



# VUM GRÉIS

— veggies & more —

## Information sheet

### *What is community supported agriculture and risk sharing?*

Community supported agriculture, also called CSA, is a partnership between producer and consumer. In an CSA, each consumer engages individually for a season with the producer and pays for the products in advance. It is this commitment and this pre-financing which is the basis of solidarity, because it guarantees the farmer a stable income for the year and facilitates the planning of his production. Consumers know where their food comes from and how it was produced.

### *Risk sharing*

Market gardening is fragile because crops can be impacted by unpredictable external factors. Eg. : bad weather (late frost, heavy rain, long drought, flood, etc.) or pest attacks (slugs, snails, etc.). In solidarity farming, the members share with the producer, the risks of possible crop losses. The members assure the market gardener a stable income whatever happens by paying in advance for their basket for the whole season, while knowing that, perhaps, during the season, he could receive less vegetables during a time and without compensation or refund of the subscription. Conversely, in case of very favorable weather and very abundant crops (overproduction), members can receive more vegetables without paying extra!

### *Who is the market gardener of «Vum Gréis»?*

The “Vum Gréis” garden is managed and cultivated by Yves, a horticulturalist by training. After several rewarding professional paths, Yves chose to return to his first love: the land, the plants, the culture! Anxious to return to healthy farming, respectful of the land and consumers, a fervent defender of local consumption and short supply chains, he opted for community supported agriculture.

### *When can I receive vegetables?*

In principle, I can receive vegetables from the beginning of May to the end of November. Or about 30 weeks. This may vary depending on weather conditions. If there are vegetables left after the end of the season, members can freely come and pick them up at the «Vum Gréis» garden in Berchem.

### *How and when can I receive vegetables?*

**Variation 1:** (at 550 € / subscription) I come to harvest my vegetables directly at the “Vum Gréis” garden in Berchem, I can come whenever is a good time for me. The varieties and maximum quantities available as well as harvesting methods will be indicated on site. Please contact Yves to guide you during your 1st harvest.

**Variation 2:** (at 750 € / subscription) I come to pick up my vegetables at distribution points in Berchem, on Fridays from 6.30 p.m. to 7.30 p.m. The varieties and maximum quantities available will be indicated on site.

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Diederich Yves

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### *How much is in my basket? Is it varied enough?*

In theory, 1 basket (at € 550 or € 750 depending on the variant chosen) contains vegetables for 1 family. The quantity can nevertheless vary depending on weather factors and pest attacks. The baskets are varied throughout the season. In spring, there will be mainly leafy vegetables, then in summer, legume vegetables and finally in autumn, root vegetables and squash.

Ex:

**in spring:** spinach, salads, herbs, radishes, chard, ...

**in summer:** tomatoes, zucchini, eggplant, currants, ...

**in autumn:** pumpkin, cabbage, leeks, carrots, ...

### *Do I have to bring my own basket? What do I need to harvest my vegetables?*

Yes, each member must bring their own container (bag, basket, box, etc.) to carry their vegetables home. Yves does not offer any packaging. If I come to harvest myself, I can bring my own knife or pruner otherwise tools will be available in the garden.

### *Is Yves preparing my basket?*

No ! The vegetables are arranged in bulk and you compose your basket. Yves indicates the quantity available of each vegetable by subscription on a board.

### *I have to go away or I'm going on vacation. What is happening ?*

If I'm away, I can entrust my basket to a friend or family member. But I must warn Yves and tell him who will replace me. If I do not come to harvest / collect my basket and I am not replaced, I cannot be compensated or refunded. Nor is it a double harvest the previous or next week.

### *Are there other products available?*

No, not from our own production yet. Collaborations with other farms are possible for potatoes, meat, honey, milk, ... The adoption of chickens is planned during the season and plans to develop other products (such as honey, etc.) in the «Vum Gréis» garden are being studied for the coming seasons. To be continued. !

### *Can I come and garden?*

Yes I can come and help Yves in the garden, if I wish when he is present. In his absence I only harvest my basket. By working in the garden, I learn how my vegetables are produced, I build relationships with the other members and with Yves and his team



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