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July 2016

Dear Friends,

The summer growing season and its corresponding market season is in full swing! Despite the overly dry weather, the farmers who are fortunate to have irrigation are watering their fields and a diversity of crops are thriving. Fresh, local, and sustainably-grown produce from New Entry farmers have been reaching hundreds of families in the Greater Boston area for three weeks now through our World PEAS Food Hub! Thanks to the Massachusetts Department of Agriculture (MDAR)'s Urban Agriculture grant program, we purchased new roller tables that have maximized our time and efficiency in packing farm shares and other orders so we can get them to our customers as



fast as possible. We are also installing a new cooler to store produce and fruit for larger order and we have installed a new compressor unit and insulation in one of our refrigerated box trucks!



Forum's Pilot Boot Camp! The 9-week session provided valuable training on deepening organizational impact and culminated with a "pitch event" to a large audience at Boston's District Hall where interested organizations, individuals,

and investors learned more about New Entry's goals, impact, and future growth plans. Read more about the event <u>here</u>.

This season, we are also holding monthly contests for our Farm Shareholders that you can find on our <u>Facebook Page</u>. Winners will receive a FREE New Entry T-shirt! If you haven't yet purchased a Farm Share yet but would like to, we offer many options at prorated prices. Check out our website for more information about the World PEAS CSA.

Farmers and the general public also have the opportunity for on-site learning at our Incubator Training Farm in Dracut, MA. We host bi-weekly field workshops on an array of topics from irrigation to cover cropping. The schedule and topics can be found on our website. If you plan on attending, please contact Janel Wright.



It's a busy time of year and we encourage everyone to take advantage of fresh, locally grown food grown by your neighborhood farmers! Offer to volunteer on a farm, be sure to support your local farm stands, farmers' markets, farm share programs, and ask for locally grown food at your local grocers and restaurants. Growing food close to home not only delicious, but it supports all the people working so hard to steward our landscapes and care for our soils! Enjoy!

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Upcoming Events

June 30 - Explore Farming Workshop, Lowell Office, 5-7 pm, Free

July 8 - <u>Protecting and Preventing Your Livestock from Disease</u>, 1:30-4:30pm, Tufts Cummings School, 200 Westboro Road, North Grafton, MA.

July 12 - Field Workshop: Weed Management: Part 2, 4-6 pm, Smith-Healy Farm, 300 Jones Ave, Dracut, MA

July 14 - 2016 Sheep & Goat Parasite Control Workshop & Field Day, 10 am - 6:30 pm, University of Rhode Island

August 9 - <u>Field Workshop: Cover Cropping</u>, 4-6 pm, Ogonowski Memorial Fields, 126 Jones Ave, Dracut, MA

August 18 - <u>9th Annual Farm Tour</u>, 4:30-7 pm, free, Ogonowski Memorial Fields, 126 Jones Ave, Dracut, MA

New Entry is Hiring!

Join an entrepreneurial team and help to grow a vibrant and resilient local and regional food system!



New Entry has 4 full-time, year-round positions open:

- Finance and Grants Manager (based in Lowell),
- National Technical Assistance Coordinator (new position, based in Boston),
- Incubator Farm Manager (based in Lowell)
- Americorps VISTA Volunteer Recruitment and Process Facilitator (based in Lowell)

We offer competitive salaries, generous benefits, and the experience of making a positive impact in our local, regional, and national food systems. Participants from diverse backgrounds are strongly encouraged to apply. Cross-cultural experience required. We are looking to fill these positions as soon as possible. Positions are open until suitable candidates are identified. Please click on job titles to see full descriptions and to apply.

World PEAS Food Hub Offers SNAP-eligible Farm Shares!

Share. Eligible individuals will receive weekly shares worth \$25 of fresh produce and fruit at a cost of \$10 deducted from their SNAP benefits. Click <u>here</u> for more information and to sign up.



Visit our <u>online store</u> to view all the delectable options, and purchase your World PEAS Farm Share today! We offer pro-rated shares and a Fall Share that starts in September. Contact us at (978) 654-6745 or <u>email</u> us for more information.

Farmer Profile: Margaret Gichuki



Margaret Gichuki is starting her first farming season at New Entry's Incubator Farm Site after graduating from our Farm Business Planning Course in March 2016. Margaret is originally from Kenya and has been farming her entire life! She has been living in Lowell for 10 years with her family.

Margaret learned about New Entry through a colleague and long-time New Entry farmer that you may be familiar with - Seona Ngufor Ban! Margaret and Seona work together at their off-farm jobs. Margaret expressed how much she missed farming when Seona told her about our programs and encouraged her to join the New Entry program.

This year, Margaret will be growing an assortment of beans, corn, and salad greens that she is selling to her African community this year. After her three years on the incubator farm, she hopes to find her own farmland through our <u>Farmland Matching Service</u> and expand her markets. Margaret is off to a great start this season and she looks forward to sharing the bounty of her harvest with members of her community who will treasure a taste of "home."

Read Margaret's full bio here.

New Entry Completes Social Innovation Forum's Pilot Boot Camp!



Camp Pilot program for innovative nonprofit organizations working in the field of environmental sustainability. The Social Innovation Forum's (SIF) Boot Camp Pilot was sponsored by the Schraft Charitable Trust and provided an opportunity for New Entry and other participating nonprofit organizations to increase our visibility, expand our networks, and improve our

organizational capacity.

