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Any opinions, findings, conclusions, or recommendations expressed in this publication are those of the author(s) and do not necessarily reflect the view of the U.S. Department of Agriculture.
EXTENSION CURRICULUM OR TOOL

EXTENSION WEBSITES FROM OTHER UNIVERSITIES

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
North Carolina State University Extension
Cornell University Extension
University of Delaware Extension

KEYWORDS
consumer food safety

TARGET AUDIENCE
Consumers
FARMERS’ MARKET FRESH

CONTACT PERSON
Chris Sneed
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
SNAP-ed initiative designed to increase consumption of fruits and vegetables at farmers’ markets using EBT.

KEYWORDS
farmers’ markets; food security; SNAP; EBT; nutrition; food; local food; food safety; health; obesity; food security

TARGET AUDIENCE
Consumers
MISSISSIPPI FOOD POLICY COUNCIL

CONTACT PERSON
DeMarc Hickson, President
dhickson@mbk-inc.org

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The mission of the MS Food Policy Council is to advocate for food and farm policies that build healthy communities and strengthen local food systems.

LINK
https://mississippifoodpolicycouncil.wordpress.com/about/

KEYWORDS
policy; sustainability; food access; economic development; food systems; farm to institution; food safety

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers, consumers, policy makers
NC COOPERATIVE EXTENSION LOCAL FOODS WEB PORTAL

CONTACT PERSON
Joanna Massey Lelekacs
NC Cooperative Extension Coordinator for Local Foods
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
In 2012, Local Foods was named as NC Cooperative Extension’s first Flagship Program. The Local Foods Program is a collaborative program of The Cooperative Extension Program of North Carolina A&T State University and the North Carolina Cooperative Extension Service of North Carolina State University.

The Local Food web portal has been developed by North Carolina Cooperative Extension to provide local food systems resources and timely information to all residents and businesses across the state. The goal of the website is to provide information and link to resources from Cooperative Extension as well as from other NC organizations and state partners working on local food programming. It is a dynamic portal and is intended to include new resources as they are developed over time.

LINK
www.localfoodnc.org

KEYWORDS
local food; supply chains; strong communities; youth and families; nutrition; health; flagship program

TARGET AUDIENCE
Target audience includes producers and other food system businesses, community, youth, families, consumers, economic developers, service providers, etc.
CLEMSON SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE PROGRAM WEBSITE

CONTACT PERSON
Kelly Ann Flynn Gilkerson
kgilker@clemson.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The Clemson University Sustainable Agriculture (SA) Program provides sustainable agriculture education and outreach programs to Cooperative Extension Service personnel, Natural Resources Conservation Service staff and other agriculture professionals, farmers, and landowners with an interest in sustainable agriculture.

LINK
http://www.clemson.edu/sustainableag/index.html

KEYWORDS
sustainable agriculture, organic farming, ecological, training, education

TARGET AUDIENCE
Consumers, producers, policy makers
OKLAHOMA GARDENING TELEVISION PROGRAM

CONTACT PERSON
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Gardening program produced by OSU Extension that is aired over public television in Oklahoma. Includes information on home fruit and vegetable production, food preparation and preservation of produce as well as other information landscaping important to home owners. Program is accompanied by a website and YouTube presence.

LINK
http://www.oklahomagardening.okstate.edu/

KEYWORDS
gardening, produce, cooking

TARGET AUDIENCE
Consumers
TEEN CUISINE

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Teen Cuisine’s goal is to help teens (grades 6-12) become self-sufficient in the kitchen while learning healthy food habits, read and follow recipes, identify proper portion sizes and use safe food handling practices.

LINK

KEYWORDS
basic skills, food choices, food safety

TARGET AUDIENCE
Consumers, youth grades 6-12
SLOW FOOD BATON ROUGE

CONTACT PERSON
Cheryl Giles
Slow Food Baton Rouge Board Member
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Slow Food Baton Rouge is involved directly in supporting a sustainable, local food system through various programs including: farm to school programming in Baton Rouge (Greauxing Healthy Baton Rouge); farm to chef and consumer programming through farm to table events; seminars, workshops and events related to local food systems and urban agriculture.

LINK
slowfoodbr.org

KEYWORDS
farm to school, farm to table, local food systems, education

TARGET AUDIENCE
Consumers
PLATE IT UP KENTUCKY PROUD CAMPAIGN

CONTACT PERSON
Mindy McCulley
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Plate it Up Kentucky Proud is a partnership project between the University of Kentucky Cooperative Extension Service, the Kentucky Department of Agriculture and the University of Kentucky School of Human Environmental Sciences. This project provides healthy, great tasting recipes using Kentucky Proud products for the people of Kentucky.

LINK
https://fcs-hes.ca.uky.edu/content/plate-it-kentucky-proud

KEYWORDS
recipes, Kentucky Proud, Plate It Up

TARGET AUDIENCE
Consumers
FOOD COST CALCULATOR FOR LOCAL BUYERS

CONTACT PERSON
Anthony Flaccavento
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The results are now available as Putting Local on the Menu and the Local Food Cost Calculator. There are two versions of the calculator: one designed for restaurants, the other for college and university dining services.

LINK
http://www.ruralscale.com/resources/calculator

KEYWORDS
food cost; buying local

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
EXTENSION CURRICULUM

CONTACT PERSON

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Some resources might be available in extension curriculum, though, currently under preparation.

LINK

http://www.tnstate.edu/extension/  
http://www.tnstate.edu/faculty/dnandwani/mulch.aspx

KEYWORDS

Organic agriculture

TARGET AUDIENCE

Producers
NC FARM SCHOOL

CONTACT PERSON
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The NC Farm School is the brain child of Davidson County Extension advisory council member Jennifer Clark. Jennifer and Amy-Lynn Albertson, Davidson County Extension Agent, developed a plan for what a farm school would look like with the goal of teaching sound business principles to those wishing to start or add a new agricultural venture. 2015 welcomes the fourth year of the NC Farm School’s history providing locations throughout the state where individuals or families can develop new businesses in Agriculture.

