

# CSU Extension Local Food Systems

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**Dept of Ag and Resource Economics**

TWENTY-FIRST EDITION

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Welcome to the 21st edition of the CSU Extension Local Food Systems newsletter. This newsletter is intended to give you up-to-date news and information from around the state and our own CSU Extension organization. If you know of any new information that would be relevant to the rest of the group, send it for us to include in the newsletter! (That includes partners outside of CSU as well).

Please forward this newsletter to anyone with an interest in local food systems and CSU's programs in this area, and tell them they are welcome to contact us so we can add them to our mailing list. We will be transitioning to a Food Systems work team in CSU Extension, but the distribution of this newsletter and focus of topics will remain consistent with past issues.

To assist our readers in finding information we may have presented in the past, you can find old issues at: [www.ext.colostate.edu/cis/localfood.html](http://www.ext.colostate.edu/cis/localfood.html).

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## COLORADO MARKETMAKER

Colorado MarketMaker continues to serve as an online platform to connect Colorado producers, food enterprises, wineries, markets, agritourism operations, buyers and visitors who are seeking to find those products and businesses that match their desire to do more business in our great state. We hope that you continue to find ways to highlight this resource to your peers and partners.

The newest business spotlight on the Colorado MarketMaker website is Boulder Ice Cream, serving local batch churned ice cream in all natural and organic flavors. The ice cream is rich and creamy with higher butterfat and very little air content. Try some of their bestselling flavors: Mexican Chocolate, Famous Sweet Cream, Espresso Chocolate Chip, Peanut Butter Cup, and more! Visit [www.bouldericecream.com](http://www.bouldericecream.com) to find Boulder Ice Cream and the grocery store or at one of their partner ice cream shops. Check out their [profile on Colorado MarketMaker](#).

## NEW WEBSITE FOR COLORADO FOOD SYSTEMS ADVISORY COUNCIL

The Colorado Food Systems Advisory Council is pleased to announce its new website! The Council is entering its second year of service to the state and is growing an interesting set of partnerships and committees to work on pressing issues for the state. Please visit them at [www.cofoodsystemscouncil.org](http://www.cofoodsystemscouncil.org) to learn more about Council activities and Council members.

From Wendy, Megan, and the entire Food Systems Advisory Council: “We hope the website will become a place where local and regional food systems councils and coalitions can provide their information and find one another. If you are a member of a local or regional group and would like to be listed in the directory, please visit:

<http://www.cofoodsystemscouncil.org/regional-and-local-food-systems-coalitions.html> and send your information!

## WINTER FARMERS’ MARKET WINS USDA GRANT

On October 14, USDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan announced this year's recipients of the Farmers Market Promotion Program grants, including a grant of \$50,000 to Be Local Northern Colorado of Fort Collins. The Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) awards grants to support direct marketing and to increase consumer access to healthy food. Since its inception in 2006, FMPP has awarded more than \$23 million across the country.

The sixth season of the \*Be Local Winter Farmers Markets\* will begin Saturday, October 29 at the Opera Galleria, 123 North College in downtown Fort Collins. The Markets run from 10 AM till 3 PM. The Winter Farmers Markets feature more than 50 vendors at each market, selling produce, eggs, meat and poultry, wine and cider, cheese, bread and baked goods, coffee, tea, locally-made food specialties and crafts and other locally-produced gift items. The kick-off of this season is a “celebration of Food Day,” a new national effort to highlight the importance of healthy food and healthy eating. “Food Day at the Winter

Farmers Markets” will include Chef's Tours, special recipes from Vendors, and celebration of healthy, seasonal eating.

The Winter Farmers Market dates are October 29, November 12 and 19, December 10 and 17, January 14 and 28, February 11 and 25, March 10 and 24 and April 7. (Markets through December are 10 AM - 3 PM; after January 1, they are 10 AM - 2 PM.) For this season, sponsors for the Winter Farmers Markets include Larimer County, City of Fort Collins, KUNC 91.5 FM, One Tribe Creative, and KRFC 88.9 FM. Be Local Northern Colorado, a 501(c)(3) community non-profit, partners with the City of Fort Collins to support local businesses through the Uniquely Fort Collins economic development effort of the City. Other partners include the Downtown Development Authority, CSU Extension’s Food Systems team, and Colorado Proud. [Visit their website](#) for more information.

