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# Late Palaeolithic and Early Mesolithic subsistence strategies in the Netherlands. What is the current state of knowledge?

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## Abstract

During the Late Glacial and the Early Holocene, the Netherlands must have been an attractive area for hunting and fishing in view of, for instance, the abundance and easy accessibility of open water locations (main rivers, streams, lakes), though chronological and regional variations of course have existed in the nature and abundance of exploited food resources. However, due to taphonomic processes and bad preservation conditions, information on subsistence strategies of Late Pleniglacial (Magdalenian), Late Glacial (*Federmesser Gruppen*, Ahrensburgian) and early Holocene hunter-gatherers in most of the cases is not based on faunal remains, but derives from other types of evidence (like site-location) and faunal data from (approximately) *contemporaneous archaeological sites* outside the Netherlands.

In the paper data on subsistence strategies from the Netherlands is presented and discussed looking at 1) faunal remains found in Late Palaeolithic and Early Mesolithic archaeological context (for instance Doetinchem, Zutphen), 2) information on site location (Well-Aijen), and 3) results from micro-wear analysis (Eyserheide, Oldeholtwolde).

**Keywords:** subsistence strategies Late Palaeolithic Early Mesolithic The Netherlands

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