

Women, Food & Agriculture Network

Growing Community — and Vegetables Too



by Teva Dawson

Cleaning up vacant lots, building raised beds, planting greens, and training volunteers . . . community gardeners in Des Moines are preparing for a busy summer. From correctional facilities to neighborhood associations to schools, community gardeners are decreasing food budgets, beautifying inner city neighborhoods and building a sense of community.

The Des Moines Community Gardening Coalition, a program of the Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department, aids over 30 community based groups in organizing and maintaining productive community gardens by coordinating with area agencies to provide the resources needed for each garden. Working with summer youth programs, community centers, organizations serving people living with AIDS, and low-income housing providers, we aid each group in project planning, site development, acquisition of hand tools and other supplies, volunteer support and education. Each community garden is unique in its design and function.

Community gardening is both words - community and gardening. It is any activity that brings people together for some horticultural purpose. Neighborhood associations provide a plot of sunny land for neighbors who are renters or have shady backyards. Schools

develop outdoor classrooms such as vegetable gardens or butterfly gardens. Nonprofit agencies offer immigrants from Vietnam, Sudan or Central America a place to grow culturally appropriate affordable food. At-risk youth learn life skills by growing and selling produce at the farmers market. Community gardening is bringing people together in our community, creating new gardeners, helping revitalize neighborhoods, and addressing community food security issues.

Community Support

Our community gardeners need the support from our larger community as well. We rely on grants and donations from area garden centers, garden groups, corporations and philanthropic organizations to purchase supplies such as tools, seeds, plant supports, and compost bins. Expert gardeners are needed to share their knowledge with new community gardeners. We work with other agencies to make our gardens more successful. Iowa State University Extension encourages master gardener participation and provides educational materials. The Women, Infants and Children program advertises our community garden locations. AmeriCorps' environmental crew helps in the installation of gardens. Through a grant from Vision2020, we

(Community, continued on page 7)

Mission

The *Women, Food, and Agriculture Network* links and amplifies women's voices on issues of food systems, sustainable communities and environmental integrity.



Calendar

May 2-5, 1999: National Town Meeting on Sustainable Development, Detroit, Michigan. Website: <http://www.sustainableamerica.org/>.

June 4-6, 1999: Youth and Family Camp. See story below.

July 10, 1999: Iowa Network for Community Agriculture Summer Field Day. Visit Des Moines Farmers' Market, lunch at Soul Food Cafe, and tour Des Moines Community Gardens in afternoon. For more information, call Gary Guthrie: 515-382-3117 (see story page 7).

July 31 to August 1, 1999: WFAN Retreat. Prairiewoods Retreat Center, Cedar Rapids. For information, call Denise O'Brien 712-243-5752.

October 12-15, 1999: National Small Farm Conference, St. Louis.

November 13, 1999: Iowa Network for Community Agriculture Harvest Celebration. Grinnell. Tour Midwest Harvest Tofu plant, Wisconsin Healthy Farmer session, and INCA Business meeting. For more information, call Gary Guthrie: 515-382-3117.

Events

Youth and Family Camp to Feature Food, Agriculture, and Environmental Activities

Youth and Family Camp is sponsored by Practical Farmers of Iowa, the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, the Field to Family Community Food Project, and the Iowa State Sustainable Agriculture Extension Program

WHO? This camp is open to youth and their families. Children under 8 years must be accompanied by an adult.

WHAT? This camp:

- Provides hands-on experiences to learn more about the relationships between food, farming, the environment, and communities.
- Brings together farmers and consumers involved and interested in sustainable agriculture in Iowa to share farming and food system experiences and build and strengthen the sustainable agriculture community; and
- Supports the leadership development of teens involved in sustainable

agriculture and related fields of interest.

WHERE? The YMCA Camp, located north of Boone, Iowa

WHEN? The camp will run from 10:30 am Friday, June 4 to 5:00 pm Sunday June 6, 1999.

Activities include: hiking, horseback riding, history and turn of the century programs, wildlife conservation, forest, creek, and field ecology, team-building games, climbing, canoeing, swimming, music, storytelling, crafts, a farm and garden field trip, and much more!

COST: \$50 per participant. Scholarships are available.

