Innovative Methods for Expanding the Growing Season

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The Many Faces of Know Your Farmer Know Your Food

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DCEO Project: Develop Strategies to Expand Production and Utilization of Local Foods

- Identify Obstacles and Bottlenecks in Existing System
- Develop Strategies for overcoming them

Develop an Understanding of the Systems and Processes ➔ Develop an Understanding of System Problems & Obstacles ➔ Develop and Implement Solutions and Strategies
Local Food System Bottlenecks

1. Climate
2. Producer Shortage
3. Producer Market Access
4. Processing Capabilities
5. Pricing Issues
6. Existing Agriculture Industry
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Climate Bottleneck

● Problem: Illinois has a relatively short growing season

● Solutions: Use technology to expand growing season and storage capabilities

● DCEO Projects
  – “The Plant”
  – Waste heat recovery
  – East St. Louis geothermal project
Evaporator, Distillation System and Cooling Tower of Modern Ethanol Plant
COOLING TOWER SYSTEM

C = CIRCULATING COOLING WATER
E = EVAPORATED WATER
W = WINDAGE or DRIFT LOSS
M = MAKEUP WATER
D = DRAWWOFF or BLOWDOWN WATER
The World’s First Industrial Park
Powered Solely by Renewable Energy

- East St. Louis
- Interstate 70 Bridge Reconstruction
- 16-20 Million Gallons/Day of Groundwater
- HUGE geothermal resource

Project Concept: A food hub focused on production, aggregation, processing, packaging and distribution of locally produced food
Questions?