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June 1, 2021 || Newsletter Edition 133

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

Join us the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 2 pm

## Stay tuned!

The CSU Food Systems Webinar Series will pause for the summer and resume in August.

View previous Food Systems webinars [here](#).



## CSU Food Systems Team Spotlights



### Jaiver Antonanzas

Postdoctoral Fellow  
Department Mechanical Engineering

Javier Antonanzas is a postdoctoral researcher focused on sustainability studies of food and energy production systems. He applies life cycle assessment techniques to understand the carbon footprint of diverse areas such as cereal farming, poultry and dairy industries, natural gas production and transmission systems, and solar energy. He is very passionate about sustainability and tries to transmit this passion to students in the sustainable energy courses that he teaches at CSU. Outside of work, he spends his free time climbing and running in the mountains.

### Ryan Rhoades

Associate Professor  
Department of Animal Sciences

Dr. Rhoades is an Associate Professor and Beef Extension Specialist at Colorado State University. Previously, Ryan spent six years as a faculty member at the King Ranch Institute for Ranch Management in Kingsville, TX. Ryan received a Ph.D. in Beef Cattle Production at Texas A&M University. In his current position, Ryan is responsible for developing, prioritizing, and implementing innovative statewide beef extension programs based on Colorado beef industry needs. He also works closely with several state and national beef industry organizations to assist with strategic planning and the development of producer training tools. Ryan, his wife Jacqueline, and three children (Ryder, Raegan, and Roxie) live in



Wellington, CO where they own/operate a small direct-to-consumer beef business, Elevation Beef.



## Mark Your Calendar

### Stay up to date!

Please check the Food Systems [webpage](#) for updates, and refer to our [responses and resources](#) related to COVID-19. Note that late-breaking COVID-19 updates will be posted on the website but are not included in this newsletter for timeliness. **Information about Colorado's vaccine roll-out is included at the end of this newsletter.**

## Food Safety Training for Cottage Foods Producers

2021 courses

Learn how to safely produce food from home as a cottage food business. This online course covers a variety of topics that include: 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 \$40.

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

- **June 8, 2021**, 10:00 am - 1:30 pm
- **June 9, 2021**, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- **June 17, 2021**, 4:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- **July 9, 2021**, 9:00 am - 1:00 pm
- **July 14, 2021**, 12:00 pm - 3:30 pm
- **August 18, 2021**, 5:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- **September 10, 2021**, 9:00 - 1:00 pm

## Lillian Fountain Smith Nutrition Conference



FOOD SCIENCE AND  
HUMAN NUTRITION  
COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

The Department of Food Science and Human Nutrition is hosting the Lillian Fountain Smith Conference virtually this year, and registration is free! The six virtual conference workshops include sessions on food allergens, eating disorders, intermittent fasting, personalized nutrition, beans, and chocolate.

The remaining two workshops will take place on **June 1 & 3, 2021** from 3:30 to 5:00 pm MT. [Click here to learn more and to register..](#)



## Western Meat School Online

Western Meat School Online is an innovative and unique learning experience that will teach you how to successfully market and sell your meat products.

Over the course of fourteen modules, you will learn proven techniques to:

- Differentiate your meat
- Manage risk
- Improve profitability

Whether you're a beginning or experienced farmer or rancher, a butcher, a meat processor, a meat distributor, livestock staff or other stakeholder, you can benefit from this class! If you wanted to take this course the last time and couldn't get in or didn't have the time, now you have a more flexible way to participate.

**This course will be available in this asynchronous format through the end of 2022.** At that point we hope to offer the course again in a hybrid live format.

[Click here to register.](#)



## Funding Opportunities

### Pandemic EBT (P-EBT) Available in Colorado

Pandemic EBT, or P-EBT, provides families with children eligible for free or reduced-price school meals and who attend a school participating in the National School Lunch Program with funds to help purchase food. This benefit is being distributed because students missed essential meals while schools were closed due to the pandemic. Families can receive up to \$279 per eligible child to supplement their food budget, regardless of immigration status.



[Click here](#) to learn more and apply (or refer others to apply) for P-EBT today!

### USDA Funding Opportunities for Producers

The USDA has announced the following funding opportunities. Click each link to learn more.



- **USDA Pandemic Assistance for Producers** – USDA is dedicating at least \$6 billion towards new programs to reach producers.
- **Specialty Crop Block Grants** – This program funds innovative projects designed to support the expanding specialty crop food sector and explore new market opportunities for U.S. food and agricultural products. Grants are awarded non-competitively to eligible states and territories. Submit your application by **June 11, 2021**.



