

Illinois Agriculture





Most Recent Figures
(2009) indicate there were
75,800 farms
(3.5% of farms in the United States)
With an average size of 352 acres
utilizing more than
27 million acres
or about 75% of the total land
area in the state.

Approximately 89% of Illinois
agricultural land could be used to
grow crops.

Source: USDA, NASS, Illinois Field Office (3/1/09)



Specialty Crop Acres in Illinois - 2003

	Fruit	Vegetables	Other	Total
Fresh	6,564	18,945	2,630	28,139
Processed	955	57,420	31,050	89,425
Total	7,519	76,365	33,680	117,564

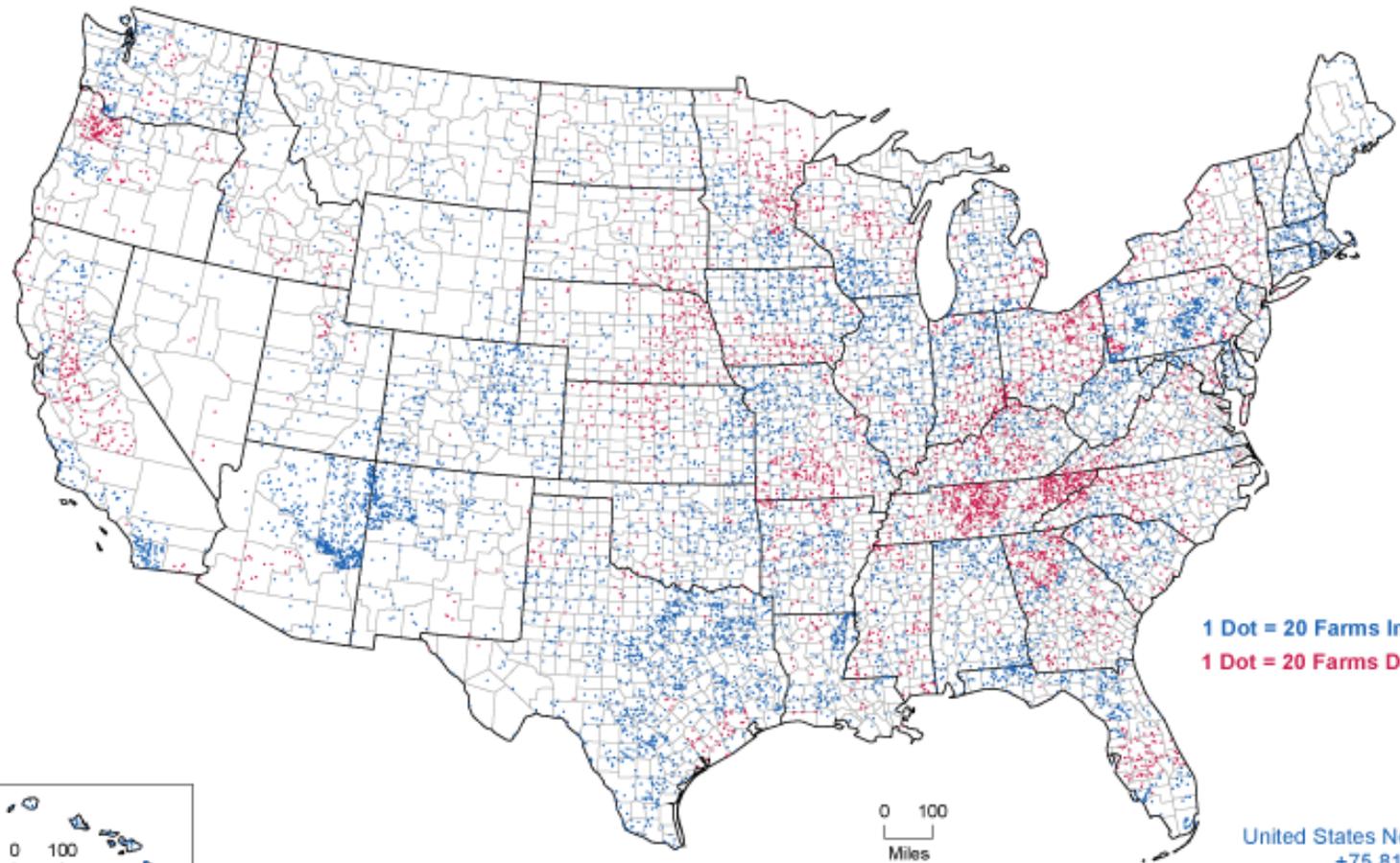
Next survey will be conducted during Winter 2010-11 and numbers will cover 2010 growing season.

