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In this issue:

- Webinar Series
- Team Spotlights
- Mark Your Calendar
- Funding Opportunities
- News, Resources, and Reading
- From Our Communities
- About Us
- Stay Connected



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## CSU Food Systems Webinar Series



We will return in the Fall! Have a great summer!

View previous webinars [here](#).



## CSU Food Systems Team Spotlights



### Taís Menezes

Visiting Research Scholar  
Dept. of Agricultural and Resource  
Economics

Taís is a visiting research scholar in the Department of Agricultural and Resource Economics. She is funded by Fulbright and will join the program as a

PhD student in Fall 2022.

She grew up in the state of São Paulo in Brazil, and completed her undergraduate studies in Economic Sciences at the Federal University of São Paulo. Taís has a Master's degree in Applied Economics from Luiz de Queiroz College of Agriculture (Esalq), University of São Paulo. Currently, she is a PhD candidate in the doctoral program in Applied Economics at Esalq. Taís is also a researcher with the Agricultural Policy team at the Center for Advanced Studies in Applied Economics in Brazil. Her research is focused on agricultural policies, animal health economics, and international trade. Taís is currently developing research that applies computable general equilibrium models to evaluate the economic impacts of foot-and-mouth disease in Brazilian and international animal and meat markets.

### Eric McPhail

County Director, Ag & Youth Agent  
Gunnison County Extension

Eric McPhail has served as the County Director and the 4-H Youth and Agricultural Agent in Gunnison County, Colorado for the past 16 years. Bed bugs to cattle



marketing, his position takes many forms of educational outreach. His principal responsibilities include program management focused on community development, agriculture, livestock, 4-H youth, Master Gardener, and family and consumer science education. Eric prides himself on building his small county office's 52 formal organizational and committee partnerships. He believes the balance of knowledge transfer and diverse service is where Extension can make the most impact in a community. Also, surrounding oneself with great teammates is a plus too. He loves the job, the people, and the mission of providing a helping resource, or hand, to anyone.



## Mark Your Calendar

### Get a Taste of the Terra Building — Focused on Food and Agriculture!



#### Terra grand opening events:

##### Terra Grand Opening June 8, 11 a.m.-1 p.m.

Join the milestone ribbon cutting for the Terra building, and stay for some fun, including lunch from local food trucks, live music, and building tours. (RSVP encouraged [here](#).)

##### Kids Day at Terra June 10, 9 a.m.-1 p.m.

Curious kids of all ages are invited to their first experience at Terra! Enjoy a day of taste-testing foods, painting with plant-based watercolors, the CSU Bug Zoo, and so much more!

##### Community, Family and Friends Afternoon at Terra June 11, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Enjoy an open house to see (and smell!) all the Terra building has to offer – on-view labs, greenhouses, a kitchen, interactive exhibits, the best view of downtown Denver, and more. Plus, be part of a community art project that will hang in the Terra building!

Read more about Terra [here](#)!

## Food Finance Institute MVP Series

The Food Finance Institute MVP Series offers food-focused businesses the flexibility to learn how to successfully grow their business and maximize their



value potential, one workshop at a time. These workshops will help you develop the details you need to scale and grow your business. Focused on Accounting, Sales, Marketing, and Operations the series will prepare you for the next steps for success. The cost for each course is \$100.

**June 8th, 2022 - Developing a High-**

**Performance Organization**

**July 7th, 2022 - Financial & Accounting Processes**

For more information click [here](#).

## Food Safety Training for Cottage Food Producers

2022 courses

Learn how to safely produce food from home as a cottage food business. This online course covers a variety of topics, including: basic food safety, foods that are permissible under the updated Colorado Cottage Foods Act, ingredient labeling, special considerations for food preparation at high altitudes, and safe food sampling best practices. Registration is \$50.

Courses will be offered online on the following dates. **Click each date below** to register and learn more about the program.

### CSU Extension Cottage Food Safety Training Online:

- **June 10**, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- **July 8**, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- **August 10**, 5:00 - 9:00 pm
- **September 13**, 1:00 pm - 5:00 pm
- **September 23**, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- **October 14**, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- **November 2**, 5:00 - 9:00 pm
- **December 2**, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- **December 3**, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm

## Poultry Production Webinar Series

The Colorado State University Extension 4-H program has been hosting a Poultry Production Webinar Series for the past few months. 4-H, FFA, and backyard producers are invited. The last webinar in this series is this month!

**June 28th, 2022, 7:00 PM - 4-H Poultry Show Preparation & Showmanship**

Register [here](#).



