

IOWA FARMERS' MARKET DEVELOPMENT MANUAL



Bureau of Horticulture and
Farmers' Markets

Iowa Department of Agriculture
and Land Stewardship

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Secretary of Agriculture

Introduction

For the consumer, farmers' markets provide a variety of fresh produce at a reasonable price, while creating a fun social event for the community. Many consumers prefer to purchase fresh locally grown produce if given the opportunity to do so. Consumers enjoy a wide selection of products while supporting local agriculture and meeting the farmers who grow their food.

For the new producer, farmers' markets represent one of the only outlets available for gaining production and marketing expertise while contemplating the possibility of expanding product volume. The market vendor may maintain a small-scale level of production for the simple pleasure of gardening and visiting with friends and neighbors during market hours. Others, however, may aspire to large-scale production over time, earning substantial income while maintaining a lifestyle that is more closely related to farming. In either case, the farmers' market provides the grower with the opportunity to discover what consumers' demand in product quality, quantity and variety.

The purpose of this "how to" development manual is to provide an easy-to-use reference guide for those who want to start a new market, expand an existing market, or participate in the selling of goods. The 11 parts address specific topics that are vital to establishing and maintaining a vibrant market. Please contact the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Bureau of Horticulture and Farmer's Markets at 515-281-8232 if you have questions regarding this manual or farmers' markets.

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Part I: Establishing and Maintaining a Farmers' Market

In order to develop and maintain a viable farmers' market, an organized and well thought out process needs to be implemented. The following is an example of such a process and is meant to serve as a guide for persons interested in farmers' market development. In addition, steering committee members are encouraged to visit a successful market to gain ideas and a better understanding of how a market functions.

A. Organize a Steering Committee

1. Seek out those people in the local area who share enthusiasm in establishing a farmers' market and who are willing to make a commitment.
2. Obtain from very contact the names, addresses, and phone numbers of others who might be actively interested in starting and developing a farmers' market.
3. Responsibilities of a Steering Committee
 - a. To determine long-term goals
 - i. Important for year-to-year continuity
 - ii. Provide guidance and direction
 - b. To establish short-term goals or objectives
 - i. Should be measurable and obtainable within one season
 - ii. Provides a sense of accomplishment upon achievement of each objective. Example: To obtain 15-20 vendors present during each day of the market season
 - c. To initiate all functions and activities necessary for developing, operating, and promoting the farmers' market
 - d. To maintain good communications with everyone involved in or impacted by the market
 - i. To encourage support and participation in the market
 - ii. To smooth troubled waters regarding the market
 - a) Worries of local grocers and other businesses
 - b) Mediating disputes regarding who should control the market
 - iii. To adjust strategies and make changes during the development and operation of the market based on continual evaluation

B. Conduct Meetings

Meeting should be publicized according to the range and scope of participation desired

1. Organizational meetings are generally better suited to small gatherings
2. Interest meetings, where overall community input is sought, are generally suited to large groups and should be located in easily accessible and well-known locations. Such meetings should be well publicized.

C. First Meeting

1. Outline how grower interest will be determined (see Part III)
 - a. Develop questions for producers' response
 - b. Determine method of surveying
2. Outline how consumer interest will be determined (see Part III)
 - a. Develop questions for consumers' response

- b. Develop method for surveying
- 3. A member of the Steering Committee should serve as survey coordinator and recruiter of volunteers for conducting surveys

D. Second Meeting

- 1. Evaluate the findings of the grower and consumer surveys
 - a. Determine whether or not to continue the effort of developing a farmers' market based on level of interest indicated
 - b. Determine the size of the proposed market
 - i. The number of stalls needed to accommodate the expected vendors
 - ii. The number of extra stalls deemed necessary to accommodate unexpected vendors and anticipated growth
- 2. Establish the following subcommittees, set tasks, and outline time frames
 - a. Site Selection Subcommittees (see Part IV)
 - i. Develop criteria for site selection
 - ii. Investigate and evaluate possible locations
 - iii. Prepare site recommendations for the Market Steering Committee
 - b. Grower Relations Subcommittee
 - i. To maintain open communications between local growers and the Market Steering Committee
 - a) Determine the anticipated selection of products to be offered by vendors
 - b) Determine when growers anticipate having product available
 - c) Work with growers to insure that a variety of products will be offered at the market throughout the season
 - d) Keep growers informed of the Market Steering Committees' activities
 - ii. To obtain commitments to participate from growers

E. Third Meeting

- 1. Evaluate the findings of the Site Selection Subcommittee and make a preliminary selection
- 2. Develop a written proposal for the owner of the site
 - a. Outline the advantages to them and the community
 - b. How the property will be used
- 3. Determine the desired physical improvements necessary prior to the market opening
- 4. Establish the State and Local Regulations Subcommittee, set tasks, and outline time frames (see Part VII)
 - a. Determine the regulations with which the market will have to comply, regardless of location
 - i. Food guidelines
 - ii. Food establishment license
 - iii. Building codes
 - b. Determine the regulations with which the market will have to comply, given the location of the selected site
 - i. Zoning ordinance requirements
 - ii. Sign ordinance requirements

F. Fourth Meeting

- 1. Evaluate the findings of the State and Local Regulations Subcommittee
- 2. Make final determination of site to be used and initiate actions for securing the site
- 3. Develop and prepare a Market Biography to be used to provide information on the proposed intentions and expectations of the market (see Part II)

- a. Length and dates of market season
 - b. Number of vendors expected
 - c. Proposed activities and promotions
 - d. Benefits the farmers' market brings to individuals and the community
 - e. The farmers' market contact person's name and phone number
4. Establish the following subcommittees, set tasks, and outline time frames
 - a. Site Development Subcommittee (see Part IV)
 - i. To determine site layout of the market... considering desired amenities and required regulations
 - ii. To determine the specific physical improvements to be undertaken
 - b. Market Rules Subcommittee (see Part VI)
 - i. To develop rules and recommendations for market operation
 - ii. To evaluate the anticipated impact of each proposed rule

