The Wales CSA Network
What is CSA?

A model based on achieving social, nutritional and environmental equity by directly sharing risk with a farmer.

CSA has been defined in the UK as meaning any food, fuel or fibre producing initiative where the community shares the responsibilities, risks and rewards of production in a spirit of mutual trust and openness. This may be through ownership, investment, sharing the costs of production, or provision of labour.
What is CSA?

People Care
A fair and steady income for the producer and a relationship based on trust with the consumers/members. Access to healthy food at affordable prices.

Earth Care
A chance for the land and biodiversity to flourish due to ecological farming methods and shared interest in these methods of production.

Fair Share
A share in the harvest of healthy (mostly organic or biodynamic), local and low carbon produce; a connection with the producer, the land and each other. This includes a commitment to support the farmer through both good and poor harvests.
Welsh CSA's
Welsh CSA’s

Old Lands CSA
Welsh CSA’s

Cae Tan CSA
Welsh CSA’s

Flintshare
Welsh CSA’s

Banc Organics
Welsh CSA’s

Torth y Tir
Wales CSA network
Activities
Wales CSA network
Activities
Wales CSA network
Activities
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Activities
Part of Larger CSA Networks

Community Supported Agriculture UK
www.communitysupportedagriculture.org.uk

Federation of City Farms & Community Gardens

Canolfan Organig Cymru
Organic Centre Wales

URGENCI
THE INTERNATIONAL NETWORK FOR COMMUNITY SUPPORTED AGRICULTURE
Part of Larger CSA Networks
Taking CSA in Wales Forward
Impact of CSA

Employment

‘CSA initiatives provide very high levels of employment in contrast to other agricultural sectors. Among just the primarily land-based initiatives, the number of employees per acre has a mean of 0.34 (equivalent to 0.14 employees / hectare).’
Taking CSA in Wales Forward
Impact of CSA

Health

‘70% of CSA members say that their overall quality of life has improved through membership, with many reporting an improvement in their health.’
‘CSA initiatives develop their human capital through training and education of their members, volunteers and employees. Most initiatives provide some formal or informal training (71%), and a still greater proportion (77%) count education or training more broadly amongst the products and services they provide. 36% of members say that being involved has increased their skills.’
The Potential for CSA in Wales

Over in France, there are 1500-2000 AMAP’s (French CSA’s). In the USA over 12,000, according to USDA figures. Although no analytical research has been conducted, there is no reason why Wales could not have at least 50 CSA’s operational in the next 5-10 years. Where there is a town, there is an opportunity to start a CSA.
Taking CSA in Wales Forward

What support is needed going forward?

Currently a severe lack of commercial scale horticultural training available in Wales; with new entrants to horticulture not being able to access funded training or support in their local areas. This has a knock on effect for the CSA’s making them take longer to become efficient producers and a steeper learning curve.

One answer to this is funding relevant courses or horticultural mentors; the other would be to establish an ‘incubator farm’ in Wales, where new entrants come to learn the skills needed to feed Wales.

A financial incentive for Welsh farmers to allow communities to access land under a rent free period would also be valuable.
Join us!

Wales CSA Gathering

Cae Tan CSA, Gower

September 9\textsuperscript{th} - 11\textsuperscript{th}