Supplementary Material

Table S1. Criteria for calculation of the weighting factor (f) for each household by GfK SE.

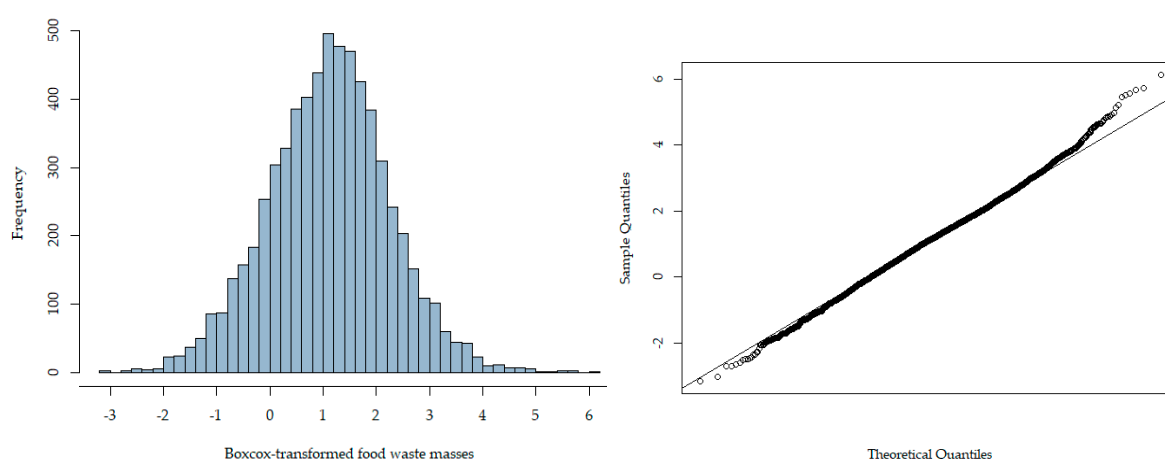|	
Geographical region	North
	North Rhine-Westphalia
	Center
	Baden-Wurttemberg
	Bavaria
	East
Age of head of household	<40 years
	40–59 years
	60+ years
Household size	1 person
	2 persons
	3 + persons
Size of municipality (number of inhabitants)	0–19,999
	20,000–99,999
	100,000–499,999
	500,000 +
Social status	upper and middle classes (OM + MM)
	lower middle class (UM)
	upper lower class (OU)
	lower classes (UU + SD)

Figure S1. Histogram (left) and QQ-Plot (right) showing the normal distribution of transformed data on food waste masses by use of Box-Cox-transformation.

Table S2. Underlying data of descriptive statistics concerning edibility, food product types, condition of disposal and disposal routes in percentages and absolute annual numbers (absolute numbers are extrapolated to the whole population of Germany).

	share of food waste [%]	mass of food waste [1000 t]
<u>potential edibility</u>		
edible food waste	43.8	1618.8
inedible food waste	56.2	2077.7
total	100	3696.4
<u>food products</u>		
fresh fruit	17.1	276.6
fresh vegetables	17.1	276.3
cooked/prepared	16.2	262.9
bread/baked goods	13.8	224.1
beverages	10.6	170.9
dairy products	9.4	152.5
convenience products/canned food	6.7	109.2
meat, sausages, fish, eggs	3.7	60.5
other food	5.3	85.7
<u>condition at disposal</u>		
loose/open	53.7	868.6
prepared/cooked	21.2	342.7
opened packaging	12.9	208.9
unopened packaging	5.7	92.9
other	6.5	105.6
<u>disposal route</u>		
organic waste	33.9	549.3
residual waste	33.4	539.9
toilet/sewer	14.1	228.9
compost	9.1	147.9
animal feed	6.2	101.1
other	3.2	51.7

Table S3. Underlying data of descriptive statistics concerning disposal reasons by product group, household size group and lifecycle group in percentages and absolute annual numbers (absolute numbers are extrapolated to the whole population of Germany).

disposal reason/ group	quantity-problem at purchase [1000 t]	quantity-problem at purchase [%]	quantity-problem at home [1000 t]	quantity-problem at home [%]
product group				
fresh fruit	25.1	9.3	3.1	1.1
fresh vegetables	38.3	14.3	32.4	12.1
meat, sausages, fish, eggs	8.2	14.5	9.5	16.9
dairy products	20.4	13.8	5.0	3.4
bread and baked goods	34.2	15.9	19.4	9.0
ready-made, convenience	10.9	25.1	7.5	17.2
cooked/prepared food	10.3	4.2	178.5	72.3
drinks	16.2	10.4	70.8	45.5
other food products	29.8	22.8	19.1	14.7
household size group				
1 person hh	78.3	15.8	77.0	15.5
2 person hh	55.3	11.2	97.3	19.7
3 + person hh	59.8	9.5	171.0	27.2
lifecycle group				
younger singles, couples and families without children	44.3	13.4	53.9	16.3
young families with small and school children	24.7	8.1	91.6	29.8
families with adolescent children and older families without children	21.0	8.8	53.0	22.2
medium aged and older families without children	64.4	12.8	110.5	21.6
older singles	38.9	16.2	36.3	15.1