The NC Farm School program offers seven business-planning seminars taught by extension specialist, agents and experienced farmers. These sessions give farmers the tools to create viable business plans. The school is easy to fit into a busy schedule by providing one class each month, and each business session focuses on different areas of a business plan, including financial management and effective marketing strategies. The goal of NC Farm School is to allow a pathway of success for farmers to generate profitable businesses.

The program also includes field trips to working farms led by innovative, experienced farmers and agricultural professionals. Participants learn economically sustainable farming methods in a range of production systems, including fruits, vegetables, specialty crops, poultry, animal husbandry and agritourism. These field trips are available to anyone who signs up for NC Farm School during the registration period prior to the beginning of classes.

The NC Farm School program operates four locations throughout the state in 2015, and all four locations have started classes as of Feb. 27, 2015. These locations include areas in the Blue Ridge, Foothills, Piedmont, and Sandhills. All of the schools utilize extension agents and farmers from their regions to train farmers desiring to develop business skills.

LINK
http://ncfarmschool.ces.ncsu.edu/

KEYWORDS
beginning farmers; new farmers; farm; business planning; beginning agriculture; farming school

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
SANDHILLS FOOD HUB

CONTACT PERSON
Susan Kelly
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
A team of extension personnel, economic developers and producers has applied for funding to develop a regional food hub in the Sandhills region. During this process the team has researched successful and unsuccessful food hub ventures, developed an extension grant application, a business plan and made site visits in North and South Carolina. Work continues as the producers and end users are brought into the food hub development. This project has been validated through an extension feasibility study in 2013 and three seasons of a trial farm to chef program.

KEYWORDS
food hub; transportation; aggregation marketing; agriculture; farm; produce; chef institution

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
NATIONAL GOOD FOOD NETWORK

CONTACT PERSON
Jeff Farbman, Sr. Program Associate
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The National Good Food Network is an initiative of the Wallace Center working to scale up the supply of good food – food that is healthy, green, fair and affordable – into more retail, wholesale, and institutional markets and provide greater access for traditionally underserved communities.

Structured as a network of networks, we are able to ensure efficient flow of information and innovation from boots on the ground projects to the national level, and back down to the grassroots level across the nation. Our trusted cadre of technical assistance providers bring their wisdom from diverse backgrounds to move toward our goals.

LINK
http://www.wallacecenter.org/ngfn or www.ngfn.org

KEYWORDS
food hubs; affordable; locally source food

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
FOOD SYSTEMS INNOVATION CENTER

CONTACT PERSON
Melissa Newman, Director
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The University of Kentucky Food Systems Innovation Center (FSIC) uses a multi-disciplinary approach to providing applied research solutions to Kentucky’s food businesses.

Our goal is to develop strong food businesses by facilitating the profitable production, processing and marketing of local, healthful foods by integrating research, education and extension programs. By working closely with the Kentucky Department of Agriculture, Kentucky Center for Agriculture and Rural Development, Kentucky Farm Bureau, Farmers Markets and Cooperatives the FSIC assists the efforts of small and large manufacturing firms as well as farms transitioning from tobacco dependence to value-added food production.

FSIC’s technical services include process validation studies, sensory panels, shelf life evaluation, pH and other chemical analyses. Market studies such as consumer, sensory and demand studies are also available to provide clients with market intelligence to make informed decisions. In addition, the FSIC offers HACCP and food defense training and administers MarketReady training for producers that want to sell to restaurants, distribution chains and retailers.

LINK
http://www.uky.edu/fsic/

KEYWORDS
Small to medium processors

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
VEGETABLE PRODUCTION INFORMATION FOR HOMEOWNERS AND COMMERCIAL GROWERS

CONTACT PERSON
Joseph Masabni
jmasabni@ag.tamu.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Online resource on Aggie Horticulture website with downloadable PDF files with information on production, pest control and fertility. Information is grouped to serve the homeowner or the commercial vegetable producer.

LINK
aggiehorticulture.tamu.edu/vegetable

KEYWORDS
easy guides; variety selector; production guides; problem solver

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
ORGANIC PROJECT

CONTACT PERSON
Joseph Masabni
jmasabni@ag.tamu.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Research is conducted to better serve the organic community in Texas. A website is available as a repository for all organic-related research and extension activities.

LINK
http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/organic/

KEYWORDS
organic; vegetable; livestock breeds; animal nutrition and housing needs; crop selection; soil preparation; organic weed; disease and insect control; marketing options

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
NC GOOD FARMER’S MARKET PRACTICES CURRICULUM

CONTACT PERSON
Ben Chapman
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
N.C. Good Farmer’s Market Practices is a new N.C. Cooperative Extension curriculum developed to educate farmer’s market managers and vendors about measures to minimize food safety risks. The program is titled Good Farmer’s Market Practices (GFMPs). The GFMPs curriculum is specifically targeted to farmer’s market managers and vendors who will be responsible for implementing the practices that will help minimize risks when it comes to the safety of products sold and practices at farmer’s markets. The curriculum provides information to enhance the safety of products sold and practices at farmer’s markets across North Carolina. These efforts are being carried out to protect the farmer’s market sector by increasing good food safety practices and reduce the risk of foodborne illness outbreaks. Considering the increasing popularity of markets, a focus on safety of food products sold protects farmers, patrons, and local economies. Market managers and vendors are encouraged to take advantage of this opportunity to learn more from this food safety at farmer’s markets curriculum.

Module 1 titled Food Safety Principles focuses on factors contributing to foodborne illness and developing a good food safety culture. The curriculum includes an introduction to common foodborne pathogens and diseases as well as common factors responsible for foodborne illness outbreaks. Factors contributing to the entry and growth of microorganisms will be discussed to provide a better understanding of ways to reduce the risk.

Module 2 titled Personnel Health & Hygiene focuses on communicating good food safety culture responsibilities. Restrooms and handwashing stations are concentrated on in this module. Effective handwashing, glove use, and hand sanitizer are covered. Facilities and behaviors are addressed with risk identification and management issues confronted.

