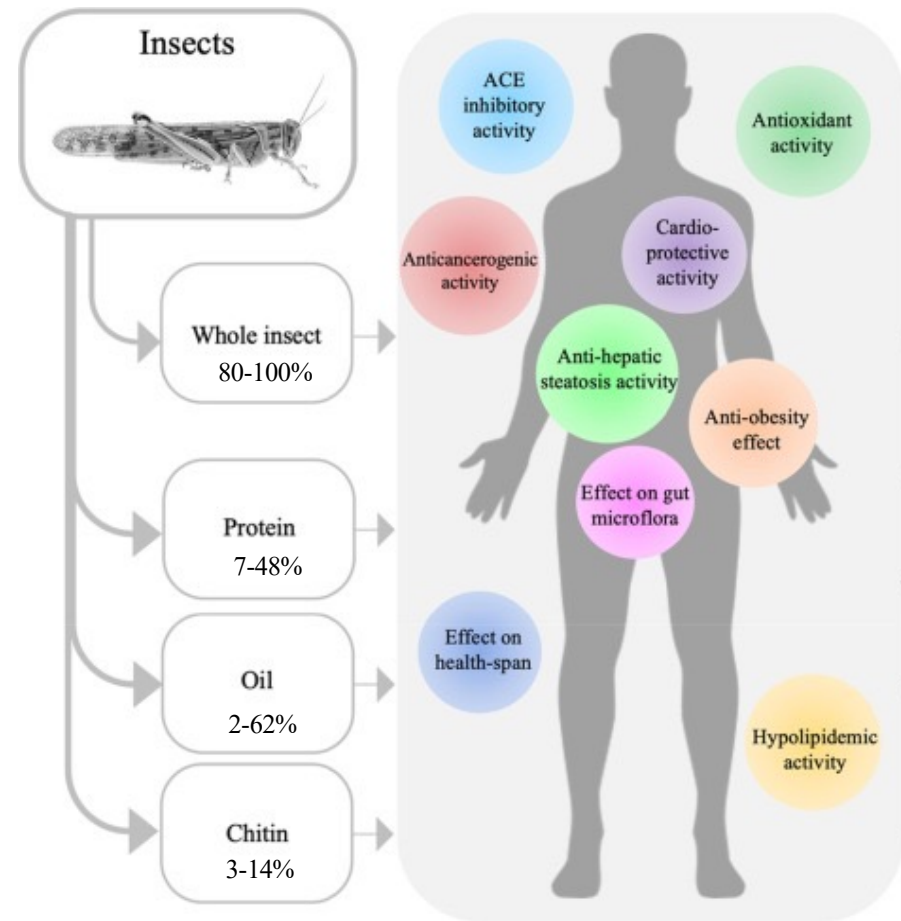
## BENEFITS OF INSECT FOODS

### NUTRITIOUS FOOD

- High in protein
- Fatty acid profiles similar to vegetable oils or animal fats
- Rich in unsaturated fatty acids in many species
- Cholesterol levels comparable to other conventional meat sources
- Rich in minerals (iron, copper, manganese and zinc)
- Rich in vitamins (riboflavin - B2, pantothenic acid - B5, biotin - B7)

### FUNCTIONAL FOODS (PROMOTE HEALTH)

- Antihypertensive (e.g. Angiotensin converting enzyme)
- Antioxidant (ex. phenolic compounds)
- Cardio-protective (e.g. median indices of arthrogenericity and thrombogenicity)
- Anti-carcinogenic (e.g.: alkaloids, chitin, ...)
- Anti-obesity



## ENTOMOPHAGY

Humans have been collecting and producing a myriad of insects for food since time immemorial.

In North America, 90 species of insects have been traditionally consumed by indigenous peoples.

*Schrader et al., 2016*

The future of entomophagy will be through mass production of insects, not through traditional harvesting practices.



# INSECT PRODUCTION AND ECOLOGICAL FOOTPRINT

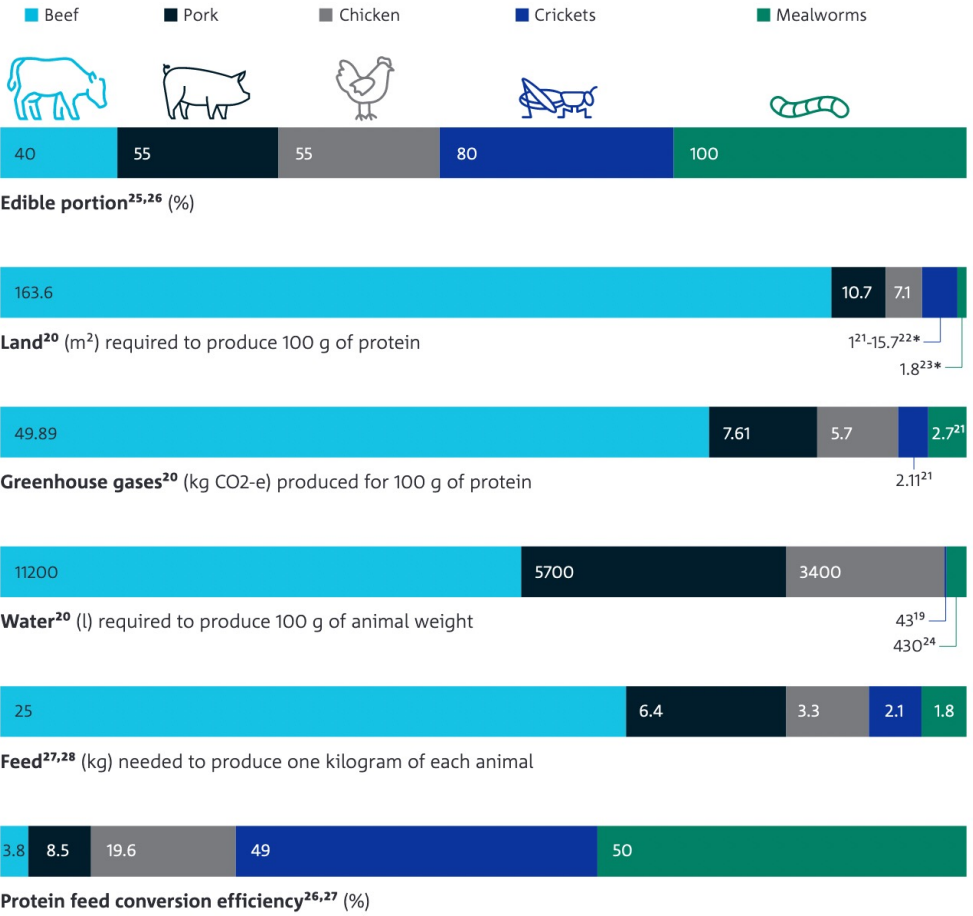


Figure 5: Environmental footprint of crickets and mealworms compared to conventional farmed animals.  
 \*Land usage for crickets and mealworms is much lower than conventional farmed animals, since they can be stacked vertically other in industrial warehouses.



# TACKLING FOOD WASTE

**save FOOD**  
Study conducted for the International Congress  
**SAVE FOOD!**  
at Interpack2011  
Dasselndorf, Germany

**GLOBAL  
FOOD  
LOSSES  
AND  
FOOD  
WASTE**

EXTENT,  
CAUSES AND  
PREVENTION

**REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE**

Characterization and Management of  
**Food Loss and Waste**  
in North America

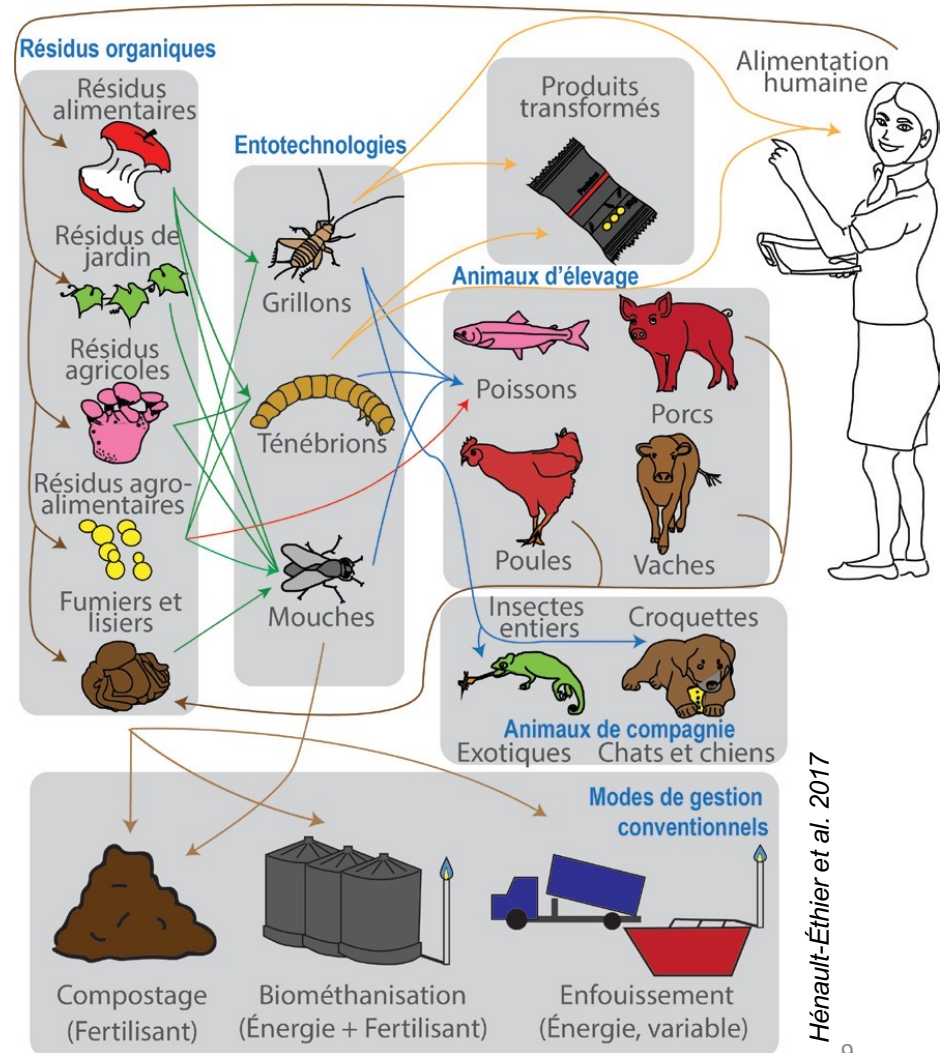
Post-harvest Food Production    Food Processing    Distribution    Retail    Food-service