**COLORADO**  
Office of Economic Development  
& International Trade

The Colorado Tourism Office is using a **\$2.4 million CARES Act Recovery Assistance grant from the U.S. Economic Development**

**Administration** (EDA) to drive recovery of the state's tourism economy through July 2023.

As part of this effort, the Restart Destinations program will support Colorado tourism destinations to drive faster recovery as they emerge from the COVID-19 pandemic. Up to 32 Colorado tourism destinations will be selected to participate in CRAFT Restart Destinations programs. Awarded destinations will receive:

- a full-day recovery workshop to convene local tourism stakeholders, prioritize recommendations from the Roadmap to Recovery to drive faster recovery, and develop a recovery action plan;
- 75 hours of customized technical assistance to implement priority tactics within each destination's recovery action plan; and
- \$10,000 in Colorado Tourism Office marketing support (no match required).

Applications opened on May 6, 2021, and will close on June 17, 2021, at 4 pm. Learn more [here](#).

## USDA AMS Upcoming Grants and Webinars

The USDA AMS announced the following funding opportunities and webinar information sessions. Click each link to learn more.



- **Farmers Market Promotion Program**: Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) funds projects that develop, coordinate and expand direct producer-to-consumer markets to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products by developing, coordinating, expanding, and providing outreach, training, and technical assistance to domestic farmers markets, roadside stands, community-supported agriculture programs, agritourism activities, online sales or other direct producer-to-consumer (including direct producer-to-retail, direct producer-to-restaurant and direct producer-to-institutional marketing) market opportunities. Applications due: **June 21, 2021**
- **Local Foods Promotion Program**: The Local Food Promotion Program (LFPP) funds projects that develop, coordinate and expand local and regional food business enterprises that engage as intermediaries in indirect

producer to consumer marketing to help increase access to and availability of locally and regionally produced agricultural products. Grants can be used for the planning stages of establishing or expanding a local and regional food business enterprise or to improve or expand a food business that supports locally and regionally produced agricultural products and food system infrastructure by performing feasibility studies, market research, training and technical assistance for the business enterprise and/or for producers working with the business enterprise. Applications due: **June 21, 2021**

- **Regional Food System Partnerships Program:** The Regional Food System Partnerships (RFSP) Program supports partnerships that connect public and private resources to plan and develop local or regional food systems. The program focuses on strengthening the viability and resilience of regional food economies through collaboration and coordination. In 2020, USDA awarded 23 partnerships in 15 states. These projects are funded for a two- or three-year period beginning September 30, 2020. Applications due: **July 6, 2021**

Which AMS grant program should you use? See [this decision tree slide](#) to discern which grant program makes the most sense for what you want to do.

**Upcoming and previously recorded webinars** on applying for these grants :

- **May 25, 2021:** Grants.gov Training Webinar ([click here for recording](#))
- **June 1, 2021:** FMLFPP Applicant Webinar ([register here](#))
- **June 9, 2021:** Regional Food Systems Partnership Webinar ([register here](#))

Want to schedule a 20 minute free consultation with the Niche Meat Processor Assistance Network (NMPAN) staff about how to apply for one of these AMS grants? Click on [this scheduler](#) to find a time slot.



## NIFA Funding Opportunities

The USDA's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has announced the following funding opportunities. Click each link to learn more.

- **Agriculture and Food Research Initiative - Education and Workforce Development** - closes **July 1, 2021**
- **1890 Teaching, Research and Extension Capacity Building Grants (CBG) Program** - closes **September 10, 2021**

## Colorado Farm & Food Systems Resiliency Team Training & Capacity Building Fund

The CO Farm & Food Systems Response Team has launched a Training & Capacity Building fund for growers and intermediaries such as food hubs, farmers markets, and processors. The purpose of this Fund is to remove financial barriers to learning and provide growth opportunities for individuals and organizations committed to improving equity throughout Colorado's food system.

Activities must build the capacity of the applicant to actively uplift community leaders working to build an equitable and resilient food system by directing resources to underserved farmers.

**The application will be open until funds are expended. [Click here for more information and to apply.](#)**

## Rapid Outcomes from Agricultural Research



The Rapid Outcomes from Agricultural Research (ROAR) program provides nimble deployment of funds to support research and outreach in response to emerging or unanticipated threats to the nation's food supply or agricultural systems. ROAR participants, including university researchers, farmers or producers, commodity groups and government officials, may apply for funds in response to an outbreak for development of diagnostics, monitoring and mitigation strategies. The ROAR program fills the gap until traditional, longer-term funding sources can be secured.

Up to \$150,000 per one-year grant is available from the Foundation for Food & Agriculture Research (FFAR), with the requirement that recipients provide equal or greater matching funds from non-U.S. federal sources. Industry participation and/or funding is strongly encouraged. **This is an ongoing opportunity.**

**[Click here for more information.](#)**

## U.S. Department of Commerce Announces Availability of \$1.5 Billion in CARES Act Funds to Aid Communities Impacted by the Coronavirus Pandemic

The Economic Development Administration is now **accepting applications** from eligible grantees for Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES Act) supplemental funds (EDA CARES Act Recovery Assistance) intended to help communities prevent, prepare for, and respond to the novel coronavirus.

