



FOOD SYSTEMS

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

EXTENSION

112TH EDITION

OCTOBER 2019

Welcome to the **112th edition** of the Colorado State University Extension Local Food Systems newsletter. We will be updating our look and format over the next few months and transitioning to Constant Contact, so be sure to check it out. Please send in information and updates on Colorado food systems events or information that you would like featured!

You can find previous issues of our newsletter here:

<http://foodsystems.colostate.edu/extension-outreach/local-food-systems-newsletter/>.

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WEBINAR SERIES

CSU Food Systems Webinar Series

2nd Wednesday of every month @ 2pm Mountain



October 9: Is the local food table getting crowded? Exploring the Effect of Food Hub Proliferation on Viability

In response to the growing interest and demand for local foods, government support for food hubs has helped assure that local food systems are viable and benefit the broader agribusiness community. However, such support should consider local market conditions, or risk over-proliferation that could jeopardize the success of existing food hubs. Presented by Rebecca Cleary,

Assistant Professor in the Department of Agriculture and Resource Economics at Colorado State University. Connect at: <https://zoom.us/j/932343786>.

TEAM SPOTLIGHTS



Jasmine Dillon is an Assistant Professor in the Department of Animal Sciences at Colorado State University. Dr. Dillon joined CSU earlier in 2019 and is a member of the CSU Food Systems Initiative.



Peter Olayemi is a PhD student in the Soil and Crop Sciences Department whose goal is to elucidate specific characteristics of the soil microbiome that support farmer-centric outcomes associated with soil health.

MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Meat School

Colorado State University Extension is offering its first ever Meat School, designed to expose producers to the skills and resources required to produce high quality meat, develop long-term successful relationships with processors, and identify and access new markets for improved farm profitability.

Classes take place on **October 30th, November 6th, November 13th, November 20th, December 4th and December 11th**. Each session will last 2 hours from 6pm to 8pm. Register for a 6-week class in your area, cost is **\$120** for all 6 sessions. [Learn more and register here.](#)



Food Safety Training for Cottage Foods Producers

Learn how to safely produce food from home for a cottage food business. Courses cover a variety of topics that include but are not limited to: basic food safety, foods that are permissible under the updated Colorado Cottage Food Act, ingredient labeling, special considerations for food preparations at high altitudes, and safe food sampling best practices. Registration is \$40. [Learn more and register.](#)

Cottage food safety courses will be offered on the following dates and locations in the coming months:

October 16th, 10:00 am-12 pm, El Paso County

October 25th, 9:00 am-1:00 pm, Centennial

November 4th, 4:00 pm- 7:00 pm, Craig

November 4th, 4:30 pm -7:30 pm, Durango

November 5th, 4:30 am- 7:30 pm, Steamboat

November 8th, 9:00 am- 1:00 pm, Golden

December 6th, 9:00 am – 1:00 pm, Centennial



Four Corners Slow Money Event

Through a peer-to-peer lending system, Four Corners Slow Money offers zero interest micro-loans to local farmers, growers, and food enterprises. Join them for their inaugural Potluck and Farmer Pitchfest! Manna Soup Kitchen, 1100 Avenida Del Sol, Durango, CO. **October 6th**, 4:00 -7:00 pm. [Learn more.](#)

Annie's Project

Annie's Project Workshop empowers farm and ranch women to be better business owners or partners through networks and by managing & organizing critical information. This course is a discussion-based workshop bringing women together to learn from experts in production, financial management, human resources, marketing, and the legal field. Upcoming courses throughout Colorado include:

- Colorado Springs, [registration](#)
- Cortez, [registration](#)
- Lamar, [registration](#)
- Springfield, [registration](#)

C-FARE Webinar

Local Food Procurement: A Catalyst for Small Farm Economies. There is evidence that household and commercial buyers are willing to pay a premium for local products. Families shop at farmers markets, school districts stock locally grown provisions, and restaurants curate seasonal menus in part to support the vitality of local growers. Until now there has not been ready research to gauge the impact of these trends.

Join CSU agricultural economists to discuss what it takes to make successful local farm economy, weigh what effect new farming can have on rural development, and consider the impact "buy local" can have on farmer and rancher viability.

November 1st from 12:00 pm-12:45 pm. [Register here.](#)

Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training

The Colorado Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association, Rocky Mountain Farmers Union and Colorado Department of Agriculture will be hosting a Produce Safety Rule Grower

Training Course on November 15, 2019 at the Southeast Weld County in Firestone, CO, from 7:30 am -5:00 pm.

This course will provide a foundation on FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirements, Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and co-management information, and details on how to develop a farm food safety plan. Registration fee is \$50, register and learn more [here](#).