G. Fifth Meeting

1. Evaluate the recommendations of the Site Development Subcommittee and outline activities to be undertaken
2. Discuss the recommended market rules, make necessary amendments and adopt rules
3. Outline a listing of potential sponsors for the market
 - a. Those who are willing to finance or donate in-kind services (use of phones, office space, supplies, license fees, etc.)
 - b. Sponsors are important to help cover initial costs until a sufficient level of self-generated income is achieved from stall fees
4. Develop a listing of reasons why each potential sponsor should want to help develop the farmers' market. Examples are:
 - a. Chamber of Commerce - to attract people into the business district
 - b. Local government – the economic and social benefits for the local community
 - c. Growers association - to obtain impact on market development decisions, and for establishing an additional market outlet for them to use
5. Establish the following subcommittees, set tasks and outline time frames
 - a. Funding and Budget Subcommittee (See Part V)
 - i. Determine the costs of the required physical improvements
 - ii. Secure sponsors for the market
 - iii. Obtain donations (utilize the Market Biography when making contacts)
 - a. Cash
 - b. Supplies
 - c. Materials
 - d. Volunteer labor
 - iv. To determine an overall budget and outline proposed stall fees for the upcoming season
 - b. Market Manager Subcommittee (see Part VIII)
 - i. Outline the manager's qualifications
 - ii. Outline the manager's responsibilities
 - iii. Develop a list of possible candidates/advertise opening
6. Determine the specific market season (based on anticipated supply and selection of product)
 - a. Opening day
 - b. Days of the week that the market will operate (Take into consideration the days other neighboring markets operate. Growers may be participating and would not want to change)
 - c. Last market day

H. Sixth Meeting

1. Make a market manager selection and outline requirements for the individual

2. Outline a schedule for undertaking physical development activities, and have the Site Development Subcommittee and/or Market Manager oversee development
 3. Establish a Promotions and Advertising Subcommittee, set tasks and outline time frames (see Part IX)
 - a. Develop a strategy for obtaining media coverage throughout the market season
 - b. Develop opening day activities and pre-opening day publicity, etc.
 - c. Development promotional activities throughout the season for maintaining customer traffic
- I. Seventh Meeting**
1. Review the recommendations of the Promotions and Advertising Subcommittee. Designate person(s) responsible for each element of the proposed plan
 2. Develop reporting system for Market Manager to keep Steering Committee informed
 3. Have the Grower Relations Subcommittee report on the status of the grower group
- J. Finalize Site Development Activities**
- K. Finalize Opening Day Activities**
- L. Opening Day**
- M. Grand Opening Day**
1. This should be one of the biggest promotional event days during the market season
 2. The celebrated grand opening should occur when there is sufficient product volume and variety for enticing consumers to shop at the market throughout the season. This date is not always the same as the first day of the market season
 3. Everyone who has been instrumental in the development of the market, plus local officials, celebrities, and media should be invited and encouraged to actively participate in the day's activities
- N. Tracking the Season**
1. Number of vendors and their frequency of participation
 2. Estimated number of consumers
 3. Diary of activities, what items sell best, weather conditions
 4. Impact of promotional activities on customer traffic
 5. Problems
- O. Year End Meeting**
1. A social gathering for all participants
 2. To evaluate the season and look forward to next year
- P. Interim Season Activities**
1. Steering Committee Meetings
 - a. To realign goals and strategies as needed
 - b. To set agenda for next season
 2. Grower seminars
 3. Newsletters
 4. Publicity and public relations

Part II: Market Biography and Resources

Resources are businesses, groups, or individuals that offer expertise, services, or supplies, and who are not obligated or required to assist. The following will cover the market biography and provide resource guides to use in the development of market resources.

A. Many businesses, groups, or individuals can be used as resources in one way or another. Many people are more than willing to donate their time and services to a worthy cause. A listing at the bottom of this page gives many examples of potential local resources.

B. Market Biography. A market biography is an information sheet that can be given to potential resources to acquaint them with the farmers' market and its activities.

1. Prepare market biography prior to contacting potential resource person
2. The market biography should contain a summary of market intentions and expectations, including the following:
 - a. Length and dates of market season
 - b. Number of vendors expected
 - c. Proposed activities and promotions
 - d. Benefits the farmers' market brings to be community
 - e. Benefits the farmers' market brings to the prospective resource
 - f. Needs of the market
 - g. Farmers' market contact person's name and phone number
3. Leave the market biography with the prospective resource to use for future reference
4. Resources

Banks	Foundations
Businesses, merchants, industries	Garden centers, greenhouses, nurseries
Individuals, associations	Historical groups
Chamber of Commerce	Hospitals and medical clinics
Charity organizations	Legislators
City council	Local producer groups
Civic/service organizations	News media
Community Development	Private citizens
Community Colleges	Professional organizations
County Board of Supervisors	Religious groups
County Development Commission	Rural Electric Co-ops
County Farm Bureau	Senior citizen groups
Department of Parks and Recreation	State Dept. of Agriculture/Horticulture
Equipment dealers	University Agricultural departments
Fair boards	Utility companies
Feed and seed stores	Youth organizations

Part III: Interest Surveys

The survey is an instrument or tool that can help in determining the level of interest of a designated group. It is advisable to test the degree of interest shown by producers and targeted consumers prior to the development of a farmers' market. The survey can determine whether the interest stimulated is enough to indicate the development and success of a farmers' market.

A. Methods of Survey

1. Mail
2. Phone
3. In person
 - a. Door to door
 - b. Person on the street
4. Public meetings
 - a. Attendance at meetings on a specific topic
 - b. Input from those attending the meeting

B. Survey Content

1. Questions pertaining to specific information desired
2. A contact person, address, and phone number
3. Mailed surveys should have a deadline for responding

C. The Consumer Survey (see samples on p. 7-8)

1. Directed to potential consumers
2. Investigate items consumers look for at a farmers' market. Any area of interest can be surveyed, from types of products the consumer wants at the farmers' market to reasons why the consumer shops at the farmers' market
3. Surveys help attract attention and build consumer awareness concerning the market
4. Surveys help obtain data to be utilized in planning the market
5. Include a description of the farmers' market with the survey
 - a. Location of proposed market
 - b. Benefits the market will provide for the consumer
 - c. Benefits the market will provide for the community

D. The Grower Survey (See example on p. 9)

1. Determines degree of participation interest
2. The grower survey should include questions concerning the following:
 - a. Types of product the grower produces
 - b. Days of interest that a grower would participate at the farmers' market
 - c. Number of weeks the grower would participate
 - i. Length of season
 - ii. Specific calendar days the grower would participate
 - d. Request for any additional names of growers who may be interested in becoming involved in the farmers' market

E. Scope of the Survey

1. Sampling population
2. Total population

Part IV: Site Selection

There are various factors to consider when determining the location for a farmers' market. Cost involved with the use (rent) and the development or upgrading the site will greatly influence site selection. While all of the following elements should be considered, the final determining factor will depend on the specific criteria established by each individual market.

