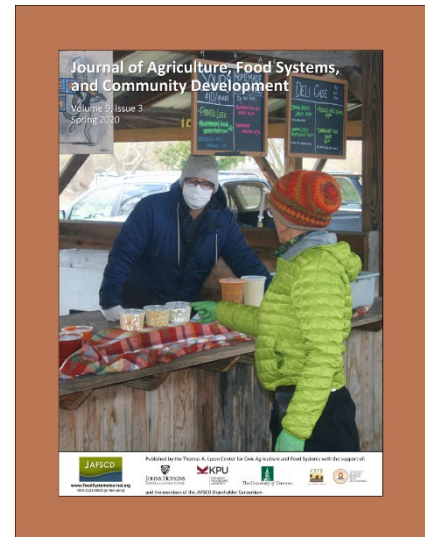


IN THIS ISSUE
DUNCAN HILCHEY

**Open call papers and early responses
to COVID-19**



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**JAFSCD
Responds to
the COVID-19
Pandemic**



On behalf of the JAFSCD staff and community, I would like to extend condolences to anyone in the JAFSCD community—our shareholders—who have lost family members or colleagues during the COVID-19 pandemic. We are with you. We also wish anyone who has contracted the virus our best wishes for a speedy and full recovery, and hope for a better future for those whose lives have been turned topsy-turvy by the pandemic.

On May 26, 2020, the United States officially reported losing 100,000 individuals, many of whom were vulnerable to this plague—especially the poor, people of color, the elderly, and essential workers. This represents a moral and systemic failure for the world’s richest country. As Americans are cobbling together an assortment of food provisioning strategies, what we are witnessing is a demonstration of just how fragile American food security is in a time of crisis. However, as you’ll see in this open call issue, COVID-19 is also highlighting our strengths and creativity, and what we can build on in a future food system that contributes to our overall health, well-being, and social resiliency.

In response to the need for timely information, we are launching a year-long call for submissions on COVID-19 and the food system. We are fast-tracking for publication commentaries from researchers and Voices from the Grassroots essays from non-academics. In addition, we are calling for peer-reviewed papers to be submitted this fall (see details at <https://foodsystemsjournal.org/index.php/fsj/call-for-papers>).

On our cover: Like many local food venues around the U.S. and world, the Ithaca (New York) Farmers Market (<https://ithacamarket.com/>) moved quickly to enable sales to continue safely in early spring as the COVID-19 pandemic grew.

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We start out in this large issue with the first set of commentaries prepared in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, followed by two *Voices from the Grassroots* essays also on the subject.

Commentaries on COVID-19 and the Food System

Jane Kolodinsky, Marilyn Sitaker, Lisa Chase, Diane Smith, and Weiwei Wang provide a cup-half-full view of the pandemic and how our experience today may shape more resilient food system in the future in *Food Systems Disruptions: Turning a Threat into an Opportunity for Local Food Systems*.

Claudia Schmidt, Stephan Goetz, Sarah Rocker, and Zheng Tian use search engine data to explore consumption patterns in *Google Searches Reveal Changing Consumer Food Sourcing in the COVID-19 Pandemic*.

Rami Zurayk (former JAFSCD columnist) provides a sobering view of COVID-19's specific effects on the availability, access, utilization, and stability of food in the developing world in *Pandemic and Food Security: A View from the Global South*.

Jim Worstell explores the concept of community and food system resilience in terms of connectivity, local self-organization, innovation, maintenance/redundancy, accumulation of value-added infrastructure, transformation, ecological integration, and diversity (a.k.a. the "CLIMATED" model) in *Ecological Resilience of Food Systems in Response to the COVID-19 Crisis*.

Stephan Goetz, Claudia Schmidt, Lisa Chase, and Jane Kolodinsky explore the current pandemic's impact on farmers using USDA data in *Americans' Food Spending Patterns Explain Devastating Impact of COVID-19 Lockdowns on Agriculture*.