**White Paper**

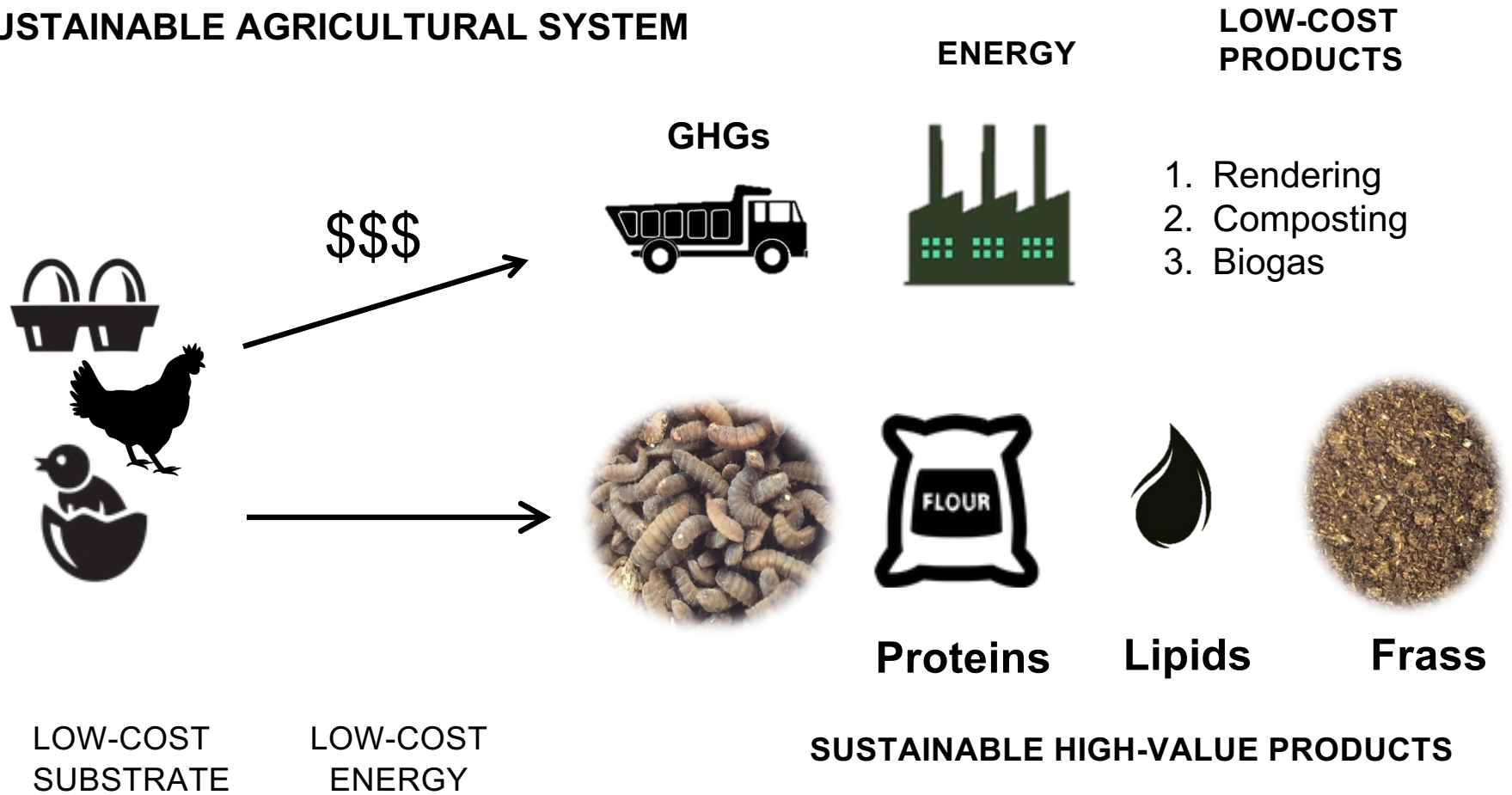


## REINTEGRATING INSECTS INTO THE FOOD PRODUCTION CHAIN

- Alternative to conventional waste management of organic matter
- Production of animal proteins with low environmental footprint
- Production of alternative quality food for animals and humans

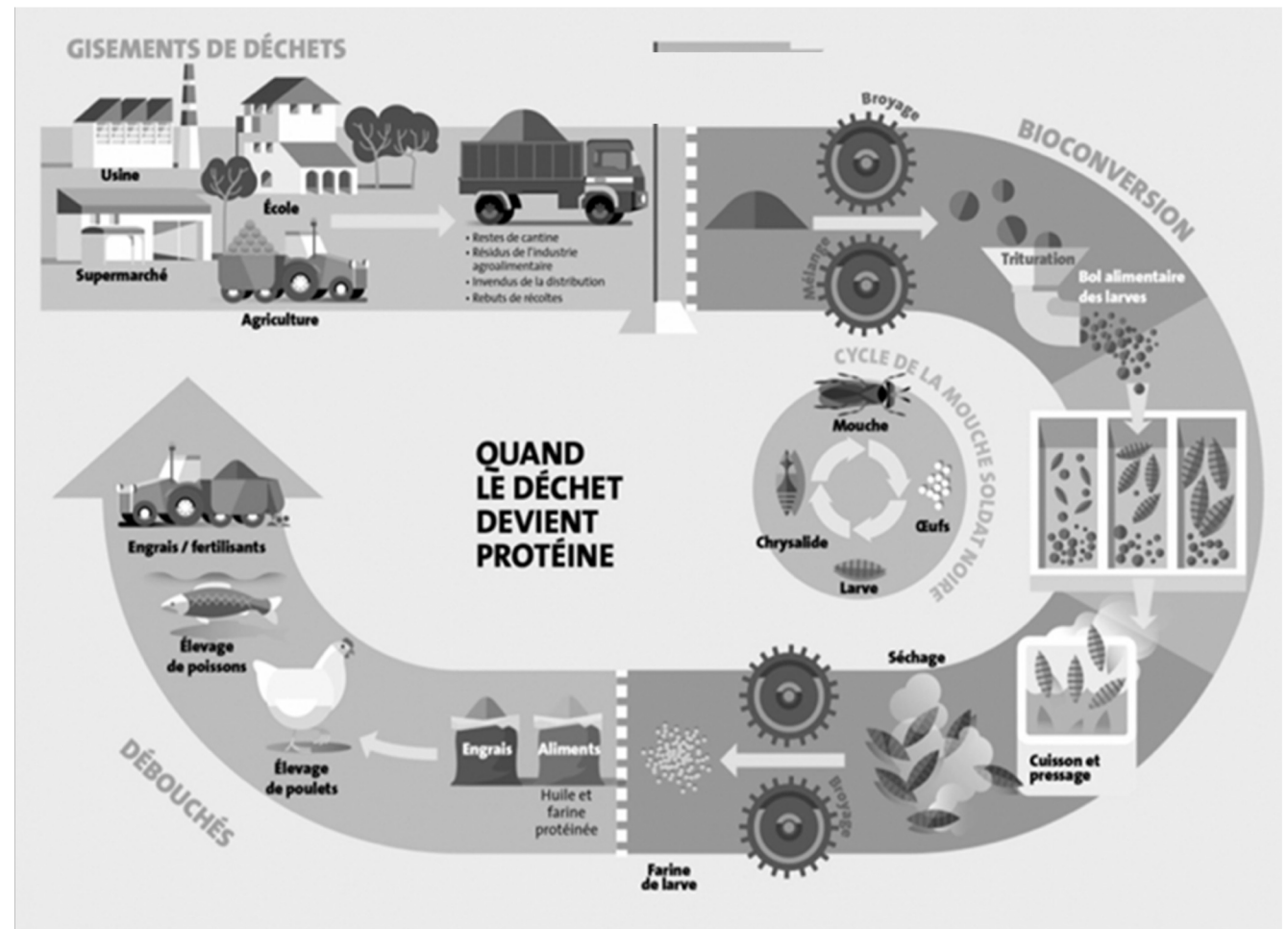


# SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL SYSTEM



## IMPLEMENTATION OF NEW CIRCULAR ECONOMY MODELS

- Produce agricultural products using minimal external inputs
- Close nutrient loops and reduce negative environmental discharges
- Valorize agri-food waste



## SUSTAINABILITY OF INPUTS

### CHOICE OF INSECT FEEDS

- Total abundance
- Spatial disponibility
- Collection and transport system
- Seasonal variations
- Economic value
- Potential for other value-added products
- Nutritional quality
- Homogeneity
- Physical, chemical or biological risks (e.g. contaminants)

| TYPE DE DÉCHETS ORGANIQUES POUR L'ALIMENTATION DES INSECTES   | ÉLEVAGE D'INSECTES DESTINÉS À LA CONSOMMATION |         | DÉFIS OU BÉNÉFICES         |                                     |          |                         |                      |                 |                           |                                       |   |                        |             |                                       |   |                      |
|---|---|---------|----------------------------|-------------------------------------|----------|-------------------------|----------------------|-----------------|---------------------------|---------------------------------------|---|------------------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|---|----------------------|
|   | Humaine                                       | Animale | Abondance totale (tonnage) | Volume/Concentration par générateur | Collecte | Variations saisonnières | Non récolté au champ | Gisement urbain | Faible coût d'acquisition | Déjà réutilisé (alimentation animale) | Déjà recyclé (compostage ou biométhanisation) | Qualité nutritionnelle | Homogénéité | Contaminants biologiques (pathogènes) | Autres contaminants (corps étrangers, toxiques) | Présence d'emballage |
| Résidus résidentiels mixtes (alimentaire résidentiel et résidus de jardin)  | -   | +       | ●                          | ●                                   | ●        | ●                       | ■                    | ●               | ●                         | ■                                     | ●   | ●                      | ●           | ●                                     | ●   | ●                    |
| Résidus ICI préconsommation (ex. : résidus de préparation de repas)   | +   | ++      | ●                          | ●                                   | ●        | ●                       | ■                    | ●               | ●                         | ●                                     | ●   | ●                      | ●           | ●                                     | ●   | ●                    |
| Résidus ICI postconsommation (ex. : restes d'assiettes en restaurant)   | -   | +       | ●                          | ●                                   | ●        | ●                       | ■                    | ●               | ●                         | ■                                     | ●   | ●                      | ●           | ●                                     | ●   | ●                    |
| Résidus de mise en marché des aliments (ex. : détaillants, distributeurs, etc.)   | ++  | ++      | ●                          | ●                                   | ●        | ●                       | ■                    | ●               | ●                         | ●                                     | ●   | ●                      | ●           | ●                                     | ●   | ●                    |
| Résidus issus de l'agriculture urbaine (ex. : serres, champignonnières, sans les résidus de jardin, etc.)               | ++  | ++      | ●                          | ●                                   | ●        | ●                       | ■                    | ●               | ●                         | ●                                     | ●   | ●                      | ●           | ●                                     | ●   | ●                    |
| Produits agricoles hors catégorie selon les normes de l'industrie agroalimentaire (ex. : légumes moches, non standards) | +++   | +++     | ●                          | ●                                   | ●        | ●                       | ■                    | ●               | ●                         | ●                                     | ●   | ●                      | ●           | ●                                     | ●   | ●                    |
| Résidus industriels agroalimentaires (ex. : farine, levures, lies, etc.)  | +++   | +++     | ●                          | ●                                   | ●        | ●                       | ■                    | ●               | ●                         | ●                                     | ●   | ●                      | ●           | ●                                     | ●   | ●                    |
| Résidus d'épuration des eaux usées (ex. : boues municipales)  | -   | -       | ●                          | ●                                   | ●        | ●                       | ■                    | ●               | ●                         | ■                                     | ●   | ●                      | ●           | ●                                     | ●   | ●                    |
| Fumiers et lisiers d'animaux d'élevages (ex. : bovin, porcin)   | -   | +       | ●                          | ●                                   | ●        | ●                       | ■                    | ●               | ●                         | ■                                     | ●   | ●                      | ●           | ●                                     | ●   | ●                    |



