

Finding Local Producers Resources

Tools for Connecting

- » [Market Maker](#) is a national partnership of land grant institutions and State Departments of Agriculture dedicated to the development of a comprehensive interactive database of food industry marketing and business data. Schools can use State-based Market Maker sites to search for local producers and products.
- » [Food Hub](#) is an online marketplace and directory that makes it easy and efficient for professional food buyers and sellers to research, connect, and do business. Food Hub currently serves growers and buyers in the States of Oregon, Washington, Idaho, Montana, Alaska and California.
- » [Farm Logix](#) is a one-stop-shop for multi-farm sourcing, connecting local farms with schools and other institutions.
- » Many State Departments of Agriculture host searchable databases of farms within the State and the products they produce. For an example, visit the [Go Texan](#) website.

Organizations that Can Help

- » [The Census of Agriculture](#), from USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) – NASS surveys all U.S. Farmers every five years and produces county profiles that detail agricultural production in every county. Schools can use Census data to find out what foods are produced locally.
- » [The Farm to School Census](#), from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service (FNS) – The Census surveyed over 13,000 school districts about their farm to school efforts. Schools can use this data to find out what districts nearby are sourcing locally.
- » [Cooperative Extension](#), from USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture – Cooperative Extension agents staff offices in each state and are experts in many agricultural topics, including local food systems. Most counties have an Extension office and these agents can help connect you with producers in your region.
- » [Food Hubs: Building Stronger Infrastructure for Small and Mid-Size Producers](#), from USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) – This page on the AMS website contains a host of great resources about food hubs—businesses or organizations that actively manage the aggregation, distribution, and marketing of source-identified food products primarily from local and regional producers.
- » [USDA Farm to School Program](#), from USDA's Food and Nutrition Service – The USDA Farm to School website provides contact information for State farm to school coordinators in each State and FNS Farm to School Regional Leads. The site also offers fact sheets, grant updates and information on future webinars.
- » [Farm Service Agency \(FSA\) State Offices](#) – This web page offers contact information for all of USDA's State FSA offices, which hold contact information for local producers and often host outreach meetings for growers.
- » [USDA National Farmers Market Directory](#), from USDA's Agricultural Marketing Service – A searchable database of all registered farmers' markets in the country. Over 8,000 markets are included!

Websites from the Presenters

- » [Michigan Farm to School](#)
- » [Maryland Farm to School](#)
- » [Calvin Lutz Farm](#)