Finally, **Ella Haley, Susana Caxaj, Glynis George, Jenna Hennebry, Eliseo Martell, and Janet McLaughlin** give us as view of the fragility of Canada's food industry labor force in *Migrant Farmworkers Face Heightened Vulnerabilities During COVID-19*.

Voices from the Grassroots

In *Neighbor Leaves Program Aims to Maintain Regional Grain Value Chains and Feed the Community*, **Amy Halloran** described the efforts of an activist value-chain effort to quickly respond to the growing food crisis in the Upper Midwest during the COVID-19 pandemic.

In *Telefarming: When Push Comes to Shelve in Responding to COVID-19*, **Salina Brown** and **Kathleen Liang** provide a personal account of how one intrepid college research station employee and her faculty supervisor worked out a clever solution to keeping research plots alive during the lock-down.

Column

In his *Economic Pamphleteer* column, *Local Food: Another Food Fad or Food of the Future?*, **John Ikerd** reminds us that "the only sustainable food systems will be local food systems that reconnect people with particular ecological and social places."

Viewpoints

In *Just Transition for Agriculture? A Critical Step in Tackling Climate Change*, **Charlotte Blattner** argues for a thoughtful reduction in animal agriculture.

Next, as outgoing board president of the Society for Nutrition Education and Behavior, **Jennifer Wilkins** reflects on the need for nutrition educators to include the natural, social, and political environments in food choice decision-making in *Nutrition Education in the Anthropocene: Toward Public and Planetary Health*.

Julia Valliant and **Julia Freedgood** identify gaps in farmland transfers policies and call for an evaluation for their use and effects in *Land Access Policy Incentives: A Promising Approach to Transitioning Farmland to a New Generation*.

In *Blockchain and the Resurrection of Consumer Sovereignty in a Sustainable Food Economy*, **Jeff Schahczenski** and **Celia Schahczenski** envision a means of promoting transparency and traceability in local food systems.

Open-Call, Peer-Reviewed Papers

In *Government Extension, Agroecology, and Sustainable Food Systems in Belize Milpa Communities: A Socio-Ecological Systems Approach*, **Kristin Drexler** explores the value of slash-and-mulch production practices.

Next, **David Conner** suggests that food-related entrepreneurship education should focus more on “make or buy” decision-making, in his theory-driven exploratory study *Exploring Resource Management for Sustainable Food Businesses: Three Vermont Case Studies*.

In *Food Waste Knowledge, Attitudes, and Behavioral Intentions among University Students*, **Manar Alattar**, **James DeLaney**, **Jennifer Morse**, and **Max Nielsen-Pincus** find out why students waste food on campus and how this may be addressed.

Sarah Lott, **Emily Irwin**, and **Sarah Heiss** then examine the work of food gleaning professionals and the value of good communication and farmer altruism in *Gleaner-Farmer Relationships: A Study of Recruitment and Relationship Development*.

In *Farm-to-School Grant Funding Increases Children’s Access to Local Fruits and Vegetables in Oregon*, **Kristen Giombi**, **Anupama Joshi**, **Caroline Rains**, and **Jean Wiecha** find that farm-to-school programs also help increase minority children’s school attendance.

Next, **Aditya Khanal**, **Fisseha Tegegne**, **Lan Li**, **Stephan Goetz**, **Yicheol Han**, **Stephan Tubene**, and **Andy Wetherill** find that the more engaged limited-resource farmers are in their networks, the more they report increased sales, in *Small and Minority Farmers’ Knowledge and Resource Sharing Networks, and Farm Sales: Findings from Communities in Tennessee, Maryland, and Delaware*.

In *Gaining Ground: An Exploration into the Lives of Missouri’s Lesbian Farmers*, **Sarah Cramer** reveals the challenges for lesbian farmers in a conservative state, while finding that, overall, the case study participants had found empowerment and pride in their work, particularly in small-scale, sustainable agriculture operations.