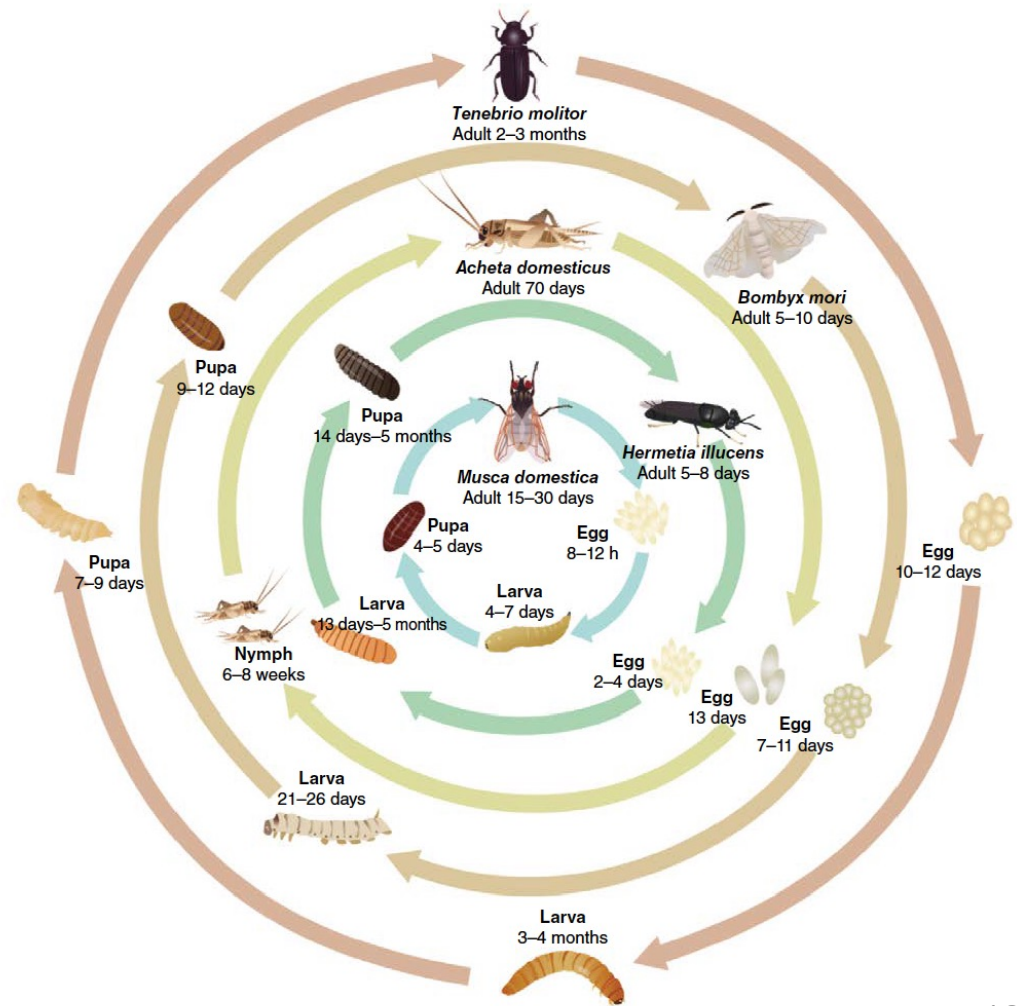
## CHOICE OF SPECIES

### THE MAIN SPECIES PRODUCED

- Silkworm (*Bombyx mori*)
- Black soldier fly (*Hermetia illucens*)
- Housefly (*Musca domestica*)
- Mealworms (*Tenebrio molitor*)
- Crickets (*Acheta domesticus*)

### THEIR CHARACTERISTICS

- Short life cycle
- High food conversion
- Very high fecundity
- Ability to grow at high densities
- Ability to feed on low value inputs



# CHOICE OF THE MARKET

## NUTRITIONAL QUALITY

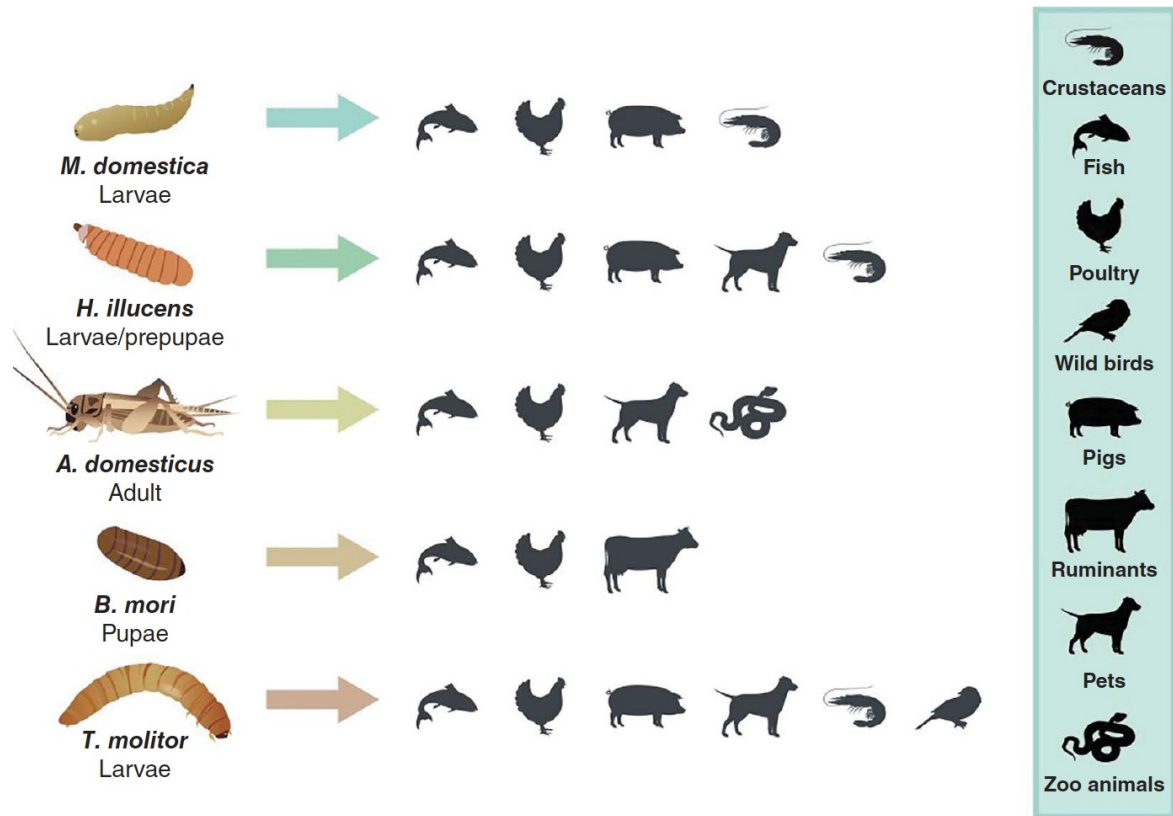
- Species
- Life stage
- Processing methods
- Targeted diets

## MARKET INTEREST

- Need for alternative feeds
- Values
- Consumer acceptability



## Potential for inclusion of insect products in pet and farm animal diets



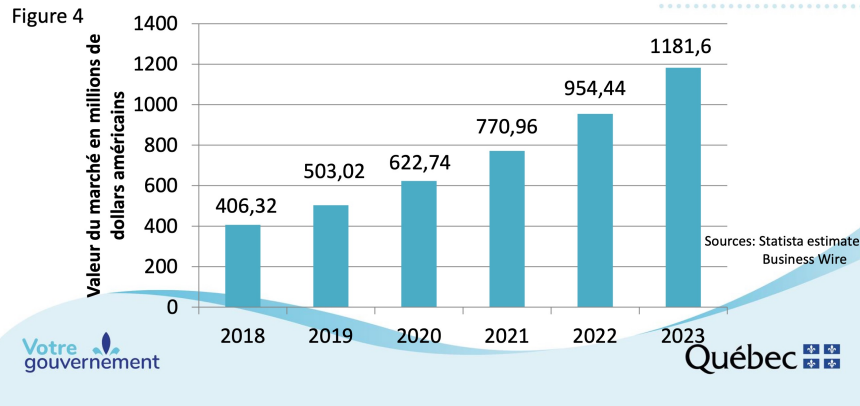
Tiré de Bjone et Fitches, 2021

# INSECT MARKET

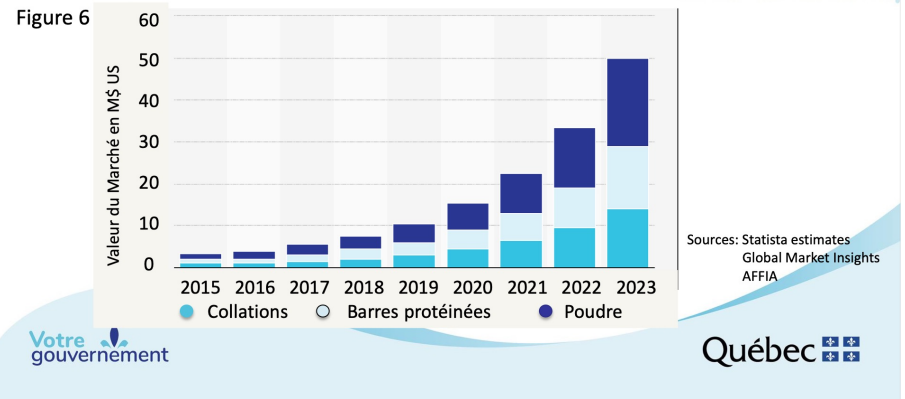
## A PRODUCTION IN FULL EXPLOSION

- Global market value to more than double from 2018 to 2021
- Expected to reach \$13.1 trillion CAD by 2030
- Affects all target markets (animal and human) and types of insect products sold


**PRÉVISION: VALEUR DU MARCHÉ MONDIAL DES INSECTES COMESTIBLES DE 2018 À 2023 (EN M\$ US)**



**VALEUR ESTIMÉE DU MARCHÉ DES INSECTES COMESTIBLES AUX ÉTATS-UNIS DE 2015 À 2023, POUR 3 CATÉGORIES ALIMENTAIRES (EN M\$ US)**







# Horticulture

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- Canada's fertilizer industry of
- 17 billion CAD (1.2 billion in Quebec)
- Fertilizer Regulations, CFIA (2020 reform)
- If size >50 L, application required to MELCC regional branch to identify if a certificate of authorization is required (MRF guide).



