

## IN THIS ISSUE DUNCAN HILCHEY

### A smörgåsbord of fresh applied research papers

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Sometimes you just have to improvise. We received such a strong response to our call for manuscripts on food system planning that we decided to squeeze a group of excellent additional papers on the topic into this winter issue. Starting out the issue, however, are a number of exceptional open-call papers. We begin with *Assessing the Growth Potential and Economic Impact of the U.S. Maple Syrup Industry*, by **Michael Farrell** and **Brian Chabot**. In honor of one of North America’s unique seasonal foodways, this paper will remain open access (freely accessible even without a subscription) through April 2012. [Click here to access it for FREE.](#)

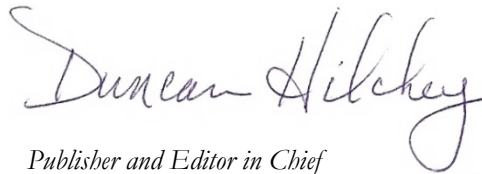
In *Kaiser Permanente’s Farmers’ Market Program: Description, Impact, and Lessons Learned*, **DeAnn Crompton, Allen Cheadle, Loel Solomon, Preston Maring, Elisa Wong, and Kathleen Reed** present the results of a large shoppers survey of the leading HMO’s ground-breaking farmers’ market program. **Nick McCann** and **Frank Montabon** review innovations in mid-scale beef value chains in *Strategies for Accessing Volume Markets in the Beef Industry: A Review of Three Case Studies*. **Leah Greden Mathews** presents a “portfolio” methodology for exploring the wide range of benefits farms provide to communities in *From the Ground Up: Assessing Consumer Preferences for Multifunctional Agriculture*. In “Food Security” and “Food Sovereignty”: *What Frameworks Are Best Suited for Social Equity in Food Systems?* **Megan Carney** provides some clarity on the meaning and application of the oft-confused terms. **Thomas Steiger, Jeanette Eckert, Jay Gatrell, Neil Reid, and Paula Ross** provide a fresh and surprising look at farm succession in the Midwest in *Cultivating Narratives: Cultivating Successors*.

Our international contributions include papers from Brazil, Europe, and Canada. In *Is a Geographical Certification a Promising Production and Commercialization Strategy for Smallholder Sheep Farming in Ceará, Brazil?* **Sarah Schneider, Marianna Siegmund-Schultze, Evandro Holanda Júnior, Francisco Alves, and Anne Valle Zárate** studied the feasibility of using a geographic indication for a specialty dried mutton product. **Paul Swagemakers, M. Dolores Domínguez García, Xavier Simón Fernández, and Johannes Wiskerke** provide a case comparison of two European farms’ agro-ecological practices in *Unfolding Farm Practices: Working Toward Sustainable Food Production in the Netherlands and Spain*. Rounding out our international papers is the second installment of *Could Toronto Provide 10% of its Fresh Vegetable Requirements from Within its Own*

*Boundaries?* subtitled *Part II, Policy Supports and Program Design* by **Rod MacRae, Joe Nasr, James Kuhns, Lauren Baker, Russ Christianson, Martin Danyluk, Abra Snider, Eric Gallant, Penny Kail-Vinish, Marc Michalak, Janet Oswald, Sima Patel, and Gerda Wekerle.**

The food system planning papers in this issue include **Peleg Kremer** and **Yda Schreuder's** *The Feasibility of Regional Food Systems in Metropolitan Areas: An Investigation of Philadelphia's Foodshed*, in which they provide an exhaustive look at three foodshed scenarios for the City of Brotherly Love. This issue's cover image comes from their paper. In *Welcoming Animals Back to the City: Navigating the Tensions of Urban Livestock Through Municipal Ordinances*, **William Butler** offers an analysis of municipal codes which regulate livestock production in 22 U.S. communities. **Alison Meadow** looks at local food accessibility (including local versus conventional food prices) in *Assessing Access to Local Food System Initiatives in Fairbanks, Alaska*. We offer two papers on agriculture greenhouse gas emissions and mitigation strategies for communities by **Tara Moreau, Jennie Moore,** and **Kent Mullinix** entitled (1) *Mitigating Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Emissions: A Review of Scientific Information for Food System Planning*, and (2) *Planning for Climate Action in British Columbia, Canada: Putting Agricultural Greenhouse Gas Mitigation on Local Government Agendas*.

Finally, our columnists look at challenges to food systems here and abroad. **Ken Meter** looks to “America’s game” for inspiration on how we can increase farm numbers in the U.S., while **Rami Zurayk** looks at food insecurity as a basis for the Arab Spring. 



*Publisher and Editor in Chief*