A. Permanent vs. Temporary Use of a Site

1. Permanent Site – A farmers' market site can be permanent through a long-term leasing agreement with the owner, or a farmers' market may purchase a site
 - a. Advantages of a permanent site:
 - i. Consumers become familiar with the location and learn to look in the same place for the market
 - ii. The farmers' market will directly receive the benefits from all investments made in the site development
 - iii. Permanent structures or shelters can be utilized. Fences may be built around the market permitting vendors to leave their stalls set up. Displays, containers, or products such as firewood can be left in place from week to week
 - iv. Set up and break down time for vendors will be decreased
 - b. Disadvantages of a permanent site:
 - i. A large initial investment may be required
 - ii. Vandalism may occur
 - iii. Liability insurance will be even more important
 - c. Farmers' markets may be able to secure a long-term lease at very low cost if the market steering committee agrees to make specific developments and improvements, or allows others to use the site when the market is not in operation
2. Temporary Site – Short-term lease
 - a. Empty lots in prime locations within the business district of a city or town are often available to farmers' markets. Through negotiations with the land owner, these sites can often be used at little or no cost. The farmers' market may be permitted to use the property in return for maintaining upkeep of the site. However, there may not be time commitment for utilization of such sites.
 - b. A temporary location may be free to use and the market may even be permitted to make improvements. However, unless a long-term commitment is established, these benefits will not be worth major investments by the market.
 - c. Temporary sites require little initial investment by the farmers' market
3. Temporary site – Free access/No time commitment/No lease agreement
 - a. There is no limit to the site possibilities that farmers' market may utilize at no cost

Potential sites include, but not limited to:

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 1. Athletic fields | 9. Courthouse grounds |
| 2. Bank parking lots | 10. Outdoor malls |
| 3. City streets and sidewalks | 11. Schoolyards |
| 4. Church or synagogue parking lots | 12. School parking lots |
| 5. Churchyards | 13. Shopping center parking lots |
| 6. City parking lots | 14. Town squares |
| 7. City parks | 15. Vacant lots |
| 8. County fairgrounds | |

- b. Improvements and site development is limited. A farmers' market may have free access to a site, but it may not be permitted to make any improvements. Improvements may be made by negotiating and working jointly with the site owner.
- c. There is no guarantee to the length of time a farmers' market may utilize a site if there is no leasing agreement
- d. Many free locations are often used for other purposes in addition to the farmers' market. Utilization of the site may need to be coordinated with other groups or activities

B. Accessibility

- 1. The farmers' market should be easily accessible to the public transit system
- 2. The farmers' market should be accessible to adequate parking
- 3. The farmers' market should be easily accessible from the major roadways or thoroughfares
- 4. The farmers' market site should have entrance and exit points, and good internal traffic flow
- 5. The farmers' market should be located on a through street to avoid congestion and permit a flow through of traffic
- 6. The farmers' market should have handicapped accessibility

C. Location

- 1. The farmers' market should be developed in a central location in the city or town
 - 1. Near potential consumer groups
 - i. Where they live
 - ii. Where they work
 - iii. Where they shop
 - 2. Near popular areas with regular consumer traffic
 - 3. In a location that appeals to a cross-section of consumers
- 2. The market site should be easily visible from the main thoroughfare
- 3. Consumers should be able to easily locate the market with a few simple directions
- 4. Neighboring land uses should not distract from the aesthetic appeal of the site (i.e., a garbage dump would not create a favorable neighboring environment)

D. Surface of the Site

- 1. An even and level surface with proper drainage
 - a. Consider the pros and cons of surface covering
 - i. Concrete
 - ii. Gravel
 - iii. Grass
 - iv. Blacktop
- 2. A site with a moderate slope may be utilized if the development of the farmers' market is not hindered

E. Shelter from the Sun and Rain

- 1. Protects the products, aiding in maintaining freshness and quality
- 2. Creates a more comfortable and enjoyable shopping experience
- 3. Shelter can be provided by:
 - a. Trees

- b. Overpass or bridges
- c. Permanent buildings, structures, or shelters
- d. Temporary canopies or awnings

F. Size of the site (very important)

- 1. The actual market selling area/vendors
- 2. Walkways for the consumer traffic flow
- 3. Parking areas either on-site or within a convenient location to the market
- 4. Roadways

G. Special planning consideration may be necessary if the site is used in conjunction with other activities.

H. Other factors

- 1. Location of water supply (or other utilities) on-site or accessible to the site
- 2. Location of restroom facilities on-site or accessible to the site
- 3. Zoning or building regulations may restrict or dictate proposed development plans

Part V: Funding and Budgeting

Project a budget early in the planning stages of a farmers' market.

A. Costs

Following are some of the costs that might be incurred by a farmers' market. However, not all of these will necessarily be incurred.

1. Rental or lease of site
2. Licenses and permits
3. Site improvements
 - a. Resurfacing
 - b. Storage facility
 - c. Overhead structure
 - d. Signage
4. Organizing expenses
 - a. Meeting facilities
 - b. Telephone
 - c. Printing
 - d. Postage
 - e. Travel
5. Advertising
 - a. Art work
 - b. Printing
 - c. Distribution (travel time and expense)
 - d. Materials
6. Market Manager's salary
It is recommended that a person be hired with the sole responsibility of farmers' market operations
7. Liability insurance
Personal accidents or injury may be the liability of the market. It is a necessity with the number of people who will be visiting the farmers' market over the course of the season. If covered otherwise (mall, city, etc.), then the insurance may not be necessary. Always check to be sure.
8. Miscellaneous equipment and supplies
 - a. Fire extinguisher
 - b. First Aid kit

B. Income

The market should be planned to support itself. The following are possible sources of income:

1. Stall fees
 - a. Stall fees should be assessed for each vendor selling in the market
 - b. Generally both daily and seasonal rates are offered
 - i. Seasonal rates should reflect a discount from daily rates if they were paid for every market day of the season
 - ii. Total payment of seasonal rates should be required at the beginning of the market season
 - a) Prepayment of stall fees will provide the market added operating capital to help cover the higher costs necessary at the beginning of the season
 - b) A savings incentive in overall costs should exist for vendors

