



**Southern Tier Regional Economic Development Council
COMMUNITY FORUM
Ithaca, NY
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Agriculture Group Ideas

- High taxes a challenge – farm and business
 - Workman’s Compensation
- Need high value-added products
- Fear loss of processing facilities
 - Dairy, livestock and food crops
- Animal processing – need facilities
- Asset: good grasslands (livestock)
 - Biofuels
 - Grass fed meat – higher value
- Tax incentives for NY products:
 - Pride of NY
- General incentives for local grown
- Enhance Cooperative Extension
- Regional aggregation hub for marketing
- Promote grassland cultures (biofuel, etc.) to help reduce nutrient loads in Susquehanna
- Support for innovation – farmer training programs
- Promote ag tourism
- Provide access to land for new farmers
- Urban farmer
- Stigma about large farms

- Forest products – capitalize
- Low energy input farming
- Plan land uses between fuel and food
- Expand existing successful ag-related businesses