USDA, NASS, Illinois Field Office
2003 Illinois Specialty Crop Survey



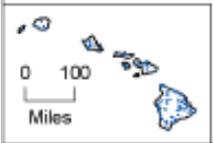


Change in Number of Farms: 2002 to 2007



1 Dot = 20 Farms Increase
 1 Dot = 20 Farms Decrease

United States Net Increase
 +75,810



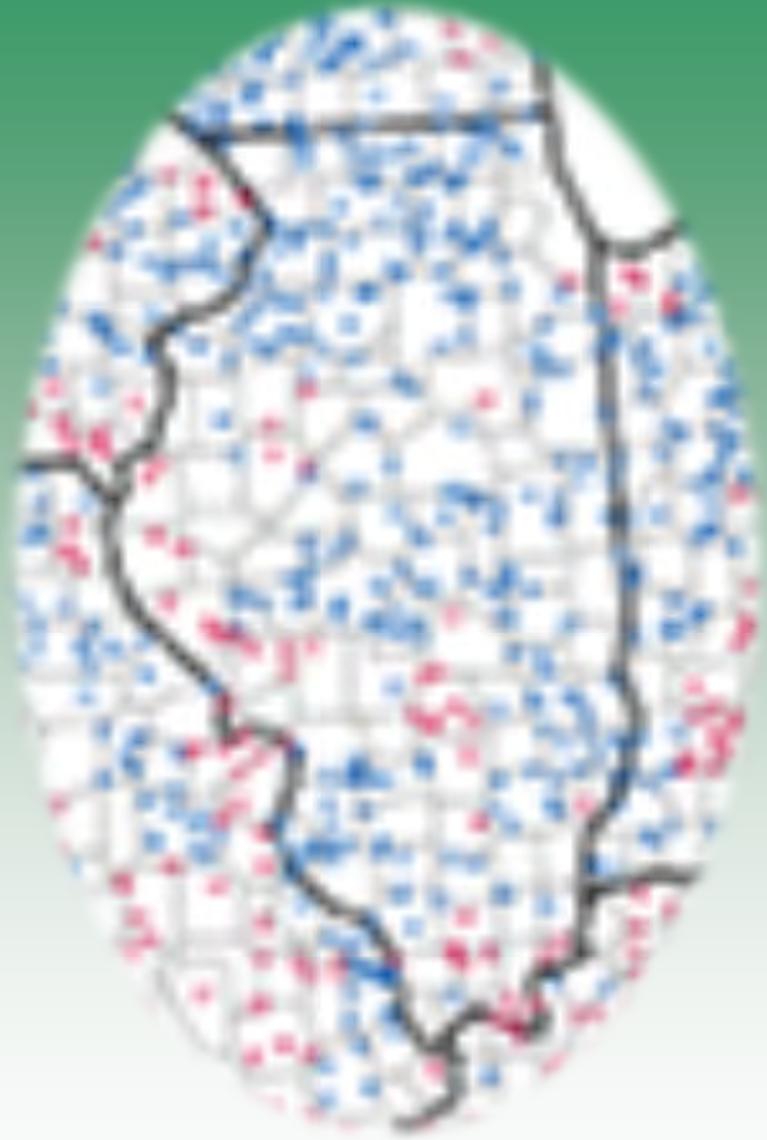
07-M002
 U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service



Change in Number of Farms:

2002 to 2007

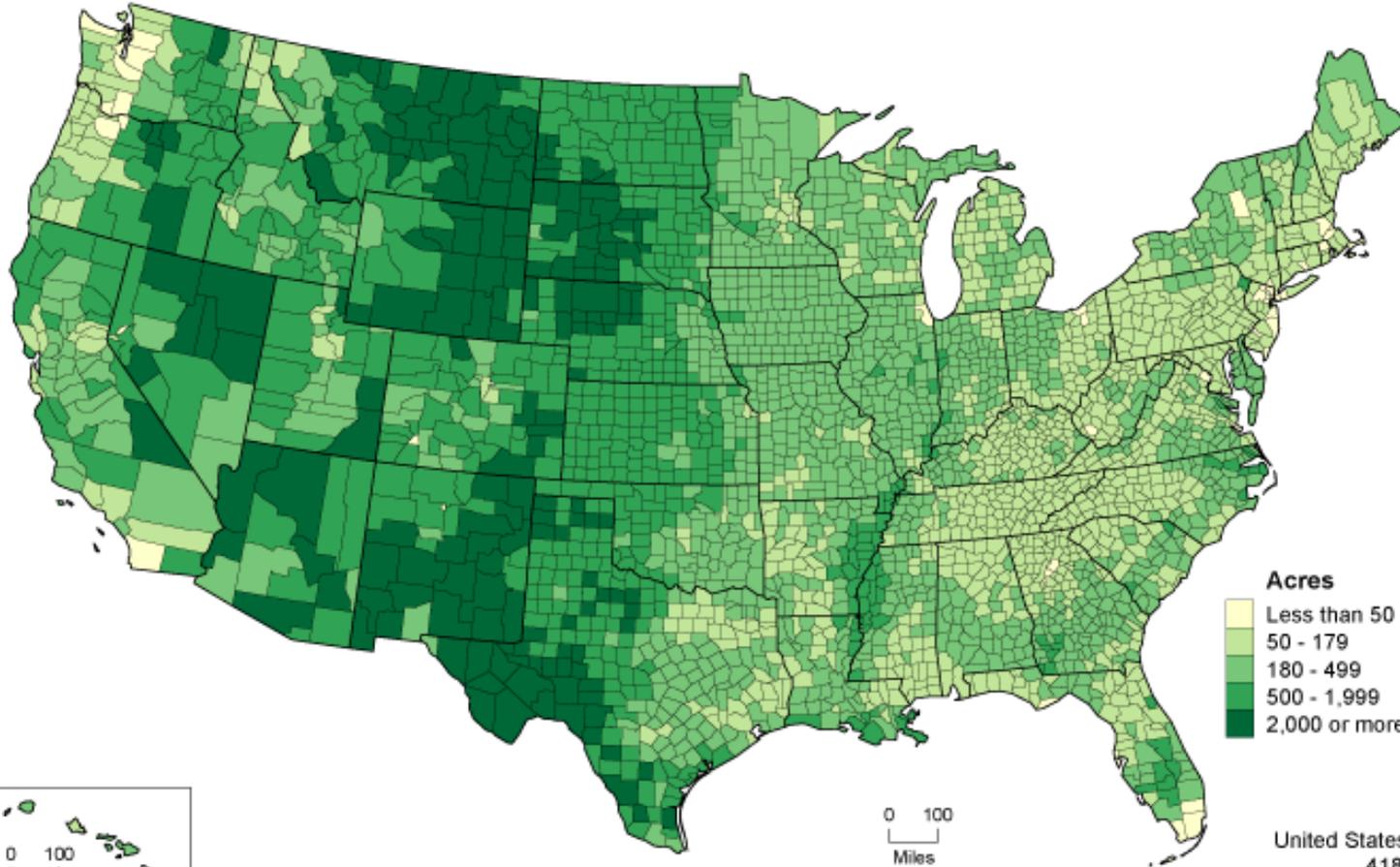
1 Dot = 20 Farms Increase
1 Dot = 20 Farms Decrease



0 200
Miles



Average Size of Farms in Acres: 2007



Acres
Less than 50
50 - 179
180 - 499
500 - 1,999
2,000 or more

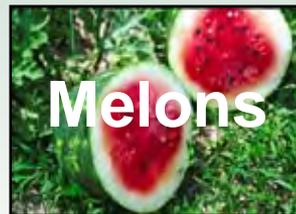
United States Average
418

0 100
Miles

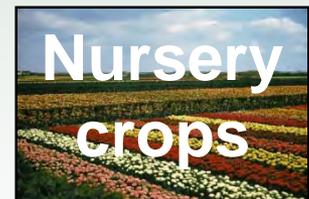


07-M003
U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

An abundance of specialty crops are grown, including:



Numerous other items

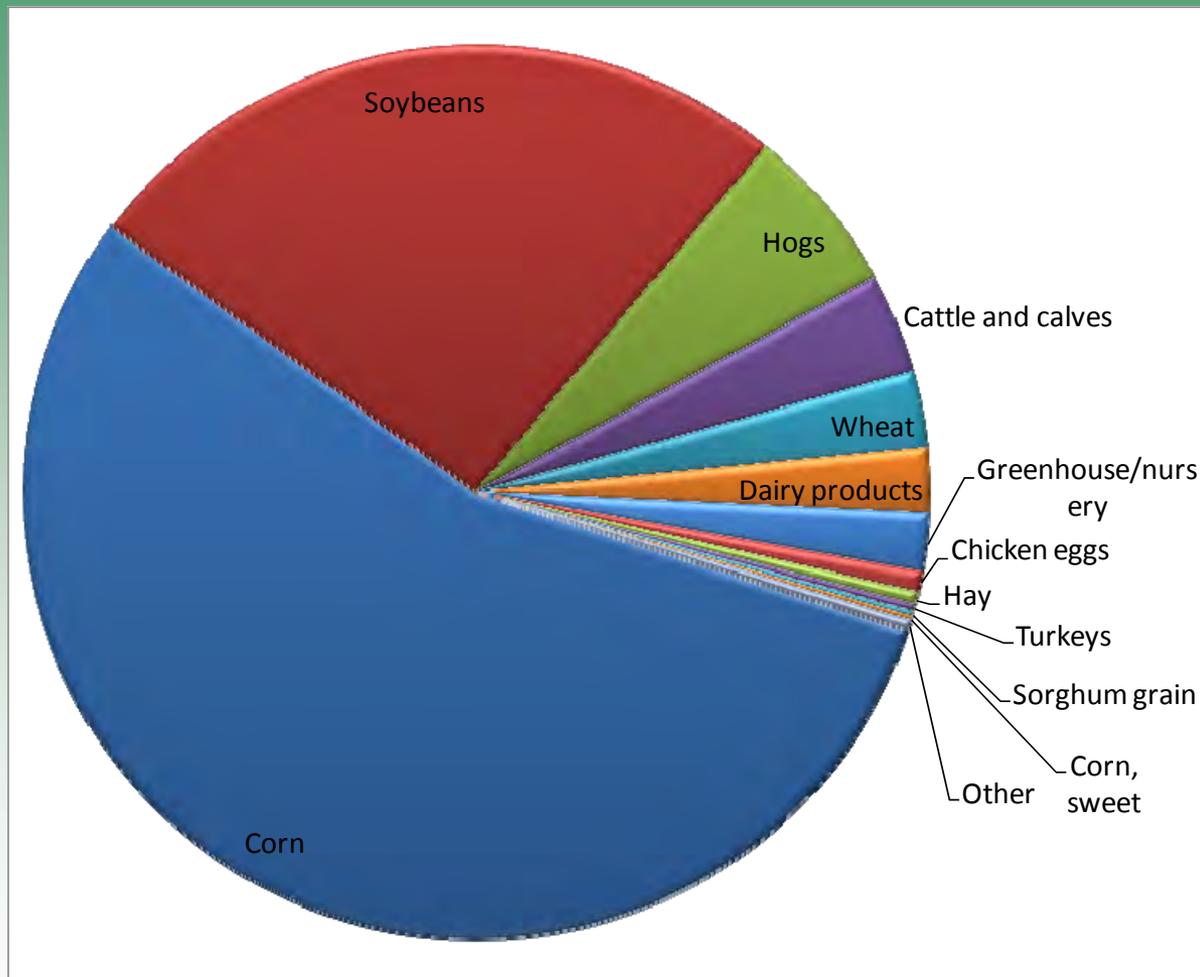


Source: USDA, NASS, Illinois Field Office



Illinois Leading Commodities For Cash Receipts, 2008

Rank	Item	Value of receipts
1,000 dollars		
1	Corn	8,878,418
2	Soybeans	4,163,157
3	Hogs	971,218
4	Cattle and calves	581,032
5	Wheat	449,298
6	Dairy products	369,068
7	Greenhouse/nursery	338,823
8	Chicken eggs	120,770
9	Hay	72,809
10	Turkeys	38,192
11	Sorghum grain	32,509
12	Corn, sweet	24,209
13	Potatoes	15,914
14	Apples	10,511
15	Peaches	9,259
16	Beans, snap	8,054
17	Aquaculture	3,940
18	Oats	3,892
19	Sheep and lambs	2,634
20	Cabbage	1,105
21	Honey	1,102
22	Farm chickens	265



Source: USDA, ERS





Shipped in
from far away

Most of our fruit and
vegetables travel an
average of 1,500 miles.

Grown in Illinois

The cost of shipping produce
from California or China
accounts for 10-20 percent of
the price consumers pay.