## BEGINNING FARMERS AND RANCHERS DEVELOPMENT CONFERENCE

The 2nd annual Project Director’s meeting for the Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Development Program is scheduled for November 30-December 2, 2011 at the campus Hilton in Fort Collins.

The Beginning Farmers and Ranchers Development Program is a relatively new USDA effort to encourage more new farmers by offering targeted education and technical assistance. CSU was one of the first grantees in 2009, in partnership with the Washington State University Center for Risk Management Education. After participating in this meeting last year, they asked CSU to host this year's conference, which will have over 100 participants from 35 of the 50 states. The Colorado Cattlemen’s Association received a grant in 2010 and will be co-hosting the event, including a lunch panel on Thursday, December 1st. Please contact [Dawn Thilmany](#) if you are interested in attending.

## AG ADVENTURE 2011

On September 28 and 29, about 2,000 third-graders in the Poudre School District visited CSU's Agricultural Research, Development and Education Center (ARDEC) for the 11th annual Ag Adventure. Joining these third-graders were CSU President Tony Frank and College of Agricultural Sciences Dean Craig Beyrouthy. The program has provided students with the opportunity for leadership, planning, coordinating, marketing and delivering the “hands-on” activities in six learning centers:

1. Sheep and wool production – highlighting shearing, spinning, weaving and the ever-popular CSU mascot, CAM the Ram.
2. Beef and dairy production – featuring feed rations; the biology of ruminants, or animals with four-compartment stomachs; and showcasing a fistulated cow, a research animal with a small window-like panel that allows viewing of digestive processes.
3. Equine production – exploring the history of the Western Pony Express mail ser-vice and discussing the standard reference to horse height in "hands."
4. Soil and water issues – featuring a rainfall simulator and exploring issues including soil formation, soil texture and erosion as they relate to crop production and a healthy environment.
5. Farm-to-plate topics – delving into fruit, vegetable and grain production, and exploring nutrition

and food-safety issues.

6. Farm safety – touching on safety issues associated with machinery, farm animals and weather.

The benefits of this program are many; not only does this benefit the third-graders, it helps the third-grade teachers who are teaching this curricula in their classroom in the Poudre School District. It provides a service-learning opportunity for nearly 200 freshmen who are enrolled in the College of Agricultural Sciences Freshmen Seminar course and they work closely with upperclassmen in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics, who provide the planning and leadership for this event. The agricultural community gains by exposing the general public to the realities of agricultural production. And to top it off, the kids have a good time.

## SECOND ANNUAL CONNECTING LOCAL FARMS AND SCHOOLS FORUM

The topic of the second annual Connecting Local Farms and Schools forum is “Farm to School: 2012 and Beyond.” It will be held at The Dome at the Adams Country Regional Park Complex in Brighton, CO. The conference will be held on January 27, 2012 from 8 AM—4 PM, pre-registration information and scholarship opportunities will be forthcoming. There will be a limited number of travel scholarships available for those coming from outside the metro region, so make sure to consider applying if travel assistance would allow any producers or a school district partner to attend. For more information please contact [info@realfoodcolorado.com](mailto:info@realfoodcolorado.com).

## WEBINAR: CHOOSE YOUR OWN FARM TO SCHOOL ADVENTURE

Wondering how to identify your best opportunities to grow Farm to School (FTS), whether from your own school gardens or nearby farms? This webinar will focus on Colorado Farm to Schools’ [“Choose Your Own Farm to School Adventure” tool](#). [Register now!](#)

This tool was created to assist school districts in gathering information relevant to implementing a Farm to School program. Each section includes hyperlinks to resources to help in the planning and implementation of FTS. Using the School District Review Tool to Help Identify Opportunities for Integrating Local Foods into Your Meal Program, Thursday, November 17, from 2 - 3 p.m.