Donations Needed: The cost of the camp is higher than the registration fee. We encourage donations to support participant scholarships and camp activities. Please send a check made out to PFI PFI to 917 Burnett #3, Ames, IA 50010.

For More Information: Call Shelly at 515-294-0887 or Nan at 515-294-8512. Registration deadline is May 20.

Websites

<http://www.organicconsumers.org> — Organic Consumers Association, 860 Highway 61, Little Marais, MN 55614; membership@organicconsumer.org; to subscribe to Organic View, informative e-mail publication, mail to "organicview@organicconsumers.org" with the message subscribe.

<http://www.slowfood.com> — sponsored by an international movement to appreciate "endangered foods."

<http://www.neww.org/kosova/default.htm> — front-line reports from independent women journalists covering the War in Kosovo from the Network of East-West Women.

www.panna.org — Pesticide Action Network

www.prairiewoods.org — Prairiewoods Retreat Center where will be having our July 31 to August 1 Women food and Agriculture Network meeting

<http://www.iowaccess.org/main/agriculture/> — Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.

<http://www.state.ia.us/government/governor/index.htm> — The Iowa governor's website linking all parts of Iowa's government.

Women, Food and Agriculture Network

This newsletter is published by the **Women, Food and Agriculture Network**, a Tides Center Project with the help of the Stanley Foundation, Muscatine, Iowa, and Iowa State University Extension, Ames, Iowa. We welcome suggestions, stories, and news from your part of the world. Our emphasis is on women's lives, their relationships, communities and families.

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News Briefs

Agriculture and Climate Change

Climate change and actions to mitigate climate change may have tremendous impacts on agriculture, both in the United States and worldwide. Many agricultural organizations and commodity groups oppose the Kyoto Protocol, believing that implementation of the Agreement will put U.S. agriculture at a comparative disadvantage to less-developed countries that are not required to achieve the same greenhouse gas reductions. The Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy believes, however, that U.S. agriculture, and particularly sustainable agriculture, could benefit from the Agreement by receiving credits for sequestering carbon. A recently published book, "The Potential of U.S. Cropland to Sequester Carbon and Mitigate the Greenhouse Effect", estimates that U.S. cropland could potentially sequester 120-270 million metric tons of carbon/year.

Receiving credit for carbon sequestration would serve multiple benefits because it would also protect soil and water: conservation buffers, pasture, cover crops, improved nutrient management, etc. The Kyoto Protocol may serve as a great springboard for the type of agriculture that we want to promote.

The Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy has initiated a list-serve on agriculture and climate change. It is a place to exchange ideas and information regarding both the potential impacts and the role that agriculture can play in efforts to address climate change. Previous posts to the listserv can be viewed at http://iatp.org/listarchive/index.cfm?listname=ag_climate.

To subscribe to the listserv, send an email to listserv@iatp.org and type "subscribe ag_climate" in the message.

Send questions to: Mark Muller, IATP, 2105 First Avenue S, Minneapolis, MN 55404; email: mmuller@iatp.org.

Report on Organic Farming

(The following is edited version of a United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization 99/3 news release, distributed electronically by Pesticide Action Network North America (PANNA))

Consumer demand for organically produced food is on the rise and provides new market opportunities for farmers and businesses around the world, according to a new report from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO). Typically, organic exports from developing countries are sold at impressive premiums, often at prices 20% higher than identical products produced on conventional farms. The report states that, under the right circumstances, the market returns from organic agriculture can potentially contribute to local food security by increasing family incomes, and recommends an FAO-wide, cross-sectoral program in organic agriculture.

In several developed countries organic agriculture already represents a significant portion of the food system: 10% in Austria and 7.8% in Switzerland. Other countries such as the U.S., France, Japan and Singapore are experiencing growth rates in the organic industry that exceed 20% annually.

Some developing countries such as Egypt have small domestic organic markets and have begun to seize the lucrative export opportunities presented by organic agriculture, FAO said. Some countries export tropical fruits to the European baby-food industry, six African nations export cotton to the European Community, Zimbabwe exports herbs to South Africa, and China exports tea to the Netherlands and soybeans to Japan....

Farmers converting to organic production will probably initially experience losses in yields, the report warned. However, there are other short term benefits. Instead of using synthetic pesticides which can kill beneficial organisms, create pest resistance, pollute water and land, and poison farmers and their families, organic farmers rely on natural pest controls to grow their crops....