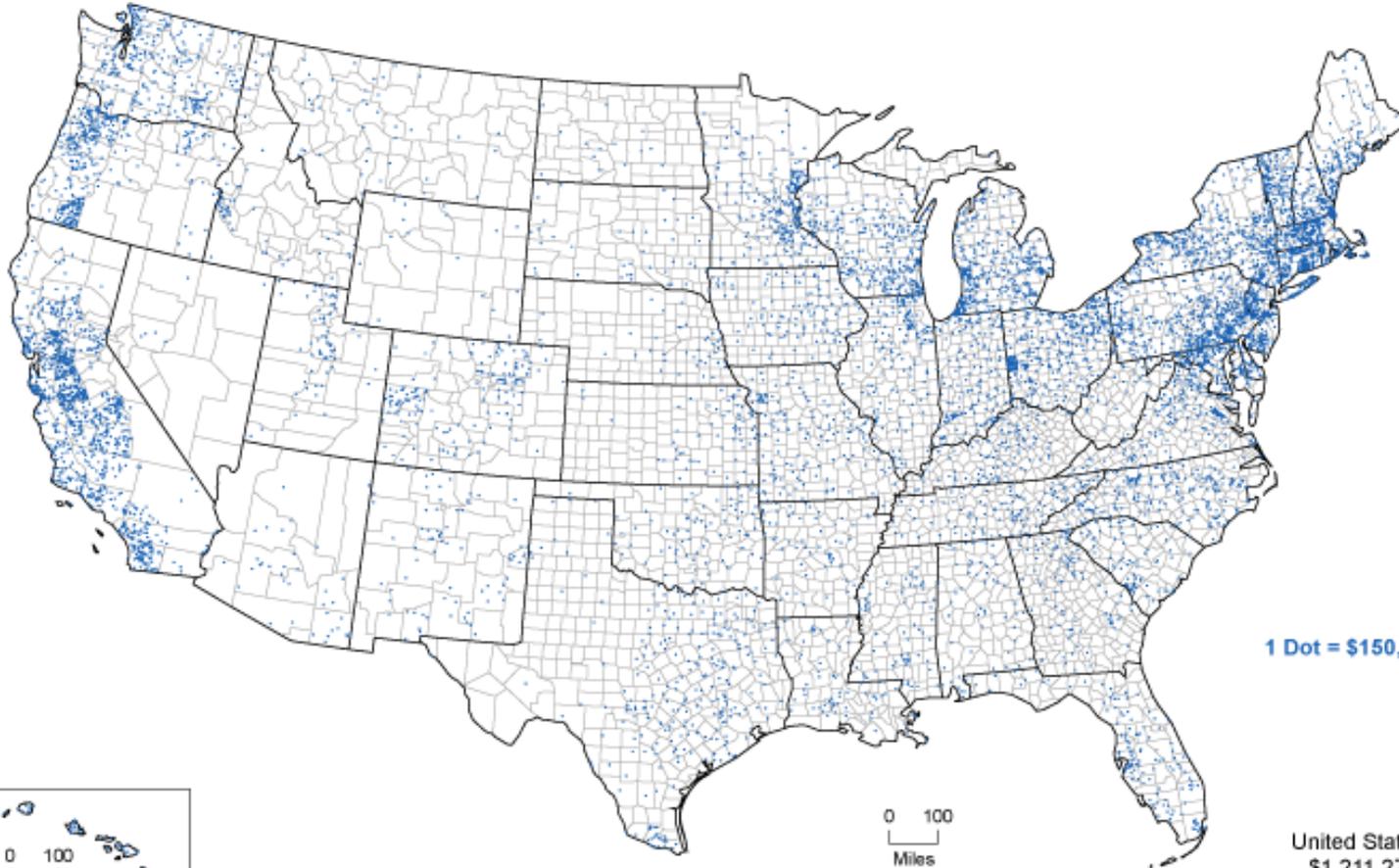
According to the United States
Department of Agriculture,
Illinois **12.8 million**
consumers spend **\$48 billion**
a year on fresh, prepared, and
processed food from
supermarkets, restaurants,
and other sources.



0 200
Miles



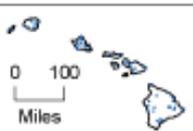
Value of Agricultural Products Sold Directly to Individuals for Human Consumption: 2007



1 Dot = \$150,000

United States Total
\$1,211,270,000

0 100
Miles



07-M037
U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Agricultural Statistics Service