Next, in *Connecting Small-Scale Producers and Consumers: Exploring the Feasibility of Online Food Hubs in Low-Income Communities*, **Michelle Kaiser**, **Kelsey Ryan-Simkins**, **Julia Dionne**, and **Erica Pence** come to grips with the reality of balancing producer and consumer needs.

In the latest Food Dignity entrée, entitled *Comparing Apples and Coconuts: Food Regimes and (Farmers) Markets in Brooklyn, USA, and Suva, Fiji*, **Christine Porter**, **Lacey Gaechter**, and **Shikha Upadhyaya** find common threads in Global North and South responses to the challenges of the global food system.

Next, **Mesfin Bezuneh** and **Zealelem Yiheyis** take a deep dive into resilience amidst hunger in the American Southeast in *Household Food Insecurity, Coping Strategies, and Happiness: The Case of Two Public Housing Communities*.

In *Integrating a Food Systems Lens into Discussions of Urban Resilience: A Policy Analysis*, **Patricia Ballamingie**, **Alison Blay-Palmer**, **Irena Knezevic**, **André Lacerda**, **Evelyn Nimmo**, **Lori Stahlbrand**, and **Rotem Ayalon** offer a reflective essay on their research collaborative’s efforts to bring food systems to the foreground of urban planning.

In *Advancing Ideas for Farmers Market Incentives: Barriers, Strategies, and Agency Perceptions from Market Managers*, **Cody Gusto**, **John Diaz**, **Laura Warner**, and **Paul Monaghan** explore the views of farmers market managers for potential improvements in subsidizing good food.

Patrick Mundler, **Daniel-Mercier Gouin**, **Sophie Laughrea**, and **Simone Ubertino** then explore the challenges of developing short supply chains in the context of government production controls in *Is Canada’s Supply Management System Able to Accommodate the Growth of Farm-direct Marketing? A Policy Analysis*.

Next, **Chris Maughan, Colin Anderson, and Moya Kneafsey** offer a systematic approach to evaluating farming-related policy documents in *A Five-Point Framework for Reading for Social Justice: A Case Study of Food Policy Discourse in the Context of Brexit Britain*.

In our final peer-reviewed paper, *Going Rogue for Raw Milk: Experience and Values as Consumer Filters for Conflicting Raw Milk Discourses*, **Sarah Heiss** and **Andrea Suozzo** put a spotlight on the knowledge, attitude, and behaviors of raw milk consumers as a means of informing public policy.

Reviews

Malory Foster reviews *Community-Scale Composting Systems: A Comprehensive Practical Guide for Closing the Food System Loop and Solving Our Waste Crisis*, by James McSweeney.

Anthony Fuller reviews *An Organic Food and Farming in China: Top-Down and Bottom-Up Ecological Initiatives* by Steffanie Scott, Zhenzhong Si, Theresa Schumilas, and Aijuan Chen.

Brian Raison reviews the documentary film *A Garden Experience: Growing Organic*, produced by Nancy Bentley and John Atkinson.

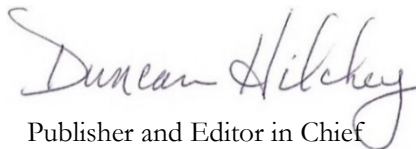
Renee Catacalos reviews *Black Food Geographies: Race, Self-Reliance, and Food Access in Washington, D.C.*, by Ashanté M. Reese.

Emily Reno reviews *Life on the Other Border: Farmworkers and Food Justice in Vermont*, by Teresa Mares.

Stacey Stearns reviews *In Defense of Farmers: The Future of Agriculture in the Shadow of Corporate Power*, edited by Jane Gibson and Sara Alexander.

Again, we wish to express our concern and sorrow for the JAFSCD community's losses and the continuing struggle during this catastrophe. Please let us know if there is *anything* we can do as a publisher of evidence-based information to address your needs and concerns. We are especially interested in fast-tracking practical information that can be helpful to front-line food producers, workers, researchers, and activists during this trying time.

With best wishes for health and resilience,



Publisher and Editor in Chief