The report concludes by stating: "FAO has the responsibility to give organic agriculture a legitimate place within sustainable agriculture programs and assist member countries in their efforts to respond to farmer and consumer demand in this sector. Organic agriculture may contribute to the overall goals of sustainability."

According to the report, the FAO organic program should focus on providing fora for discussions on organic pro-

duction and trade; facilitating research, extension and networking; and technical assistance for developing skills, organic standards and certification capacities. FAO should also develop pilot projects that explore and promote organic agricultural techniques.

The FAO report, "Organic Agriculture" is available on the web at www.fao.org/unfao/bodies/COAG/COAG15/default.htm.

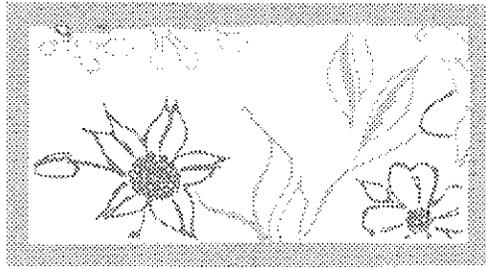
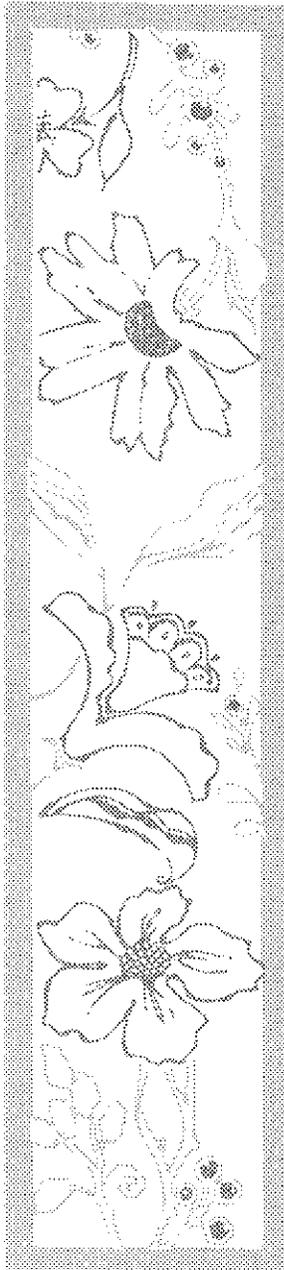
Resistance to Genetically Engineered Crops Growing

Concerned citizens around the globe are becoming more vocal about their opposition to crops such as Bt corn, Round Up Ready soybeans and Bt cotton. These crops have been genetically engineered to resist, in the case of corn and cotton, borers that damage the plants and, in the case of soybeans, Round Up, a weed-killing chemical. Weeds are always a problem in soybeans, so by genetically altering the soybean plant to resist the weed-killing chemical, farmers can spray weeds without injuring the soybean plant.

Monsanto, the company that sells Round Up Ready soybeans, is the target of a global protest that is raging from India to England and many places in between. According to Food Bytes "the growing crisis over gene-foods has reached the point where financial analysts are warning the Clinton administration that the European Union will not back off on the efforts to label untested genetically engineered foods. Many believe this controversy could spawn a major trade war within the World Trade Organization (WTO)."

A good source for information on the global actions against genetically engineered crops and Monsanto is the website www.purefood.org. You can also contact the Campaign for Food Safety/Organic Consumers Association, 860 Hwy 61, Little Marais, MN 55614.