Module 3 titled Food Sampling focuses on proper preparation, storage, cleaning, sanitizing, and transporting of food products and food samples. Knowing food safety risks associated, how to prevent risks, and corrective actions are focused on to provide an understanding of risk reduction practices. The development of the N.C. Good Farmer’s Market Practices Curriculum was funded with a grant from the N.C. Tobacco Trust Fund Commission.

LINK
http://foodsafety.ces.ncsu.edu/about-gfmps/

KEYWORDS
food safety; local foods; farmers markets

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
COMMISSIONER OF AGRICULTURE FARM TO FOOD BANK COMMITTEE

CONTACT PERSON
Tamara Sandberg
Executive Director of the Kentucky Association of Food Banks

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Worked to create policy changes and state funding to purchase grade 2 produce and overproduction for food banks and to allow farmers to receive a tax deduction for donated produce.

KEYWORDS
food security; produce; distribution; policy

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
AGRICULTURAL MARKETING SERVICE TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The AMSTA initiative shares knowledge through an in-person grant writing workshop in each US state, as well as additional tools and materials provided through the AMSTA website.

LINK
http://www.amsta.net/

KEYWORDS
grants; farmers market; local foods; promotion

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
WHOLE FARM PLANNING CURRICULUM

CONTACT PERSON
Kim Niewolny, Program Director and Extension Specialist
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540-231-5784

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
This course work is designed to guide the beginning farmer in developing his or her whole farm plan. Topics and activities are purposefully organized at the introductory–intermediate stage of farming knowledge and experience.

LINK
http://www.vabeginningfarmer.alce.vt.edu/planning/planning_curriculum.html

KEYWORDS
whole-farm planning; curriculum; beginning farmer; holistic management

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
AGRICULTURE OF THE MIDDLE MULTI-STATE HATCH PROJECT

CONTACT PERSON

Steve Stevenson
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Characterizing Ag of the Middle and Values-Based Food Supply Chains

Agriculture of the Middle (AOTM) encompasses a spectrum of farms and ranches that are declining because they are too small to be served well by commodity markets and too large to be served well by direct markets. Most AOTM farms are characterized by: (1) their size; (2) their business organization; and (3) the production and marketing strategies they adopt to remain viable.

(1) Size: It is important to recognize that the definition of AOTM farms and ranches is scale related but not scale determined. Most farms are in the $50,000-$500,000 range of gross sales. But there may be farms with higher gross sales that meet the other criteria. The specific size that is too big for direct markets but too small for commodity markets varies with crops produced, geography and market.

(2) Business Organization: AOTM farms and ranches tend to fall into either the farming occupation farms or large family farms categories of the USDA farm typology. They rely on farming as a main source of income for the household. They also tend to be businesses in which one or more family members make the majority of on-site management decisions, and contribute substantially to the labor requirements of the operation.

(3) Production and Marketing Strategies: Agriculture of the Middle as a term also incorporates strategies that AOTM farms and ranches have taken to create markets that address the decline. These strategies enable midsized farms and ranches to produce and retain more value and profit. Many successful AOTM businesses market differentiated food products through wholesale supply chains, and operate with high environmental standards. They mainly supply markets that are larger than most farm-direct markets and more differentiated than commodity markets. Many but not all AOTM farms/ranches participate in business organizations that serve as product aggregators (e.g. co-ops, LLCs, etc.)

Values based food supply chains are strategic business alliances among farms/ranches of the middle and other agrifood enterprises that: (a) handle significant volumes of high-quality, differentiated food products, (b) operate effectively at multi-state, regional levels, and (c) distribute profits equitably among the strategic partners. Values-based supply chain business models place emphasis on both the values associated with the food and on the values associated with the business relationships within the food supply chain.

LINK

http://www.agofthemiddle.org/

TARGET AUDIENCE

Policy makers, producers
VIRGINIA FARM TO TABLE PLAN

A STRATEGIC PLAN FOR STRENGTHENING VIRGINIA’S FOOD SYSTEM AND ECONOMIC FUTURE WITH A COMBINATION OF RESEARCH AND RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

CONTACT PERSON

Eric S. Bendfeldt, Extension Specialist, Community Viability
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540-432-6029 ext. 106

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

The Virginia Farm to Table Plan’s objective is to identify issues facing farmers, innovators in the food system, and communities across the state, and to suggest how those can be addressed to strengthen Virginia’s overall food system. The Virginia Farm to Table Plan Team drew on the expertise and experience of more than 1,920 individuals across the Commonwealth who work in agriculture, aquaculture, fishing, education, finance, philanthropy, nutrition, community planning and economic development, land and natural resources conservation, public policy, local and state government, academics, and youth development. The 38 farm to table recommendations were developed and distilled from research and information gathered from farm-to-table summits, forums, listening sessions, an online survey, and focus group meetings conducted over a 15-month period by the Virginia Farm to Table Team and the Virginia Food System Council.¹

LINK


KEYWORDS

Virginia farm to table; strategic plan; food system planning; Virginia agriculture

TARGET AUDIENCE

Policy makers, community, producers

¹ Virginia Farm to Table Team. 2011. Virginia Farm to Table: Healthy Farms and Healthy Food for the Common / Wealth and Common Good. A Plan for Strengthening Virginia’s Food System and Economic Future. E.S. Bendfeldt, C. Tyler-Mackey, M. Benson, L. Hightowe.
SMALL-ACREAGE HORTICULTURAL CROPS PROGRAM MODEL

CONTACT PERSON
Joseph Masabni
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
An online educational program presented as a webinar to participating county extension offices that host the program and invite local producers and interested farmers and gardeners. The webinars are recorded and then posted on the website for later viewing. Evaluation forms are available at the end of each webinar to gather input on the content and impact of the webinar.