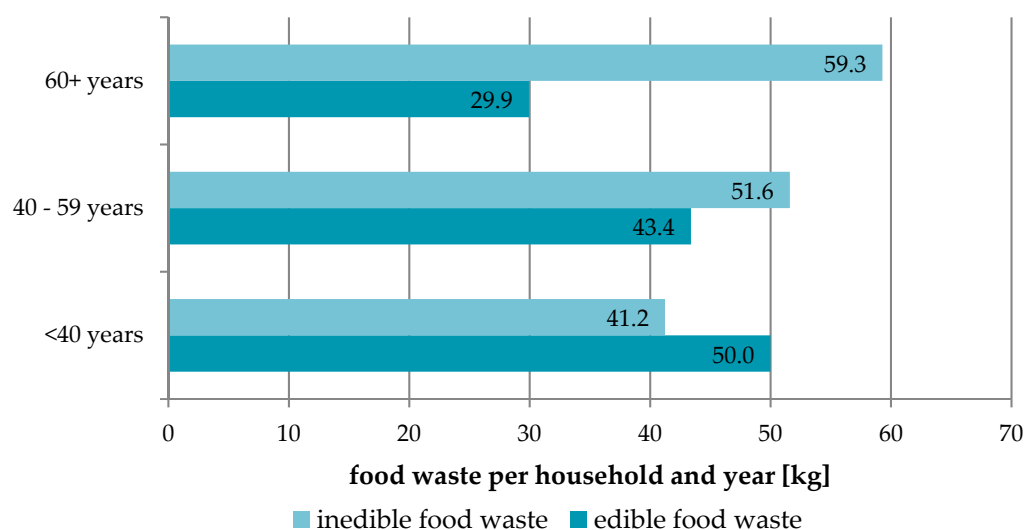| disposal reason/ group	durability [1000 t]	durability [%]	other reason/ no spec. [1000 t]	other reason/ no spec. [%]
product group				
fresh fruit	230.2	85.6	18.2	3.9
fresh vegetables	180.0	67.5	25.6	6.1
meat, sausages, fish, eggs	36.1	64.2	6.8	4.5
dairy products	118.5	80.2	8.5	2.6
bread and baked goods	156.3	72.7	14.2	2.3
ready-made, convenience	23.6	54.2	11.4	3.6
cooked/prepared food	50.7	20.5	23.4	3.1
drinks	60.4	38.8	23.6	5.2
other food products	77.0	59.1	15.7	3.4
household size group				
1 person hh	289.5	58.4	50.8	10.3
2 person hh	291.9	59.2	49.0	9.9
3 + person hh	351.3	55.8	47.6	7.6
lifecycle group				
younger singles, couples and families without children	202.0	61.1	30.4	9.2
young families with small and school children	165.2	53.8	25.3	8.3
families with adolescent children and older families without children	147.0	61.7	17.4	7.3
medium aged and older families without children	280.7	55.8	47.6	9.8
older singles	138.0	57.5	26.7	11.2

Figure S2. Total amount of edible and inedible food waste by age group of head of household per household and year [kg].
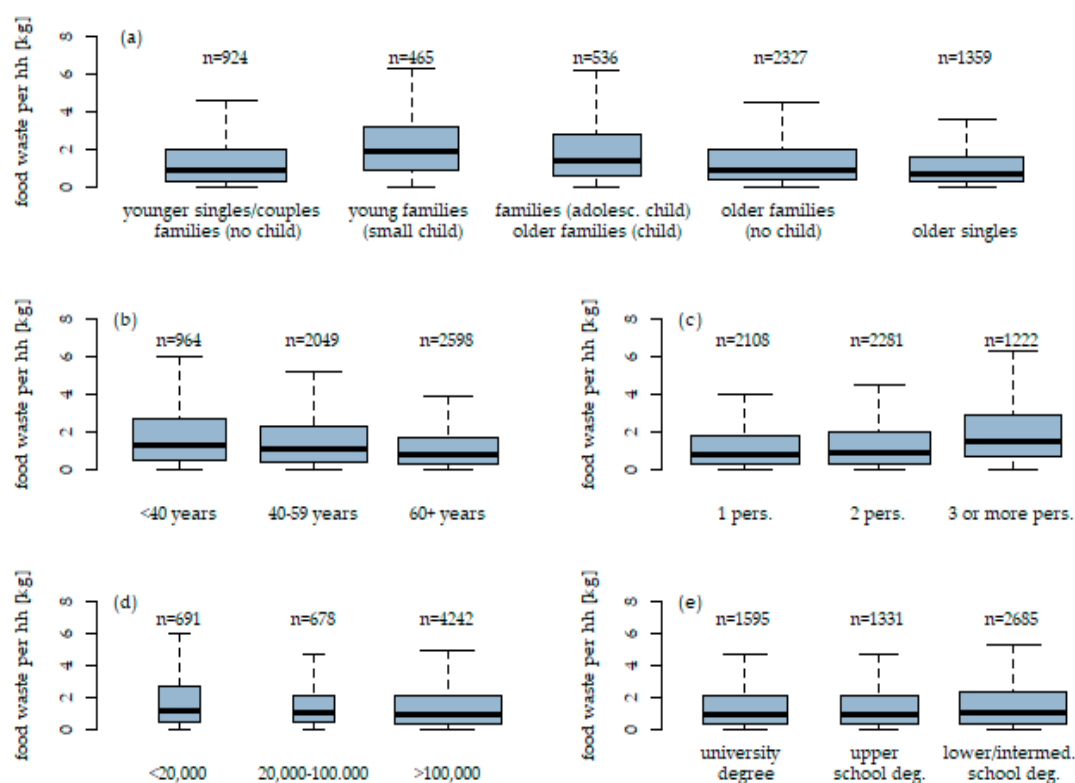

Figure S3. Total amount of household (hh) edible food waste only (in contrast to Figure 5 addressing total food waste) within 14 days per **(a)** household lifecycle stage, **(b)** age of the head of the household, **(c)** household size, **(d)** size category of municipality, and **(e)** level of education (n indicates sample sizes; outliers are excluded).