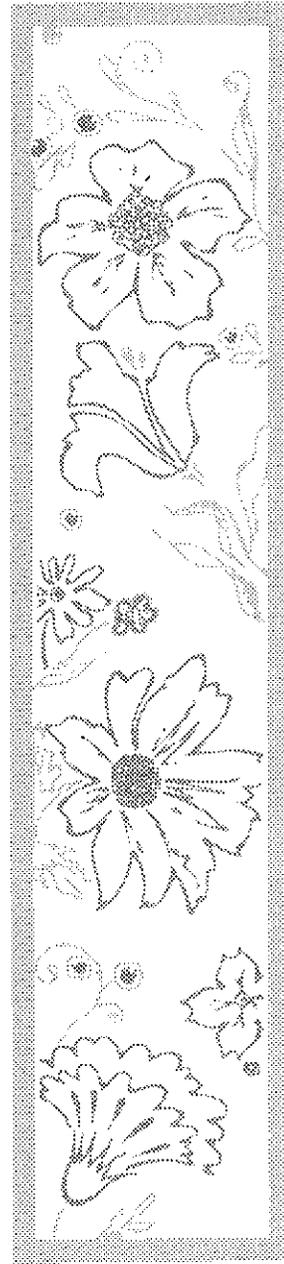
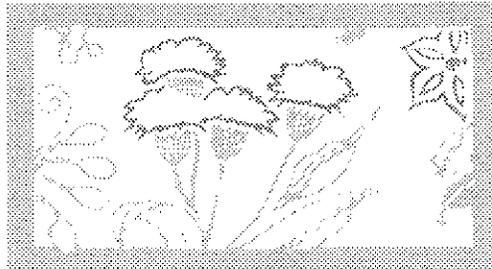
Recently three major grain marketers announced they will keep corn varieties not approved by the European Trade Union out of the usual processing channels. In other words, non-approved corn will not have an overseas market in Europe.



Saying blue but meaning yellow

The blue melts the air
 freshens the clothes on the line
 drips into my windows
 plays hopscotch with dust motes
 over my quilt. Even the paintings
 adjust themselves to the tenor of
 evening songs sung at mid-day
 when crows hide in the shade
 and robins have agendas to fill
 and the neighbor's dog is too hot to bark
 Blue fills our pores, robs our skin of dry
 and milks our very patience
 till it cries for snow,
 or at least for a breath of fall.

Christine Kieltyka



Take Some Time On Good Land

On Good Land, The Autobiography of an Urban Farm

by Michael Ableman, Chronicle Books, San Francisco, CA.

Review by Jan Libbey

"Ready, aim, fire!"

Well, that's not exactly how it happened. The story Michael Ableman tells in "On the Good Land" about flipping a

rock off a manure spreader spinner, across the field, and through a neighbor's dining room window is just one of the stories that documents a farm that has become landlocked in suburbia.

Fairview Gardens, near Santa Barbara, California, has become Ableman's vehicle to educate through taste, touch, sound, sight, smell, and spirit. The lessons of the farms' evolution amidst surrounding development reminds us all that our farms live natural, political, and practical lives all at the same time.

The book chronicles Fairview

Gardens' transformation from one among many in a checkerboard of farms to an island among concrete, tract housing, and shopping malls. Ableman's stories are funny, inspiring, and educational. Some of the most powerful insights are offered as Ableman explores the long-term future for the farm in its search for sustainable farming and living.

Take some time with this book. You are sure to find insight that applies to your farming activities, comfort in the challenges of farming, and encouragement to stay the course of "the good land."

What of Family Farm Hog Production?

by Shelly Gradwell

At our March Women, Food and Agriculture Network retreat, we raised many questions and concerns about the current crisis with many independent hog producers. As an ISU research assistant for Clare Hinrichs (Sociology) and Tom Richard (Agriculture and Biosystems Engineering), I have been interviewing hog producers about manure management systems. So far, I have talked with 15 hog farmers at kitchen tables and in machine sheds across Iowa. And every conversation has, not surprisingly, focused more on the current economic crisis than the technologies of manure management.

What follows are my initial observations as I begin to learn more about the hog industry. I will also include some of the information and ideas that were shared at our last workshop, as we build our understanding together.

Mortgage Burners

Historically, hogs were known as “mortgage burners” on diversified farms. Hog production provided a quick income to pay the bills. This has been especially important for beginning and young farmers who have more labor than capital. Hog production was a way into farming and eventually buying land. The future of family-farm agriculture depends upon the young and beginning farmers being able to get a start in farming.

Right now, hogs have become “mortgage makers.” On some farms, new buildings for hog production have created debt that can't be managed with the record low hog prices of the past year and a half. In this short period of time, many hog farmers have lost all their savings and equity. This means that farmers are not just facing a year without a new truck, as some who take the crisis lightly say. Some farmers are facing the possible loss of the land that was farmed by their great grandparents.

