Farmers Markets' Contributions to Sustainable Food and Farming Systems: "Top Ten" Lessons from Michigan



David Conner, Susan Smalley, Kathryn Colasanti, Brent Ross

the c.s. mott group

Michigan State

University

1. Farmers markets bring many potential benefits to farmers and their communities



2. Farmers markets are an increasingly important part of Michigan's food and agricultural system and more groups and communities are working to foster them.



3. Rapid Market Assessments have helped many markets understand their customers.











4. Hoop houses can provide fresh products earlier and later in the season.



5. Focus groups: perceived lack of high quality produce, convenience and welcoming atmosphere are key obstacles.













8 AM to 5 PM

8. Recommended marketing practices



9. Increase the number and diversity of farmer-vendors



10. Roles for agricultural professionals









For More Information

- www.mottgroup.msu.edu
- www.farmersmarkets.msu.edu
- www.msuorganicfarm.org



Thank you!

David S. Conner, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor
C.S. Mott Group for
Sustainable Food Systems
Department of CARRS
Michigan State University
East Lansing MI 48823
Voice: 517-353-1914

the c.s. mott group

connerd@msu.edu

Susan B. Smalley, Ph.D.
Director
C.S. Mott Group for
Sustainable Food Systems
Department of CARRS
Michigan State University
East Lansing MI 48823
smalley3@msu.edu