- c. Stall fee rate categories
 - i. Daily rates for “Local Grown” and “Iowa Grown” products (see Part VI for definitions)
 - ii. Daily rates for brokers of products imported
 - iii. Seasonal rates for “Local Grown” and “Iowa Grown” products
 - d. The number of stalls available under each rate category should be determined during the preparation of the budget and numbers should be based on the findings of the grower interest survey
2. Donations
- a. Labor
 - i. Developing and making site improvements
 - ii. Distributing advertising flyers
 - iii. Making phone calls
 - iv. Soliciting additional donations and support
 - v. Preparing advertising
 - vi. Participating in promotional activities
 - b. Materials, supplies, misc.
 - i. Building materials and equipment
 - ii. Office supplies
 - iii. Printing and Postage
 - iv. Office space
 - v. Telephone and utilities
 - vi. Prizes for promotional activities
 - c. Farmers’ market site
 - d. Cash donations

Part VI: Market Rules

A. Hours and Days of Operation

1. The following days should be outlined in the rules:
 - a. The date of the first day the market will be open for the season
 - b. The days of the week the market will be operating
 - c. The date of the last day the market will operate for the season
2. The following references to time should be outlined in the rules:
 - a. A specific time of day when vendors may begin setting up
 - b. A specific time of day for the deadline of stall fee payment
 - c. A specific time of day when vendors with seasonal stall permits must have occupied their space in order to avoid losing its use for the specific day to another vendor
 - d. A specific time of day when vendors may no longer gain admission to the market for setting up and selling
 - e. A specific time of day when vendors may begin selling
 - f. A specific time of day when vendors shall have totally vacated the farmers' market premises

B. Who Can and Cannot Sell at the Market

1. All market should allow all vendors to sell "Iowa Grown" products and to be labeled as such
2. Farmers' markets that are located near the state boundaries should allow all vendors with "Local Grown" products and allow them to be labeled as such. The intent is to provide outlets for selling and buying locally-produced fresh products (i.e., A product grown in Lineville, Iowa should be just as fresh as a product grown in Lineville, Missouri)

Quantity and variety is an asset for attracting customers to any farmers' market. Therefore, discrimination against vendors from neighboring states or governmental subdivisions is discouraged. Discrimination can result in reciprocal actions against the market's vendors by other nearby farmers' markets where they may want to sell.

3. Vendor categories
 - a. "Iowa Grown" products
 - i. Vendor has grown the product in Iowa with the intent of generating income
 - ii. Vendor has obtained product from Iowa growers
 - iii. Vendor has grown product in Iowa as a hobby
 - b. "Local Grown" products
 - i. Vendor has grown the product outside of the state of Iowa but within the vicinity of the market (i.e., Lineville, IA and Lineville, MO)
 - ii. Vendor has obtained the product from local growers outside of the state of Iowa but within the vicinity of the market
 - iii. Vendor has grown product as a hobby outside of the state of Iowa but in the vicinity of the market
 - c. "Broker"

Vendor has imported the product from outside of the state of Iowa, and outside the areas of neighboring states which are within a short traveling distance to the market

C. Market Fees

1. Outline to whom fees are to be paid and time schedules for payment
2. Outline the fee schedule
 - a. Daily rates
 - b. Seasonal rates, which should result in a greatly reduced cost when compared with paying fees on a per day basis

D. Stall Assignments

1. Outline how assignments will be made based on the following:
2. Location by vendor category
 - a. Location by seasonal vs. daily rates
 - b. Location on a first-come basis
 - c. Whether or not stalls may be sublet

E. Product

1. Outline what products can and cannot be sold, considering state and federal regulations and guidelines (see Part VII)
2. Product quality that is acceptable and/or unacceptable
3. Under what conditions it can be required that the product be removed from sale or confiscated

F. Required Vendor Performance

1. Appearance
2. Behavior
3. Maintaining a tidy area throughout the market day
4. Leaving clean stall at the end of the market day
5. Stall setup and tear down

G. Penalties for Noncompliance with Market Rules

These should be clearly outlined prior to the market season and distributed to every market vendor

1. Under what conditions a vendor would permanently lose the privilege to sell
2. Under what conditions a vendor would temporarily lose the privilege to sell
3. When, if ever, a vendor would be assessed a fine

H. Market Manager as Final Judge

1. In order to maintain a smooth running farmers' market, the market manager needs to be given the authority to interpret, when necessary, and enforce the market rules
2. If the market manager does not consistently reflect the intent of the rules or the steering committee, two options exist:
 - a. Further clarification and official adoption of revised rules
 - b. Discipline or replace the market manager

I. Miscellaneous

1. No firearms
2. No alcoholic beverages or drugs
3. No pets, with the exception of seeing eye dogs
4. Specify unloading areas when market is not set up to accommodate vehicles

Part VII: State and Local Regulations

“Farmers’ market” means a marketplace which seasonally operates principally as a common market for fresh fruits and vegetables on a retail basis for off-the-premise consumption.” Code of Iowa Section 137F.1.5

A. Food Establishment/Food Processing Plant license Licenses

“A vendor who offers a product for sale at a farmers’ market shall have the sole responsibility to obtain and maintain any license required to sell or distribute such products.” Code of Iowa, Section 137F.8

The following products may be sold at a farmers’ market without being licensed under the Code of Iowa, Section 137F.8:

1. Baked goods which are non-potentially hazardous* or shelf-stable bakery products (non-perishable items that do not require refrigeration for food safety reasons). The term baked goods is limited to: breads, cakes, doughnuts, pastries, buns, rolls, cookies, biscuits, and pies (except meat pies).
2. Wholesome fresh eggs that are kept at an ambient temperature of 45 F or below.
3. Pre-packaged, shelf stable food products such as honey, jams, jellies, or dried noodles. These products must be properly labeled.
4. Non-potentially hazardous food products, shelf-stable products, prepared on the premise of a residence.
5. Fresh fruits and vegetables.

B. Farmers’ Market Potentially Hazardous Food License

Applies to vendors who wish to sell potentially hazardous food (perishable food) at farmers’ markets.

1. Note that a separate seasonal license must be obtained in each county that the vendor wishes to sell potentially hazardous foods at farmers’ markets.
2. The license is only valid at farmers’ markets.

C. Food Processing Plant –

With the sole exception of jams and jellies, no “home style canned goods can be sold at farmers’ markets, since food in a hermetically sealed container, shall be obtained from a food processing plant. (Section 3-201.12 Food Code, adopted by Code of Iowa, Section 137F.2).

