

# Enhancing Food Security through Regional Food Systems

A Regional Research Collaboration



# 7 Million Food-Insecure Consumers: A Day-to-Day Concern

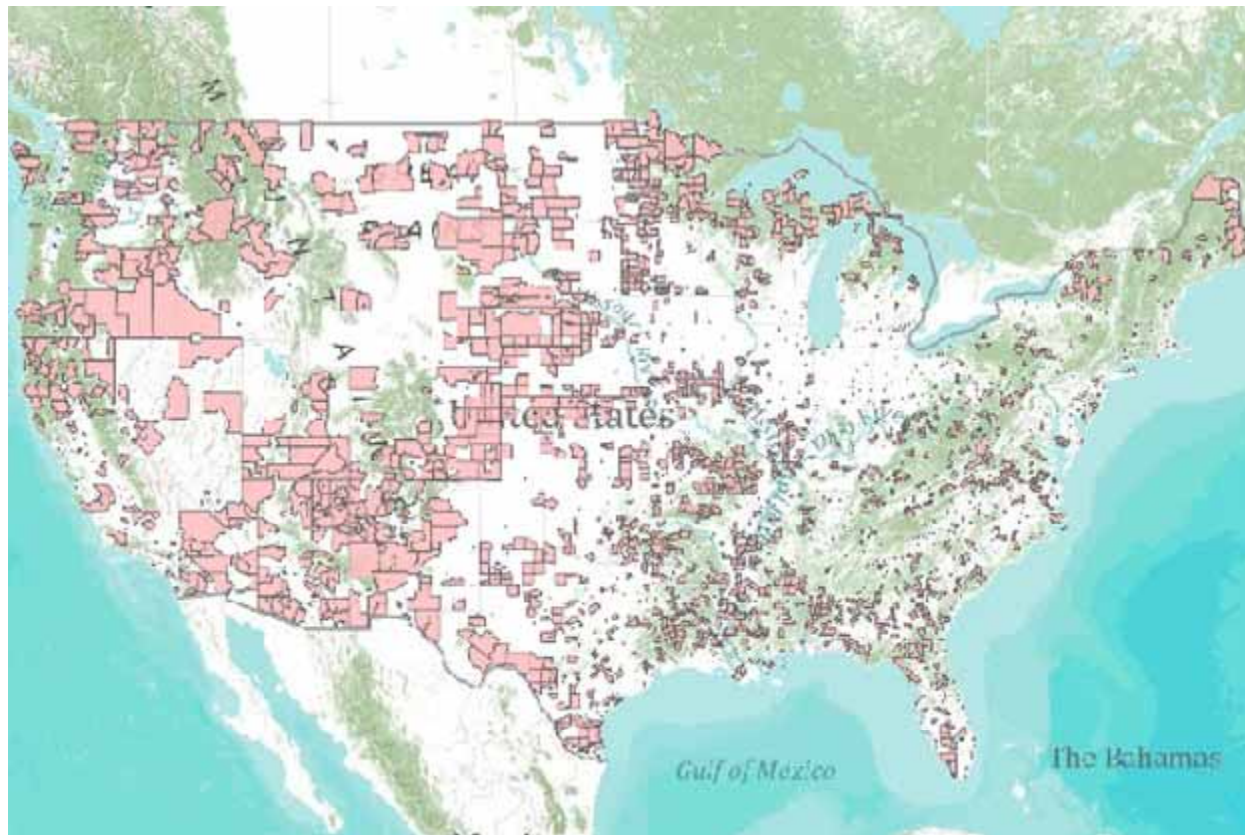


# Increasing Reliance on Food from Outside the Region (or Country)



<http://www.usgcrp.gov/usgcrp/Library/nationalassessment/images/NE.jpg>

# Inadequate Access in Food Deserts



# Concurrently – growth in Local Food (still small proportion of total supply)



<http://washington.ifas.ufl.edu/images/ChipleyFarmersMarket2008005.jpg>



Markets



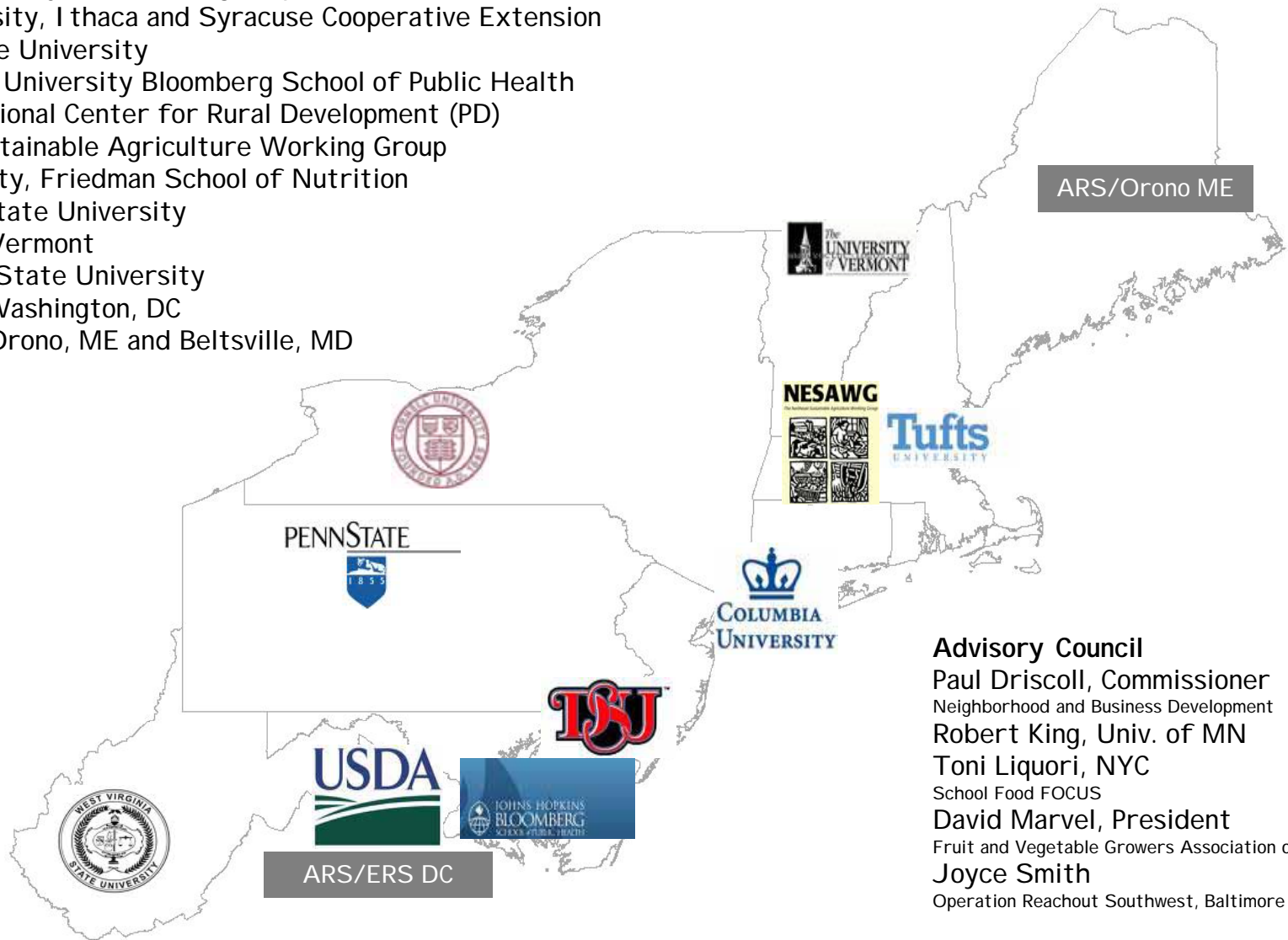
Farm stands



CSA

## Collaborating Institutions

Columbia University, Urban Design Lap  
Cornell University, Ithaca and Syracuse Cooperative Extension  
Delaware State University  
Johns Hopkins University Bloomberg School of Public Health  
Northeast Regional Center for Rural Development (PD)  
Northeast Sustainable Agriculture Working Group  
Tufts University, Friedman School of Nutrition  
Pennsylvania State University  
University of Vermont  
West Virginia State University  
USDA-ERS - Washington, DC  
USDA-ARS - Orono, ME and Beltsville, MD



The Basic Question is this:

Can regional supply chains provide healthy foods to low-income consumers, at a price they can afford?

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Processing/Distribution



Access in Communities



Farm-level Production

Objective 1. Assess current and potential community-level constraints and opportunities for improving access to regionally produced healthy food for people in disadvantaged communities.

# At 9 sites in Northeast:

- Assess food access
- Structural aspects to access
- Food basket comparison
- Consumer behavior



Access in Communities

# Sites I nclude:

 New York City

 Syracuse

 Baltimore

 Philadelphia,

 Pittsburgh

 Charleston, WV

 Essex Co. VT

 Sussex Co. DE

 Madison Co. NY

Objective 2. I identify and assess best food supply chain practices for underserved areas of the Northeast, compare site-specific, regional and global chains, and identify policy interventions.



Processing/Distribution

- Case studies of regional supply chains
- Best practices for supply chains
- Foodshed and supply chain models
- Policy and scenario analysis

**Objective 3.** Quantify the current and potential capacity of the urban and rural Northeast to produce food that meets consumer needs.

- Baseline production
- Capacity (GIS and modelling)
- Where future production could occur
- Climate change
- Land use changes



Farm-level Production

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Thank you!