LINK
http://aggie-horticulture.tamu.edu/smallacreage/

KEYWORDS
webinar; small-acreage horticultural crops; online educational tool; small-acreage producer; gardener; homeowner

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
CENTER FOR ENVIRONMENTAL FARMING SYSTEMS

CONTACT PERSON
Nancy Creamer, Director
ncreamer@ncsu.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
CEFS develops and promotes just and equitable food and farming systems that conserve natural resources, strengthen communities, improve health outcomes, and provide economic opportunities in North Carolina and beyond. Initiatives and programs include:

- NC Choices
- NC 10% Campaign
- NC FoodCorps
- Seasons of Sustainability Workshop Series
- Bringing New Farmers to the Table
- Food Youth Initiative
- NC Growing Together Project

LINK
http://www.cefs.ncsu.edu/

KEYWORDS
community-based food systems; niche meat; consumer demand; youth food leadership; beginning farmers; mainstream markets; organic production; farm to school

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
FARM COMMONS

CONTACT PERSON
Rachel Armstrong
Farm Commons
P.O. Box 3050
Madison, WI 53704

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
It is a website with legal information to benefit farmers.

LINK
http://farmcommons.org/

KEYWORDS
legal issues; farming

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
CENTER FOR CROP DIVERSIFICATION

CONTACT PERSON
Tim Woods
tim.woods@uky.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Through the Center for Crop Diversification, we have been able to develop model local foods programs with various agency partners serving farm markets, CSAs, auctions, food consumer cooperatives, direct-to-retail (restaurant/grocery) and farm-to-school. Much of this initial work has been possible through the generous support of the KY Horticulture Council and the Center for Crop Diversification. Survey work on CSA business practices, farm market prices, winery marketing, and demand for various local food products has received national attention. The Center for Crop Diversification has become a true regional platform for delivering Extension specialty crops programs with the creation of the SERA-45 project, “Crop diversification opportunities to enhance the viability of small farms” approved by both Southern Experiment Station and Extension Directors. This virtual center houses numerous production and marketing resources for specialty crops and has become our major platform for specialty crop web-based training.

LINK

http://www.uky.edu/Ag/NewCrops/

KEYWORDS

specialty crops

TARGET AUDIENCE

Producers
EMERGING TRENDS IN LOCAL FOOD MARKETING: FUTURE RESEARCH AND OUTREACH PERSPECTIVES

CONTACT PERSON
Kynda Curtis, Utah State University
kynda.curtis@usu.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Traditional direct marketing and intermediated markets for local foods (such as farmers’ markets, CSAs, restaurants, etc.) have been well researched, including consumer types, as well as consumer preferences and willingness to pay. However, there is an expanding set of opportunities that have not yet been addressed in the literature. Food box sets, grocery home delivery, mobile markets, and farm stores/shops are examples of emerging local food concepts. Food box sets provide all ingredients and recipes home delivered (Blue Apron, Hello Fresh, Brit Kits, etc.). They are designed for consumers looking to return to the activities of the past (home cooking, canning, baking, etc.), but don’t want to spend the time shopping and coming up with the ideas themselves. Grocery home delivery (Winder Farms, Green Bean Delivery, Amazon Fresh, etc.) is designed for working professionals wishing to limit shopping time and those seeking locally-sourced products. This session will bring together academics, USDA representatives, and industry speakers to examine future trends and resulting research and outreach needs in emerging local foods marketing.

KEYWORDS
future; food box; grocery; delivery; emerging concepts

TARGET AUDIENCE
Producers
PRODUCE SAFETY ALLIANCE

CONTACT PERSON
Gretchen Wall
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The Produce Safety Alliance (PSA) is a collaborative project between Cornell University, United States Department of Agriculture, and the Food and Drug Administration. The overarching objective of this project is to provide the produce industry and associated groups with training and educational opportunities related to current best practices and guidance as well as future regulatory requirements by establishing the Produce Safety Alliance.

LINK
http://producesafetyalliance.cornell.edu/about.html

TARGET AUDIENCE
Other Extension Professionals
COMMUNITY, LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS COMMUNITY OF PRACTICE

CONTACT PERSON

Brian Raison
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Kim Niewolny (for southern region)
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION

Community, local and regional food systems are increasingly important to individuals, families, and communities for a number of social, economic, environmental reasons. Interest in issues related to community and local and regional food systems has exploded recently, and government agencies, universities, Extension services, nonprofit organizations, and entrepreneurial groups are generating new information, as well as seeking information on the wide range of topics encompassed within this umbrella of community, local, and regional food systems.

This resource is hosted by the Community, Local and Regional Food Systems (CLRFS) Community of Practice. It is designed to provide information and networking opportunities for educators, community-based practitioners, policy makers, farmers/growers, families, and those individuals involved in building equitable, health-promoting, resilient, and economically balanced food systems. As a community of practice, we: 1) create new content; 2) compile and summarize information published by our member organizations; and 3) make it our goal to offer a unique, online meeting place for diverse groups and interests to share information and learn from one another.

LINK

http://www.extension.org/community_and_regional_food_systems

KEYWORDS

local food; regional food; networking; health; resilient; sustainable; nutrition; food safety; food security; extension; urban farming; food systems; local food economics; beginning farmer and rancher; niche production and value chain producers; urban agriculture; food processing; institutional food preparation; marketing; markets and scale; distribution and aggregation; consumer food preparation; nutrition

TARGET AUDIENCE

Other Extension Professionals
NC STATE UNIVERSITY LOCAL FOODS PORTAL

CONTACT PERSON
Joanna Leleckas
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
This site has been developed by NC Cooperative Extension to provide local food systems resources and timely information to our clientele across North Carolina. More background on the overall site, suggestions for how to make your way through the site, and a response to the question, “What are local food systems” can be found here.

The organizational structure for this site is delineated below, fundamentally through a supply chain structure as well as other key topic areas typically discussed by those interested and engaged in local food systems. You may also use the search tool on this page to find topics of interest to you.