D. Labeling: Packaged food shall be labeled with the following information:

1. Name of Product.
2. A list of ingredients, if the product has more than one ingredient.
3. Name and address of where the food is prepared.
4. Net weight, volume, or numerical count.

*Code of Iowa, Section 137F.1(13) defines “Potentially Hazardous Food” as a food that is natural or synthetic and is in a form capable of supporting the rapid and progressive growth of infectious or toxigenic microorganisms, or the growth and toxin production of clostridium botulinum. “Potentially Hazardous Food” includes an animal food that is raw or heat-treated, a food of plant origin that is heat-treated or consists of raw seed sprouts, cut melons, and garlic and oil mixtures.

For more information, contact: Department of Inspections and Appeals
Inspections Division
Lucas State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319
(515) 281-6538

E. Retail Sales Tax

Currently there is a five-percent retail sales tax imposed on gross receipts of the sale of tangible personal property. Local jurisdictions can impose an additional local sales and services tax of up to one percent on sales subject to the state sales tax. Currently there is no retail sales tax collected on the sale of fresh fruits and vegetables.

Subsection 422.53(6) (Iowa Code) Permits – applications for
“Persons who are not regularly engaged in selling at retail and do not have a permanent place of business, but who are temporarily engaged in selling from trucks, portable roadside stands, concessionaires at state, county, district or local fairs, carnivals and the like, shall report and remit the tax on a nonpermit basis, under rules the director shall provide for the efficient collection of the sales tax.”

Subsection 422.45(12) (Iowa Code) Exemptions
“Gross receipts from the sale of all foods for human consumption which are eligible for purchase with food coupons issued by the United States department of agriculture pursuant to regulations in effect on July 1, 1974, regardless of whether the retailer from which the foods are purchased is participating in the food stamp program. However, as used in this subsection “foods” does not include candy, candy-coated items, and other candy products, beverages, which do not contain a primary dairy product or dairy ingredient base of which contain less than fifteen percent natural fruit or vegetable juice; foods prepared on or off the premises of the retailer. “Foods prepared for immediate consumption” include any food product upon which an act of preparation, including but not limited to, cooking, mixing, sandwich makings, blending, heating or pouring, has been performed by the retailer so the food product may be immediately consumed by the purchaser.

For more information contact: Iowa Department of Revenue and Finance
Taxpayer Services
Hoover State Office Building
Des Moines, IA 50319
(515) 281-3114
www.state.ia.us/tax

F. Farmers’ Market Nutrition Programs

Many Iowa farmers’ markets are participating in the Farmers’ Market Nutrition Programs (FMNP). These programs have the dual purpose to provide low-income, nutritionally at-risk, WIC (Women, Infants and Children) – and low-income seniors with fresh fruits and vegetables to improve their diets and to expand the awareness, use of, and sales at farmers’ markets.

A market with several fruit and vegetable vendors and an interest in participating in the Program may contact:

Farmers’ Market Nutrition Program
Bureau of Horticulture and Farmers’ Markets
Iowa Dept. of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Wallace Building, 502 E. 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319
(515) 242-6239

G. Scales

If scales are used at a farmers' market they must meet Weights and Measures standards for calibration. In general, unless the scale is digital and self calibrating, it must be recalibrated each time it is moved.

For more information about scales, contact:

Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship
Weights and Measures
Wallace Building, 502 E. 9th Street
Des Moines, IA 50319
(515) 281-5716

H. U.S.D.A. Grades

If U.S.D.A. grades are used by vendors, products must meet minimum standards established for the labeled grades.

To obtain copies of crop-specific grading standards, contact:

Standardization Section
Fresh Products Branch
Fruits and Vegetable Division
United States Department of Agriculture
(202) 720-2093

Part VIII: Market Manager

The market manager is responsible for the day-to-day operation of the farmers' market. The role of the market manager may vary from handling the basic operation of a market to developing the market and coordinating special activities and to handling any conflicts that may develop.

A. Qualifications of the market manager

1. Good communication skills and relates well with others
2. Good organizational skills, responsible, and capable of carrying out a variety of duties at the same time
3. Good leadership skills and the ability to guide and maintain the stability of the market
4. Is willing to accept the market manager position as their sole responsibility
5. Is advisable that the market manager not be a vendor, so all time can be entirely devoted to the direction and supervision of the market
6. Has a thorough understanding of the regulations and ordinances governing the farmers' market and the effect those rules have on the operation of the market
7. Good decision maker, with the ability to make quick, accurate decisions and stand by them
8. Reliable, punctual

B. Responsibilities of the market manager

1. Acts as the administrator of the market, exercising general supervision over the market and its activities. Keeps the operation of the farmers' market running smoothly and effectively
2. Interprets market rules and regulations. Makes necessary judgments and decisions if questions or concerns arise
3. Enforces all farmers' market rules, regulations, ordinances and codes
 - a. Monitors activities within the market
 - b. Ensures all market happenings comply with stated guidelines
 - c. Takes disciplinary action when necessary
4. Mediator
 - a. Settles disputes in the market
 - b. Deals with complaints
 - c. Accepts suggestions
 - d. Works to achieve equitable and fair decisions
5. Communication and information link between all facets of the market development and operation. Keeps vendors aware of market policies, activities and promotions, liaison between market and other businesses and organizations. Responds to all consumer inquiries and complaints
6. Responsible for handling market fees
 - a. Collects stall fees from vendors
 - i. Seasonal fees. A vendor pays a set rate to reserve a specific stall for the duration of the farmers' market season
 - ii. Daily fees. A vendor pays a set fee each time the farmers' market is utilized. Stalls are generally assigned on a first-come/first-served basis
 - b. Collects fees from fines, i.e., Vendor is fined for not cleaning up his stall at the close of the market day
7. Assigns stalls to vendors
 - a. Vendors who purchase seasonal stalls receive top consideration when making assignments
 - b. Vendors purchasing stalls on a day-to-day basis receive consideration on a first-come/first-served basis

