

**From:** David Smith <beggin4bacon190@yahoo.com>  
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**To:** ATR-Agricultural Workshops <agriculturalworkshops@usdoj.gov>  
**Subject:**

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Hello, my name is David L. Smith and I'm the President of the Shelton Farmers Market.

I have several concerns regarding our food chain including food safety, transportation of, quality and economics of.

Food Safety - bacteria and food borne illness is on the rise, including but not limited to; e-coli, salmonella etc. The reason for this is too much volume can create an insufficient inspection and detection atmosphere. Smaller is really better.

Transportation of food - when food is harvested locally it is fresher. It has less of a carbon foot print because it isn't shipped across the country. It is handled less, fewer middle men, usually from the farmer to you.

Quality - locally grown food is usually better for you because of freshness, growing standards used by small local farmers, and as mentioned above fewer people handling the food i.e., shippers, receivers, warehouses etc.

Economics of - the persons involved with the production of, transportation of and sales of the food should be the only ones who profit not someone in an office who wouldn't know a carrot from a rutabaga. That may sound extreme but so is the impact of quality food on our society. We as a people need to make sure that in get the most benefit from our food that we eat is that it is fresh, of good quality and locally grown.

Thank you for your consideration -

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