

CSU Extension Food Systems Newsletter

Dawn Thilmany, Martha Sullins, Adrian Card, Ragan Adams, Becca Jablonski & Marisa Bunning, Team Leads



Co-Editors: Martha Sullins, Ellie Naasz, and Libby Christensen
Dept. of Ag and Resource Economics

87TH EDITION

AUGUST 2017

Welcome to the **87th edition** of the Colorado State University Extension Local Food Systems newsletter. As a key resource connecting our CSU team with local and state partners about events, news and opportunities, we are thrilled to see the momentum and growth happening in food systems across the state. As always, 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. You can help us be better connected in two ways:

- **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.
- **Send us** any events and news from your organization and other partners so that we may share them with our growing readership!

To assist our readers in finding information, events and programs we may have presented in the past, you can find old issues at: <http://foodsystems.colostate.edu/extension-outreach/local-food-systems-newsletter/>.

CONTENTS

[Regional Spotlight: Routt County](#)

[Study: Participate in the 2017 Market Channel Assessments](#)

[Grant: Marketing Matching Grant Announced](#)

[News: CDA and CSU Extension Develop New Guidelines for Small Flock Poultry Processing](#)

[News: Growing Local-A Community Guide To Planning for Agriculture and Food Systems](#)

[Webinars: Learning about Grant Programs](#)

[Webinar: Fruit and Veggie Rx Programs](#)

[Webinar: Networking Local Food Councils](#)

[Event: 11th Annual Tour de Farms in Durango](#)

[Event: Fort Collins Farm Weekend](#)



Karen Massey, Routt County Director Todd Hagenbuch, Agriculture Agent

[Event: CSU Ag Innovation Summit & Colorado Blueprint 2.0](#)

[Event: Fundamentals for Business Success](#)

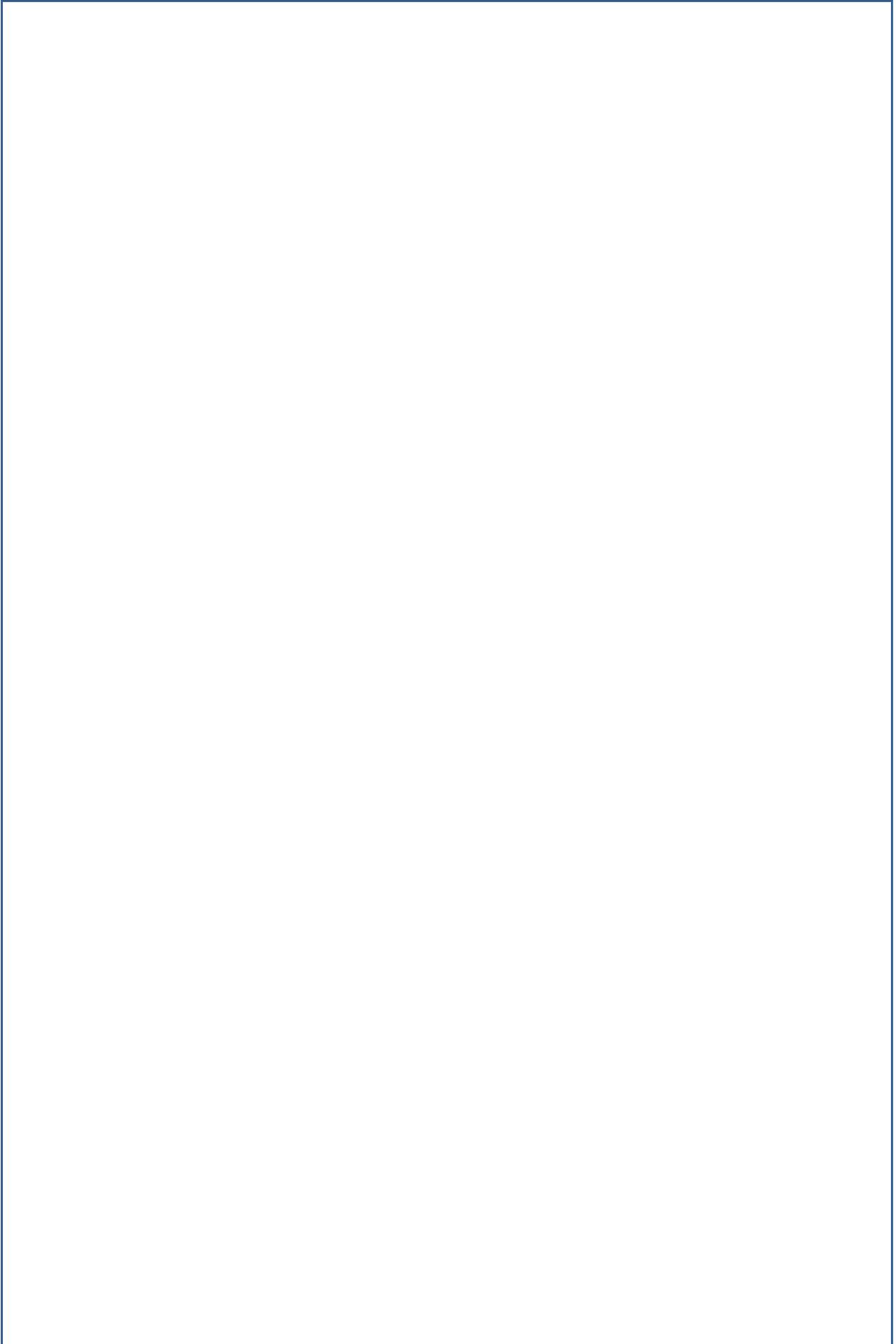
[Event: Colorado Proud School Meal Day](#)