- c. If a vendor with a seasonally reserved stall has not arrived within a set time of the market opening, without prior notification to the market manager, that stall may be reassigned by the market manager for that market day
- 8. Serves as quality control person for the market. All products must comply with the food guidelines developed for the market. Only top quality products should be sold through the farmers' market
- 9. Works with grower group or representative(s) to encourage an adequate quantity and a broad variety of products each market day. The market manager provides information as to which products are in high demand and/or in low supply
- 10. Ensures that all required forms dealing with the operation of the farmers' market are properly filled out and filed. These include vendor registration forms, fee receipts, daily market reports and "market assurance" forms in participating in the Farmers' Market Nutrition Program.
- 11. Arranges for someone to be responsible for the market during any absences, and gives vendors prior notice
- 12. Maintains a clean and attractive market at all times. Ensures that the market area is properly cleaned up at the end of the day. Enforces penalties on vendors who do not leave their stall area clean
- 13. Develops and prepares emergency plans. As leader of the farmers' market, the market manager should always be prepared for emergencies. It is advisable that she/he have quick access to a first-aid kit and a fire extinguisher. Knowledge of first aid and CPR is beneficial
- 14. Develops and maintains a consumer information booth at the farmers' market
 - a. Tracks local food store prices and displays information on price board. Displaying prices enables consumers to compare costs and heightens awareness regarding product quality and freshness in relation to price
 - b. Displays point of purchase information
 - i. Supplies nutritional information of specific products
 - ii. Offers recipes, preparation, and storage ideas
 - iii. Provides food samples, allowing the consumer to see and taste a product
 - c. Uses a sign-in guest book, asking for consumer name and address
 - i. Consumer numbers can be determined to evaluate success of promotions
 - ii. Provides information for estimating the range consumers travel to attend the market
 - iii. Offers an opportunity for consumers to give positive or negative comments concerning the market
 - iv. Used to inform customers of any market news

Part IX: Promotions, Advertising and Publicity

A. Promotions

1. Promotions are a way to attract attention to your market and involve community members, the media, and consumers in the market. Promotional activities are important for maintaining consumer traffic throughout the market season... used early in the season to draw consumers to the market and during the season to maintain customer traffic levels during slow periods.
2. Promotions activities should be well advertised and aimed at drawing general public interest and stimulating involvement
3. Examples of promotional activities:
 - a. Cooking demonstration: Invite a local restaurant chef to demonstrate food preparation techniques. The business receives publicity and consumers discover new preparation ideas, and may have the opportunity to sample untried product
 - b. Produce pedal tractor pull: Children 10 and under are divided into age groups. A small pedal tractor is used with a box trailer attached for carrying pre-weighed cloth vegetables filled with pea gravel. A few of the vegetables are on-board at the start of the pull with additional weights added at designated locations along the track. The child in each class who pulls the furthest is the winner. Older age classes should start the pull with a heavier initial load
 - c. Harvest festivals: Activities highlighting a popular fruit or vegetable during the peak of its season
 - i. Pie baking or eating contest
 - ii. Pumpkin carving contest
 - iii. Sweet corn roast
 - iv. Tomato pitch at local celebrity
 - v. Watermelon feed
 - d. Community celebrations and festivals: Integrate market promotional activities into the celebration theme or convince the festival's planning committee to locate some of the planned activities in or near the farmers' market
 - e. Drawing for prizes: Encourage all consumers to register by signing their name, address, and phone number on a slip of paper. The drawing should take place at the end of the market day. This works not only as an added incentive for attracting customers into the market, but it also provides the market manager with an estimate of the number of consumers at the market on a given day and gives an indication of the market's geographic service area. This activity helps develop a mailing list
 - f. Basket(s) of Bounty Auction: Product can be donated by each vendor and placed in a large basket, or vendors can individually prepare baskets displaying their own product. Baskets are placed on display for a short period of time and then auctioned off to the highest bidder. Proceeds from the basket(s) can be used to finance future market activities, or the receipts from the individual baskets could be retained by the respective vendor
 - g. Other activities
 - i. Musicians and craft people performing their arts
 - ii. Educational exhibits and demonstrations
 - iii. Freezing and canning demonstrations

B. Advertising

1. Maintain a consistency in advertising presentation (i.e., lettering style, market name, and graphic illustrations). Consumers will become familiar with and develop an association between the advertisement and the market. The "look" of your advertising can also help develop an "image" for your market. A similar style of presentation can be used on the following to act as a means of advertising:

- a. Signs/posters/flyers
 - b. Banners
 - c. T-shirts
 - d. Aprons
 - e. Hats
 - f. Buttons
 - g. Bags
 - h. Headings for news releases, public service announcements, and newspaper ads
2. Consumer benefits should be used in advertising campaigns
 - a. Produce freshness and quality
 - b. Product variety... highlighting the unusual
 - c. Farmers' market social atmosphere, community activity
 - d. Shopping at the farmers' market keeps dollars in the local economy
 - e. Comments on pricing should not be included
 3. Target initiation of advertising so as to gain sufficient attention and coverage prior to when impact is desired
 4. Permanent or semi-permanent signs/posters/flyers
 - a. Effectiveness is dependent on the following:
 - i. Appearance
 - ii. Content
 - iii. Visibility
 - iv. Location
 - b. Placement should be in strategic locations where it is visible from the greatest distance and where it will attract the consumers' eyes
 - c. Location of the farmers' market should be clearly indicated, regardless if it is located on-site or off-site
 - d. Being able to read a sign at a distance depends on the colors and the size of the letter utilized. Selected colors should attract the eye and be easy to read
 - e. Art work should be professional and clearly lettered so it is easy to read
 - f. The costs and time involved with the distribution of circulars and flyers needs to be considered. Major advantages of these advertising tools are:
 - i. They can be posted where a large number of people gather
 - ii. Individually distributed so they can be kept by the consumer as a reference
 - g. Newspaper advertising
 - i. Classified ads
 - a) Located in the midst of a whole page of other like ads; little distinguishing characteristics for quickly drawing the reader's eye
 - b) Advertising fees are generally calculated on a per word basis
 - ii. Display ads
 - a) Attracts the reader's eye by using larger, stylized letters and/or graphics
 - b) The advertising fee schedule is based on measured dimensions, either calculated in column inches or page portions
 - c) Costs are typically higher than with classified ads
 - h. Radio & TV
 - i. Promotional tie-ins (live remotes, contest)
 - ii. Sponsorships
 - iii. Give-aways

C. Publicity/Media Coverage

1. Special market promotional activities can be covered, or human interest stories can be developed about market participants
2. The media sources beneficial to a market varies from community to community. Possibilities include:

- a. Newspaper
 - b. Area shopper
 - c. Radio
 - d. Television
 - e. Local cable company's news channel
3. Make contacts with those who produce or host local talk show programs and suggest a farmers' market program
4. News releases
- a. Contact newspapers and get a background on the kind and degree of coverage they would offer, and what angle they would use (food section or farm section)
 - b. Information should be presented in a concise and to-the-point manner
 - c. At the top of the page, first type the date, followed by the centered heading "FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE", then the heading "SUBJECT" with a statement explaining the subject of this release; and then type the heading "FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT"; type the name, address, and phone number of your organization's contact person
 - d. The lead sentence should contain the main point of the story. It answers the questions: Who? What? When? Where? And Why?
 - e. The subsequent body of the news release builds on the central facts, supporting and expanding them
 - f. The release should be typed, double-spaced, and have at least a one-inch margin on both sides of the page
 - g. News releases should be sent to newspapers, radio, and television stations at least one week before it is to appear
5. Public Service Announcements (PSA)
- a. The Federal Communications Commission requires all radio and television stations to provide a designated amount of air time for public service announcements
 - b. A PSA is basically prepared in the same manner as a news release, except:
 - i. The subject matter or special activity should be presented before giving information on the contact person
 - ii. The amount of time it takes to read the announcement aloud needs to be noted
 - c. Radio stations generally prefer PSAs to be 10, 15, or 30 seconds in length. Television stations generally do not use anything but 10- or 30-second spots
 - d. Contact the station's community affairs/public service director to find out exactly what format the station requires
6. Public relations
- a. Membership in other groups
 - b. Community involvement

Part X: Market Management Records

Good record keeping gives the market manager, the sponsor, the steering committee, and growers an idea of where the market has been, where it is, and an indicator of where it is going with respect to the goals.

A. Records should include, but not be limited to:

1. Copy of the market rules and regulations
2. Copy of city/county/private permission to use site for market
3. Copy of lease or purchase of land site
4. Copy of certificate of insurance
5. Copy of market layout, design, stalls, etc.
6. Minutes of Farmers' Market Committee meetings
7. All correspondence
8. Copies of newspaper ads, flyers, publicity, etc.
9. Resources/contact lists. Use for a quick reference to obtain information on all subjects of interest to the farmers' market, such as advertising, health and sanitary regulations, insurance, etc.
10. Vendor registration forms
 - a. Individual grower/artisan information
 - i. Name
 - ii. Address
 - iii. Phone number
 - iv. Stall information
 - a) Stall assignment
 - b) Payment structure (season or daily)
 - c) Payment record – serves as a receipt
 - d) Attendance record – tracks participation
 - v. Product information: type(s) of product/produce sold, point-of-origin statement, herbicide/organics statement, etc.
 - vi. Insurance verification
 - vii. Agreement of compliance (market agreement). This statement says the grower or seller is aware of the market's rules and regulations and agrees to abide by them.
 - viii. Sales tax permit (if applicable)
 - b. Mailing lists of participating growers/vendors
11. Sales data and market day stats
 - a. Gross sales in dollar volume
 - b. Types of product sold
 - c. Prices
 - d. Quantities
 - e. Best-selling items
 - f. Inadequate supplies of certain products

B. Tracking Information

Recording information on a daily basis will provide data to evaluate the effectiveness and success of the farmers' market. Through continual evaluation, market strategies can be adjusted to meet needs.

1. Track consumers. Determine the consumer profile. Knowing the consumer group will help the market determine effective marketing strategies
 - a. Observe the shopper population or an on-site survey
 - i. Older adult/middle age adult/young adult/children – Percentage of age groups represented at a market

- ii. When do particular groups come to market -- This allows planning of events and what type of events to be held
 - iii. What groups are lacking so efforts can be made to get that group to market
 - b. Buying averages -- How much does the average consumer purchase per visit
 - c. Product popularity -- What products do the consumers look for and track purchases
 - d. Buying preferences -- Do consumers buy for immediate consumption or bulk for canning/freezing
- 2. Track vendors
 - a. Names of vendors
 - b. Frequency of each vendor's participation in the market
 - c. Types of products each vendor sells
 - d. Individual gross sales per market day
 - e. Donations for special promotional and/or tasting events
 - f. WIC and/or Senior certified
 - g. Food Stamp certified
- 3. Track promotions
 - a. Determine degree of participation and who participated
 - b. Record what made the promotion effective or ineffective, i.e., thorough advertising, weather conditions, lack of participation, or lack of interest
 - c. Positive results of the promotion or activity
 - d. Proposed changes to make the promotion more effective (i.e., problems that arose, other groups to include, etc.)
 - e. Weather and its effect on the market's success. Weather conditions should always be included when recording information. The success or failure of a special event or promotion may be directly related to the day's weather rather than the event

Part XI: The Vendor Group

A. Recruitment of vendors to participate in the farmers' market

1. Who is responsible? EVERYONE!
 - a. The market steering committee has the primary responsibility to recruit vendors for the market
 - b. Individual vendors should try to encourage other to participate. Though this might be seen as increasing competition, generally any increase in vendors participating in a market will increase the numbers of customers patronizing the market
 - c. Supporting groups should also be a source for recruiting vendors
2. How to recruit
 - a. Contact those who are currently growing and selling through other outlets
 - b. Contact market participants in nearby towns. Many vendors are often interested in participating at markets in various locations
 - c. Through posters and by using all media sources, announce vendors are needed and give phone number/address of individual to contact
3. When to recruit
 - a. For a new market, it is imperative to begin early. Many winter farm meetings are planned during the previous summer and early fall. Contact sponsors of such meetings and request time at their meetings to recruit. Be sure to set a date for the vendors to meet
 - b. For an existing market, use not only the method explained above but also devise a method to solicit vendors during the market season. It is not unusual for a prospective vendor to check out the market prior to actually participating. Provide a way for interested vendors to obtain information at the market site. Temporary vendors can be converted into permanent ones.

