

## Review of: "The Disruption of the COVID-19 Pandemic on Farm Produce and its Implications for the Future of Food Security - A review"

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Before embarking on a substantive assessment of the publication, we need to be aware of the nature of the phenomenon of food security. According to a generally accepted classification, food security is the actions that countries take to ensure that the population has access to food of adequate quality and quantity.

These actions are also aimed at ensuring affordable food through a smoothly functioning supply chain. We speak of food security when there is no shortage of quality food in a country and it is available to every consumer regardless of their level of wealth and region of origin. The category of food security should be defined taking into account 3 determinants that prove its essence, namely:

- 1. Food availability (adequate quantity of food)
- 2. Access to food (relationship between price and income level of the population)
- 3. Utilisation/consumption (provision of adequate nutrients).

Food security becomes important during the global crises that have recently emerged, which is undoubtedly the crisis caused by the SARS-CoV2 infectious disease pandemic since March 2020. Thus, the 'dysfunctions' observed over the last three years in the world's economies, which are putting a strain on food systems and causing global food insecurity.

The aim of this article is to analyse the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the future of food security, to identify the causes and the policy response of Asia-Pacific countries to mitigate these impacts with an eye on the near-term horizon.

The issues addressed by the authors are timely, complex and important - from both a scientific and practical perspective. Although the number of articles published with this topic in mind as of 2020 is numerous, there is still a gap to be filled in this area.

In their introduction, the authors of the article write that: "This systematic review critically looked at the implications of the pandemic and its effects on the future of food security. It revealed the need to build productive, sustainable, and inclusive



food systems that are resilient enough to revamp the agro-food industry and withstand the future crisis". In the reviewer's opinion, the literature review was not conducted properly. In addition, there are sections of the paper that make the article difficult to understand. The article is classified as a literature review, but many statements are: given without references.

Why didn't the authors approach the topic with a well-known method like a systematic literature review (SRL)? The reviewer sends a small factual hint below:

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/363580643\_Determinants\_for\_food\_service\_market\_segmentation\_and\_contemporary consumers' behaviours amid the Covid-19 pandemic

The literature review was not conducted properly, the gap in the literature was not identified. The contribution of this paper to the literature is not evident. In this respect, the study raises many questions, e.g. the study is not reproducible, the authors did not explain how the systematic review was conducted, which scientific databases were checked, e.g. Scopus, Web of Sciene, etc. There is also a lack of detailed description of the methodology in this regard: how the data were collected, what exclusion criteria the authors adopted, how many bibliographic items the authors ultimately analysed in depth and how this analysis was carried out (e.g. with the help of which software) to fill the theoretical gap revealed in this regard.

Furthermore, in order to ensure the global future of food security, decision-makers should not only take into account current and future crises, such as COVID19, the war in Ukraine, the environmental crisis, the energy crisis or the ever-increasing level of inflation, but also systematically analyse the ever-changing consumer behaviour in the food market, suggesting a somewhat more holistic approach to this topic.

It seems that the issue of consumer behaviour on the food market, the authors of this study could devote a little more time to. This is all the more so as the authors emphasise in a section of it that "In the food supply chain, consumers are considered as stakeholders who define the final link of the chain...". In analysing the body of research to date, one dominant approach in the way in which consumer behaviour determinants are classified in the food market is discernible, and its dynamic nature only proves the volatility of this phenomenon, suggesting to contemporary businesses operating in the food market the need to constantly monitor it. The pandemic has undoubtedly affected the lifestyle and behaviour of contemporary consumers in the food market. We are now dealing with a "chimerical" consumer who identifies his food choices with two groups of factors that determine his behaviour: individual factors (psychological, internal) and social factors (environmental, external).

Wishing the authors further success in improving the article.

Kind regards

Agnieszka Górka-Chowaniec