LINK
http://localfood.ces.ncsu.edu/

KEYWORDS
local foods; policy; consumer demand; extension; agriculture; NC State; NCSU

TARGET AUDIENCE
Other Extension Professionals
AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO SUPPLYING THE LOCAL TABLE: PERCEPTIONS OF CONSUMERS, PRODUCERS AND RESTAURATEURS

CONTACT PERSON
Dena Wise
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The Local Table project compared results from parallel surveys of consumers and restaurateurs regarding local food purchasing and use. Results were also compared with producers’ perception of, capacity for and participation in direct marketing through local venues, on-farm outlets, and restaurants. The surveys found consumers’ and restaurateurs’ most common expectations of local foods are that they be environmentally safe and sustainably produced and distributed—all socially-conscious reasons for their purchases. The study informs Extension educators by providing a snapshot of supply and demand for local food products across three distinct groups: producers, restaurateurs and consumers.²

LINK
http://www.joe.org/joe/2013october/a3.php

KEYWORDS
local foods; consumers; producers; restaurants

TARGET AUDIENCE
Other Extension Professionals. The study actually has potential audiences of consumers, producers, and restaurateurs. The article was published in JOE with Extension educators as the audience.
COMMUNITY-BASED FOOD SYSTEM ASSESSMENT AND PLANNING

CONTACT PERSON
Jonah Fogel, Extension Specialist, Community Viability
jfogel@vt.edu
804-527-4234

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
This resource is a facilitator’s guidebook for community-based food system assessment and planning. This guide covers the entire assessment and planning process from forming a steering committee or working group to reporting findings to the community and writing an action plan. Extension professionals can use the guidebook as a resource for facilitating the community food system assessment and planning process.

LINK

KEYWORDS
food system assessment; food system planning; community food system; facilitator guidebook

TARGET AUDIENCE
Other Extension Professionals
NETWORK WEavers

CONTACT PERSON
June Holley, Author

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The Network Weaver Handbook is a practical guide for people interested in catalyzing a new network or enhancing an existing one. Each chapter contains a short section describing key concepts, case studies, and many activities. Following each chapter is a resource section with readings, handouts, checklists, and worksheets — which you can easily duplicate and hand out to people in your network.

LINK
http://www.networkweaver.com/

KEYWORDS
networks; network development; networks for action; network toolkit

TARGET AUDIENCE
Community, extension professionals

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EDUCATING AND TRAINING FUTURE FARMERS, RESEARCHERS AND EXTENSION PERSONNEL IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

CONTACT PERSON
Rose Koenig
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
A guide containing four modules consisting of multiple learning activities designed to teach students important concepts related to sustainable agriculture.

KEYWORDS
teaching farms, sustainable agriculture, small farms, teaching

TARGET AUDIENCE
Extension professionals, other researchers
SUSTAINABLE YEAR-ROUND FORAGE PRODUCTION AND GRAZING/BROWSING MANAGEMENT

CONTACT PERSON

Uma Karki
karkiu@mytu.tuskegee.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

This handbook has been developed to train field-level Extension and technical assistance personnel (hereafter field personnel), who are involved in educating and helping goat producers in the Southern Region. The purpose of developing this handbook is to extensively increase the training and education opportunities for goat producers in the Southern Region on sustainable year-round forage production and grazing/browsing management. Goat productions in the Region are mostly based on pastures; however, majority of the goat producers do not have productive pastures despite the Region's favorable climatic conditions for year-round forage production.

LINK


KEYWORDS

Forage production, Field personnel, Goats, Sustainable grazing management, Southern Region

TARGET AUDIENCE

Extension professionals
HUNGER RELIEF PROGRAMS: EXPLORING METHODS TO IMPROVE FOOD ACCESS

CONTACT PERSON
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
We explore hunger relief programs in the US and consider these programs as an important area of research for applied economists. The session highlights the importance of the food bank network in meeting food needs of persons who are food insecure. We identify areas to improve the efficiency of hunger relief programs, and we also address methods to improve the nutrition of the offerings of these programs.

KEYWORDS
hunger; relief programs; food bank; nutrition; access

TARGET AUDIENCE
Extension professionals, community
FOOD ENVIRONMENT AND FOOD CHOICES

CONTACT PERSON
Wen You, Virginia Tech
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
A focus on food environment and food choices. Various articles concentrate on a range of topics including consumption, security, and impactful choices.

KEYWORDS
environment, choices, security

TARGET AUDIENCE
Extension professionals, policy makers
FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL MARKETING

CONTACT PERSON
Senarath Dharmasena, Texas A&M University
sdharmasena@tamu.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Papers will discuss oligopoly power in food industries, welfare perceptions toward cow-calf perceptions, lamb check-off program, spatially integrated wheat markets, oil price regimes and biofuel markets, food purchase decisions of US households with children, supply chain patterns in specialty crop markets and Japanese consumer portion towards GM foods.

KEYWORDS
industries, markets, households, children

TARGET AUDIENCE
Extension professionals
POVERTY, FOOD, AND PUBLIC ASSISTANCE

CONTACT PERSON
Todd Schmit, Cornell University
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The impacts of government poverty interventions are considered for the poor, farmers, and regional economies. Food and food programs are an important component of poverty relief.

KEYWORDS
food programs, poverty, public assistance

TARGET AUDIENCE
Extension professionals, policy makers
FOOD CHOICES AND IMPACTS

CONTACT PERSON
Constance Newman, USDA-Economic Research Service

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Impact of Farm to School Programs on Students’ Consumption of Healthful Foods: an Empirical Analysis in Georgia.

KEYWORDS
school programs, health, students

TARGET AUDIENCE
Extension professionals, policy makers, community
MULTI-STATE COMMUNITY, LOCAL AND REGIONAL FOOD SYSTEMS

CONTACT PERSON
Karen Gehrt
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
A multi-state working group of Extension professionals representing a variety of disciplines, including human nutrition, agricultural profitability, horticulture, community development, accountability, and marketing communications came together to address the current local foods opportunity by demonstrating the value of interdisciplinary programming efforts and by developing common measures for evaluating and communicating Extension’s impact.