Unsplash, Erwan Hesry



## WORLD MARKET IN 2023



- World market expected to reach CAD 13.1 billions
- > 3 million tons of insects
- Average annual growth of 31
- Faster growth in North America

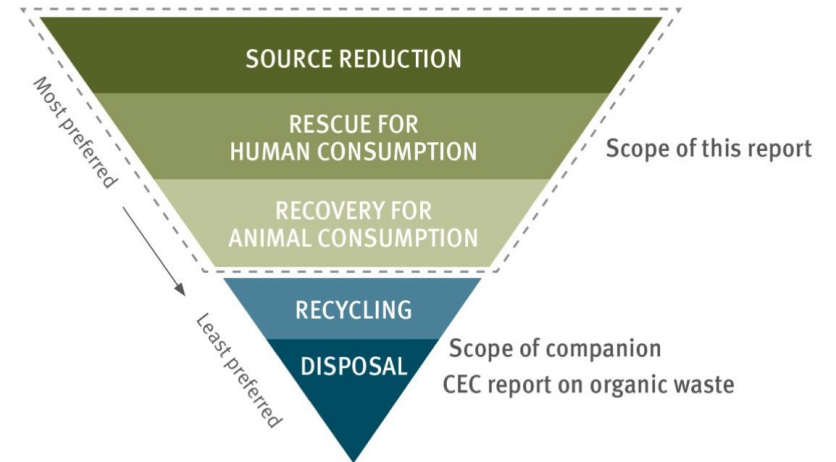
## TOP 10 COMPANIES IN EDIBLE INSECTS MARKET



- Ynsect (France)
- Protix B.V. (Netherlands)
- Entomofarms (Canada)
- Aspire Food groups (Canada)
- All Things Bugs LLC (USA)
- Global Bugs (Thailand)
- Global bugs Asia Co. Ltd (Thailand)
- JR Unique Foods Ltd (Thailand)
- InnovaFeed (France)
- EnviroFlight, LLC (USA)
- Nutrition technologies group (Singapore)

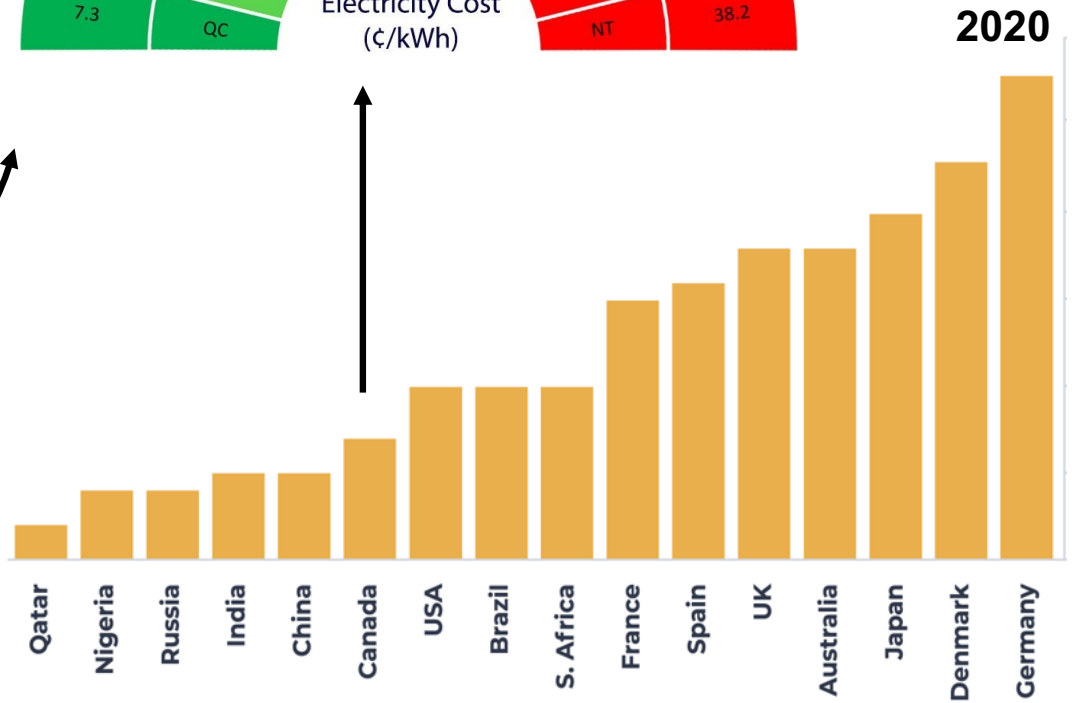
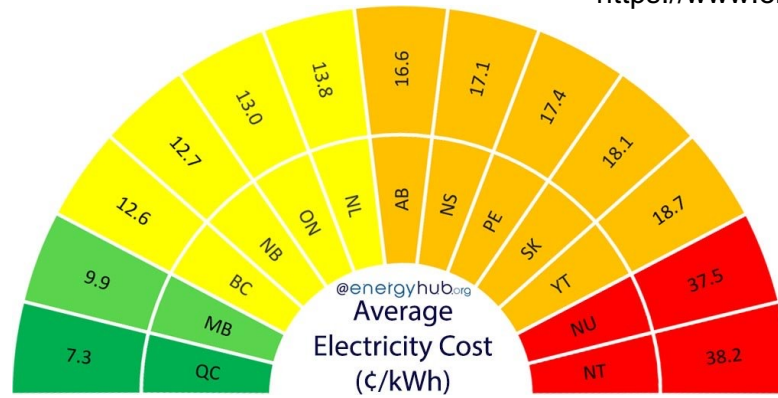
# AGRICULTURE PRODUCTION AND FOOD LOSS IN CANADA

|                         |                                      | FOOD LOSS AND WASTE, FOOD AND INEDIBLE PARTS (million tonnes/year) |                                |            |   |          |       |
|-------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|--------------------------------|------------|---|----------|-------|
| Agricultural production | Available food for human consumption | Food production (pre-harvest)                                      | Food production (post-harvest) | Processing | Distribution (Includes Retail and Food service) | Consumer | Total |
| 95.7                    | 34.6                                 | 3.8  | 1.3                            | 1.4        | 1.0   | 5.6      | 13.1  |



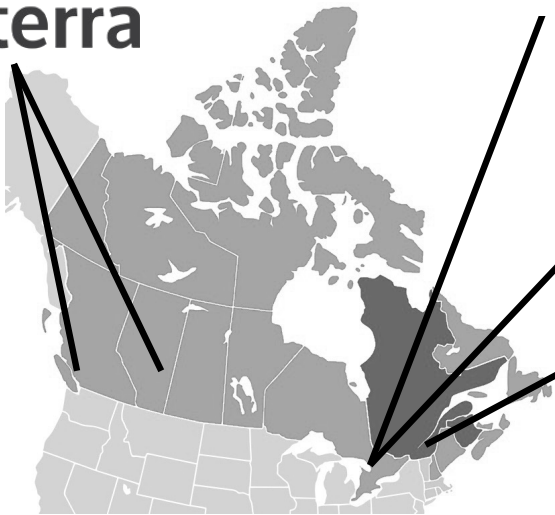
# ELECTRICITY COSTS IN CANADA

63 hydroelectric power stations



# PORTRAIT OF THE CANADIAN INDUSTRY

> 30 000 tons/year





# PORTRAIT OF THE CANADIAN INDUSTRY



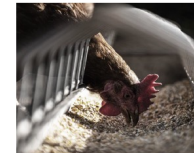
*NPC (2022) estimates the number of companies at 30*

**NPC** NATURAL PRODUCTS CANADA



# GAME CHANGERS

*Canadian movers and shakers in the burgeoning industry of insects as food and feed.*



# TABLE FILIÈRE DES INSECTES COMESTIBLES

Québec

Bottin de la filière

[www.insectescomestibles.ca](http://www.insectescomestibles.ca)

## TABLE FILIÈRE DES INSECTES COMESTIBLES

[tficqc@gmail.com](mailto:tficqc@gmail.com)

[www.InsectesComestibles.ca](http://www.InsectesComestibles.ca)



**PROGRAMME**  
DE DÉVELOPPEMENT  
SECTORIEL

2018-2023

*L'Accord Canada-Québec de mise en oeuvre du Partenariat canadien pour l'agriculture représente un financement du gouvernement fédéral et du gouvernement du Québec totalisant 293 millions de dollars répartis sur une période de 5 ans, soit de 2018 à 2023. Cet accord appuie des initiatives stratégiques qui aideront les secteurs à croître, à innover et à prospérer.*

ENSEMBLE   
on fait avancer le Québec

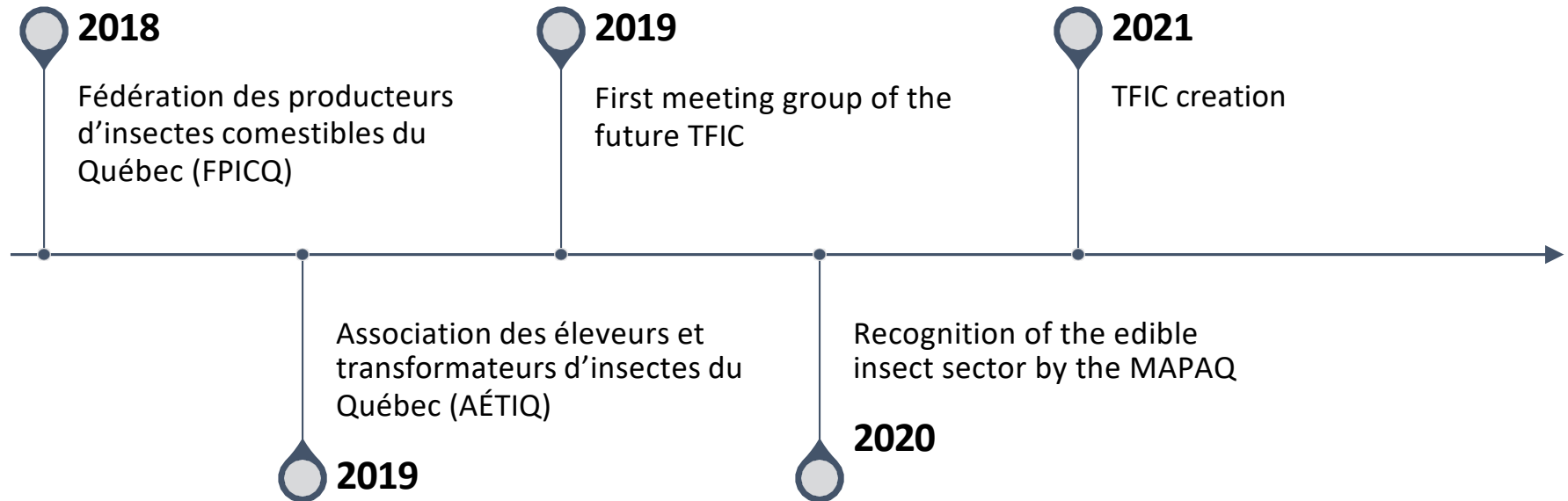
PARTENARIAT  
CANADIEN pour  
L'AGRICULTURE