During the webinar, we will provide an overview of the tool, how districts can use it, and discuss opportunities for follow-up technical assistance from Colorado Farm to School. The webinar will also feature three Food Service Directors and their stories of how they identified and built their most strategic opportunities for growing their FTS programs! We are pleased to welcome the following panelists:

- Shelly Allen, St. Vrain Valley School District
- Mark Lara, North Conejos School District
- Kara Sample, Weld County School District 6

[Click here](#) to register for this Colorado Farm to School webinar. You can view the Choose Your Own Farm

to School Adventure Tool [here](#). This is the third in a series of Farm to School webinars produced by the Colorado Farm to School project ([www.coloradofarmtoschool.org](http://www.coloradofarmtoschool.org)) and LiveWell Colorado ([www.livewellcolorado.org](http://www.livewellcolorado.org)).

To contact Colorado Farm to School staff regarding this webinar or other questions, please contact Wendy Peters Moschetti at [wendy@wpmconsulting.net](mailto:wendy@wpmconsulting.net) or Lyn Kathlene at [lyn@csi-policy.org](mailto:lyn@csi-policy.org). Please join us in our continuing series of Farm to School webinars and become part of this exciting movement to improve school food and support Colorado agriculture!

## CANTALOUPE OUTBREAK: MOVING FROM RESPONSE TO PREVENTION

A summit on the listeria cantaloupe outbreak will take place on December 7 at Colorado State University in the Lory Student Center, Room 228, from 9 AM—2 PM. The following speakers will be presenting:

- Alicia Cronquist, Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
- Lawrence Goodridge, Colorado State University
- Patricia Kendall, Colorado State University

The seminar will be open to students, faculty, health departments, industry, regulators, and other interested parties. A live video stream will be available for those who cannot attend in person. In addition, the seminar will be recorded.

A working group meeting will be limited to 40 invited participants. Participants will be invited from federal and local agencies including: Center for Disease Control and Prevention, Food and Drug Administration, Colorado Department of Health and Environment, Colorado Department of Agriculture, Tri-County Health Department, Denver Health, Colorado State University, University of Colorado, Colorado Department of Human Services, Industry, and others.

## CALL FOR PAPERS: HIGHER EDUCATION AND FOOD SYSTEMS

*Journal of Agriculture, Food Systems, and Community Development (JAFSCD)* call for papers. Deadline for manuscripts: December 1<sup>st</sup>, 2011.

In this special topic call for papers, the Editor encourages researchers, administrators, graduate students, NGO staff members, and others to submit manuscripts featuring results of surveys, case studies, policy analyses, review articles, reflective essays, and commentaries in which they examine the ways colleges and universities are pursuing their food system sustainability goals and the extent to which they are finding success.

Examples might include:

- Survey of campus sustainability coordinators related to best practices in food system–related activities
- Focus group of food service directors

- Census of student farms and gardens
- Survey of student organizations to inventory and assess student-led programs and activities
- Comparative analysis of food system curriculum within and across disciplines or institutions
- Innovations in programming by institutions of higher education, including private and community colleges in addition to land grant colleges
- Comparison of institutional use of local food
- Employment prospects for graduates of food system sustainability programs
- Analysis of trends in tenure track positions and funded research
- Analysis of food systems education and the liberal arts
- The role of higher education social networks related to food and agriculture
- Case study of university-based local food system projects or community-university partnerships
- Analysis of food system education curricula and course syllabi

For more information on JAFSCD, visit [www.AgDevJournal.com](http://www.AgDevJournal.com). Dawn Thilmany, one of the team leaders, is a member of the Editor's Advisory Board and would like to encourage more partners from Colorado to showcase their work.

## RESOURCES AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Don't forget! Colorado State University Extension Food Systems and Agricultural Policy Resources:

- [Consumer Resources](#)
- [Producer Resources](#)
- [Linking Producers to Restaurants, Workplaces and Other Institutions](#)
- [Linking Producers to Schools - Networks, Directories and Guides](#)
- [Community Assessments and Toolkits](#)
- [Calculators and Databases](#)
- [Policy Articles, Resources and Case Studies](#)
- [Research and Other Resources](#)

To add your ideas and news, contact [Nick Marconi](#).

To subscribe and unsubscribe to this newsletter, contact [Martha Sullins](#).