## UCCS Grain School in the Field 2022

Join the UCCS Grain School team the weekend of **Saturday, July 23rd to Sunday, July 24th** for their annual Grain School in the Field in the San Luis Valley, Colorado! The weekend will kick off the evening of Friday, July 22nd with a Colorado Water Forum.

This immersive and all-inclusive mid-summer grain fest is hosted at Adams State University (ASU) in Alamosa, Colorado. Through hands-on grain workshops and tours with local experts, we will trace the grain value chain from farming, milling, to artisan baking, cooking, brewing, and distilling, with a focus on Colorado rye, millet, wheat, barley and quinoa. This weekend experience will offer delicious local food and brews and an a-maiz-ing opportunity to connect with rural links of the grain chain, while learning about water, climate change, and food culture in the valley.

2-Day experience \$195 (no accommodation)  
 \$225 (one-night accommodation at ASU)  
 \$255 (two-night accommodation at ASU; recommended arrival 7/22)  
 All meals included.

For program updates, scholarships, and registration, visit:

[www.coloradograinchain.com/events](http://www.coloradograinchain.com/events)



## Pivot Jumpstart

businesses.

CSU has a wonderful new partnership with the SLV Development Resource Group and the Small Business Development Center and will be bringing Pivot Jumpstart and mentor resources to small

Pivot Jumpstart is a FREE program built to empower and support the long-term stability of local businesses. This program is designed to help the owners and their businesses create new value and become resilient in the face of major change! By the end of Pivot Jumpstart, participants will better understand how to:

- Adapt to a changing environment and better future-proof the business to enable long-term success.
- Stay connected with developing and shifting needs of their customers.
- Create value for existing and new customers, and develop new revenue streams.
- Pivot and change directions in the business.
- Position the business in the present for eventual and successful exit in the future.

Thanks to the support of San Luis Valley Development Resource Group, San Luis Valley Small Business Development Center, and the **Institute for Entrepreneurship at Colorado State University- College of Business** Businesses located in San Luis Valley (Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Mineral, Rio Grande, and Saguache Counties) are able to enroll in this program for FREE thanks to generous sponsorships and federal grant assistance secured by **CSU REDI** through an Economic Development Administration grant.

The first session begins Monday June 6th at Noon and registration is open today!

**Register today for: Pivot SLV!**



## Funding Opportunities

### **Rapid Response to Extreme Weather Events Across Food and Agriculture Systems (A1712)**



This U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) program is designed to rapidly deploy strategies and fill knowledge and information gaps to protect the nation's food and agricultural supply chains, from production through consumption, during and after extreme weather and disasters.

All applicants must directly address the effects associated with an extreme weather event or disaster that has already occurred. Applications must address one or more of the following emphasis areas:

- Agroecosystem Resilience
- Agricultural Commodity and Nutrition Security
- Health, Well-Being, and Safety

Two grant types are available:

- **Standard, FASE (Strengthening Standard):** Extension or Integrated (research and extension), Letter of Intent must be submitted within 14 days

of an extreme weather event and disaster. Applications will be received on a continuous basis.

- **Coordinated Agricultural Project (CAP):** Extension projects only. A Coordinated Agricultural Project is a large-scale multi-million-dollar project to promote collaboration, open communication, and the exchange of information; reduce duplication of effort; and coordinate activities among individuals, institutions, states, and regions. Applicants applying to coordinate this extension response grant program must have the capacity to promptly accept and review proposals, award projects for rapid initiation at subaward institutions, and provide post-award management including project oversight and reporting. The application deadline is included in the FY2022 AFRI RFA.

[Click here for more information.](#)

## USDA Partnership for Climate-Smart Commodities



USDA will provide \$1 billion in funds for partnerships to support the production and marketing of climate-smart commodities via a set of pilot projects that will provide technical and financial assistance to producers who implement climate-smart practices on a voluntary basis on working lands; pilot innovative and cost-effective methods for quantification, monitoring, reporting and verification of greenhouse gas benefits; and market the resulting climate-smart commodities. The program will be broadly inclusive with an added intention for the inclusion of small and underserved producers.

### Funding will be provided in two pools:

- Proposals from \$250,000 - \$5 million are due **June 10, 2022**

[Click here for more information.](#)



## Local Food for Schools Cooperative Agreement Program

The USDA Agricultural Marketing Service is now accepting applications for the **Local Food for Schools Cooperative Agreement**

**Program** (LFS). The LFS program is authorized by the Commodity Credit Corporation Charter Act. The program provides up to \$200 million for non-competitive cooperative agreements with state governments through the purchase of domestic local foods for distribution to schools. The program will help increase local food consumption and build and expand economic opportunities for local and regional, small, and socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. State governments can now apply for the LFS Program.

