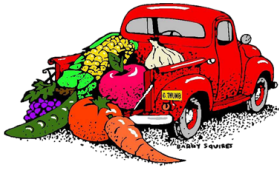


# Mendocino County Farmers' Market Association

## May E-News



Become a Friend of your local Market on Facebook and Receive Market Updates. Click on the "f" below.

-  Fort Bragg Market
-  Laytonville Market
-  Mendocino Market
-  Boonville Market
-  Redwood Valley Market
-  Ukiah, Saturday Market
-  Willits Market

### Plastic Bag Law Won't Affect Farmers Markets

Plastic bags are on their way out in Mendocino County, but the ordinance recently passed by the Board of Supervisors does not affect bags used at farmers markets, according to Supervisor John McCowen.

McCowen wrote to General Manager Scott Cratty, "I think everyone is in agreement that the ordinance would not apply to Farmer's Markets in any case until the second phase of the ordinance kicks in 18 months from now." At that time, the question may come up again, but MCFARM will definitely

### Cottage Food Law Would Make it Easier to Prepare Value-Added Foods for Market

AB1616, the California Cottage Food Bill, has been progressing through committee with unanimous support this spring. The new law would make it possible to produce popular market items at home. Current law requires that all processed food for sale be prepared in a permitted kitchen, a major obstacle to small farmers and market vendors where it is difficult to find such a kitchen available for short-term use. Even bake-sales are illegal in California under current law.

The new cottage food law would change that, allowing home producers of "non-potentially hazardous foods" to take their products to market. "Potentially hazardous foods" include anything made with meat, dairy products (except as ingredients in doughs), and canned low-acid foods. The new law would allow home production for sale of baked goods of all kinds (except those with meat or cheese fillings), jams and jellies, dried nuts, chocolate covered non-perishables, fruit pies, fruit or vegetable empanadas or tamales, kombucha, and other products.

Cottage food producers would have to register with their local public health agency, pay a fee to cover costs of registration, and meet certain simple health and sanitation requirements in conducting their operations. A full copy of the text of the bill, along with legislative history to date, can be found at [http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill\\_id=201120120AB1616&search\\_keywords](http://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/faces/billNavClient.xhtml?bill_id=201120120AB1616&search_keywords)

### Summer Is the Time to Learn How to Produce Winter Crops: Register Now for John Richardson's Workshops

The biggest niche market in Mendocino County, we argued last newsletter, is winter vegetables. So far our county is self-sufficient in cannabis, with a bit for the export market, too. Not so much winter vegetables, for which there is an even higher demand. And summer is the time to start thinking and planning for winter production.

**June 2 and 17th**, John Richardson, who has been farming here for thirty years and has a wealth of

...  
be part of the  
discussion.

**Quick Links...**  
[MCFARM Website](#)

[2012 MCFARM  
Application](#)

[CPC Application](#)

[Mendocino County Local  
Food Guide](#)

[Farmers' Green Exchange](#)

experience with winter production, will be doing two workshops, the first on the coast, the second inland, on the what, when and how of production for winter and spring markets. Susan Lightfoot will also present information she has been gathering on opportunities for selling to local restaurants and institutions.

[For more information click here](#)

Or write John directly at [hypsizigus@yahoo.com](mailto:hypsizigus@yahoo.com).

**Cock-A-Doodle-Do! Small Scale Poultry Production  
Workshop**

(buy, sell, trade tools, seeds, equipment, etc.)

## Reminder! It's Time to Reapply to MCFARM

If you haven't renewed your membership, now is the time to do so. Angela will be processing applications as quickly as possible, but in the rush to get ready for summer markets, she will have a lot to do.

You can find a Vendor Application linked above. Agricultural producers should also go to the Agricultural Commission on Low Gap Road in Ukiah to fill out necessary paperwork and pay fees. Food vendors should check with Environmental Health for necessary permits.

Remember, all your paperwork has to be in order for you to begin the season. And you should check with the manager of each market you intend to sell at to make sure there is room. With the new fines for violations of the farmers market rules, it is all the more important to get the paperwork in order before you come to market.

# Cock-A-Doodle-Do!



*Learn to raise your own*

## HERITAGE POULTRY

**June 9<sup>th</sup> Workshop in Willits, CA**

Saturday, 9am-4pm at the Little Lake Grange

### **Backyard Heritage Poultry Intensive:**

*A workshop for home poultry enthusiasts and small, sustainable farmers*

*Raise your own poultry for personal use or for sale! Learn how to breed, reproduce and raise standard bred poultry for enjoyment and food (meat/egg) purposes. Sustainable husbandry, species preservation and care will be taught. You'll learn how to identify breeds, how to select and raise them legally and safely, and how to strategically market your poultry for a small farm profit! Appropriate for all skill levels.*

Taught by Jim Adkins from the International Center for Poultry (tel: 209-890-5326)

Co-sponsored by Polcum Springs ([www.palcumsprings.net](http://www.palcumsprings.net)) & The Little Lake Grange

Pre-registration: \$89 includes lunch. \$100 at the door.

**FOR INFO & TO REGISTER: [WWW.CENTERFORPOULTRY.COM](http://WWW.CENTERFORPOULTRY.COM)**

For more information and to register, [click here](#) or contact Alison Pernell at Polcum Springs, [alison@palcumsprings.net](mailto:alison@palcumsprings.net).

### E-News Submittals

Have something to submit to the MCFARM E-news? Articles and events may be submitted to [foley.mw@gmail.com](mailto:foley.mw@gmail.com) by the 7th of each month for inclusion.

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