[Event: Ag Tour to Spain](#)

[Contact Information](#)

REGIONAL SPOTLIGHT: ROUTT COUNTY

Routt County Extension is using technology to benefit the local food system. In partnership with Extension personnel on CSU's campus, Agriculture Agent Todd Hagenbuch and County Director Karen Massey are leading efforts to use dynamic systems modeling software in Routt County to understand food processing and distribution. Partners on campus for the systems modeling include Dr. John Sheehan, Dr. Ragan Adams, and Dr. Frank Garry. This project stemmed from a presentation given by Sheehan at a conference facilitated by the CSU One Health Food Systems Team in September 2015. After attending the "Systems Dynamics" presentation and learning about STELLA program software capabilities, Hagenbuch and Massey volunteered for their county to test it out. Their involvement with the Northwest Colorado Food Coalition designated Routt County as an ideal candidate for this project. Hagenbuch has worked with this organization since March 2012, and Massey currently serves as chair for the organization. The Coalition is a LiveWell community initiative that collaborates with representatives from community organizations, "to develop and sustain a resilient food system." Another project resulting from these efforts is creation of a statewide food coalition network online. A subset of the broader Community Commons website, the hub for the Northwest Colorado Food Coalition will facilitate communication about food systems both locally and across the state.



Routt County Extension also supports young agricultural producers through the annual Colorado Land Link Forum. This year's event was held in the Northwest Region in Steamboat Springs on March 17th-18th, 2017. This program "matches farmers and ranchers seeking land opportunities with landowners or retiring producers that are open to transitioning their land to new ownership or management." Extension partnered with other organizations to host this event focused on strengthening leadership and partnership.

Routt County's agricultural heritage allows the community to lead the way in addressing local food issues, and Extension plays a vital role. For more information about Routt County Extension programs and events, please visit <http://rcextension.colostate.edu/index.shtml>. The hublet for the Coalition can be found at <https://www.communitycommons.org/groups/colorado-food-system/northwest-co-food-coalition/>.

Written by Rachael Latta, student in Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

STUDY: PARTICIPATE IN THE 2017 MARKET CHANNEL ASSESSMENTS

Are you a specialty crop producer who wants to understand the profitability of your different market channels? CSU has an on-going market channel assessment program where producers:

1. Are paid \$100 to participate,
2. Receive a customized farm report, including consulting with CSU agricultural economists, and
3. Gain the ability to compare their farm to statewide benchmarks.

Please help to spread the word! Contact [Ellie Naasz](#) if you would like more information about this study or if you or someone you know is interested in participating. There is also additional information on the Extension Food Systems [website](#) about this project.

GRANT: MARKETING MATCHING GRANT ANNOUNCED

The Colorado Tourism Office (CTO) is accepting applications for its Marketing Matching Grant Program. All grants applications must be submitted by **4 p.m. on Friday, September 15th, 2017**. The annual competitive grant program offers financial assistance to Colorado's tourism industry for the purpose of enhancing marketing efforts to visitors.

The program will award up to \$600,000 in grants. Each grant awarded will be up to \$25,000, and for every \$1 the awarded organization allocates to the program, the CTO will provide \$1 in matching funds. The purpose of the CTO Marketing Matching Grant Program is to provide funding to Colorado non-profit organizations to promote the state or a region as a tourism destination. Travel regions throughout the state are eligible for these grant dollars, as well as statewide associations, organizations and other non-profit entities that engage in promoting travel throughout Colorado.

For more information regarding the grant program and instructions on how to apply, [click here](#). There will be a webinar on **August 10th from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.** that will answer questions about the grant, and cover basic information about it. To register for the webinar, [click here](#). For more information or if you have questions, email [Elizabeth O'Rear](#) or call at (303) 892-3893.

