

## Collecting and Analyzing Your Institution's Food Data

When calculating your institution's N footprint, one of the largest portions of your footprint will be attributed to food. For most schools, the food portion of the footprint accounts for more than 50% of the institution's N footprint and 5-15% of an institution's carbon footprint! This document provides a list of what you will need from your dining facility to be able to analyze your institution's N footprint, as well as some tips on how to enter this data into SIMAP.

Data needed from your dining provider:

1. Weight of individual food items purchased (ex: 20 pounds of ground beef, 120 pounds of marinara sauce). \*Note: This data usually comes in a form other than pounds (ex: 60 packs of hot dog buns weighing 4 oz each)
2. Description of item purchased (ex: ground beef 80% lean, breaded chicken, vegetable lasagna)
3. Specific time frame ( fiscal year, one month, 6 weeks of 40 weeks)

### Analyzing the Data

You can enter this data in to the SIMAP Food Uploader Template found [here](#) and import in to SIMAP once complete.

1. Time frame (ex: 7/1/2012 to 6/30/2013 or 8/20/2015 to 9/20/2015)
2. Description of item purchased (ex: ground beef 80% lean, breaded chicken, vegetable lasagna)
3. Weight of item purchased (kgs or lbs)
4. Is the product organic? (optional)
5. Is the product local? (optional)
6. What are the ingredients (up to 3)? (ex: cherry pie - fruit, grains; pork tenderloin - pork) \*Note to determine which food category your item falls under, please check the appendix of the SIMAP users guide [here](#).
7. Who was the vendor of this item? (ex: SYSCO, US Foods, Bob's Local Apple Orchard)
8. Any additional notes you may have for this food item (ex: served at dining hall 1 or served at coffee shop A)