LINK
https://southernlocalfoods.wordpress.com/

KEYWORDS
local foods; common measures; Extension impact

TARGET AUDIENCE
Policy makers
FARM TO SCHOOL IN ARKANSAS: POLICY AND PLANNING REPORT

CONTACT PERSON
Amanda Philyaw Perez
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Farm to school is a movement now reaching more than 40,000 schools. What are recommendations for those interested in expanding such efforts? This policy analysis covers how other states secured support to create Farm to School Coordinator positions for connecting farmers to public school cafeteria programs.¹

LINK

KEYWORDS
farm to school; policy; planning; state coordinator; local foods

TARGET AUDIENCE
Policy makers
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR RESPONSIBLE FOOD MARKETING TO CHILDREN

CONTACT PERSON
Mary Story PhD, RD
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Recommendations for Responsible Food Marketing to Children were developed by a panel of 17 experts convened by Healthy Eating Research, a national program of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, to provide a comprehensive set of model definitions for food marketing practices directed to children. These recommendations are intended to provide guidance to a broad range of stakeholders, including food and beverage manufacturers, retailers, restaurant companies, media and entertainment companies, industry trade associations, advertisers, marketers, government agencies, regulators and other policymakers, advocates, and researchers. The definitions cover the broad range of marketing approaches commonly used, as well as the characteristics that define which marketing practices should be considered as directed to children. This guidance provides a comprehensive framework that, when paired with Recommendations for Responsible Food Marketing to Children Healthy Eating Research Building evidence to prevent childhood obesity sound nutrition criteria, will assist stakeholders’ efforts to continue to improve food marketing to children.®

LINK

KEYWORDS
food marketing; children

TARGET AUDIENCE
Policy makers
FARM TO SCHOOL IN ARKANSAS: POLICY AND PLANNING REPORT

CONTACT PERSON
Amanda Philyaw Perez
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aperez@uaex.edu

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Farm to school is a movement now reaching more than 40,000 schools. What are recommendations for those interested in expanding such efforts? This policy analysis covers how other states secured support to create Farm to School Coordinator positions for connecting farmers to public school cafeteria programs.6

LINK

KEYWORDS
farm to school; policy; planning; state coordinator; local foods

TARGET AUDIENCE
Policy makers

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FROM FARM TO FORK: BUILDING NORTH CAROLINA’S LOCAL SUSTAINABLE FOOD ECONOMY

CONTACT PERSON
Dr. Nancy Creamer
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The Farm to Fork initiative was designed to engage a broad cross-section of interests and also to advance a collective sense of priority actions. Identifying priorities in this context can be challenging, primarily because what we are trying to influence is a system in which the success of the whole depends on proper functioning of interrelated parts. Working toward a more sustainable food system in North Carolina requires that we scale up our supply of (and increase access to) fresh, local, sustainably-produced and organic foods, which involves simultaneously addressing the needs for more producers, who in turn need access to affordable and productive land and risk-management strategies, as well as access to larger-scale markets that demand consistent, affordable, high-volume food supplies, which requires new “middle” businesses that can aggregate, process and distribute food, which depend on having a supportive regulatory environment and strong consumer demand, which requires outreach to the public and decision makers.

LINK
http://www.cefs.ncsu.edu/resources/stateactionguide2010.pdf

KEYWORDS
local foods; policy; agriculture

TARGET AUDIENCE
Policy makers and community
CONNECTING THE FOOD ENVIRONMENT, CONSUMPTION, AND SECURITY

CONTACT PERSON
Ye Su
University of Missouri

Na Hao
University of Georgia

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
New empirical evidence relating food environment to food consumption and subsequent food insecurity.

KEYWORDS
food insecurity; environment; consumption

TARGET AUDIENCE
Policy makers, other researchers
NEXUS OF THE LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM, SMALL FARM AGRICULTURE, AND THE NEW FARM LEGISLATION

CONTACT PERSON
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
U.S. Congress passed a new Farm Bill early in 2014 which significantly changed farm programs to account for problems inherent in previous farm legislations. The bill is a major overhaul of commodity policy in the United States. It wipes away direct payments that represented a constant revenue source for about $5 billion dollars per year. Direct Payments, counter cyclical payments, and the average crop revenue elections programs have been replaced by a menu of programs that farmers can choose among to provide safety net protection and complement crop insurance on their operations. Indeed, these changes in the new farm policy will likely affect US agriculture and local economies for years to come. Since these changes in policy were passed in spring of 2014, their impact on various sectors of US agriculture will never be known until it is fully implemented in 2015. What do we see coming down as the new policy is implemented, and what will its impacts be on small farm agriculture, the local food system and rural communities?

KEYWORDS
policy; commodity; farm; legislation

TARGET AUDIENCE
Policy makers
FOOD SECURITY -
THE ROLE AND IMPACT OF SNAP IN THE U.S.

CONTACT PERSON
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
This set of papers addresses food security issues and the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP), the largest food assistance program in the federal portfolio. The session will addresses the economic factors affecting SNAP participation as well as the economic impacts of SNAP.

KEYWORDS
SNAP, assistance, economic impacts, federal

TARGET AUDIENCE
Policy makers, other researchers
FOOD SECURITY IN AN IMPERFECT WORLD: METHOD, CAUSES AND REMEDIES

CONTACT PERSON
William Meyers, University of Missouri
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Ashok Mishra, Louisiana State University
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Eleven years ago, IFPRI published a book entitled "ending Hunger in our Lifetime" and there are countless other books and papers on how to end hunger in the world, not to mention many declarations from World Food Summits, MDGs and others. But it is clearly a “wicked problem” that defies easy answers and has frustrated the best intentions for global scholars and policy makers. Indicators have shown that the share of undernourished populations has declined and poverty, which is a major cause of hunger, has declined even more, but reducing the number of hungry mouths, especially in Africa, has been far more difficult. This is not intended to solve the problem, but to explore various manifestations of food insecurity at macro and micro levels and differing approaches to analyzing the problem or proposed remedies.