Applications are due **July 20th**.

[Click here to download the RFA.](#)

## Western SARE Competitive Grants Research & Education 2023 Call for Proposals



Four Calls for Proposals are open now:

### **Farm/Rancher -**

The Farmer/Rancher Program focuses on advancing on-farm sustainability solutions by funding innovative producer-driven research and outreach.

**Due: November 2, 2022**

[Click here for more information.](#)

### **Professional + Producer -**

The Professional + Producer Program provides opportunities for agriculture professionals working directly with farmers and ranchers on sustainable agriculture efforts.

**Due: November 3, 2022.**

[Click here for more information.](#)

### **Professional Development -**

The Professional Development Program advances education and outreach strategies for professionals and educators who work directly with farmers and ranchers.

**Due: November 9, 2022.**

[Click here for more information.](#)

### **Research to Grassroots -**

The Research to Grassroots Program involves interdisciplinary teams who take SARE research results out into the field.

**Due: November 9, 2022.**

[Click here for more information.](#)

[Click here for more information about all proposals.](#)



## News, Resources & Reading

### Colorado State University's Vegetable Course

CSU is offering a free, online vegetable gardening course to inspire people to get off screens and get outside. Research shows that exposure to green spaces and



gardening has extensive physical and mental benefits, including reduced anxiety, stress and depression, improved memory, increased life satisfaction, enhanced productivity, and more. The course is free and open to all. No prior gardening experience is required.

In this self-paced, online course you'll learn how to:

- 🥕 Plan and plant vegetables in your own garden
- 🍅 Properly prepare and fertilize the soil
- 🌿 Routinely care for your vegetable garden
- 🍅 Successfully grow tomatoes and more!

The course is free and open to all. No prior gardening experience is required.

Register [here](#).

## USDA NIFA Invests \$25M in Meat and Poultry Agriculture Workforce Training



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) announced an investment of \$25 million, as part of the American Rescue Plan for meat and poultry agriculture workforce training.

NIFA will invest \$25 million through new and existing workforce development programs to provide a pipeline of well-trained workers to meet the demand for increased independent processing capacity.

NIFA is leading two funding opportunities:

- **Extension Risk Management Education and Sustainable Agriculture Research Education Programs:** An investment of \$5 million will be split equally between Extension Risk Management Education and Sustainable Agriculture Research Education programs. Work in these programs will support the development of meat and poultry processing training and educational materials for place-based needs, particularly relevant to small- or medium-sized farmers and ranchers. Additionally, training local and/or regional meat and poultry workers presents a unique opportunity to address the demand from niche markets, like mobile processing units fulfilling market demand from fresh markets, on-site processing, farm-to-fork (restaurateurs), boutique grocers, and others.
- **Community/Technical College Ag Workforce Training and Expanded Learning Opportunities:** This Agricultural Workforce Training (AWT) investment makes available \$20 million to qualified community colleges to support meat and poultry processing workforce development programs. The AWT program seeks to develop a workforce ready for the field, as well as industry jobs in the food and agricultural sectors. By creating new workforce training programs, or expanding, improving, or renewing existing workforce

training programs at community, junior, and technical colleges/institutes, this program will expand job-based, experiential learning opportunities, acquisition of industry-accepted credentials and occupational competencies for students to enable a workforce for the 21st century. Access the RFA [here](#).



## From Our Communities



### A Nationwide Survey of Farmers Market Managers

The Food Corridor's (TFC) mission is to enable efficiency, growth, and innovation in local food. After attending the Farmers Market InTents Conference, TFC learned how farmers' markets are a critical part of the local food community infrastructure helping to fulfill this mission. Farmers Markets along with Shared Kitchens create and strengthen urban-rural ties, human and social capital, and are both key players in supporting food businesses.

TFC wants to build on its insights from the conference and develop a deeper understanding of the challenges and "magic wand" wishes that market managers have in fulfilling their mission to create stronger local food economies. There are unique opportunities to collaborate around identifying, supporting, and growing more farmers market vendors.

Fill out this survey, and you'll be entered into a raffle for a \$100 Amazon gift card as a thank-you for your time and insights.

Click [here](#) to take the survey if you qualify, or please share with your networks.



## ABOUT FOOD SYSTEMS

at Colorado State University

Food systems are the connections between natural resources, the agricultural and food industries, and the buyers, consumers, and communities to which they contribute. Research, extension and education identify and inform opportunities to bridge how production, supply chains, and eaters respond to changing markets, policy, and the environment. At CSU, we focus on these key areas to train, influence, and communicate ways to connect food-related roles and foster healthy communities, economies, and individuals.



## Stay Connected

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