NEWS: GROWING LOCAL-A COMMUNITY GUIDE TO PLANNING FOR AGRICULTURE AND FOOD SYSTEMS

American Farmland Trust (AFT) and Growing Food Connections have published “GROWING LOCAL: A Community Guide to Planning for Agriculture and Food Systems.” This national guide showcases ways communities can strengthen their food systems through planning, policy and public investment. It includes the most comprehensive collection of local policies ever assembled to support local farms and ranches, improve access to healthy food, and develop needed distribution and infrastructure.

Written for farmers, community residents and food policy councils, as well as planners and local government officials, this practical guide highlights real life examples of ways communities are growing food connections from field to fork. Download a copy [here](#). Find additional resources from AFT [here](#).

NEWS: CDA AND CSU EXTENSION DEVELOP NEW GUIDELINES FOR SMALL FLOCK POULTRY PROCESSING

The Colorado Department of Agriculture and Colorado State University Extension have developed a new guidance document about small flock poultry processing.

In May 2016, the Custom Processing of Meat Animals Act (Meat Act) was changed to exempt small poultry producers who raise and process no more than 1,000 of their own poultry from Colorado licensing and inspection requirements when selling processed poultry directly to individuals at venues such as farmers’ markets, Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) organizations, and/or on farm sales if certain conditions were met. These conditions include:

- The producers comply with recordkeeping and labeling requirements;
- The producers do not buy or sell poultry products other than those produced from poultry raised on the producer’s own farm;
- The poultry do not move in interstate commerce;
- The poultry are properly labeled; and
- The poultry are healthy when slaughtered and slaughter and processing are conducted under sanitary standards, practices, and procedures that produce poultry products that are sound, clean and fit for food as human food when distributed by the producer.

The CDA and CSU Extension team have developed thorough guidelines to help small flock poultry producers understand what they need to do to meet the above conditions. To read the entire report, including the recordkeeping and labeling requirements, [click here](#). If you have questions about the new guidelines, contact Steve Blunt at (303) 867-9237.

WEBINARS: LEARNING ABOUT GRANT PROGRAMS

1. **Budget and Matching Funds for BFRDP Applicants Webinar: August 15, 2017, 11 am MDT**

New Entry will present another webinar in a Beginning Farmer Rancher Development Program webinar series for potential applicants. This webinar will look at the budget and match requirement for the BFRDP grant application. Please attend to learn about the requirements and important tips for preparing your proposed project budget and identifying sources of match. Click [here](#) to register.

2. Intro to CFP for Potential Applicants Webinar: August 23, 2017, 11 am MDT

Led by New Entry Sustainable Farming Project staff, this webinar will provide an overview on the USDA's Community Food Projects grant program, including program goals, applicant eligibility, the importance of community engagement, the matching requirement, the application process, and indicators of success. Click [here](#) to register.

WEBINAR: FRUIT AND VEGGIE RX PROGRAMS

Fruit & Veggie Rx Programs: A Colorado & National Landscape Assessment, Monday, August 14 12pm - 1pm MDT.

Through the work of one of the work groups in the Colorado Food Policy Network, two MPH candidates, Danielle Bohn and Adriana Collings, took a statewide and national assessment of fruit and veggie Rx programs - where doctors and other professionals give patients and clients a "prescription" of fruits and veggies, often with a voucher to a local farmers market or retailer. Join us for this webinar where they will talk about their findings. Register [here](#).

WEBINAR: NETWORKING LOCAL FOOD COUNCILS

Please join the Food Policy Networks project and peer state food policy councils on **August 2nd from 11 am - 12:15 pm MDT** for a conversation about building a network of local food councils. Learn from Maine, Michigan and Ohio about how these state networks are convening local food councils and the value of bringing people together from across the state. Hear about how these networks use grants, gatherings (both virtual and in-person) and network analysis to learn about and support local councils. Bring your experiences and questions about convening local councils in your state. We will have time for questions and discussion.

Presenters:

- Ken Morse, Coordinator, Maine Network of Community Food Councils
- Liz Gensler, Coordinator, Michigan Local Food Council Network
- Megan Masson-Minock, Coordinator, Michigan Local Food Council Network
- Jill Clark, Facilitator, Ohio Food Policy Network
- Meredith Krueger, Coordinator, Ohio Food Policy Network

Register to join the conversation [here](#).

EVENT: 11TH ANNUAL TOUR DE FARMS IN DURANGO

The Garden Project and La Plata County Extension are hosting the 11th annual Tour de Farms event on **Saturday, August 19th**. The tour will go from **8 a.m. to 1 p.m.**, and consists of a bicycle tour of local farms and gardens highlighting what is unique, healthy, and homegrown about the agricultural and gardening community of Durango. Both short and long tours are available. After the rides, there will be

a celebration after-party at Ska Brewing. There will be live music by Stillhouse Junkies, prizes, free beer, and a delicious local foods lunch by Zia Taqueria.