KEYWORDS
hunger, poverty, food security

TARGET AUDIENCE
Policy makers
FOOD SAFETY NEWS

CONTACT PERSON
Bill Marler
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Food Safety News was founded in 2009 to fill a void. At the time, both print and broadcast media were facing consolidation and budget cuts. Dedicated reporters on the food, health and safety beats were being reassigned or seeing their positions disappear altogether.

Food safety attorney Bill Marler saw an opportunity to pull together a team of journalists and give them the resources to provide timely reporting on food safety issues like no other news outlet could. Today, our original, in-depth reports are published daily, and are complemented by contributed articles and opinion pieces written by food safety leaders from every sector of the industry. Our reporters have been granted access to the White House, the Supreme Court, and multiple Congressional offices alongside the nation’s leading newspapers and media networks.7

LINK
http://www.foodsafetynews.com

KEYWORDS
foodborne illness; food recalls; food politics

TARGET AUDIENCE
Community

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ACGA GROWING COMMUNITIES CURRICULUM

CONTACT PERSON
Betsy Johnson, Past-ACGA President and Executive Director
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Curriculum for working with and in communities.  

LINK
https://communitygarden.org/programs/publications/

KEYWORDS
community development; asset based; curriculum; community gardens

TARGET AUDIENCE
Community
UF COMMUNITY FARM

CONTACT PERSON
Anna Prizzia
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The mission of the UF Community Farm is to provide students, faculty, staff and visitors with the opportunity to engage in a community of collaboration and learning about sustainable food systems.

LINK
www.cals.ufl.edu/ufcf

KEYWORDS
farm; hands-on learning; demonstration; outreach; sustainable agriculture; food systems

TARGET AUDIENCE
Community
WHOLE MEASURES FOR COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEMS

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Whole Measures for Community Food Systems is designed to give organizations and communities a collaborative process for defining and expressing their complex stories and the multiple outcomes that emerge from their work. There are many ways to create whole communities. This version of Whole Measures CFS includes six fields of practices that reflect a vision for whole communities seen through the lens of community food system development. Each field includes: a summary of its underlying intent, a set of four values-based practices that express this vision in action, and descriptions of sample outcomes often achieved by community food system groups that contribute to the larger set of healthy relationships that make up a whole community. The related practices and sample outcomes for each field are shown in rubrics (scoring tools that use a table to list and rate the criteria for what counts) so that individuals and organizations can respond to and rate their work against these measures.

LINK
http://www.wholecommunities.org/pdf/WholeMeasuresCFS.pdf

KEYWORDS
community food security coalition; community food systems; community food security

TARGET AUDIENCE
Community
GREEN FIELDS SANDHILLS

CONTACT PERSON
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Developed through the SET process, Green Fields Sandhills (formerly Green Fields Initiative) is a strategic plan for agriculture and natural resources in the Sandhills, North Carolina region. Extension personnel led stakeholders through the SET process in Lee, Moore and Richmond counties in 2013, and the plan has been adopted by all three county governments. Currently the group is in the process of incorporating as a non-profit organization and the strategies outlined in the plan are ongoing.

LINK
http://www.greenfieldsinitiative.com/

KEYWORDS
sustainable agriculture; farm; forestry; lee; moore; richmond; green fields initiative; Sandhills agriculture plan

TARGET AUDIENCE
Community
LOCAL COMMUNITY ASSESSMENT

CIVIC AGRICULTURE PILOT PROJECT: THE IMPACT OF ROANOKE’S CITY AND COUNTY LOCAL FOOD SYSTEM

CONTACT PERSON
Karen Gehrt
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Joyce Latimer
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
A graduate student in the Master’s public health program was interested in working with Extension faculty to identify the needs, challenges and successes of community gardens, farmers markets, and related educational outreach programs so that the Virginia Cooperative Extension system and other key community partners may better work together to improve the health of the community. Five distinct themes emerged from the Local foods focus groups: 1) Economic growth & opportunities; 2) Environment; 3) Culture; 4) Community; and 5) health, all supported by a strong educational infrastructure. A follow-up reception was held in April 2014 to present results to focus group participants as well as Extension Administration and involved CALS department heads. Participants offered many ideas for continuing to build upon Roanoke’s current local food systems successes.

KEYWORDS
local food systems; community gardens; farmers markets

TARGET AUDIENCE
Community
APPALACHIAN FOODSHED PROJECT

CONTACT PERSON
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The Appalachian Foodshed Project (AFP) is using a foodshed concept to address issues of community food security in West Virginia and the Appalachian regions of North Carolina and Virginia. AFP aims to facilitate a network of organizations and individuals working to address issues of community development, economic viability, health, nutrition, food access, social justice, and agriculture. By working collaboratively, AFP hopes to build on the human and natural resources in the region to cultivate resilient food systems and vibrant, healthy communities.

LINK
www.appalachianfoodshedproject.org

KEYWORDS
Appalachia, community food security, network, community development

TARGET AUDIENCE
Community
MULTI-STATE WIKI

CONTACT PERSON
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
We’re piloting an experiment to use LocalWiki.org as a place for sharing information across the food system. The platform is open access and will house the Appalachian Foodshed Project’s data and reports, as well as other information from partners in the network. This is in development.

LINK
localwiki.org

KEYWORDS
open access, community food security, data portal, wiki, foodshed, information sharing, geospatial

TARGET AUDIENCE
Community, producers, consumers, policy makers
COMMUNITY FOOD SYSTEM RESOURCES

CONTACT PERSON
Agriculture Sustainability Initiative at UC Davis

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Updated bibliography of all community food related publications

LINK
http://asi.ucdavis.edu/sarep/sfs/CFSresources

KEYWORDS
community food systems; bibliography

TARGET AUDIENCE
Other Researchers
Everywhere you look people are more aware of what they eat and where their food comes from. In a cafeteria in Los Angeles, children make their lunchtime food choices at fresh-fruit and salad bars stocked with local foods. In a community garden in New York, low-income residents are producing organically grown fruits and vegetables for their own use and to sell at market. In Madison, Wisconsin, shoppers select their food from a bounty of choices at a vibrant farmers’ market. Together at the Table is about people throughout the United States who are building successful alternatives to the contemporary agrifood system and their prospects for the future. At the heart of these efforts are the movements for sustainable agriculture and community food security. Both movements seek to reconstruct the agrifood system—the food production chain, from the growing of crops to food production and distribution—to become more ecologically sound, economically viable, and socially just. Allen describes the ways in which people working in these movements view the world and how they see their place in challenging and reshaping the agrifood system. She also shows how ideas and practices of sustainable agriculture and community food security have already woven their way into the dominant agrifood institutions. Allen explores the possibilities this process may hold for improving social and environmental justice in the American agrifood system.

