

BeanMeals: Mainstreaming UK-grown beans in healthy meals

UKRI, January 2022 - November 2024

Lead: Dr John Ingram

Lisa Didier Engagement Officer

Environmental Change Institute, Food Systems Transformation Group,
University of Oxford



BeanMeals

Thinking beyond the can



Eight research areas

1. Policy environment
2. System mapping & S/holder engagement
3. Changed behaviours
4. Community uptake & scaling
5. Health impacts
6. Environmental impacts
7. Enterprise impacts
8. Systemic innovation & learning



Related to:
Local context

Consuming beans

Benefits / trade offs

'Capulet' and 'Godiva'



To research systemic innovation using novel common bean varieties 'Capulet' and 'Godiva'

- ✓ Developed for UK conditions
- ✓ Quick-cooking (no overnight soaking needed)
- ✓ Gluten-free and low glycaemic index
- ✓ Nitrogen fixing


BBC NEWS

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University of Warwick harvests beans fit for British summer

By Rosie Eaton
BBC CWR

8 September 2023



Prof Eric Holub, pictured with Warwick Crop Centre research fellow Rosanne Maguire, said seed was being harvested to produce food on a farm next year

University researchers have celebrated the first commercial harvest of a homegrown bean.

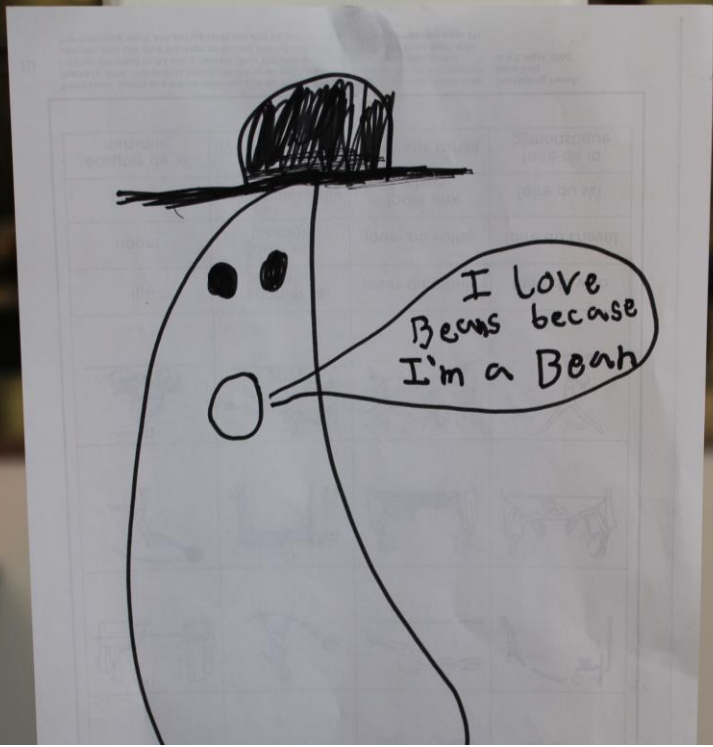
The UK has traditionally had to import most of its beans used in products due to growing conditions.

However scientists at the University of Warwick have been working to create a variety that could be planted by British farmers.

The first commercial crops of the Godiva and Olivia beans have been grown by a private firm in Lincolnshire.

'Fork to Farm'- food system approach





Six schools in
Leicester City
and
Leicestershire
County



Stakeholder engagement

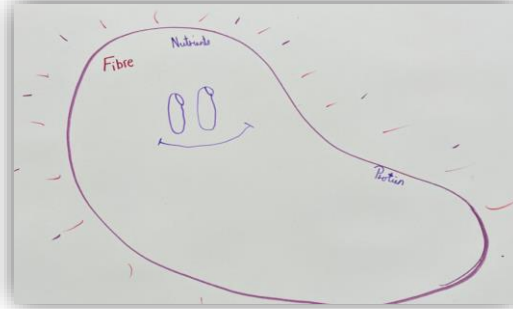
- ✓ Leicester City and Leicestershire County separate authorities. Ethnically and culturally diverse. 2 food plans. 2 local authority caterers, 6 schools
- ✓ Training for teachers, cooks and family cook an eat sessions for household work with Food for Life. Games design.
- ✓ Co design process. Stakeholder workshops. 3 larger, 2 smaller events.
- ✓ Local city-county-region policy processes linked to national level to facilitate scaling



@Leicestershire Food Summit

@Leicester Food Plan

BeanTopia—A co-designed game with kids





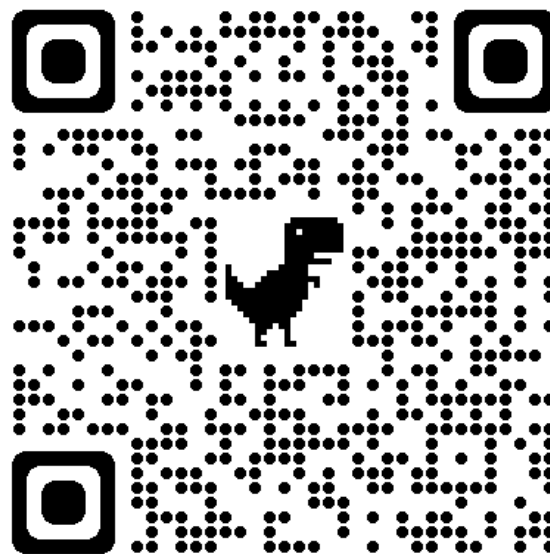
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Contact us

lisa.didier@ouce.ox.ac.uk

 [@BeanMealsUK](https://twitter.com/BeanMealsUK)

 [BeanMeals](https://www.linkedin.com/company/BeanMeals)

Promoting UK-grown beans in healthy school meals

