

CSU Extension Local Food Systems

Dawn Thilmany, Martha Sullins, Adrian Card and Marisa Bunning, Team Leads



Co-Editors: Dawn Thilmany, Martha Sullins and Ashley Colpaart
Dept. of Ag and Resource Economics

FIFTY-SECOND EDITION

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Welcome to the 52nd edition of the Colorado State University Extension Local Food Systems newsletter. This newsletter is designed to give you up-to-date news and information from around the state and our own CSU Extension organization. Feel free to send in any events and news from your organization and from partners so that we may share them with our readers through this newsletter!

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. The Food Systems work team for CSU Extension is committed to building a stronger network of those who work on systems-based issues. The distribution of this newsletter is one way to build that network.

To assist our readers in finding information, events and programs we may have presented in the past, you can find old issues at: <http://www.ext.colostate.edu/cis/localfood.html>.

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COLORADO MARKETMAKER FOR FOOD BANKS

Do you have surplus produce at market or on the farm? Use Colorado MarketMaker (CMM) to search for food banks where you can donate your produce to those in need. Five food banks are currently listed in CMM:

[Care and Share Food Bank for Southern Colorado](#) – Colorado Springs

[Community Food Share](#) – Longmont

[Food Bank for Larimer County](#) – Fort Collins

[Food Bank of the Rockies](#) – Denver

[Food Bank of the Rockies - Western Slope](#) – Western Slope

Check out their profiles to see which farms they are working with, current food needs, their facility details, freezer capacity, transportation, the markets they source from and more. Explore [CMM](#) today to learn more about connecting with your local food bank!

8TH ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS FOR WILDLIFE

Join colleagues and other professionals at the 8th International Congress for Wildlife and Livelihoods on Private and Communal Lands: Livestock, Tourism and Spirit, which will emphasize practical knowledge, skills and attitudes with action outcomes to assist private and communal sectors internationally, in North America, and in Colorado. It is a rare occurrence that this congress will be in our region, so it may be a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to attend!

Sessions and workshops are planned with invited speakers of quality and substance, diverse papers from around the world, and field trips to Blue Valley Ranch, MacGregor Ranch, Rocky Mountain National Park, Sylvan Dale Ranch and LightHawk flights observing conservation from the air.

Who should attend?

- Private Landowners & Producer Groups
- Fish & Wildlife Agency and Organization Administrators and Managers
- Fish & Wildlife Industry Professionals
- Energy and Other Developers
- Wildlife Recreation User Groups
- All others working in & interested in Wildlife Management & the Outdoors

For more information about the 8th International Congress for Wildlife, [go to this site](#).

USDA'S NEW FARMERS SITE

USDA continues its commitment to the future of agriculture by unveiling [New Farmers](#), a one-stop shop for new and beginning farmers entering agriculture. It's a practical, workable tool that will help tomorrow's farmers and ranchers tap into the range of USDA resources today. This new resource features direct links to USDA programs and services, as well as case studies about how USDA support is being put to work to for America's agriculture future.

Visit [New Farmers](#) for more information.

EXTENSION COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE: REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS

eXtension Community of Practice on Community, Local & Regional Food Systems is excited to announce the formal launching of the [Community, Local & Regional Food Systems \(CLRFS\) eCoP!](#)

This resource is designed to provide information and networking opportunities for educators, community-based practitioners, policy makers, farmers/growers, families, and individuals involved in building equitable, health-promoting, resilient, and economically balanced food systems. This community of practice will:

- 1) create new content;
- 2) compile and summarize information published by member organizations; and
- 3) offer a unique, online meeting place for diverse groups and interests to share information and learn from one another.

CLRFS resources you can use and contribute to:

- Feature and Resource articles on a number of relevant topics pertaining to local, regional, and community food systems.
- Links highlighting issues pertaining to local, regional, and community food systems.
- CLRFS frequently asked questions through eXtension's "Ask an Expert."
- CLRFS webinar series.
- Meet the CLRFS members through eXtension's "Expert Bios."
- Social media, including Facebook and an eCoP listserv (local-foods@lists.extension.org).

This group will also have its first in-person meeting in Cleveland in late September 2014. For more information, watch the team's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/LocalFoods/>.

FOOD VALUE CHAINS RESOURCE

"Food Value Chains: Creating Shared Value to Enhance Marketing Success," released by the Wallace Center, American University and USDA, will provide guidance on how food value chains are structured, how they function, and the benefits they provide to participants, with the intent of encouraging their adoption where the opportunities for successful collaboration exist among organizations with compatible principles and complementary areas of expertise.