Memories of the 1980s

The current crisis reminds many people of the state of agriculture and family farms in the 1980's. Farmers are 10 to 15 years older now; the Rural Concern

Hotline received 150 more calls in October of 1998 than in October of 1985, the height of the farm crisis. Fewer farmers are organizing and speaking out now compared to the 1980s. The Farm and Country section of the April 18th Des Moines Sunday Register featured several comparisons of the two crises.

Why the low prices?

We have all heard many theories for why the hog market prices went to historic lows. Some say overproduction, others say the depressed Asian markets are to blame. Others think that it is just a normal part of agriculture. However, many farmers believe that this is not just a “down cycle,” but rather a symptom of a larger problem due to the current structure of agriculture. It is becoming increasingly difficult for independent producers to compete in agriculture. There is a strong belief that the playing field is not level.

Growing concentration and vertical integration of the livestock industry means that larger corporate hog farms are rapidly expanding while smaller producers are being forced out of business by the record low market prices.

Although Iowa has an anti-corporate farming law, many corporations that can't own land contract with Iowa producers to raise their hogs. The corporations that slaughter and process their own hogs don't sell at the current low market prices—they sell the processed product. Grocery-store pork prices are not moving lower as the hog prices go down. It is said that the larger production entities sell at higher contract prices that are not reported, thus depressing the market, and providing record profits for packers. The Iowa legislature just passed a mandatory price-reporting bill, which will require packers to report the prices that they are paying through those contracts. This law will go into effect in July.

Meanwhile out on the Farm

Meanwhile family farm hog producers are going out of business by the hundreds. Many people are criticizing the federal government for not enforcing anti-trust legislation. What is happening with the hog industry is feared to be an



example of most of agriculture: there will only be opportunities for family farmers if they are in a contractual agreement with a corporation that controls seed, inputs, markets and processing.

We need to talk more with the farmers in our communities; and keep informing each other about these issues. A farmer I interviewed recently said, “The only thing I'm sure of is that after this, agriculture in Iowa will never be the same.”

We are at a crossroads, and I think that our next step is to face the question: Who will control and benefit from hog and all agricultural production in Iowa in the future? Just because agriculture is changing, doesn't mean it has to be an inevitable change for the worse. Why can't we, as Iowans, create the kind of agriculture that protects and enhances our families and communities?

Register Reports Higher Salmonella Contamination as Hog Lots Get Larger

The Des Moines Register reported on Monday, April 19, 1999 that “About 44 percent of the hogs produced by large operations [with more than 7,500 hogs] in such states as North Carolina and Georgia are contaminated with salmonella bacteria...” This compares with nine percent on farms in the midwest with fewer than 1,000 head. As the size of the operation gets bigger, the percent of contamination gets larger in both the midwest and the southeast. The percent contamination in large operations in the midwest is 24 percent.

Meetings Discuss Alternatives for Iowa Agriculture

Women, Food and Agriculture Join Together

by *Sadja*

With our heads tipped up to the sky, we admired the smooth bark of a black cherry trees while our fingertips examined the rough bark of its trunk. As it was only March 26, leaves weren't out yet, but the warm winds and the cool smell after a light rain hinted to us that it would not be long until spring beauties and Virginia water leaf sprinkled the forest earth.

Twenty of us—all women—all curious and genuinely concerned about the future of agriculture gathered together at Springbrook to focus on shared goals.

As a first-timer, with no agriculture background and very little science at all, I didn't have any idea what to expect. What would be discussed? Would I be able to keep up? Contribute? Would I know what they were talking about? My concerns soon subsided when I realized that indeed there were a diverse array of skills and backgrounds. We shared common ground beyond just our gender and concern about the current state of agriculture.

Every woman contributed her knowledge and perspective to the numerous topics discussed: world-wide issues, current news, information sources, past and current and future events, Community Supported Agriculture, food prices, organic foods, livestock, hog farmers, educational programs and so much more.

I learned the names of most everyone and who to call for what advice: knitting, chickens, women's health, gardening, orchards, etc. I learned that big corporate farms are crushing smaller family farms and disturbing lives as well as prices. I came to understand the value of organic vegetables in terms of how they are produced. I learned that "Organics don't support meth!" Most important, I realized that whether or not I followed all the topics, my presence and support is significant to the success of the network.

Long before I left, the overall message rang clear, "Together as a network, we can make our joined voices heard and bring our concerns and advice about agricultural issues to public awareness as well as government decision makers."