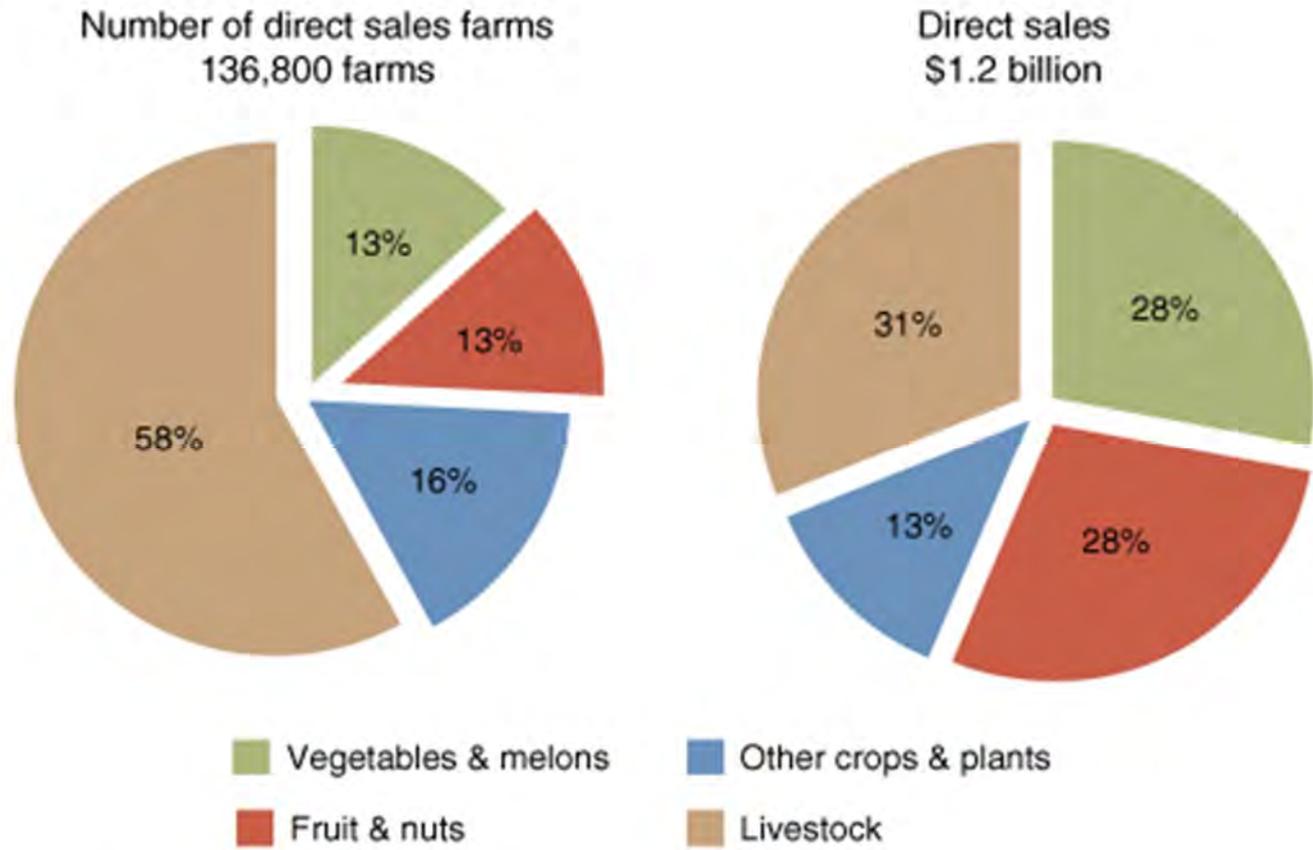


Illinois Agriculture

**Value of
Agricultural
Products Sold
Directly to
Individuals for
Human
Consumption,
2007**

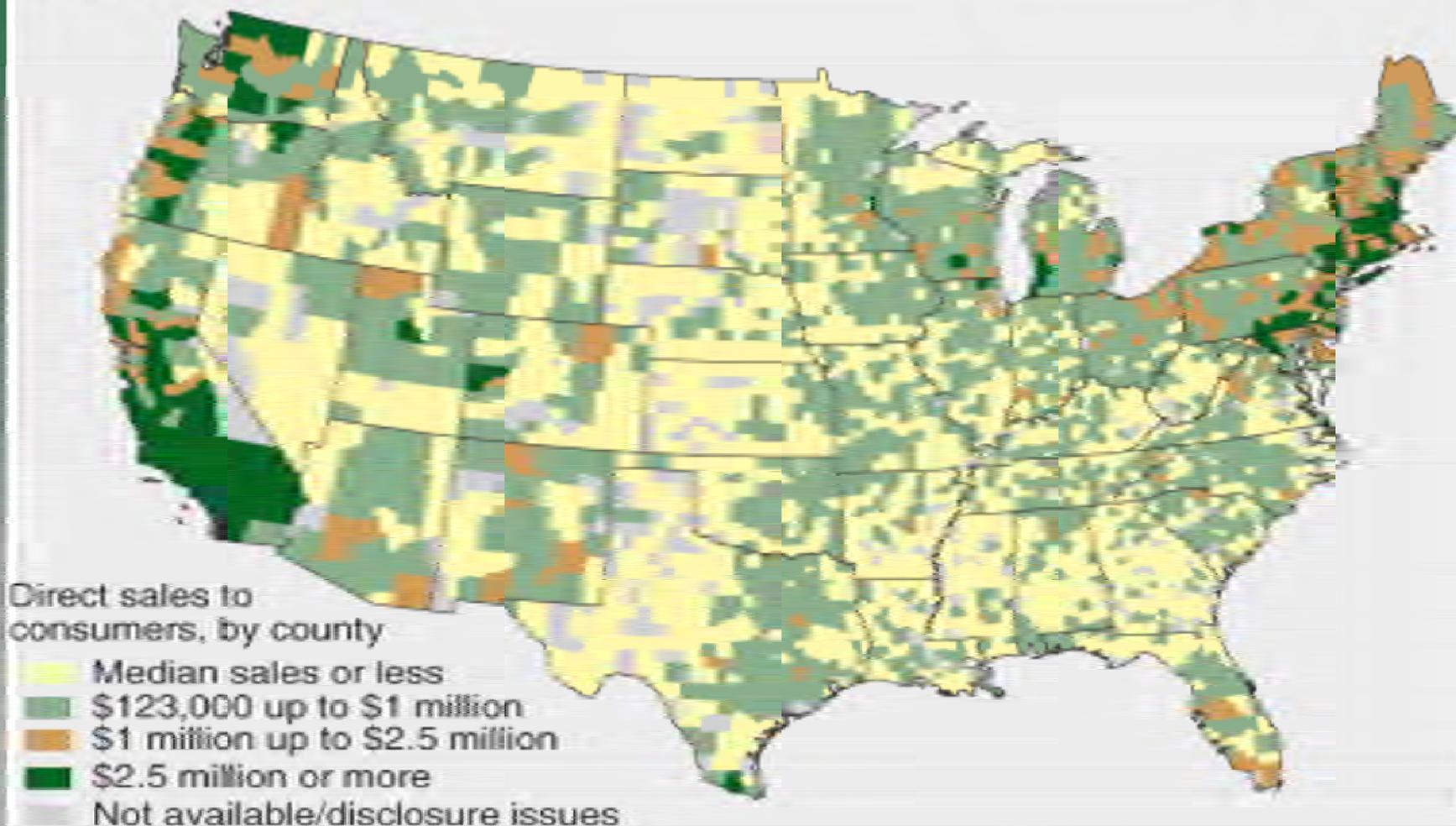


In 2007, fruit and vegetable farms accounted for 26 percent of direct sales farms and 56 percent of direct sales



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, Census of Agriculture.

