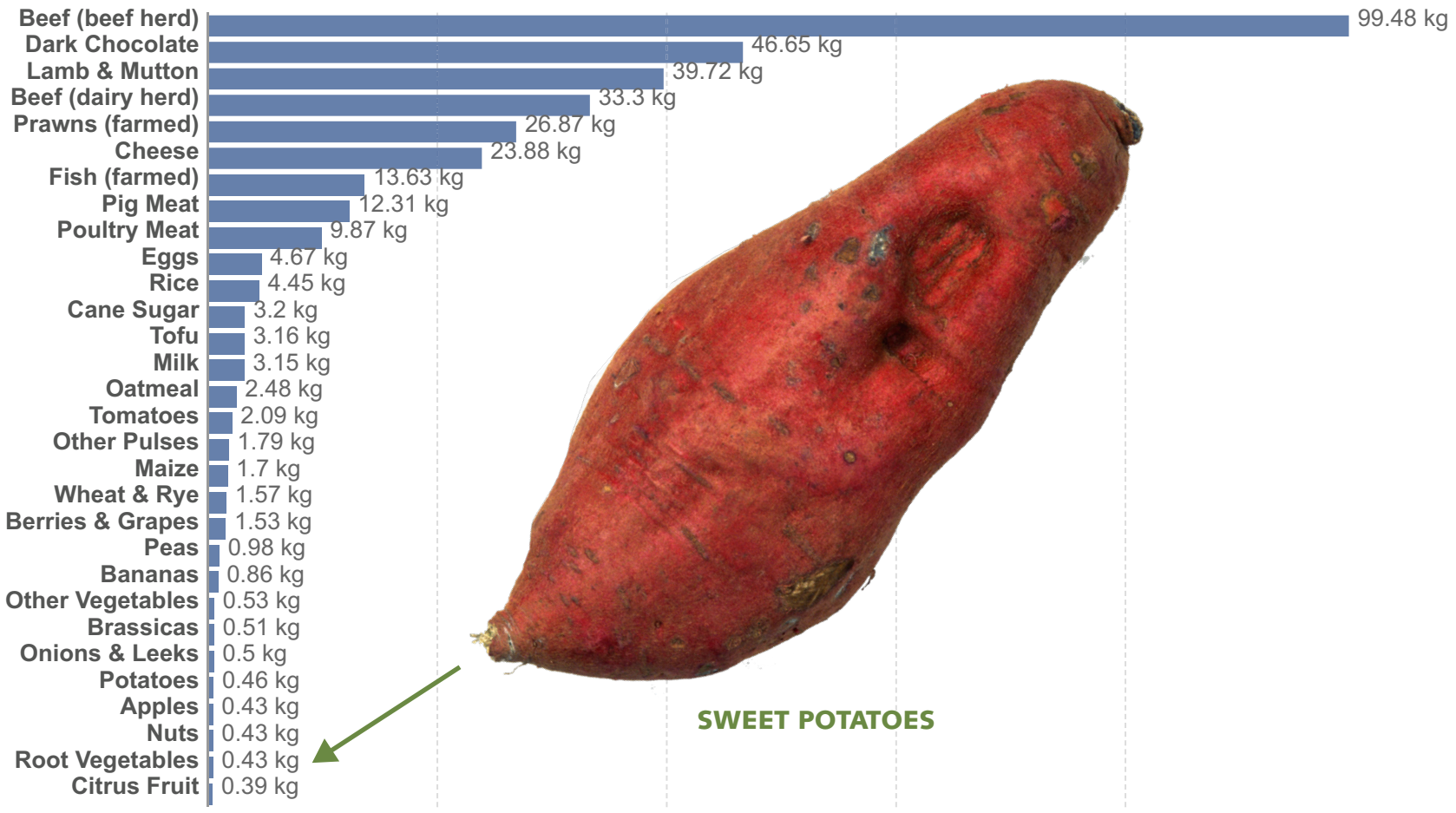
climate impact of sweet potatoes

HOW DO THEY COMPARE?

Greenhouse gas emissions per kilogram of food product

Our World in Data

Emissions are measured in carbon dioxide-equivalents[1]. This means non-CO2 gases are weighted by the amount of warming they cause over a 100-year timescale.



Data source: Joseph Poore and Thomas Nemecek (2018). OurWorldInData.org/environmental-impacts-of-food | CC BY

1. Carbon dioxide-equivalents (CO_2eq) : Carbon dioxide is the most important greenhouse gas, but not the only one. To capture all greenhouse gas emissions, researchers express them in 'carbon dioxide-equivalents' (CO_2eq). This takes all greenhouse gases into account, not just CO_2. To express all greenhouse gases in carbon dioxide-equivalents (CO_2eq), each one is weighted by its global warming potential (GWP) value. GWP measures the amount of warming a gas creates compared to CO_2. CO_2 is given a GWP value of one. If a gas had a GWP of 10 then one kilogram of that gas would generate ten times the warming effect as one kilogram of CO_2. Carbon dioxide-equivalents are calculated for each gas by multiplying the mass of emissions of a specific greenhouse gas by its GWP factor. This warming can be stated over different timescales. To calculate CO_2eq over 100 years, we'd multiply each gas by its GWP over a 100-year timescale (GWP100). Total greenhouse gas emissions – measured in CO_2eq – are then calculated by summing each gas' CO_2eq value.