WFAN Meets with Secretary Judge

by *Denise O'Brien*

On March 3, Donna Bauer, Danielle Wirth, Cyndy Hyde and Denise O'Brien met with Patty Judge, Iowa's Secretary of Agriculture. We each spoke to issues that were of particular interest.

Cyndy talked about how food lunch programs could be a way of getting good local food to our children as well as an educational tool for nutrition.

Donna spoke of how Audubon County Family Farmers have grouped together to sell their products. She also discussed meeting with the school dietitian in Audubon and with Mark Halverson, Senator Harkin's aide, about selling local meat to schools. She suggested that Secretary Judge support a pilot project in Audubon County that would allow farmers to sell to the school system.

Danielle focussed about being a consumer and an educator in the community college system. She spoke of her students' interest in being farmers or buying their food directly from farmers.

Denise envisioned a new agriculture where local food supplies would be prevalent and where the countryside would be populated with small farms. "We have to build a new system to help Iowa remain the kind of state we want it to be."

Patty Judge explained the Governor's initiative to make Iowa the "food capitol." She spoke of the project "Taste of Iowa" to promote the eating of Iowa food by Iowans. Promotional materials will identify Iowa products on menus. She also talked of the food systems task force (see next story).

Earlier in the year she had met with another group including Jan Libbey, Kamyar Enshayan, Gary Huber and Mary Swala Holmes about local food systems.

Judge's outreach coordinator, Cornelia Murphy, asked if we might help her develop educational materials to send out to students who request information about agriculture. Donna offered to help and we recommended Shelly Gradwell as a good resource.

We focussed on the positive and identified a number of people working on the issue of local food systems. We were strong on a different vision for agriculture and offered our help.

Task Force on Local Food Systems

by *Denise O'Brien*

On April 16th, sixteen people from around the state met at the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) to discuss Iowans eating Iowa-grown food. This task force, called together by Secretary of Agriculture Patty Judge began the process of looking at issues involving growing and processing food in Iowa.

State Horticulturist Mike Bevins introduced the facilitator, Mike Thompson, of the Iowa Mediation Service. Once everyone had introduced themselves Thompson led people through a process of visioning what type of Iowa participants would like to see in the future.

Participants included producers, food brokers, institutional food buyers, extension educators and people interested in building a vital rural economy through local food growing and purchasing. The task force will meet several times to formulate recommendations to submit to IDALS for implementation. Members were told that Neil Hamilton, Drake Law Professor and local food advocate, had met with Governor Vilsack and that a Food Policy Council was in the works.

The next meeting of the task force will be May 3rd. Jan Libbey and Denise O'Brien, active WFAN members, are a part of the task force.

What's Cooking ...Zucchini?

A spiral bound, colorfully laminated cookbook features 140 zucchini recipes, along with 45 other recipes for acorn, butternut, and spaghetti squash. A free packet of zucchini seeds will be included with every order. To order, send \$10.00, shipping is included, to Linda K. Howard, 750 NE 108th St., Runnells, IA 50237. A portion of the proceeds will be donated to the Multiple Sclerosis Society.

Microenterprise Project Brings Farmers Together

by Gail Hutchison and Joanne Nelson

Women, Food and Agriculture received a grant from the Kellogg Foundation to hold three workshops to explore and discuss entrepreneurship and microenterprise development. The first of the three was held in Audubon, Iowa in December and January. A report of that meeting appeared in the last issue of this newsletter. The second was held in Solon, Iowa where two meetings were held and a third is planned.

Eight women attended the first session in Solon. Workbook exercises were helpful in providing concrete ways to think about and organize our resources and assets. However, it was clear that the women who attended were hungry for mutual support and a forum for sharing information and gathering cooperative resources. We the participants directed the workshop into the areas where we felt we had the most need. A follow up meeting has been planned to address

such basic issues as accounting techniques and tax information. The group has already planned an independent meeting for addressing our own needs within our region and will be meeting on April 6th to organize our interests and plan ways to meet our needs from within the group.