Soil Revolution Conference

Registration is now open at www.SoilRev.org for the fourth annual Soil Revolution Conference on Thursday, Dec. 19, at the Boulder Jewish Community Center, 6007 Oreg Ave., in Boulder. Farmers and ranchers of all scales and production systems are invited.

This event is hosted by Boulder County Parks & Open Space, CSU Extension, the City of Boulder, USDA-NRCS, and the Boulder Valley and Longmont Conservation districts. Sponsor and exhibitor opportunities are available.

Colorado Food Summit



We are excited to announce that registration is now open for the first ever Colorado Food Summit!! This event will be held on January 7th, 2020 at the Denver Museum of Nature and Science. Early bird tickets are **\$55** (early bird ticket sales end 11/15/2019). [Register now](#).

Full and partial scholarships are supported by Gateway Fund and are available for farmers or ranchers, especially beginning (<10 yrs experience), women, people of color, and students. Scholarship applications are due by November 21st at 5pm, [apply here](#). To learn more about the Summit, [click here](#).

FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

Farm to School

Looking for funding options to help kickoff or expand your efforts in starting or ramping up farm to school or farm to early care and education activities in your community?

[Read more](#).

- American Heart Association Teaching Gardens Network Grant Program, deadline: **October 11th**
- National Head Start Association GroMore Good Garden Grants, deadline: **October 11th**
- Whole Kids Foundation School Garden, Beehive and Salad Bar Grants, deadline: **October 25th**
- Chef Ann Foundation Get Schools Cooking Grant, deadline: **October 28th**

Local School Food Purchasing Program

Learn more about the HB1132 Local School Food Purchasing Program fund. The Colorado Department of Education (CDE) will be hosting a webinar to promote the Local Food Purchasing Program on October 22nd at 2:00 pm. [Join the webinar here.](#)

CRAFT

A CRAFT workshop is a 1 or 1.5-day deep dive into a specific tourism topic selected by a community or region. Potential topics include marketing/social media, culinary/agritourism, cultural/heritage tourism, outdoor adventure tourism, cycling tourism, and sustainable tourism.

After successful completion of a CRAFT workshop, participating communities or regions are eligible to apply for funding to implement a key priority identified during the program. Applications are due by **October 31st**. [Learn more.](#)

NIFA

The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) is requesting applications for six AFRI priority areas through the Foundational and Applied Science Program for FY 2019 and FY 2020. The goal of this program is to invest in agricultural production research, education, and extension projects for more sustainable, productive and economically viable plant and animal production systems.

Letter of intent and application deadlines vary by program area. For more information about this year's applications and funding, please click [here](#).

WSARE

The Western Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (WSARE) has open calls for proposals for the following grant programs:

1. Professional Development Program, see call [here](#).
2. Farmer Rancher Grants, [call](#) for proposals is also available in [Spanish](#).
3. Professional + Producer, see call [here](#).
4. Research to Grass Roots Grants, see call [here](#).

View Western SARE's grant-writing [webinars](#) to obtain guidance for these grant programs.

NEWS AND RESOURCES

October is National Farm to School Month

Free resources, planning materials, activity ideas and national calendar of events for ways you can get involved, [learn more](#).

Land For Good

Farm Access Methods Decision Guide helps farmers explore farm access options and make informed decisions that work for them. This guide organizes farm access and tenure methods into three basic categories: ownership now; ownership in the future; and no ownership. [Learn more.](#)

FROM YOUR COMMUNITY

CHAMP

As part of the 2018 Farm Bill, each state is required to submit a state management plan to the USDA, outlining how various aspects of hemp cultivation and processing will be managed within their jurisdiction.

Researchers at CSU are partnering with the Colorado Department of Agriculture and other leading state, local, and tribal agencies,

as well as hemp industry experts, to implement a statewide initiative known as the Colorado Hemp Advancement Management Plan (CHAMP).

Colorado Hemp Advancement & Management Plan (CHAMP)



The first round of stakeholder meetings have been completed and the team is going to communities across the state to seek public input on industrial hemp. The next two public meetings will be in Alamosa on **October 23rd** and Pueblo on **October 24th**. [Learn more here.](#)

ABOUT US

Food systems are defined as the connections between natural resources, the agricultural and food industry, and the buyers, consumers and communities to which they contribute. Research, extension and education identify and inform opportunities to bridge how the production, supply chains, and eaters respond to changing markets, policy, and the environment.

At CSU, we focus on these three key areas to train, influence, and communicate opportunities to connect food related roles in achieving healthy communities, economies, and individuals.

STAY CONNECTED

To add your ideas and news, contact [Belle Parra](#).

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

Framing the Future of Food

Making global impact through local connections

<https://foodsystems.colostate.edu/>