Together at the Table is an important reminder that much work still remains to be done. Now that the ideas and priorities of alternative food movements have taken hold, it is time for the next—even more challenging—step. Alternative agrifood movements must acknowledge and address the deeper structural and cultural patterns that constrain the long-term resolution of social and environmental problems in the agrifood system.\(^9\)

**KEYWORDS**

community food security; sustainability; discourse; alternative agriculture

**TARGET AUDIENCE**

Other Researchers

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NC-1196: FOOD SYSTEMS, HEALTH, WELL-BEING: UNDERSTANDING COMPLEX RELATIONSHIPS AND DYNAMICS OF CHANGE

CONTACT PERSON
C.Y. Wang
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
While the importance of food to health and well-being is clear, the specific ways in which food systems contribute to individual and community health are not well understood. This is a complex issue which requires improving food systems as well as changing mindsets and behaviors of individuals within the food system. The purpose of this project is to investigate these complex relationships, involving key stakeholders in analyzing and addressing problems and solutions. Our goal is to increase understanding of food and nutrition practices and systems, and to facilitate food-related institutional, community, family, and individual behavioral changes that can improve health and well-being.

LINK
http://nimss.umd.edu/lgu_v2/homepages/home.cfm?trackID=13437

KEYWORDS
food access; behavior; health; food systems

TARGET AUDIENCE
Other Researchers
THE CENTER FOR A LIVABLE FUTURE

CONTACT PERSON
Anne Palmer
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The Center for a Livable Future works at the intersection of public health and food systems. Their website and the conversations hosted over project listservs are a valuable resource. Anne works specifically with Food Policy Networks, one of several different projects hosted through CLF.

LINK

KEYWORDS
health and food; food systems; food policy networks

TARGET AUDIENCE
Other Researchers
COMMON GROUND - WHY SHOULD UNIVERSITY FACULTY PARTNER WITH COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

CONTACT PERSON
Karen Roth Gehrt
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Graphic illustration and talking piece for use by administrators, extension faculty to articulate the holistic, integrated process used for building, health, wealth and connectivity through collaboration with state and local agencies, non-profits, foundations and businesses. Outcome: The land-grant engagement mission is strengthened and new inputs are brought into the system, creating tremendous public value.

LINK
http://www.ext.vt.edu/about/common-ground/index.html

KEYWORDS
land-grant engagement mission; research interests; programmatic needs

TARGET AUDIENCE
Other Researchers
LAND DEAL POLITICS INITIATIVE

BRIEF DESCRIPTION

This initiative is a research-driven effort to document global land grabs. It is relevant for food systems work in the U.S. because many of the same issues driving agrarian change in the U.S. are influencing global changes in land use and land acquisition. In my home state of Kentucky, the critical framework offered by the LDPI could be applicable to the history of resource extraction and the resultant impacts on agriculture and food systems here.

LINK

http://steps-centre.org/project/ldpi/

KEYWORDS

land; land grabbing; agrarian change

TARGET AUDIENCE

Other researchers
JOURNAL OF PEASANT STUDIES

BRIEF DESCRIPTION
The Journal of Peasant Studies is one of the leading journals in the field of rural politics and development.

“I use this journal extensively in my research on smallholder agriculture. My main focus is Africa and the Middle East, but with my new position in a land-grant university, I see bringing these research interests to my state as well. JPS brings a critical agrarian studies focus on political economy to questions of agriculture and rural livelihoods.”

KEYWORDS
Agrarian change; political economy; agriculture

TARGET AUDIENCE
Other researchers
RESEARCH-BASED SUPPORT AND EXTENSION OUTREACH FOR LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS

CONTACT PERSON
Rebecca Dunning
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Literature review of research into the impacts of local food systems.

LINK
http://www.cefs.ncsu.edu/resources/guides/research-based-support-for-local-food-systems.pdf

KEYWORDS
local food impacts; literature review

TARGET AUDIENCE
Other researchers
ECONOMICS OF FOOD LOSSES AND WASTE: WHAT ARE THE RIGHT QUESTIONS?

CONTACT PERSON
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BRIEF DESCRIPTION
Three divergences between private and social optimality (negative externalities, imperfect information for optimizing agents, and non-optimizing agents with psychological biases) are shown to the theoretical reasons for public interventions to achieve a socially optimal level of food wasted. Although the policies required should address each of the theoretical sources of food waste in the private sector decisions, we identify three broad categories of sectors and hence policies: up to the farm-gate (especially in less industrialized countries but also applicable to industrialized countries), the food supply chain beyond the farm-gate, and the final consumer. Pricing externalities, public good investments in overcoming market failures or implementing “nudge” type policies will provide incentives for economic agents to reduce wasted by, among other things, increasing efficiency, composting, food donations or diverting food waste to animal feed or to anaerobic digesters for renewable energy and heat generation. Some policies will deliver a double-dividend if marketing costs (the gap between consumer and producer prices) but often it is not, which in those cases, food wasted should not be singled out for internalizing negative externalities. Reducing food wasted in industrialized countries will not have insignificant impact on farm level prices in less industrialized countries, as the farm share of food expenditures is so low in rich countries. Hence, the improved food security will come mostly from actions in developing countries themselves.

KEYWORDS
food security, loss, waste, economics

TARGET AUDIENCE
Other researchers