**Applications will be accepted on an ongoing basis. [Click here for more information.](#)**

Eligible applicants include a(n):

- District Organization;
- Indian Tribe or consortium of Indian Tribes;
- State, county, city, or other political subdivision of a State;
- Institution of higher education or consortium of institutions of higher education; and
- Public or private non-profit organization or association acting in cooperation with officials of a political subdivision of a State.

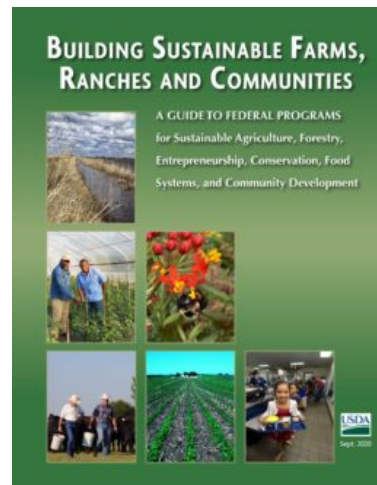


## News, Resources & Reading

### Updated Guide to USDA Programs Opens the Door to Available Funding

It can be difficult for farmers and ranchers to navigate the wide range of USDA resources and stay up to date with program changes after each Farm Bill.

Thanks to the newly updated Building Sustainable Farms, Ranches and Communities, producers, researchers, nonprofits and landowners can easily find USDA programs that can help them achieve their goals. [Click here](#) to download your free copy.



### Visit the USDA Resource Hub and Webinar Series for Local Food Systems Response to COVID-19

#### Resource Hub

For the past several months, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) has been hosting a hub designed to assist local and regional food producers as USDA and its partners develop, share, and assess resources on local and regional food system responses to COVID-19.

[Visit the project site](#) to explore shared resources compiled from our supply chain partners and sign up for updates. This month, there were impact assessments and innovation reports shared from key organizations, so check them out. [View recordings from past webinars here](#).



## From Our Communities

### Heat Wave: Firing up Pueblo Chile from Seed to Supper

By Coleman Cornelius, CSU State Magazine

Photography by Ben P. Ward, Colorado State University

**Pop quiz: What kind of hamburger do you eat with a spoon?**

**Answer: A Pueblo Slopper, of course.**

According to lore, the southern Colorado specialty was concocted at Johnnie's Coors Tavern in downtown Pueblo around 1950, when a regular asked pub owner Johnnie Greco for a burger smothered in chili sauce. The customer was Herb Casebeer, a nearby shop owner. He often joined the local clientele, mostly railyard workers, to order one (or all) of the tavern's three menu items. Those days, the pub served only Coors beer, burgers, and chili by the bowl. This time, Herb wanted something else: a burger-and-chili combo. Not just a dollop, you can hear him saying; really slop it on.



The result might have been a bit of culinary comeuppance on Johnnie's part. As in, "You said you wanted a lot." In fact, the burger now known as the Pueblo Slopper is delivered literally swimming in a sauce of Pueblo green chile and other ingredients. It's served topped with chopped onion and shredded cheese. In a bowl. With a spoon. The pub that originated the Slopper – now Gray's Coors Tavern, after a change in ownership – references and explains the oddball burger with its motto, "Covering our buns in chili since 1950."

[Click here to keep reading.](#)

## Colorado Covid-19 Vaccine Roll-Out Information

Colorado's vaccine rollout continues to gain momentum, and we're excited to share some new developments and ag-focused resources with you:



**COLORADO**  
Department of Agriculture

- The state has outfitted several buses to be mobile vaccination clinics! Each bus is capable of administering up to 500 shots a day. The buses trek around the state and reach rural populations that are unable to access the Community Vaccinations Sites or other provider locations. Those who are interested in bringing a mobile vaccination unit to their community should contact their local public health department for more information, scheduling and to sign-up for available vaccinations. See the location of the bus and [sign up for an appointment here.](#)
- CDA, in collaboration with the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and the Colorado State Emergency Operations Center, has created an extensive, ag-focused social media toolkit for ag workers and

businesses. The resources include approved outreach messaging and graphics focused on eligibility, vaccine safety, locations, expectations, call center info and more. Items are available in English, Spanish, Soomaali, and Karen. [Access the materials here.](#)

- This collection of **ag-themed social distancing graphics**, created by CDA, can be a uniquely effective way to communicate the continued need to slow the spread of COVID-19 this season by wearing a mask, washing hands and maintaining social distance guidelines.
- The Centers of Disease Control has developed a **COVID-19 Vaccination Communication Toolkit for Essential Workers** to educate essential workers about vaccinations. Resources for employers include a Workplace Vaccination Program, Vaccine Mandates & Exceptions, FAQs for Employers, and more.



## 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

Find us on social media, get farm or food systems related questions answered via email, forward to a friend, or submit your contributions to our newsletter!



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