Check out the full report [here](#).

URBAN AGRICULTURE SURVEY HIGHLIGHTS

Results on a survey of urban agriculture organizations and businesses illustrate the wide range of agricultural activities practiced in urban landscapes across North America. Some highlights include:

1. On average each urban agriculture (UA) group focused on six different activities.
2. Survey results further demonstrate a marked difference between the types of UA activities practiced by businesses as compared to other organizations.

- a. For instance, more than half of all surveyed businesses indicated that market gardening was one of their primary focuses, compared to only one in five organizations.
 - b. In contrast, educational programs, operating collective gardens, and managing demonstration gardens were commonly noted as primary focuses of non-businesses, but were each noticeably less common focuses among businesses.
3. Organizations appear to rely heavily on volunteer labor for their UA projects, but businesses did to a lesser extent.
 - a. When asked how much their UA projects rely on volunteers or community engagement, nearly 80% of respondents from organizations indicated 'very much' or 'tremendously' with little variation across cities and regions, compared to just 28% of businesses.
 4. Respondents indicated that their UA projects were located in a variety of different types of urban spaces. The two most commonly used spaces were yards and vacant lots, both of which were used by over half of the respondents. Only 7% of businesses and organizations indicated that they were practicing UA on an existing farm site or agricultural land.

The full report is available at:

http://web.pdx.edu/~ncm3/files/PSU_UA_Survey.pdf

FARM-TO-FOOD BANK STRATEGIES REPORT

Northwest Harvest released a report to help hunger relief organizations provide more fresh fruits and vegetables to their food bank clients. The report, prepared by Urban Food Link, serves as a guide to agencies looking to build strong relationships with farmers. The organization interviewed programs across the country and surveyed over 300 Northwest Harvest agencies to better understand the barriers around reaching out to farmers. The report provides four key strategies for increasing the amount of fresh, local produce available in the hunger relief network. [Read the report here.](#)

OLD FORT MARKET GARDEN INCUBATOR OPEN HOUSE

When: Thursday, July 31, 2014, 4:00—7:30 pm

Where: Old Fort at Hesperus

18683 Hwy 140 * Hesperus, CO

(5 miles south of Hwy 160)

Meet near historic Library; Follow signs to Incubator Plots

Activities include:

- Tour 6.5 acre Market Garden Incubator site
- Learn about process for Fall applications
- Meet 2014 incubator farmers
- Drinks will be provided

No cost; just RSVP to Beth at 970-385-4574 or lashell_b@fortlewis.edu. You can also tour the 4-H Giving Back Garden to see what they are growing for community distribution.

TOUR DE FARMS: DURANGO

When: Saturday, August 23rd

Time: Ride starts shortly after 8am (from Fassbinder Park in Durango) and ends around 11am)

After-ride celebration starts at noon at Ska Brewery

Cost is \$20 and includes ride, commemorative pint glass, Zia lunch, and free drink from Ska.

For additional information [visit here](#). Each ride caps at 40 riders and both are supported with experienced ride leaders, a SAG vehicle, bicycle mechanics, and water/bathroom stops. Guaranteed to fill up – so get your spot early on the Tour de Farms!

SAVE THE DATE: LOCAL FOOD WEEK

When: September 18th - 20th

Where: Colorado College's Armstrong Theater, Colorado Springs

September 18th Thursday - Day

"Food Talk" Presentations / Panelists

- Woody Tasch - Slow Money Founder, (slowmoney.org/)
- Judy Wicks - White Dog Cafe (www.whitedog.com/), Balle Founder (bealocalist.org/),
- Michael Brownlee - Local Food Shift (localfoodshift.com)
- Larry Stebbins - Pikes Peak Urban Gardens (www.ppugardens.org)
- Mike Callicrate - Ranch Foods Direct (www.ranchfoodsdirect.com)
- Craig McHugh - A Joyful Noise Farm (ajoyfulnoisefarm.com)
- Jill Gaebler - Colorado Springs District 5 Council Member (springsgov.com)
- Dave Anderson - Colorado Springs Public Market (cspublicmarket.com)

September 18th Thursday - Evening

Hanna Ranch Movie (www.hannaranchmovie.com)

September 19th Friday - Day Organization for Competitive Markets (OCM) Annual Conference