Over the course of the program, Jennifer attended a series of six half-day sessions that focused on topics such as communication and messaging, performance measurement, fundraising, and



governance. The program concluded on June 23rd with a "pitch event" where Jennifer shared a 3-minute overview of New Entry's programs, goals, results, and impact to an audience of 80 people interested in the topic of sustainability.

Experienced business and nonprofit leaders from the Social Innovation Forum network



joined SIF staff to deliver content and provide pro bono services to participants. New Entry was partnered with two amazing mentors, Stephanie Connaughton and Emilie Kendall, who provided Jennifer with guidance and support throughout the program and assisted in development of a two-page prospectus and supported the pitch presentation.

New Entry is now fully equipped with a set of valuable tools

to use as we move to the next stage of our work! Check out the <u>presentation</u> and <u>prospectus</u> here. Feel free to contact <u>Jennifer</u> if you are interested in learning more about how you can partner with New Entry to support our sustainability goals for the future!

Help New Entry Sustainable Farming Project reach 2,000 followers on Facebook! We'll throw back tips, advice, news, events, inspiration and insight about local agriculture, food and policy topics, and great info for farmers and eaters. We often have contests



with prizes on our page as well. If you are already like us, then tell a friend!

We encourage you to Like, comment on, or share New Entry's posts. Happy Networking!

World PEAS Farm Share Pickups at Tufts University

New Entry has been a program of Tufts
University's Friedman School of Nutrition Science
and Policy since our inception in 1998. This year,



our World PEAS CSA has two drop off sites at Tufts: the Medford campus on Tuesdays and the Tufts Friedman School in Chinatown on Tuesdays as well. It's not too late to sign up for a share; check out our available options and sign up today!

Are You Looking For An Outlet For Your Extra Produce?



Spoiler Alert is a B2B online platform that allows farms to sell or donate their excess product, seconds, and "ugly" produce. Post your surplus food to the entire Spoiler Alert community, or directly notify your current nonprofit partners of available product.

It's free to join, and farmers are using the platform to coordinate gleaning programs, sell their seconds, and take advantage of tax

savings for food donations. Learn how <u>Spoiler Alert</u> can help you strengthen your local food system.

There are many other great organizations in the Greater Boston Area also working on the growing field of "Food Rescue." If you don't have the time or labor to harvest excess crops or you had a bumper crop and don't have the market to sell, but would like to be sure that your high quality, fresh and local food doesn't go to waste, you can always

food pantries, food banks, and hundreds of other locations that need access to quality foods.



New Entry Welcomes a New Intern!



This year, the World PEAS Food Hub will host student intern, Sarah Lindner. Sarah is a sophomore at the University of Vermont studying Environmental Science. She has a passion and interest in sustainable agriculture and local food systems. Sarah will be supporting the weekly Farm Share newsletters, packing shares at the Food Hub, and talking with farmers to create profiles and feature them in outreach materials. Sarah is super enthusiastic and eager to learn more

about nonprofits and organizational development. You can welcome Sarah here.

Choose Fresh and Local License Plate

We did it! Thanks to your support, the <u>Choose Fresh & Local license plate</u> will be on the road and available at the RMV in a few weeks (we hope!)! If you weren't able to sign up



before January, it's not too late to fillout an <u>interest form</u> or encourage others to do the same! By filling out the interest form, we will personally alert you when the plates are available for purchase directly from the RMV this summer. We have a short-term goal of getting to 3,000 plates in the next couple of years.

The funds raised from these plates will support New Entry's work with new and beginning farmers on our incubator farms and beyond, including training and resources as well as continuing to develop a strong statewide Beginning Farmer Network. They will also help Mass Farmers Markets continue to support farmers markets in the state. Additionally, having these plates on the road will continue to raise awareness of local agriculture in Massachusetts and help build strong markets for farmers statewide.

it's an easy way to contribute (tax-deductible charitable donation) and show your support of local food, farmers, and markets! Fill out an <u>interest form</u> today. Visit our website to find out <u>how it works</u> - THANK YOU!

Our Mission



Well-trained farmers are key to building sustainable local food systems, and New Entry prepares new and beginning farmers for success through comprehensive training and technical assistance in all aspects of farm production and management. Our mission is to assist multi-cultural individuals with agricultural backgrounds to successfully enter farming in Massachusetts.

The broader goals of New Entry are to support the vitality and sustainability of the

region's agriculture, to build long term economic self-reliance and food security among participants and their communities, and to expand access to high-quality, culturally appropriate and locally-grown foods.

To learn more, visit www.nesfp.org.

Get Involved

Join us in helping cultivate and sustain the next generation of farmers who will care for our farmland, supply our markets, provide food to our schools, and contribute to a vibrant local economy in our communities.

Volunteer

Volunteer with New Entry
World PEAS Food Hub at
least two days per week for
the entire season and receive
a weekly CSA Share.

Upcoming Classes



Support local agriculture and get your specialty Choose

Fresh and Local

License Plate today!

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Your tax-deductible donation
is accepted on-line
through: Tufts University's
Friedman School of
Nutrition Science and
Policy. Designate the
Friedman School, and New
Entry Sustainable Farming
Project to be sure your gift
supports new farmers.

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We welcome your feedback!

Please write to nesfp@tufts.edu with any feedback or topics you would like us to cover to improve the quality of our newsletter.

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