One of the richest qualities of the encounter was an awareness that we had so many ways to develop our experience and resources within our own group. Many of us come from diverse backgrounds. About half of the group grew up in the city; some came from traditional farm backgrounds. Some had land in the hundreds of acres, others only a few acres; some were raising livestock and poultry, others into growing produce and herbs; some already had experience in managing a home-based business, others were just beginning. We were different ages, educational backgrounds, at different stages in our lives and had varying

family situations and responsibilities. Yet, all of us came together out of a common sense of attachment to the earth and a desire to develop that relationship in ways that were healthy for us and for our pieces of land. Rather than dividing us, our varying backgrounds and conditions gave us the opportunity to blend our strengths - and our temporary lacks - in ways that were mutually supportive. We are hoping to maintain the contacts we have formed through Women, Food and Agriculture and hope to continue our relationship with each other.

(Editor's note: The eastern Iowa group, still searching for a name, met again on April 6th and plans to continue to meet monthly. They are planning a meeting to talk about financing, bookkeeping and whatever skills we will need to become "business women.." This project was funded by the W.K. Kellogg Foundation. For further information, contact Denise O'Brien at 712-243-5752.)

Field Day will Take in Des Moines Farmers Market

Take a Mid-summer Break to Renew your Gardening Spirits

So often we get so enmeshed in the work of our own gardens we don't take the time to enjoy the work of others. This is your opportunity to spend a full glorious summer day with friends and learning about the work of others.

The Iowa Network for Community Agriculture (INCA) Summer Field Day will visit Des Moines' Downtown Farmers' Market and tour three community gardens on Saturday July 10.

Park at the City Ramp behind the Federal Building. Take the 3rd Ave exit off of I-235 and it will take you to the ramp between Court Ave and Nollen Plaza. It is free parking all day.

10:00am — Meet at Nollen Plaza across from the Civic Center. We will talk with Deb Burger who helps plan and promote the Market for the Downtown Partnership. She is also an INCA member.

11:45am — Meet at Larry Cleverly's stand at the corner of 2nd Ave and Court Ave. From there we will car pool to the

Soul Food Cafe for lunch.

1:30-3:30pm — Teva Dawson will give us a tour of three diverse community gardens she is working with as part of Des Moines' Park and Recreation Department. Teva is also an INCA member.

4-6:00pm — After the community gardens, those who wish are invited to Angela Tedesco's INCA/PFI Field Day at her new location. Angela's farm is on highway 17 at Granger, which exits off highway 141.

Reminder: It is a long day so you may want to bring a water bottle and a few snacks for along the way.

INCA is a network of people who are consumers and people who are producers of agricultural products. INCA has come together in response to the needs of a growing number of community supported agriculture and local food systems in Iowa.

Please e-mail or call Gary Guthrie so we know how many to expect for lunch (I need to know exactly how many want the meat option for lunch. Lunch is

black-eyed peas/rice, cornbread, and mixed greens with sweet potato pie. Meat options are chicken or bbq ribs) at nguthrie@iastate.edu or 515-382-3117 by July 1st!

Growing Community

(Community, continued from page 1)

will have a student intern from ISU Department of Horticulture this summer.

The community gardening program is starting its second gardening season. We look forward to aiding more diverse groups in the future. Join us on July 10th for a tour of three of our community gardens as a part of INCA's field day this summer. Contact Gary T. Guthrie 515-382-3117 or nguthrie@iastate.edu for more information about the activities of INCA's field day. If you would like to learn more about our program and how you can be involved in Des Moines or your community, please contact Teva Dawson, Community Gardening Coordinator at the Des Moines Botanical Center, 515-242-2934 or TevaD@aol.com.

**Women, Food
& Agriculture
Network**

A Tides Center Project
RR 2, Box 79
Atlantic, IA 50022

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sustainable communities and environmental integrity.

Address Service Requested

Let's keep connected:

Women, Food and Agriculture Network

Membership in Women, Food and Agriculture is either \$30 or \$10 (your choice). Fill out the form below and we will sign you up. This newsletter is a benefit of membership. We are a network of women with food, agricultural, environmental and economic concerns. Please share your thoughts, ideas, successes, interests, and solutions with us.

Enclosed is \$30 for my membership.

I have the following to contribute

Enclosed is \$10 for my membership.

Name _____

Phone _____

Organization _____

Fax _____

(if you are joining as a representative of a group)

Address _____

E-mail _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Please mail this form to:

Women, Food & Agriculture
RR 2, Box 79
Atlantic, IA 50022