B. Expectations of the market and vendors

1. What vendors expect of the market
 - a. Vendors expect the market's managing organization to provide a buying crowd
 - b. Vendors generally expect the market entity to advertise, promote and operate the market on funds derived from stall fees
 - c. Vendors generally regard a market failure as a problem cause by the organizing committee, even when they have not offered input
2. What the market expects of vendors
 - a. Markets expect vendors to abide by the market rules and vending agreements that the vendor signs to participate in the market
 - b. Markets expect vendors to participate in promotions and events that enhance and improve the market for the benefit of all
3. Impact vendors should have
 - a. The vendors should be represented on the market steering committee. It is not a rule that the vendors operate the market. In fact, most markets are not run by the vendors
 - b. The vendor's representation on the steering committee should be selected by the vendors and act on behalf of the majority
 - c. Any complaints or suggestions should be carried by the vendors' representative to the market steering committee meetings. Only complaints which are of importance to the total group should be brought before the steering committee. The vendors' representative should not enter personal concerns without making sure such concerns are in the majority interest
 - d. Vendors could have major impact on market promotions, either through product donations or through monetary contributions. Expecting stall fees to cover all market costs is generally unrealistic

- e. Off-season fund-raising activities could be one of the primary roles of the vendor group. Remember, during the selling season the vendor is usually too busy to work on fundraising and promotion activities. Therefore, market season activities usually fall on other members of the market steering committee

C. Seminars and vendors meetings

The object is to provide valuable information for improving the market or improving the sales skills of the individual vendor

1. Merchandising strategies... there are always new ways to merchandise products. Therefore, a merchandising seminar should be held each year
 - a. Product displays are very important to the success of sales
 - i. At a farmers' market, displaying products out of the sun, incorporating the use of ice to retain freshness, providing exceptional quality or displaying the products in appropriate containers can greatly enhance the sales potential
 - ii. When possible, provide added services to the customers. A free sample can break down the buyer's resistance to purchase
 - b. When possible, provide added services to the customers. Providing new preparations hints, care instructions, or appropriate containers for carrying the product home can greatly improve customer relations
 - c. Vendor image is a contributing factor to repeat sales
 - i. Smoking, an unkempt appearance, dirty clothes, foul language, etc. are all negative images in the customer's mind
 - ii. Thoughtful expression of appreciation is a valuable advertising technique. A simple thank you or a genuine smile can make the difference in a customer sharing their satisfaction with a friend
 - d. It will be of great advantage to label the product by variety. Many customers will gain confidence in a particular variety and come back to you. Labeling will also cut down on variety questions by customers
 - e. Displaying prices
 - i. Pricing the product will cut down on questions and enable the vendor to service more customer
 - ii. Pricing strategies are very important and should be given great consideration. Caution should be exercised in negotiating prices or changing prices to reduce volume, for both can have adverse effects on continual sales.
 - iii. As vendors become more informed on pricing strategies, pricing problems between vendors should be reduced
 - iv. Vendors should always display their name and address. This acts as a silent signature that boosts a customer's confidence in the product
2. Pricing
 - a. Pricing is based on total costs of production, transportation and marketing
 - i. Even though the market may be local, always calculate the cost of transportation and cost to market the crops. Include the wear and tear on equipment and time spent selling.
 - ii. Do not offer product below the cost of production and marketing
 - b. Consider the pricing strategy. This is, selling by the unit or by the weight
 - i. Selling by the unit is the simplest way to insure accuracy. Unit measures include selling by the piece, the dozen, the peck, etc.
 - ii. If scales are used, they must be inspected and certified. The primary units of measure by weight include the ounce and pound. (Please refer to Part VII "State and Local Regulations")
 - c. When it is appropriate to adjust prices
 - i. When the quality of the product is inferior

- ii. When the volume is large enough to give a discount
 - iii. When a commercial establishment buys on a regular basis and would normally be considered a wholesale customer
 - iv. When a repeat customer complains. A complaining customer generally wants to do business with the vendor. If not, they would simply go to another vendor and not both
- d. Price wars should not exist in the farmers' market
- i. It is imperative to not sell product at a price below the cost of production. This is of no benefit to anyone
 - ii. Often hobby gardeners can offer product at a much reduced rate. Do not get involved in a price battle with a hobby gardener. The commercial grower cannot win such a struggle
 - iii. The more knowledgeable the vendors are of pricing strategies, the less time will be spent on slashing prices
 - iv. Workshops on pricing strategies will help prevent price wars
- e. **Price fixing is illegal, and vendors cannot overtly conspire to set prices.** Once such practices begin, they are hard to stop

CONSUMER SURVEY (B)

(In-person or phone survey or mail-in survey)

1. Have you ever attended a farmers' market? Yes No
 - a. If "yes", what did you like about the farmers' market?
 - Fresh quality produce
 - Prices of product
 - Variety and selection of product
 - Locally grown produce
 - Atmosphere and activities of the market
 - Supporting the local economy
 - Other (please specify) _____
 - b. If "yes", what did you not like about the farmers' market?
 - Location
 - Day market is open
 - Time market is open
 - Price
 - Variety and selection of product
 - Quality of product
 - Other (please specify) _____
2. How often do you/would you shop at a farmers' market?
 Weekly Twice a month Once a Month 1-2 times a season
3. How much money do you/would you spend per visit to the market?
 Under \$5 \$5-10 \$10-20 Over \$20
4. What products would you like to see sold at a farmers' market?
 - Fruits (specify) _____
 - Vegetables (specify) _____
 - Dry Flowers Baked goods
 - Fresh Flowers Honey
 - Firewood Eggs
 - Crafts Apple Cider
 - Other (specify) _____
5. How far do you live from the market? How far would you drive?

Live	Travel	Live	Travel
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> In the same community	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Between 10-20 miles
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Within 5 miles	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> More than 20 miles
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/> Between 5-10 miles		
6. Would you like to see the proposed farmers' market (proposed site _____) established and developed? _____
7. Would you like to be involved in the planning and development of the market?
8. Any additional comments?

Send completed survey form to:
(Name), (Address)

For additional farmers' market information, contact:
(Name), (Address), (Phone number)

GROWER SURVEY

(In-person or phone survey or mail-in survey)

Name _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

1. Would you be interested in selling your products at a local farmers' market in _____?
2. How many days per week would you sell at a farmers' market? _____
3. Specify which days of the week you would participate at the farmers' market:

_____ Monday	_____ Wednesday	_____ Friday	_____ Sunday
_____ Tuesday	_____ Thursday	_____ Saturday	
4. Number of acres currently in fruit and vegetable production? _____
5. Types of products produced:

Product	Number of Acres
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
_____	_____
6. Product availability dates:

_____	Earliest date product will be available
_____	Latest date product will be available
7. Would you be interested in becoming involved in a local growers' group to produce products for a farmers' market? _____
8. Would you like to be involved in the organization of the growers' group _____?
9. Would you be interested in helping establish and develop a local farmers market? _____
10. Do you know of any other grower who may be interested in participating in a local farmers' market? Please fill in the name below:
Name: _____
Address: _____
Phone: _____

Send completed survey form to:
(Name), (Address)

For additional farmers' market information, contact:
(Name), (Address), (Phone number)