

Survey for Farmers Regarding
Farmers' Markets, Food Safety Policies, and local Boards of Health

INTRODUCTION

CISA is working to understand relationships between farmers' markets and local Boards of Health, so as to facilitate the sale of locally grown products at markets. We would like to understand your experiences with your local Boards of Health and their food safety regulations as they relate to farmers' markets. This survey may be completed anonymously.

1. Which best describes your job/role?
 - a. Farmer
 - b. Producer of value-added products
 - c. Other (please specify)

2. What product/s do you sell at the farmers' market? (check all that apply)
 - a. Raw, unprocessed vegetables/fruits
 - b. Honey or maple products
 - c. Wine
 - d. Cheese or yogurt
 - e. Milk
 - f. Meat/poultry
 - g. Eggs
 - h. Packaged foods from the farm (such as bagged, chopped lettuce)
 - i. Hot prepared food
 - j. Other value-added products (please specify)
 - k. Other (please specify)

3. Please list the towns in which you sell at farmers' market or manage a market.

4. How have Board of Health regulations at farmers' markets impacted your farm or market with regards to...

	Negative Impact	Some impact	No Impact	Not sure
Sampling				
Demonstrations				
Labeling of product				
Selling otentially hazardous food, such as meat, dairy, etc.				
Selling non-potentially				

hazardous food (eg, whole, unprocessed vegetables)				
Facilities required at farmers' markets (eg, hand-washing stations)				
Storage of food at farmers' markets (eg, refrigeration).				
Transportation of food to farmers' markets				
On-farm facilities				

5. What are your biggest challenges with food safety regulations from local Boards of Health? Check all that apply.
 - a. Inconsistency between state and local BoH regulations
 - b. Inconsistency between BoH regulations between towns
 - c. Inconsistency in how regulations are enforced
 - d. Lack of agriculture-specific knowledge on the part of those creating/enforcing regulations
 - e. My own lack of knowledge of the regulations
 - f. Regulations are unclear and/or do not make sense
 - g. Regulations are unnecessarily burdensome and onerous
 - h. I do not have any challenges with the regulations
 - i. Other (please specify)

6. Please describe any experiences complying with varying, onerous, or complex regulations. Mentioning specific policies, regulations, or towns helps us to better identify best practices and areas for improvement.

7. Please describe any experiences where your local Board of Health has been great to work with and why (i.e. responsive to your comments and concerns, respectful, etc).

8. In the space below, please provide any additional information regarding your experience, opinions, questions, comments, or concerns about local BoH and food safety regulations in Massachusetts.

9. Are you available to talk in more detail about these issues, or interested in helping CISA create model policies for Boards of Health?

10. Name

Farm Name

Phone Number

Email

(ALL OPTIONAL)