Canada  Québec 

**Agriculture, Pêcheries  
et Alimentation**

Québec 

# Structuring initiatives in Quebec



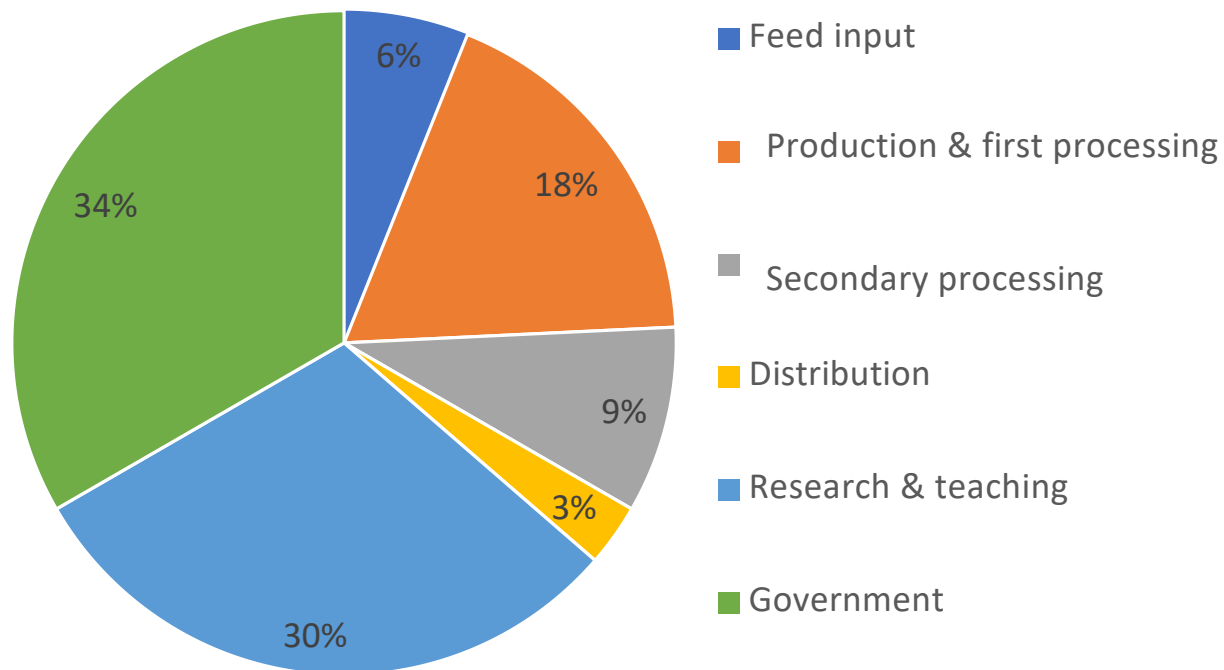




**Sector table (definition):**  
Association whose mandate is to ensure the sustainability and reputation of an agri-food sector on the markets by promoting synergy between the various links in the sector with the common goal of meeting the requirements of consumers and society...

33 members

Constitution of the members of the Edible Insects Sector  
Table (2022)





# The Board of Directors



**Marie-Hélène Deschamps,  
présidente**

Professeur adjoint, Chaire de leadership en enseignement en production et transformation primaire d'insectes comestibles, Université Laval



**Marc-André Hébert-Briand, Vice-président**

Président, Entologik & Vice-président, Association des producteurs et transformateurs d'insectes du Québec (AÉTIQ)



**Benoit Choquet, Administrateur**

Directeur général, Hagen



**Christopher Warburton,  
Administrateur**

Directeur scientifique, Entosystem



**Dimitri Fraeys, Administrateur**

Vice-président Innovation et Affaires économiques, Conseil de Transformation Alimentaire du Québec (CTAQ)



**Louise Hénauld-Ethier,  
Administratrice**

Directrice du Centre Eau Terre Environnement et professeure associée, Institut National de la Recherche Scientifique (INRS) & Directrice R&D et innovation, Tricycle



**Judith Lavoie, Observatrice**

Ministère des Pêcheries, de l'Agriculture et de l'Alimentation du Québec (MAPAQ)



**Yan Martel-Kennes, Administrateur**

Directeur innovation, Sollio Agriculture

# Problematic



Companies active in the insect industry are not well known.



Previous work has painted a picture of the industry in Quebec (2020, entotechnology showcase), but the industry is evolving rapidly.



An updated picture of the industry is needed in order to prepare a relevant strategic plan.

# Objectives

Directory &  
map of  
organizations

Publish a free, accessible and evolving directory and map of all organizations involved in the edible insect industry in Quebec (Website 2022)



Industry  
Profile

To draw up an updated portrait of the edible insect industry in Quebec (Industry report 2022)



Strategic  
plan

Draft a 3-year strategic plan to help develop the industry in Quebec (2023)



Action  
plan

Carry out the action plan (2024)



# Methodology



Portrait de l'industrie des insectes comestibles du Québec  
en 2022

**TABLE FILIÈRE  
DES INSECTES  
COMESTIBLES**

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Inventory of all companies involved in the edible insect industry.

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Consolidation of public data (CTAQ, Registre des entreprises du Québec, Panier bleu)

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Contacting all stakeholders directly by e-mail, phone call and social networks (Facebook & LinkedIn) to answer the survey

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Descriptive analysis of data by sector

# Methodology

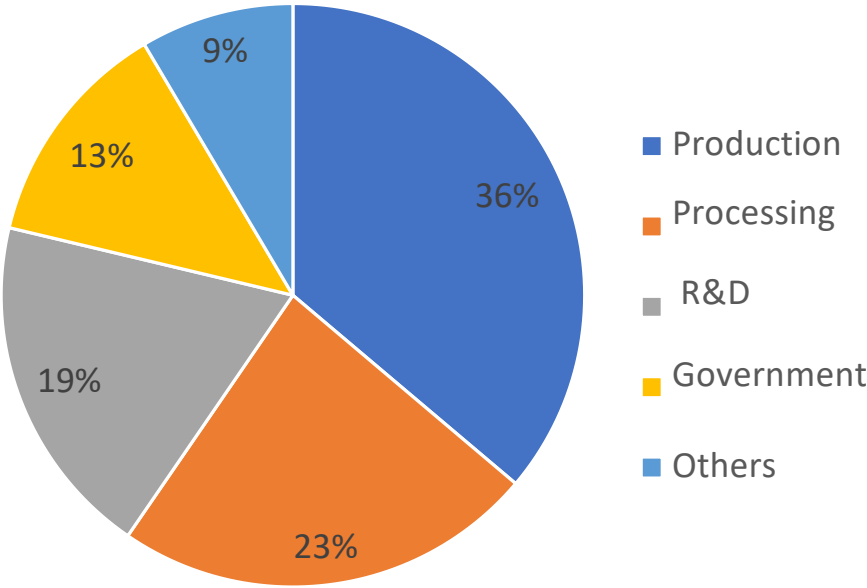
75 organizations contacted



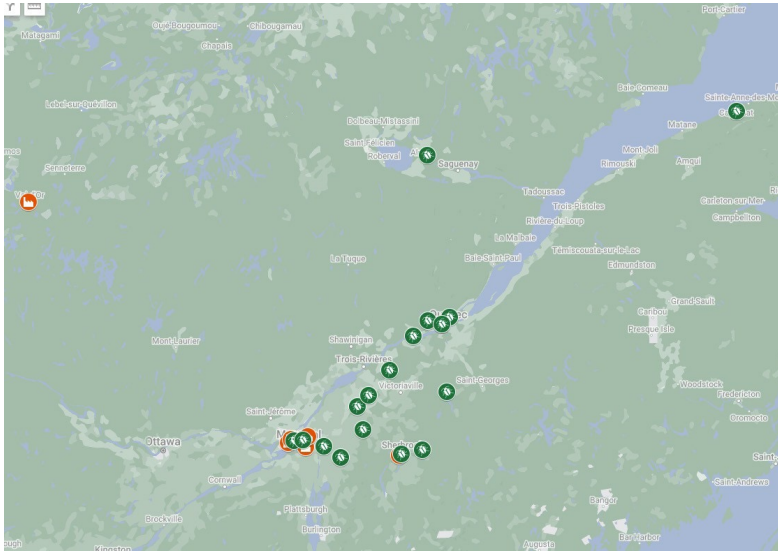
Portrait de l'industrie des insectes comestibles du Québec en 2022

**TABLE FILIÈRE  
DES INSECTES  
COMESTIBLES**

Survey participants (N = 47)



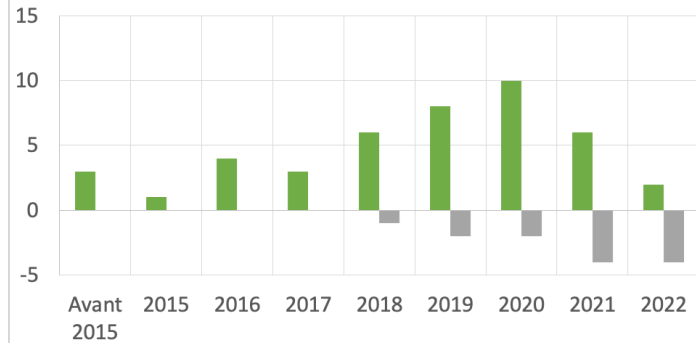
# Insect companies in Quebec in 2022



<https://insectescomestibles.ca/cartographie>

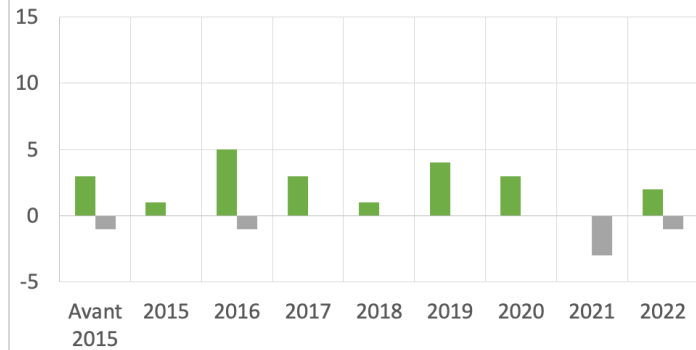
**TABLE FILIÈRE DES  
INSECTES COMESTIBLES**