How many miles from the farm to your school cafeteria?

Buying foods grown nearby means using fewer resources for food transportation and for storage—and supporting our farmers and our community!

GARDEN STATE ON YOUR PLATE℠

GARDEN STATE ON YOUR PLATE℠ IS A PROJECT OF THE PRINCETON SCHOOL GARDENS COOPERATIVE, PRINCETON PUBLIC SCHOOLS, AND METZ CULINARY MANAGEMENT
WITH GENEROUS SUPPORT FROM THE BENT SPOON AND WHOLE EARTH CENTER

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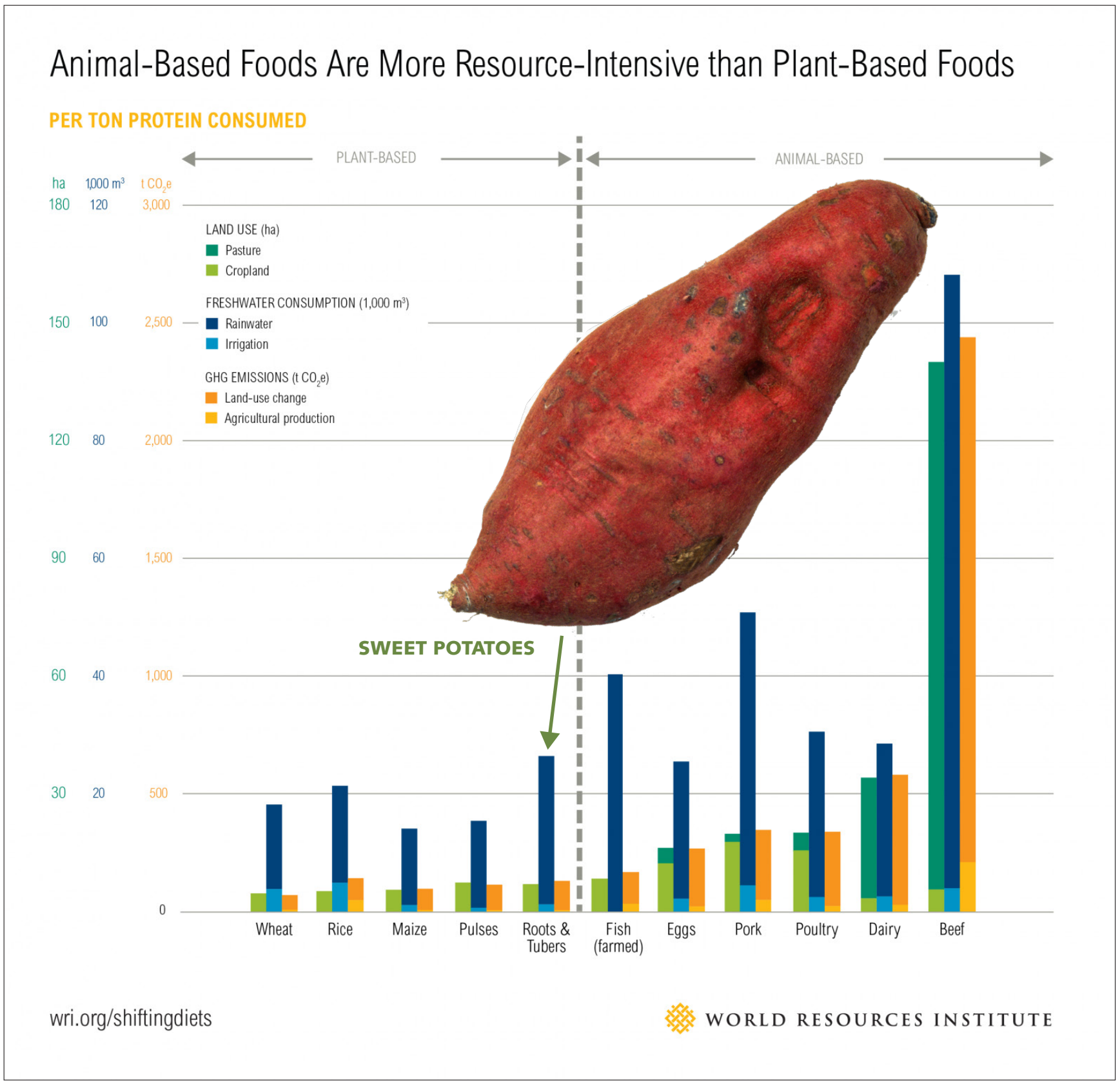

How many miles from the farm to your school cafeteria?

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