

TRANSLATION:

The translation of this fact sheet is provided by *climatop* with the aim of reflecting in the most accurate way the original German text. In case of interpretation difficulties, please consult the original, valid German text.

CO₂ balance: household brushes

The CO₂ balance shows the most climate friendliest brooms, brushes and scrubbing-brushes out of the assortment of *Swiss Brushes Ebnat-Kappel Ltd.*

Following products were compared:



Wooden Brooms FSC	Plastic Broom Classic Clean	Wooden Brushes FSC Holz	Plastic Brush Classic Clean	Wooden Scrubbing- brushes FSC	Plastic Scrubbing- brush Classic Clean
Oeko PROFI-LINE Swiss Move Migros coated Migros nature Coop oekoplan		Oeko PROFI-LINE Swiss Move Migros coated Coop oekoplan		Oeko PROFI-LINE Swiss Move Coop oekoplan	

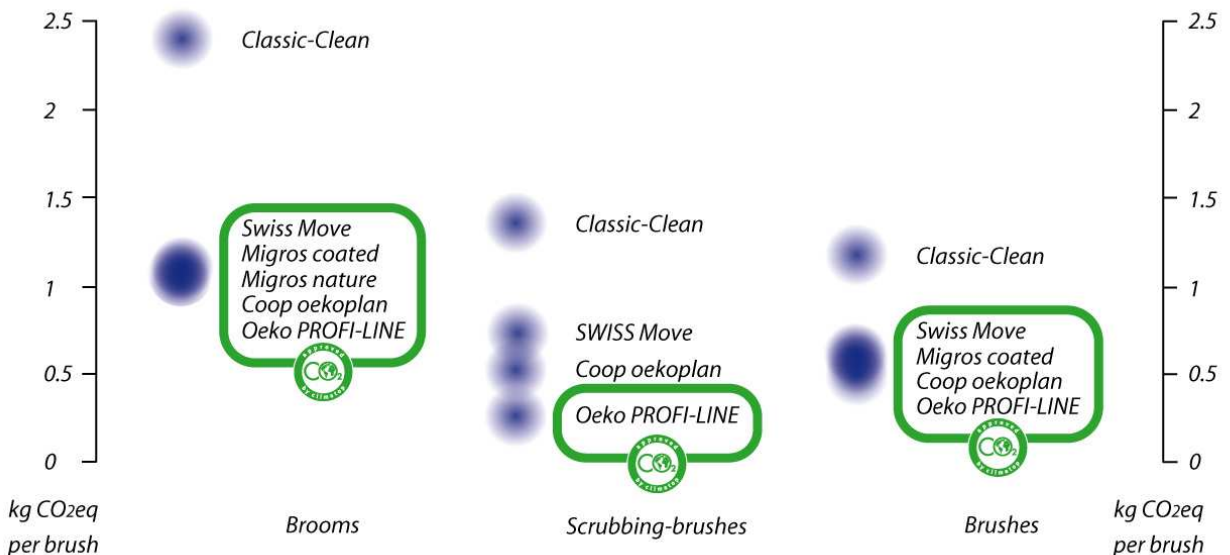
The comparison

The impact on the climate caused by the brushes was calculated over the whole life cycle of the brushes, i.e. from raw material production, fabrication and transportation to waste disposal.

The results

The comparison of products shows that brushes made of FSC certified beech wood cause remarkably lower emissions than comparable brushes made of plastic. The

main reason for the good result of the wooden brushes is that wood is a natural and renewable resource, whereas plastic is made of crude oil. Wooden products can be disposed of without negative effects on the environment. Wood is climate-neutral because the trees absorb the same amount of CO₂ that is emitted while burning the wood; whereas, fossil carbon arises at the disposal of the plastic brushes.



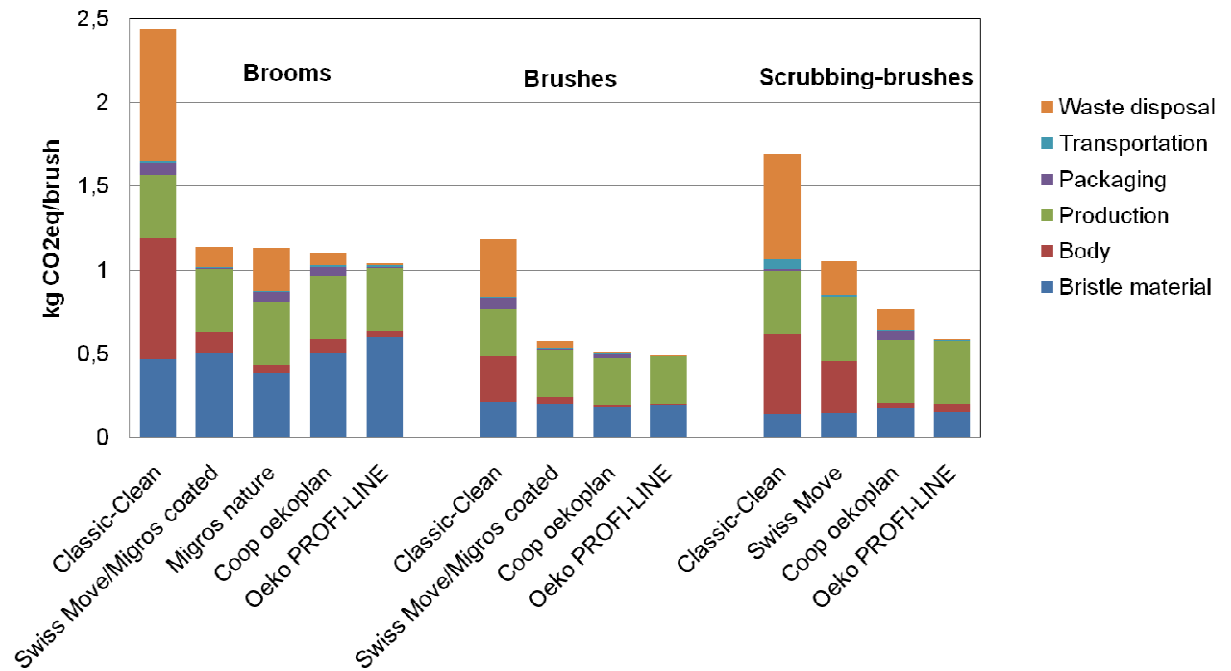
The climate charge of the analysed wooden brooms and brushes is more than 50% lower than the impact of products made of plastic. Also the wooden scrubbing-brushes reach better results, especially the scrubbing-brush of the Oeko PROFI-LINE. Because there are no plastic pieces used contrary to the products of the other assortments.

Ebnat uses wood of sustainable Swiss stands

The beech wood is from the eastern parts of Switzerland which guarantees short hauls. The FSC vouches for sustainable cultivation of forests.

Climate Impact

IPCC (2007) 100a



The figure above shows, where the climate charge of the brooms, brushes and scrubbing-brushes exactly occurs:

If we look at the products made of plastic, raw material production, fabrication and waste disposal are responsible for the major part of carbon emissions. Transportation and packaging cause only minor emissions compared to the other processes.

If we look at the wooden products, especially the bristle materials (animal hair, plant fibres and synthetic bristles) and the fabrication are responsible for the major part of the total emissions. The body material is only for the scrubbing-brush of the Swiss Move assortment of greater importance, because the integrated furniture protection is made out of plastic. Not only for the plastic but also for the wooden products transportation and packaging have almost no impact on the result.

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