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