Tickets cost \$25 and include a commemorative pint glass, lunch, and beer. To purchase tickets for the event, [click here](#).

EVENT: FORT COLLINS FARM WEEKEND

Fortified Collaborations is hosting the Fort Collins Farm Weekend on **August 19th through August 20th**. The weekend offers residents and visitors a selection of agriculture-related events and activities, making it easy to explore and experience some of the city's most identifiable attractions: farms, bikes, food, and beer.

The weekend will feature three primary activities. The Tour de Farms will take place on August 19th. This event is a 50-mile bike ride that stops to enjoy the hospitality of three Fort Collins farms. The ride will be led and supported by Bike Fort Collins. The Farm Open House will provide opportunities all weekend long for visitors to explore local farms at their own pace, with a map and guide listing farms that are open during the weekend. Lastly, the weekend will conclude with 3 Forks Progressive Farm Dinner. This event is a casual bike ride to three different farms with a different dinner course from a food truck at each farm. The ride and dinner ends at The Growing Project at Hope Farms with local beer, more food, and live music.

To read more about all the events being hosted throughout the weekend and to find links to register for events and buy tickets, [click here](#). Ticket proceeds from the dinner go to support The Growing Project.

EVENT: CSU AG INNOVATION SUMMIT & COLORADO BLUEPRINT 2.0

Please join us for a release of the draft Colorado Blueprint of Food and Agriculture on Thursday, September 7th from 2p.m. to 4 p.m. The Blueprint documents key assets, emerging issues and priorities for future investments in food and agriculture around the state, based in part on 12 regional town hall listening sessions and meetings with key industry groups. The event is free and open to the public.

For more information about the event, [click here](#).

EVENT: FUNDAMENTALS FOR BUSINESS SUCCESS

The Colorado Department of Agriculture is hosting a business educational session entitled "Fundamentals of Business Success: CPA Tax & Accounting" on **Tuesday, August 22nd from 8 a.m. to 11:30 a.m.** This session will solely focus on tax and accounting topics presented by CPAs from Anton Collins Mitchel LLP (AMC).

Topics covered will include business entity selection, regulatory environment, method of accounting, employees vs. independent contractors, self-employment tax, and more. The session costs \$15, and the fee covers a light breakfast and coffee service. To register for the event, [click here](#).

EVENT: COLORADO PROUD SCHOOL MEAL DAY

The Colorado Departments of Agriculture and Education would like to invite Colorado schools to participate in the annual **Colorado Proud School Meal Day on Wednesday, September 13, 2017**. This is a day to celebrate Colorado agriculture and to educate schoolchildren about healthy eating.

In order to encourage eating habits that will promote a lifetime of optimal health, it is essential to teach children about the importance of eating foods such as fruits, vegetables, whole grains, lean meats and low-fat dairy products. Proper nutrition is critical if our educational programs and our students are going to continue to excel.

Colorado farmers and ranchers produce food items that provide the nutrients children and adults need to thrive. Agribusinesses contribute more than \$40 billion to the state economy annually and provide more than 170,000 jobs. With more than 37,000 farms and ranches encompassing 31 million acres, it is easy to understand the value this industry adds to Colorado.

If you have any questions or if you need additional supplies, please contact [Shaina Knight](#) at (303) 869-9176. Links to download materials, meal day ideas and more are available [here](#).

EVENT: AG TOUR TO SPAIN

Join Pueblo County Extension Director Michael Fisher and Horticulture Coordinator Sherie Caffey as they explore both the agriculture and the history of Spain's Andalusian region, from **November 26 to December 8, 2017**.

This is a diverse tour with stops ranging from seed and grafting propagation to greenhouse vegetable production. You'll learn about olive oil production and marketing, avocado exports, and fruit production in Spain. Our group will have the opportunity to look at how a cotton cooperative has spread their risk by diversifying into tomato concentrate production and the cut flower business, marketing over 70 million carnations annually. Some of Spain's famous equine and cattle operations are going to open their gates & barns for our group to learn about livestock production in the region. And of course our travel group will have the opportunity to experience the tastes of the region both through our meals and planned stops where we will learn about cheese, honey, and wine production. In addition to all of this, our group will be exposed to Spain's culture and history with visits ranging from gardens to architecture, cathedrals to palaces, and fountains to a Flamenco show. Space is limited!

For more information, please contact Michael Fisher at 719-583-6566 or fisher@pueblocounty.us.

CONTACT INFORMATION

To add your ideas and news, contact [Ellie Naasz](#).

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