"Food Talk" Presentations / Panelists

- Joe Maxwell - HSUS VP Outreach (www.humanesociety.org/)
- Wayne Pacelle - HSUS CEO (www.humanesociety.org/)
- Diana Moss - Antitrust Institute (www.antitrustinstitute.org/)
- Dave Murphy - FoodDemocracyNow.org
- Wenonah Hauter - Food & Water Watch, (www.foodandwaterwatch.org/)
- Fred Stokes - Organization for Competitive Markets, (competitivemarkets.com)
- Barry C Lynn - New America Foundation (www.newamerica.org/)
- Chris Leonard - New America Foundation / The Meat Racket (www.newamerica.org/)
- Mike Callicrate - Ranch Foods Direct (www.ranchfoodsdirect.com)

September 19th Friday - Evening OCM Banquet

Lodging & Transportation

Clarion Hotel & Conference Center - http://www.clarionhotel.com/hotel-colorado_springs-colorado-CO025

NOTE: All panels and talks will be live broadcasted via the web as well as recorded for future outreach efforts.

2014 SLOW FOOD DENVER FARM TOURS

As part of Slow Food Denver's mission to help connect links in the chain of the food system, the Farm Tour Series allows people to meet the farmers and ranchers who produce our food and learn more of the story behind our meals.

Each farm tour includes a tour of the operation where you will get a behind-the-scenes look at what it takes to grow the food you love, along with a meal prepared with product straight from the field. This year's series includes (follow the links to purchase tickets, start times and costs vary):

July 26: [Farm Tour and Breakfast at Lyons Farmette](#)

August 23: [Farm to Table Experience at Zweck Farm](#) (with History Colorado)

September 13: [Farm Tour and Lunch at 63rd Street Farm](#)

SAVE THE DATE: CONSUMER ISSUES CONFERENCE

When: October 8-10, 2014

Where: University of Wyoming Student Union,
Laramie, Wyoming

This year's conference is focused on food issues, and will cover:

- Local Foods
- Hunger Issues, including Food Waste & Recovery
- School Nutrition
- Food Advertising and Marketing
- Global Food Issues

Keynote speakers include:

- Michael Jacobson, Center for Science in the Public Interest
- Nicole Civita, University of Arkansas Law School
- Michael Hansen, Consumers Union
- U.S. Department of Agriculture Representative
- United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization Representative

Documentary: *A Place at the Table*, Wednesday, October 8th at 7:00 PM; exhibits and a poster session also featured. CLE Wyoming/Colorado and other professional credits available.

[Register Today!!!](#)

SAVE THE DATE: FARM TO TABLE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

When: August 2-4, 2014

Where: New Orleans, LA

The Farm to Table International Symposium (F2Ti) offers practical knowledge for all those interested in the topics of sourcing, producing, and consuming foods locally. Join in lively discussions on the topic which will feature the brightest thought leaders and leading practitioners in the burgeoning farm-to-table movement.

This year's theme, "The Process," examines the agricultural-culinary cycle at all levels and will feature its own organic urban farm research project. Topics will include the best practices for urban farming, bringing products to market, sourcing locally, sustainability and the latest with the impending Food Safety Modernization Act. The Symposium occurs in tandem with the Louisiana Restaurant Association's Annual Foodservice Expo in a city that has its own unique culinary culture. [Check out the website](#) for more information and to register.

AGRI-CULTURE FEST AND FEAST: GREELEY

When: Saturday August 23rd, 2014

Where: 8th Street Plaza, Downtown Greeley

FEST: Free community event 11am-5pm

An afternoon of delicious discovery, delight & community spirit. Friends, families & neighbors will share a late summer day full of food, vendors, live music, demonstration, education & grilling competition. Live music & spirits transition from the afternoon fest into the evening feast

FEAST: A Greeley Creative District fundraiser

Limited ticketed event starts at 6pm. An evening showcase of visual, music & culinary arts. An intimate ticketed experience bringing local produce & professional chefs to a family style dinner under the stars. Ticket holders will dine on the plaza, and experience local flavors & talents focused around local produce. Funding supports the Greeley Creative District.

Bring your business into this locally focused summer event that fills the downtown plaza with an afternoon fest & evening feast. This is a great way to meet your target market, introduce foods & features, share the community spirit and connect with the greater Greeley community.

To connect your business to this event, contact The Greeley Tribune sales team and agriCULTURE committee at 970-352-0211.

FARMER TO SCHOOL EXPO

When: Wednesday, August 13th 4:00-7:00 PM

Where: Poudre School District Warehouse, 1502 S. Timberline Rd, Fort Collins

An invitation to farmers and local producers to connect and support Colorado Farm to School. Please feel free to bring samples and products you would like to promote to the community. Food will be provided!

To RSVP or for questions, contact Poudre School District's Child Nutrition Department at 970-490-3560.

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 [Ashley Colpaart](#).

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