Nombre de producteurs d'insectes ayant démarrés et fermés au Québec



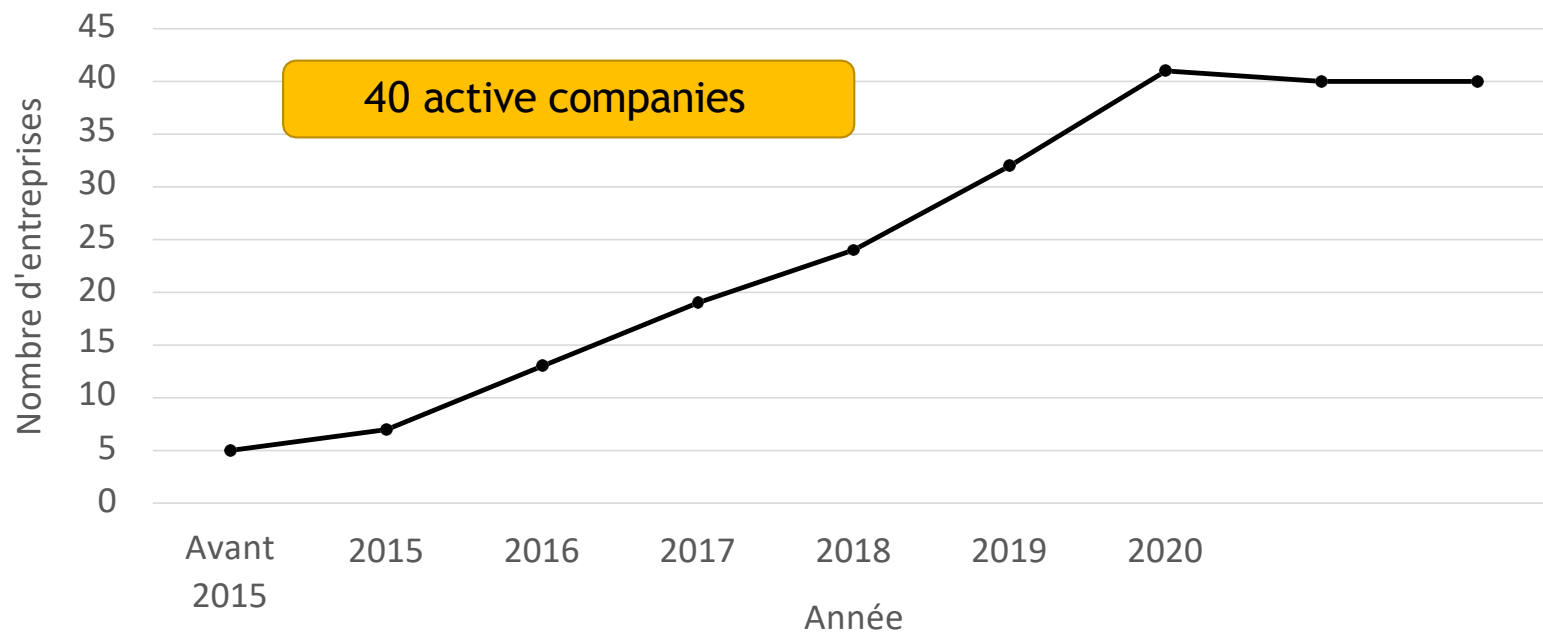
**30 producers in  
2022**

Nombre de transformateurs d'insectes ayant démarrés et fermés au Québec



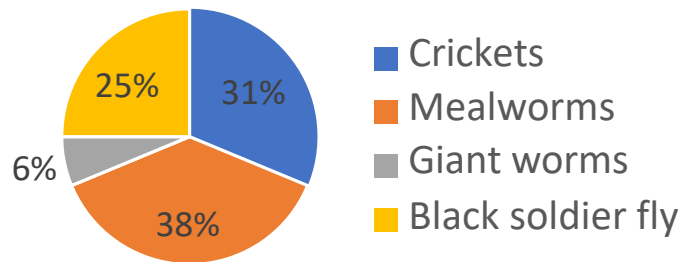
**16 processors  
en 2022**

# Number of insect producers and processors registered and active in the Quebec Business Register





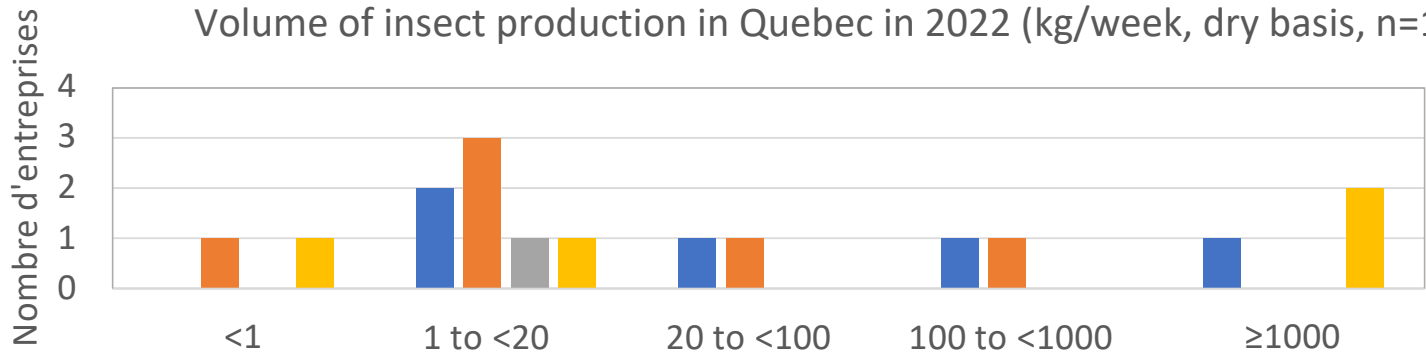
# Insect species produced in Québec



In Canada, only these species are considered to be non-novel foods:

- Mealworms
- Giant worm
- Small mastworm
- House cricket
- Banded cricket
- Silkworm

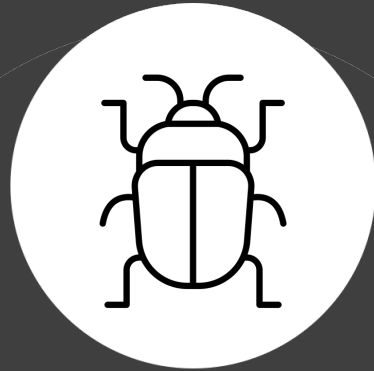
Volume of insect production in Quebec in 2022 (kg/week, dry basis, n=16)





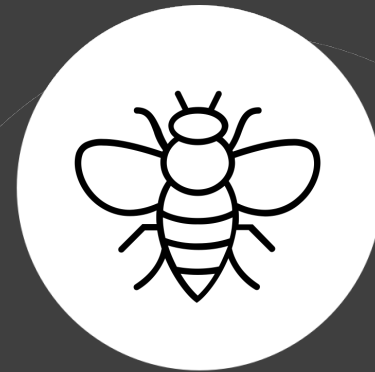
### Crickets

- Poultry meal (n=4)
- Mixed grain products (n=1)



### Mealworms

- Residual organic matter (n=3)
- Mixed grain products (n=3)



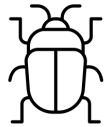


### BSF

- Residual organic matter (n=3)