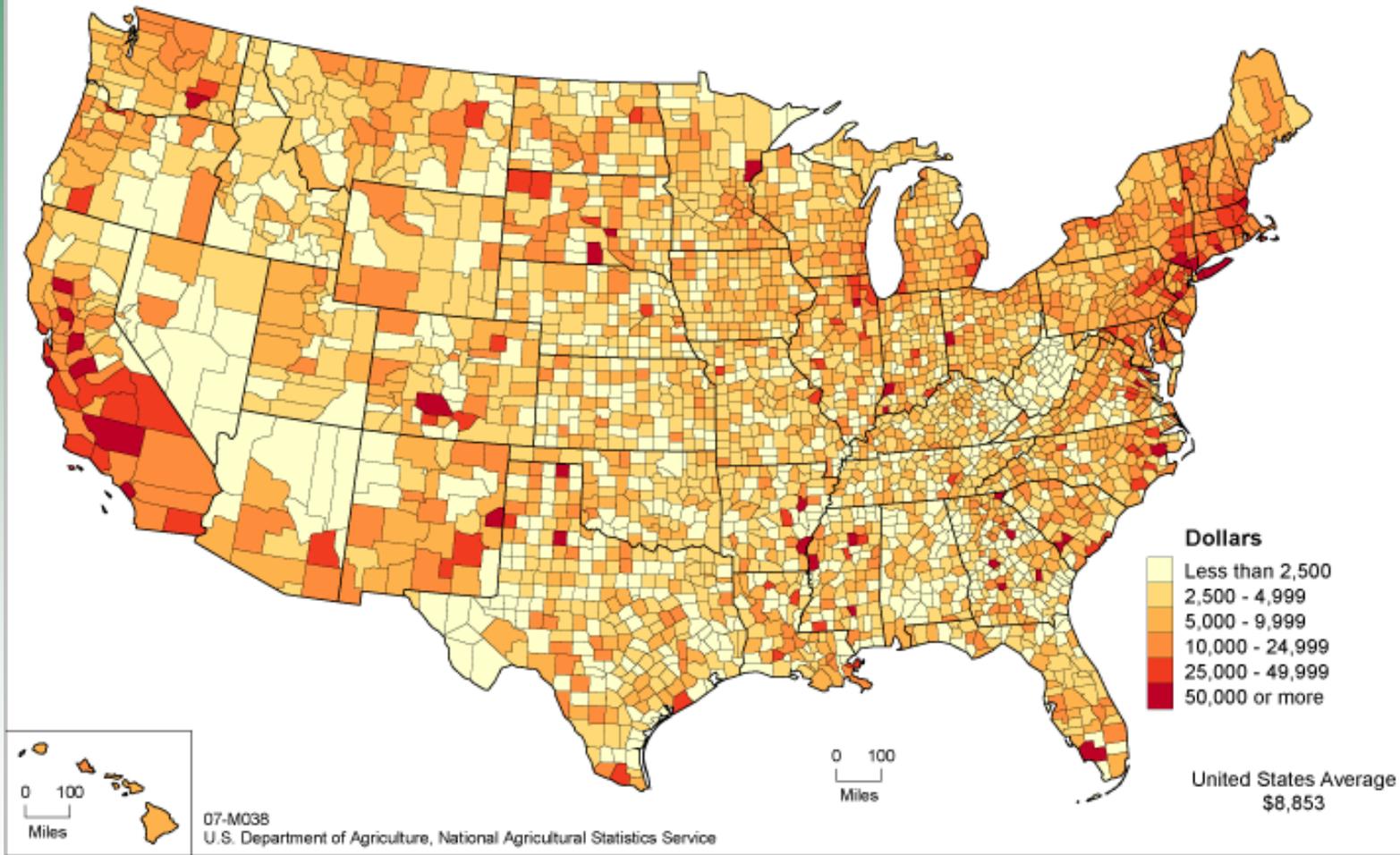
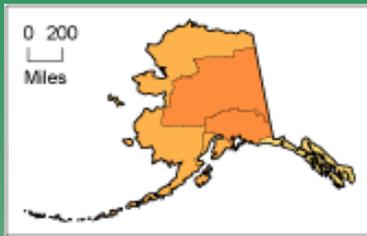
The value of farm direct sales to consumers was greatest in highly urban areas in 2007



Source: USDA, Economic Research Service using data from USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service, 2007 Census of Agriculture.



Average Value per Farm of Agricultural Products Sold Directly to Individuals for Human Consumption: 2007



Value of agricultural products sold directly to individuals for human consumption - ILLINOIS

	2007	2002	% Change 2002 to 2007
Number of Farms	2,818	2,333	121%
Total Average Sales	\$25,893,000.00	\$18,412,000.00	141%
Average Sales per farm	\$9,189.00	\$7,892.00	116%

USDA, NASS - 2007Ag Census



Illinois' Current Situation

- Consumers in Illinois currently purchase approximately \$48 billion of fresh, prepared and processed food through supermarkets, restaurants, and other sources.
- The vast majority of this food is grown and processed out of the state or the country.
- **We export what we grow and we import what we eat.**
- Some of Illinois' production returns to the State in other forms.

