

# Nebraska Local Foods Network Newsletter



AUGUST 2009

[www.localfoods.nebraska.edu](http://www.localfoods.nebraska.edu)



## Welcome to the Nebraska Local Foods Network (NLFN)

This newsletter will be delivered to you routinely through email to keep you updated on what is happening with local foods in our state and beyond. Currently there are 102 individuals and organizations on the Network's email list, but this number is constantly growing. The newsletter belongs to the Network members, so please send events and ideas for news stories to [kchurchill4@unl.edu](mailto:kchurchill4@unl.edu).

The Nebraska Local Foods Network (NLFN) is a collaboration of Nebraskans working together to encourage and facilitate the increased production and consumption of local foods. The NLFN strives to build stronger communities, healthier lives and a cleaner environment. The Nebraska Local Foods website will serve as a place to disseminate information and retrieve important materials. Thank you for being a part of the Nebraska Local Foods Network!

## Producers of Local Foods Products

The Network would like to invite Nebraska producers to become more involved in the goals of the Network. If you know producers who might find benefits from the Network, or who have specific areas of need, please suggest that they join the NLFN. [Join The Network](#)

## The Three Subcommittees of the NLFN...

**Production** - increase the number of small- to medium-sized farmers and ranchers producing a consistent, high quality and reliable supply of local foods and value-added products.

**Nutrition/Education** - increase the consumption of minimally processed local foods and educating consumers on proper utilization of local foods.

**Marketing/Distribution** - identify barriers that hinder small and mid-sized producers from marketing and distributing local foods and work to link producers with larger markets.

Next month's newsletter will explain each committee and the projects that each is currently working on. Please check the September /October newsletter for more information.

## Distribution of Local Foods

In order to expand consumer access to locally produced foods through retail (grocery stores and restaurants) and institutions (schools, hospitals, care centers, etc.) outlets, producers need to develop distribution systems that provide consistent high quality products in sufficient quantities where and when the buyers want them. A large single grower may be able to produce sufficient quantities of high quality product over a season to meet the needs of larger retail customers but if smaller growers ... [Distribution Page](#)

## July 9<sup>th</sup> - Nebraska Local Foods Conference

The NLFN Conference was held last month at the University of Nebraska's East Campus Union. There was overwhelming excitement and the participant's number more than 100. Of those participants which responded to the conference survey, 92% thought the conference was 'excellent' or 'very good.' The conference included three enthusiastic and experienced speakers and a panel of Nebraska producers who have bridged the gap and are now selling to retail outlets such as grocery stores, and restaurants. The conference also included legislative updates and an open forum with USDA Rural Development officials working in local foods. Overall, the conference was very informative and an excellent networking opportunity for Nebraska Local Foods enthusiasts.



## **Alice's Recipe Corner:** **Skillet Zucchini and Chopped Tomatoes**

### Contact Us:

If you would like to become part of the network or if you want more information, please contact:

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