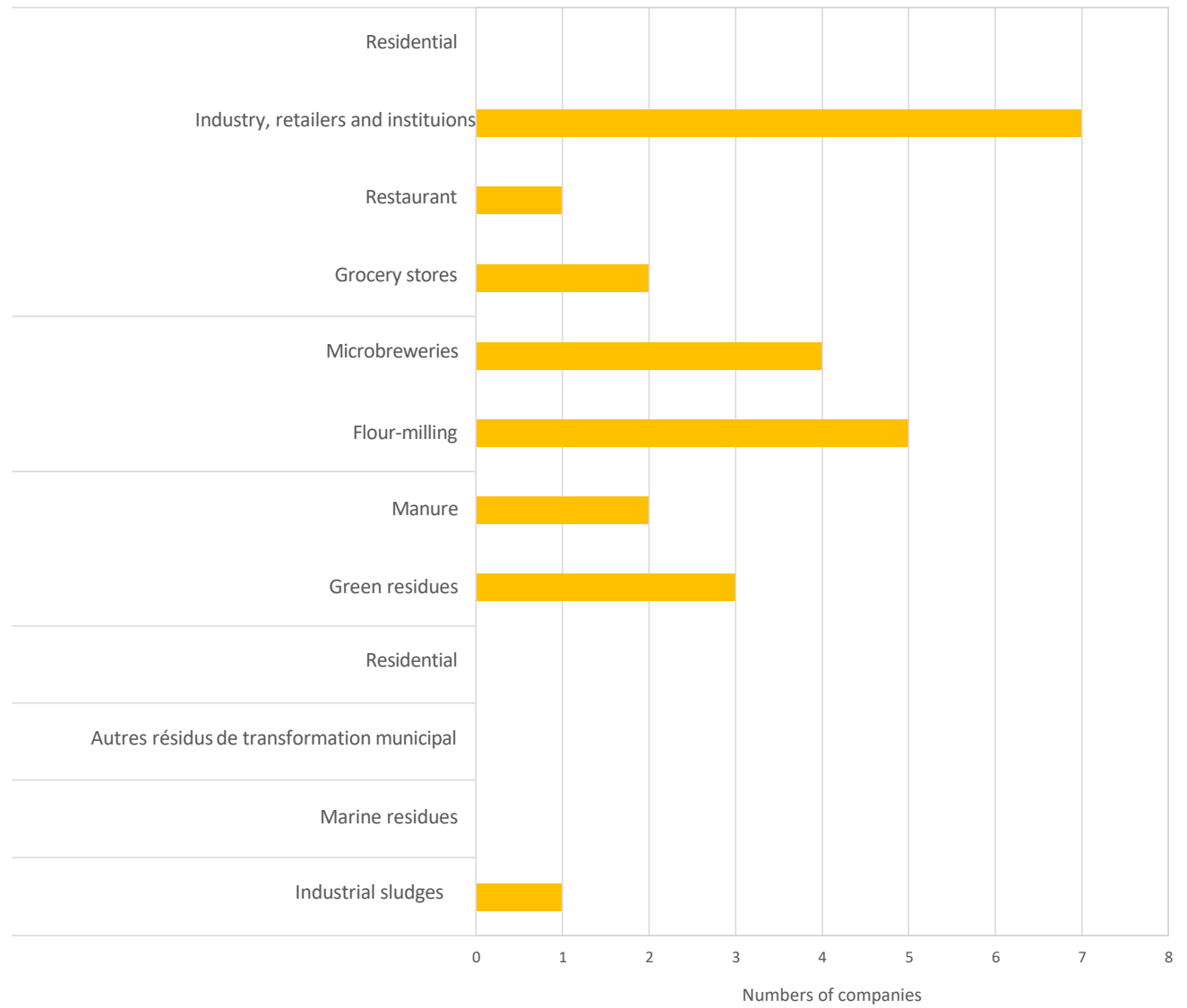
## Insects feed

## Does your company operate in a circular economy?

40 T of organic waste is recovered by insects each week in Quebec  
(27.5 T flies, 12.1 T mealworms and 0.1 T crickets).

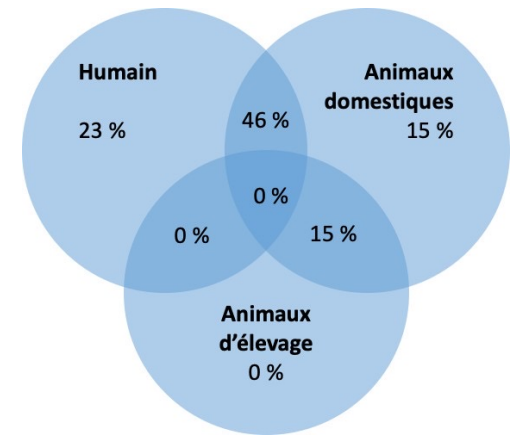
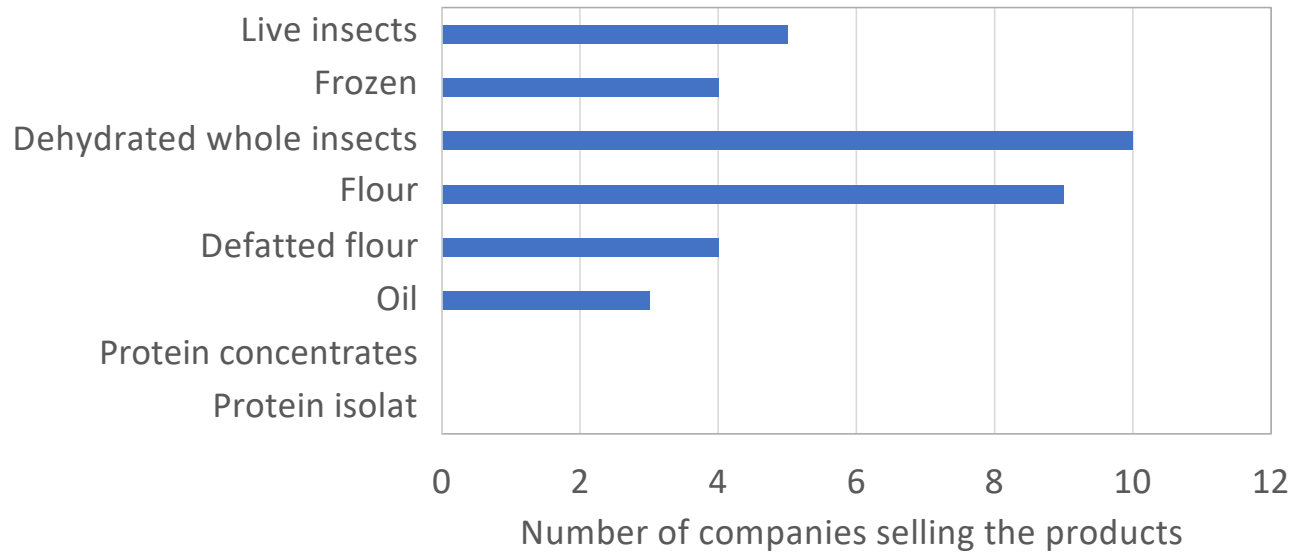
| % inclusion of co-products into insect feed | <br>Mealworm<br>(n = 6) | <br>Cricket<br>(n = 5) | <br>Flies<br>(n = 3) |
|---|---|---|---|
| <b>No</b>                                   | 0   | 80  | 0   |
| <b>Yes, from 1 to 25%</b>                   | 33  | 20  | 33  |
| <b>Yes, from 26 to 50%</b>                  | 0   | 0   | 0   |
| <b>Oui, from 51 to 75%</b>                  | 17  | 0   | 0   |
| <b>Oui, from 76 to 100%</b>                 | 50  | 0   | 67  |

# Types of co-products





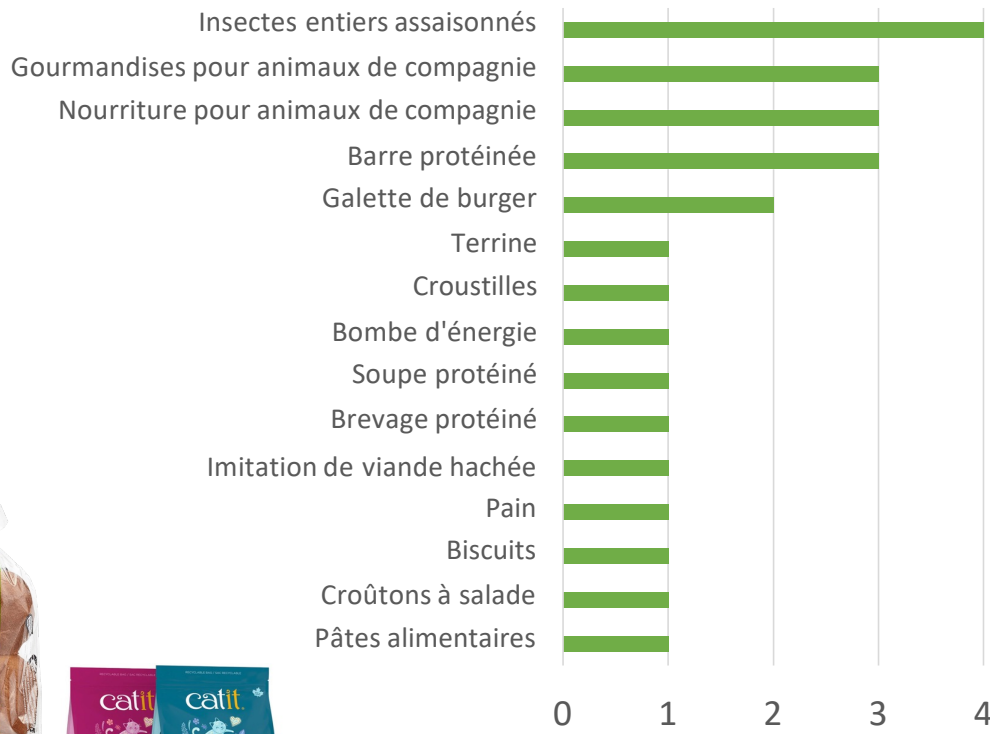
# Insect ingredients in Quebec in 2022 (n = 15)



Prices of insect ingredients (CAD) for human consumption available to consumers online and produced in Quebec (n = 7 companies surveyed)

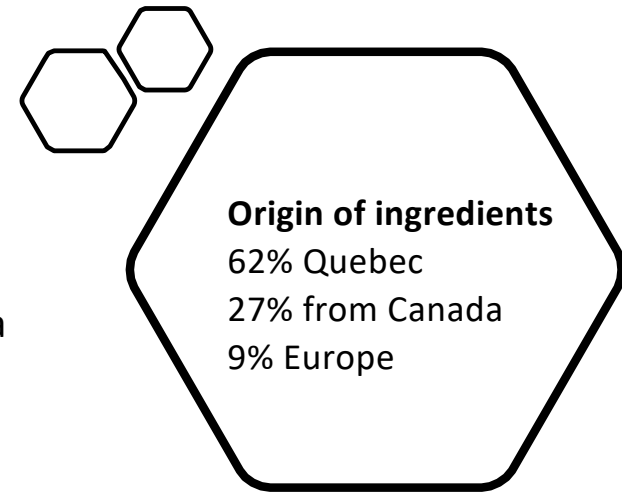
| <b>Insect species</b> | <u>Price by kg</u> |        | <u>Package size (g)</u> |      |
|-----------------------|--------------------|--------|-------------------------|------|
|                       | Min                | Max    | Min                     | Max  |
| <b>Dehydrated</b>     |                    |        |                         |      |
| <b>Crickets</b>       | 65.00              | 160.00 | 25                      | 5000 |
| <b>Mealworms</b>      | 75.00              | 133.20 | 75                      | 1000 |
| <b>Flour</b>          |                    |        |                         |      |
| <b>Crickets</b>       | 65.00              | 140.00 | 50                      | 5000 |
| <b>Mealworms</b>      | 75.00              | 171.43 | 35                      | 1000 |

# Insect products in Quebec (secondary processing, n = 11)



## Why import insect ingredients (n = 4)?

- The ingredient is not available in Quebec (n=3)
- Production in Quebec is not stable enough to develop a product (n=1)
- I have long-time suppliers outside of Quebec (n=1)
- Quebec insect ingredients are too expensive (n=1)
- Quebec insect ingredients do not have the necessary certifications for the use of my products (n=1)



## Frass | Horticulture

73% want to sell to farmers  
45% sell online & 55% sell in store  
27% gave away & 9% threw away

Selling price of frass (CAD) to consumers in Quebec available online  
(n = 5 companies listed on the web).

| Insect species | Frass price by kg (CAD) |       |         | Package Size (kg) |      |
|----------------|-------------------------|-------|---------|-------------------|------|
|                | Min                     | Max   | Moyenne | Min               | Max  |
| Crickets       | 6.96                    | 19.98 | 11.55   | 0.5               | 25.0 |
| Mealworms      | 9.00                    | 30.00 | 17.80   | 0.5               | 8.0  |

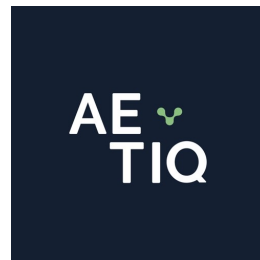


## Implications in the associations

**TABLE  
FILIÈRE  
DES  
INSECTES  
COMESTIBLES**

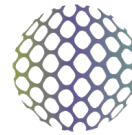
45%

Table Filière des  
Insectes  
comestibles



40%

Association des  
Éleveurs et  
transformateurs  
d'insectes



**NACIA**  
NORTH AMERICAN COALITION  
FOR INSECT AGRICULTURE

11%

North American  
Coalition for  
Insect Agriculture



9%

Société  
d'entomologie du  
Québec

**39% of producers and processors were not members of any association**

## Courses and training in edible insects

### **26% on edible insects**

<https://insectescomestibles.ca/documentation>

- 12 % college
- 14 % university

### **66% on food processing**

- 44 % MAPAQ (Hygiène et salubrité)
- 17 % HACCP
- 9 % university
- 5 % ITAQ (Institut de Technologie Agroalimentaire du Québec)

# Incubation of companies



35%  
producers

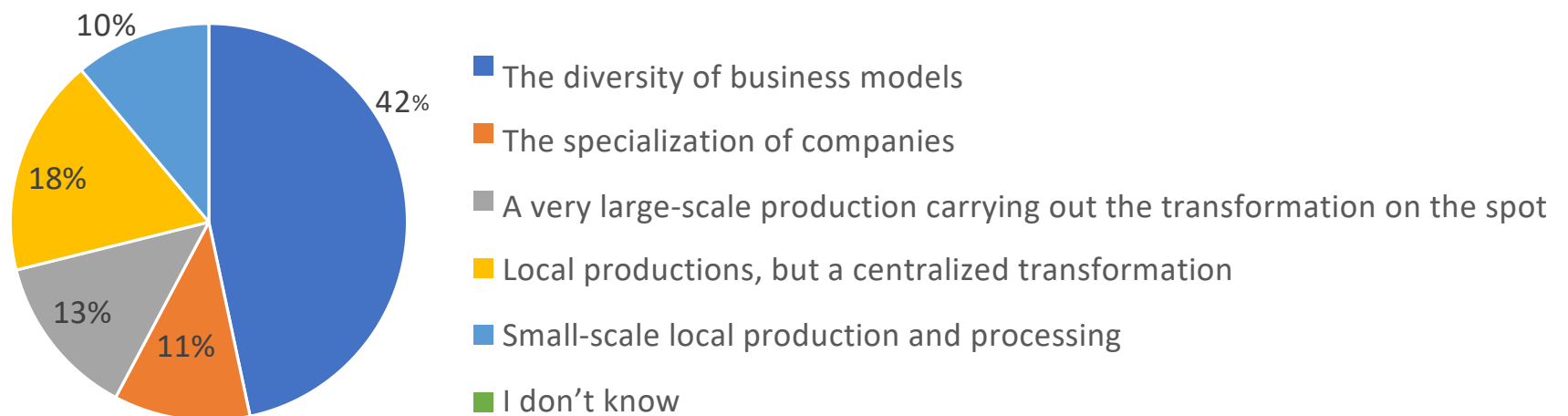


55%  
processors

According to a NACIA report, 52% of participants were incubated.