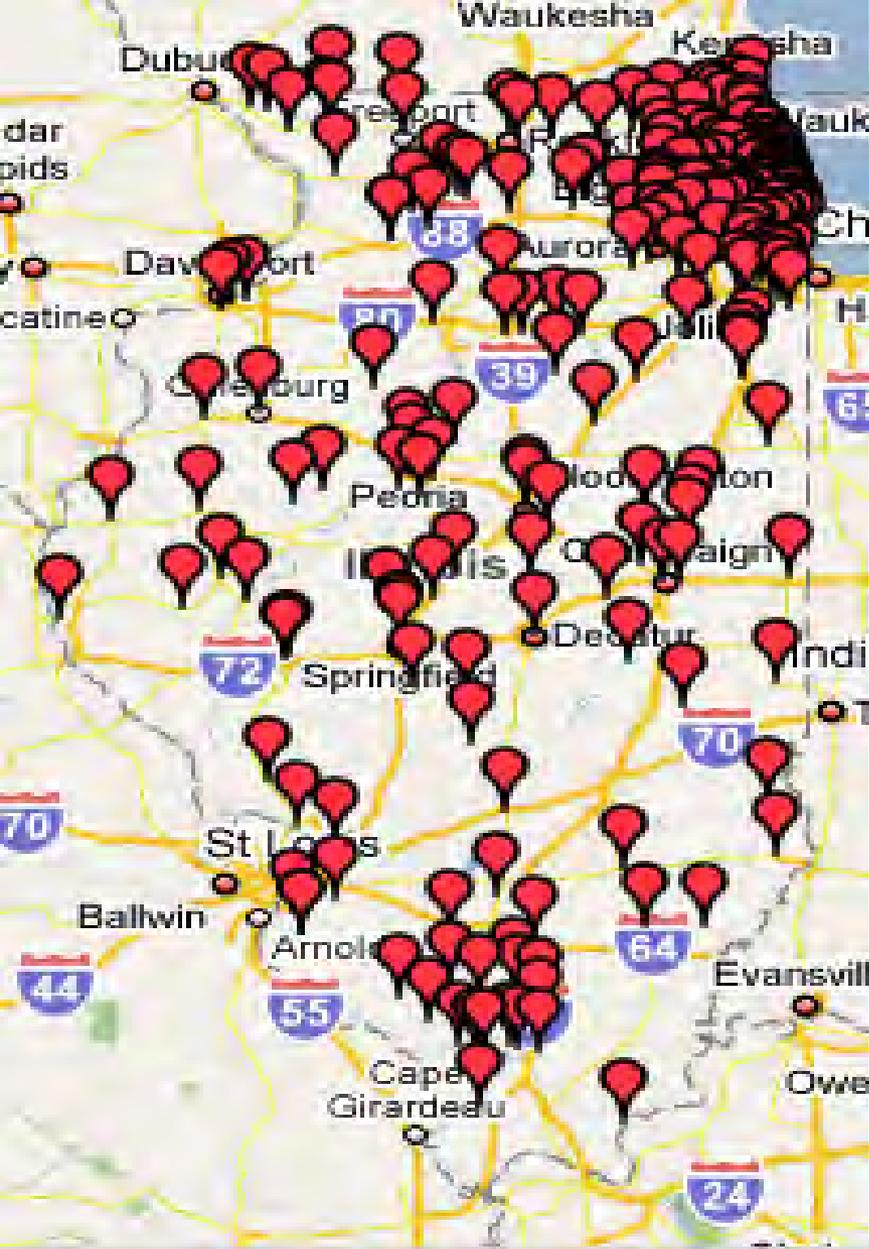


Illinois' Opportunity

- A recent study (“Local and Fresh Foods in the US”) indicated that the current market for local foods was \$5 billion with growth to \$7 billion by 2011
- Local food trend is attracting major institutional purchasers
- Tremendous opportunity for regional farmers that grow high quality products of sufficient quantity to sell into these markets







Farmers Markets - US

1,755 – 1994
 4,385 – 2006
 5,274 – 2009
 6,132 - 2010

Farmers Markets - Illinois

1999 - 97
 2004 - 149
 2008 - 250
 2009 - 270
 2010 - 286 (#3 in US)

Buy Local

- Illinois imports more than 90 percent of its food
- 95 percent of organic food sold in the state is grown and processed in other parts of the country
- Buying local
 - Supports local growers
 - Supports the local economy
 - Customers have the benefit of fresh-picked food
- Farmers and businesses face challenges — from produce's seasonality to price — when it comes to keeping Central Illinois goods in stock for the average consumer
- Marketing can be time consuming and daunting to a farmer without business savvy



Buy Local

- **Buying locally grown foods is easy**
- Local food is:
 - Fresher
 - More nutritious
 - Tastes better than food picked before it's ripe and after it is shipped long distances.
- Local farmers can offer varieties bred for flavor and nutrition rather than for uniform size, shape, color, and long shelf life



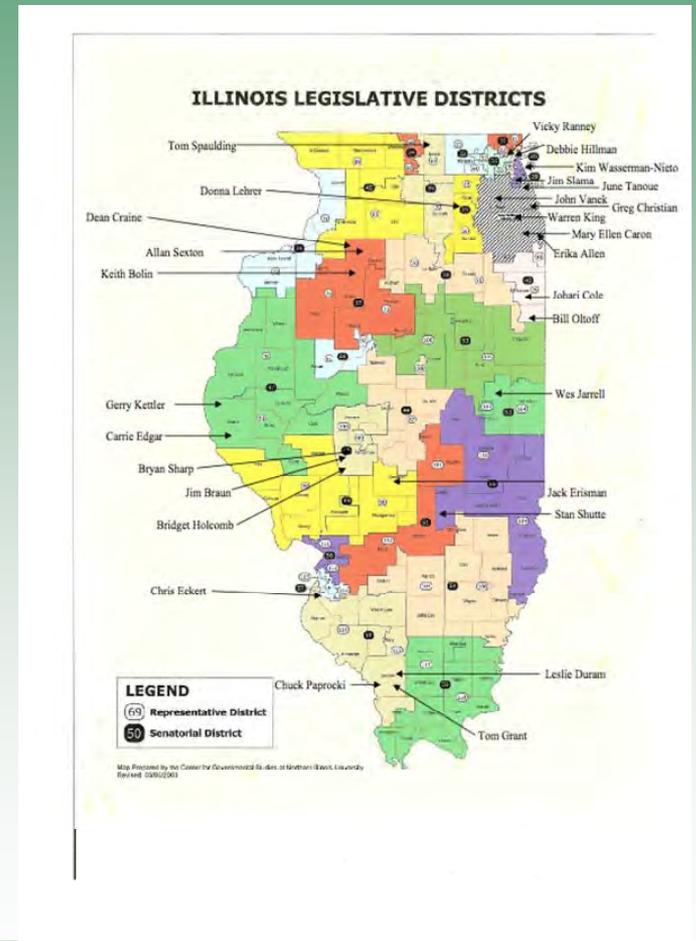
The Illinois Local and Organic Food, Farms, and Jobs Task Force

Created by the Illinois Food, Farms, and Jobs Act 2007
(HB1300) (Public Act 95-145)

Mandate from the Illinois General Assembly to:

Create a Plan providing the General Assembly direction for how it could facilitate the building of an Illinois local farm and food economy

The Task Force ended by statute
December 13, 2009



Illinois Local and Organic Food and Farm Task Force

Created by Illinois Food, Farms, and Jobs Act

First Meeting: January 30, 2008
Met about once a month
Last meeting: December 2, 2009

Appointments ran out 12/7/09

Currently transitioning into
*Local Food, Farms, and Jobs
Council*



Local Food, Farms & Jobs: Growing the Illinois Economy

A Report to the Illinois General Assembly
By The Illinois Local and Organic Food and Farm Task Force

March 2009

"Every Illinois community would benefit from our farmers producing products for in-state purchase. I encourage and support all efforts that accomplish this goal."

— Governor Pat Quinn



THE ILLINOIS LOCAL FOOD, FARMS, AND JOBS COUNCIL

**The Council was created by the Illinois Food, Farms, and Jobs Act of 2009
(HB3990) (Public Act 96-579)**

The Mission given the Council by the General Assembly is:

“To facilitate the growth of an Illinois-based local farm and food product economy that revitalizes rural and urban communities, promotes healthy eating with access to fresh foods, creates jobs, ensures a readily available supply of safe food in an emergency event, and supports economic growth through making local farm or food products available to all Illinois citizens.”



