

What is the STATEWIDE COOPERATIVE PARTNERSHIP?



 *For local and regional markets*

WHAT is the Partnership?

The Partnership is a collective effort to gather data that will inform local and regional agricultural and food stakeholders in Minnesota, and create a roadmap for more equitable access to market opportunities.

WHO is a part of this work?

The Partnership is a group of 40+ organizations brought together by the Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) and the University of Minnesota (UMN) to provide input on the diverse experiences of small- and mid-sized producers, retailers, and consumers across the state. See the list of [Cooperative Partners](#) on our website.

WHY is this project important?

This project will:

- ▶ Identify market trends and opportunities for small and mid-sized farms
- ▶ Supplement the USDA's National Agricultural Statistic Services Agricultural Census with data about farmers and markets not fully represented in the Ag Census: emerging farmers, direct-to-consumer, and direct-to-institution sales
- ▶ Support the development of data-informed programs and services for small and mid-sized farms
- ▶ Strengthen recommendations to the state legislature that support historically underrepresented and under-supported farmers
- ▶ Contribute to on-going research



Project timeline



2021

Gathering what is known

- Asset mapping
- Literature Review Summary
- Community Engagement Summary



2022

Baseline survey

- Develop survey and assessment methods and tools
- Distribute survey
- Analyze results



2023

Looking ahead together

- Review findings
- Make recommendations to the Minnesota Department of Agriculture, UMN, and policy makers

Local and regional markets include

Direct-to-consumer sales: Farmers' markets, U-Pick, CSAs, and online sales



Retail to grocery stores and restaurants



Institutional sales to schools and hospitals



Wholesale to processors and distributors



Questions?

Email Kate Seybold at Kate.Seybold@state.mn.us to learn more.



Funding for the Statewide Cooperative Partnership for Improved Opportunities and Performance in Local and Regional Markets was made possible by the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service through grant AM200100XXXXG017. Its contents are solely the responsibility of the authors and do not represent the official views of the USDA.

4/2022

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