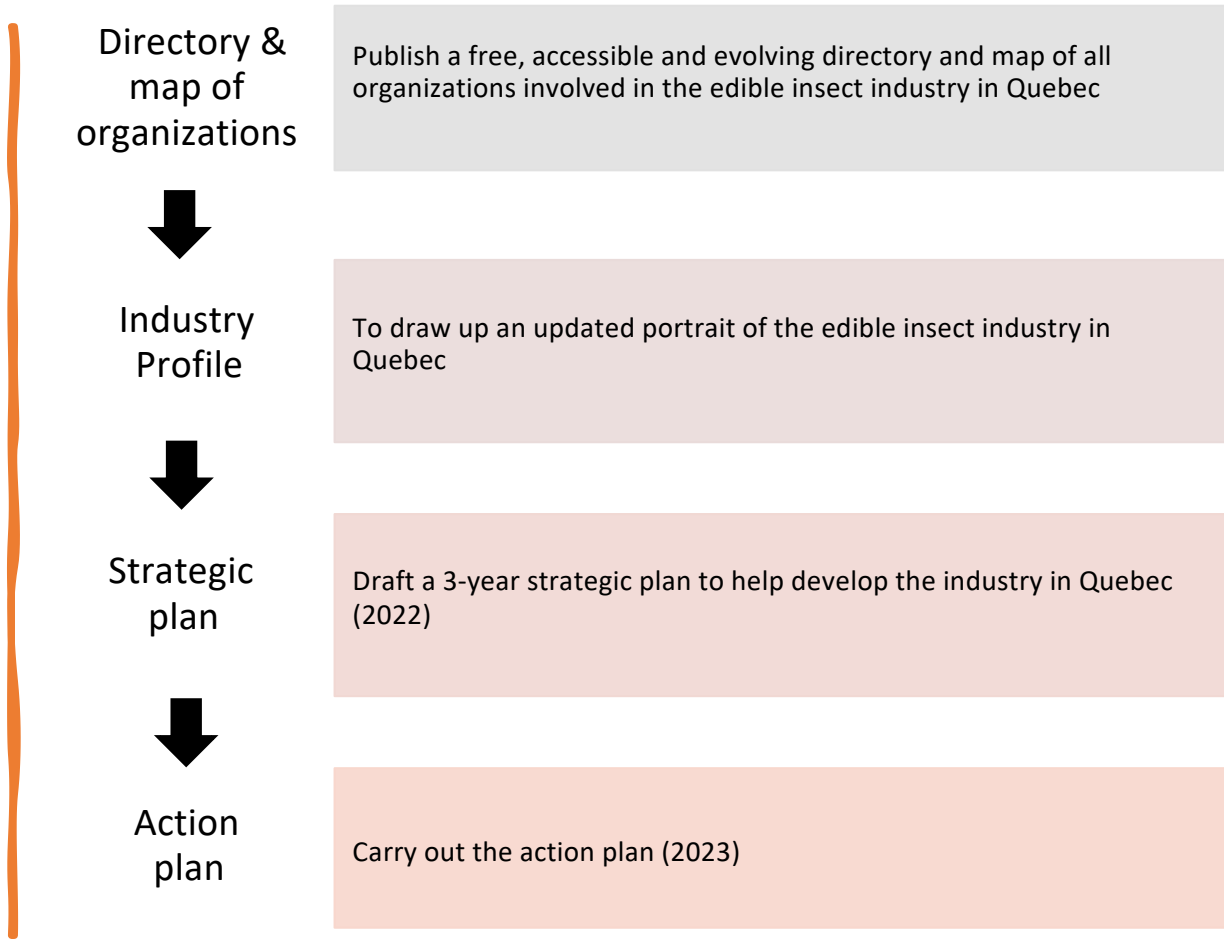
29% of producers and processors would have preferred insect-specific business support

## In your opinion, which business model should be favored for the edible insect industry? (n = 47)



**We must be open to the diversity of business models!**

# Perspectives

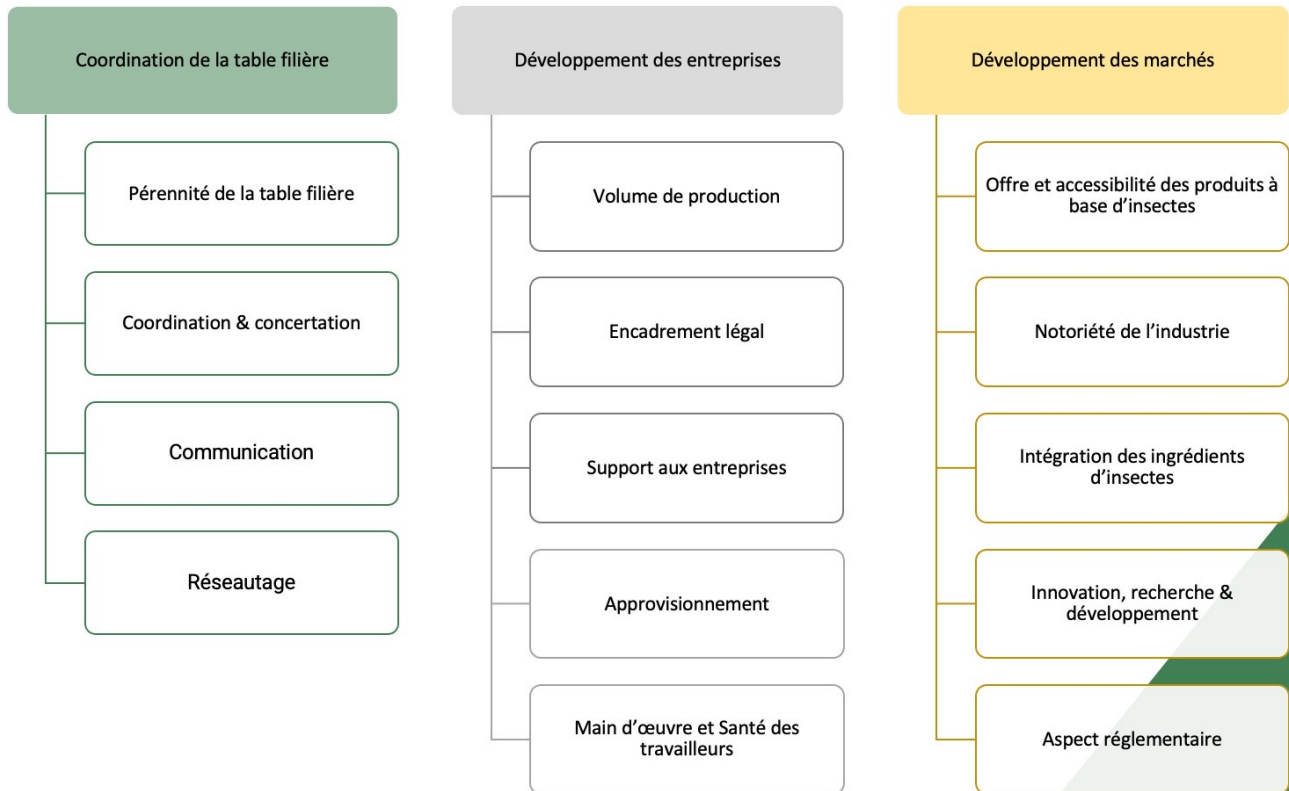




# Priority issues for the sector

1. Weak implementation of quality management systems, leading to marketing issues (standardization of the methods)
2. Risk of tarnishing the reputation of the entire industry in the event of a problem (toxi-infections, allergens, etc.).
3. Limited funding for insect production/processing
4. Disinformation/propaganda (pressure groups)

# Vue d'ensemble



## TABLE FILIÈRE DES INSECTES COMESTIBLES

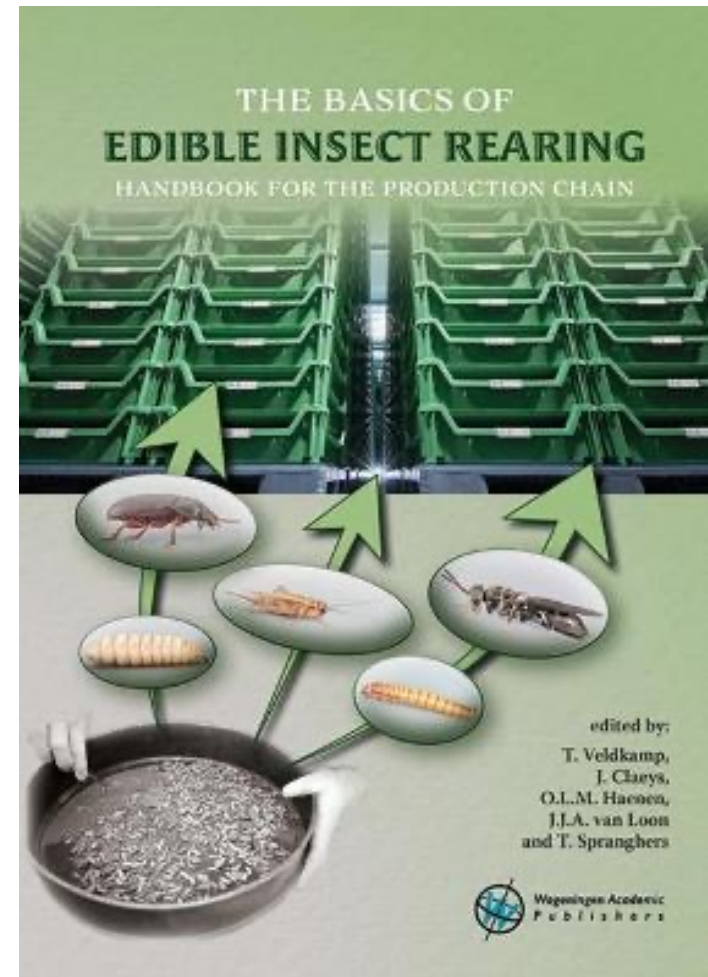
## ISSUES AND CHALLENGES OF THE SECTOR

- Identification of high potential substrates (low-value, high nutritional content)
- Optimization of production and processing
- Simplification of regulations and accreditation processes
- Setting up product distribution
- Lobbying
- Product positioning and sales
- Raising public awareness

**EDUCATION &  
TRAINING**

**TRANSFER &  
LEADERSHIP**

**RESEARCH &  
DEVELOPMENT**



## EDUCATION & TRAINING

INTEGRATION OF MODULES IN ONGOING COURSES (Agriculture and Food Faculty)

CREATION OF A NEW COURSE ON EDIBLE INSECTS (FROM FARM TO TABLE)

SUMMER COURSE

ADVANCED COURSES FOR AGRICULTURAL WORKERS

TRAINING COURSES FOR YOUNG PEOPLE



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## TRANSFER & LEADERSHIP

CREATION OF AN EDIBLE INSECT INDUSTRY CONSULTATION TABLE IN QUÉBEC

CREATION OF AN ACADEMIC NETWORK IN CANADA

ADAPTING THE IPIFF GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE TO THE NORTH AMERICAN INDUSTRY

ORGANIZING IFW 2020 AND 2022

SUPPORTING DE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC NETWORK

### TABLE FILIÈRE DES INSECTES COMESTIBLES

Agriculture, Pêcheries  
et Alimentation

Québec



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# RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

OPTIMIZATION OF PRODUCTION TECHNIQUES

RECOVERY OF MUNICIPAL ORGANIC WASTE

VALORIZATION OF LIVESTOCK WASTE

DEFINITION OF ECONOMIC & TERRITORIAL MODELS

DIVERSIFICATION OF EDIBLE SPECIES PRODUCTION



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5 YEARS