THE ILLINOIS LOCAL FOOD, FARMS, AND JOBS COUNCIL

The Functions of the Council are to:

1. serve as a forum for discussing food issues
2. foster coordination between local communities and sectors in the food system
3. build local farm and food networks
4. support and implement programs and services that address local needs
5. evaluate and influence policy

THE ILLINOIS LOCAL FOOD, FARMS, AND JOBS COUNCIL

Council Goals Commissioned by the General Assembly (Public Act 96-579)

1. Facilitate institutional buying of local foods
 - a. 20% of institutional purchased food be local by 2020
 - b. 10% state run cafeteria food be local by 2020
2. Support and develop local food entrepreneurs
3. Build local farm and food infrastructure
4. Implement farmer/resident training in food production
5. Facilitate inter-agency coordination to build a local farm and food economy
6. Eliminate legal barriers hampering production, processing, and marketing of local farm and food products
7. Make public lands available for local food production
8. Collect data, measure, analyze, report, and set goals
9. Create an Illinois local farm and food label and certification program
10. Create a local farm and food public awareness campaign
11. Issue an annual Progress Report to the Illinois General Assembly



The Chicago Food Policy Advisory Council



December 9, 2010

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about us

members

events

policy objectives

resources

toolkits

neighborhood policy councils

youth council

Our Mission



The Chicago Food Policy Advisory Council (CFPAC) facilitates the development of responsible policies that improve access for Chicago residents to culturally appropriate, nutritionally sound, and affordable food that is grown through environmentally sustainable practices.

The Chicago Food Policy Advisory Council is network of organizations and individuals sharing their experiences and concerns about food security in the Chicago region in order to influence policy makers to make informed decisions motivated by the goals of community food security.

Interested in learning more?

Save the Date

Stay tuned for our next quarterly meeting.

Listserv

Join our listserv at riseup.net. Learn about local events, job postings, and connect with folks who love food.

To contact the **Chicago Food Policy Advisory Council**, please send correspondence care of:

Growing Power, Inc., 2215 W. North Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60647. Tel 773.486.6005. Email info@chicagofoodpolicy.org.

A special thanks to our generous funders: [Growing Power](#) and [City of Chicago, Department of the Environment](#). Sponsorship from the [Family Farmed Expo](#).

Thank you to **Thinkhost** for their donation of Web hosting services. For information regarding the website, please email web@chicagofoodpolicy.org.

www.chicagofoodpolicy.org



Illinois Agriculture

Evanston Food Policy Council

To all Evanston Food Policy Council supporters and participants:

This is to inform everyone that the EFPC is going to take an indefinite break from hosting regular monthly meetings.

Since EFPC was founded in August 2005, our main priority has been to initiate and support conversations around food -- food and farm policy, nutrition, personal empowerment within the food system, etc. We have been part of a growing national and global conversation about these issues, and we now are part of numerous community food projects in Evanston, the North Shore, the Chicago area, and the state of Illinois.

As all of you know, grassroots efforts like the Evanston Food Policy Council ultimately have to be supported monetarily so that the participants can be made sustainable and whole. This is the crossroads where we stand at the moment -- deciding how to focus our energy and become part of the "value chain" of society.

I may be sending out occasional announcements about food-related events through this e-mail list. A better place to be regularly connected to Evanston and area food events is through The Talking Farm. If you are not already on The Talking Farm mailing list, you can sign up on the website -- www.thetalkingfarm.org Talking Farm updates are sent out about every 6 weeks.

Click here to see current and relevant announcements on the following topics:

1. Federal Legislative Alert
2. Backyard chicken ordinance ([click here to see ordinance](#))
3. Evanston farmers market: new "friends of the market" committee
4. Film festival: "Peaceable Kingdom" and other environmental films
5. New State Rep. Robyn Gabell

Stay tuned..... there is still much to do. We're just changing our methods.

-- Debbie

Debbie Hillman, Co-Coordinator
Illinois Local Food & Farms Coalition
Chairperson, Evanston Food Policy Council
847/328-7175
DLHillman@sbcglobal.net

[←Back to Community Partners](#)

www.thetalkingfarm.org

Knox County Food Council

DEVELOPING THE WESTERN ILLINOIS FOOD SYSTEM



[About KCFC](#) [A Local Food System](#) [Development Activities](#) [Resources and Links](#)

The Knox County Food Development Council was formed in May 2010 as a result of the growing need for local food. The Illinois Food, Farms, and Jobs Act sets a goal for boosting local food production by requiring government supported institutions to purchase more local food by 2020.

Stay informed

Name:

Email:

Submit



www.knoxfood.org



Illinois Agriculture

Domestic Services

Domestic services staff can assist you in growing your Illinois business on the home front.

Our Domestic Services Include:

- Logo Programs
 - Illinois Product
 - Illinois...Where Fresh Is
- Consumer Shows
- Trade Shows
- Web-based services
- Grants
- Seminars and Workshops
- Specialty Crop Promotions



Domestic Services

Illinois Product Logo



Food or Agricultural Product

- Produced
- Processed
- or -
- Packaged

in Illinois

Illinois Food and Agri-business companies can be certified to use the logo, at no cost, by the Department.



Domestic Services

Specialty Crop Promotion:

***Illinois... Where Fresh
Is***



- Promote farmers markets
- Brand Illinois produce
- Packaging and advertising.



Domestic Services

Consumer Shows

Every year, the Department hosts promotions where the public can meet local food & agribusiness companies as well as sample and buy their products:

- Illinois Products Promotion
- Illinois Products Expo



Web Based Services

Our online services can take your business to the global marketplace for maximum sales exposure.

Online promotion through:

- IL Dept. of Agriculture website
 - www.agr.state.il.us
- Marketing Information System
 - Illinois Food & Agribusiness Guide
- Blast Email Messages
- Electronic Trade Leads
- Marketing Perspectives
 - monthly electronic newsletter



Domestic Services

National Organic Program Cost-Share Grant Program



- Reimburse organic producers for their annual certification costs
- Funds available for expenses incurred between October 1, 2010 and September 30, 2011
- 75% of certification costs up to a maximum of \$750
- Forms are available at www.agr.state.il.us



Illinois Specialty Crop Grant Program



Help to increase the competitiveness of Illinois' specialty crop industry

- For projects beginning around January, 2012
- Applications due by 4pm on April 15, 2011
- Request for Proposals details will be available at www.agr.state.il.us



For More Information:

Illinois Department of Agriculture

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Springfield, IL 62794-9281

PHONE: 217/782-2172

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