Cultivating Diversity:A Recipe for Organic Opportunity

Lisa Kivirist, Inn Serendipity Farm and B&B (Browntown, WI)

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State of the Soil

Fresh Crop of New Farmers:

Kim Marsin & Rachel Reklau Sweet Home Organics (St. Charles, IL) www.sweet-home-organics.com

Growth of Women Farmers:

Denise O'Brien Rolling Acres Farm (Atlantic, IA) http://rollingacres.wordpress.com/

Women, Food & Agriculture Network (WFAN) www.wfan.org

Key Ingredients for Tomorrow

1. Innovative Ecopreneurs:

Jordan & Todd Champagne Happy Girl Foods (Big Sur, CA) www.happygirlkitchen.com

Ann Adams & Liz Brensinger Green Heron Tools (New Tripoli, PA) www.greenherontools.com

Erin Schneider & Rob McClure HIlltop Community Farm (LaValle, WI) www.hilltopcommunityfarm.org

Adrienne Fox Powerkraut (Viroqua, WI) www.organicpowerkraut.com

Inn Serendipity Farm and B&B is completely powered by the wind and the sun.

2. Urban Agriculture

Capuchin Soup Kitchen and Earthworks Urban Farm (Detroit, MI) www.cskdetroit.org

Detroit Black Community Food Security Network (Detroit, MI) www.detroitblackfoodsecurity.org

Hantz Farms (Detroit, MI) www.hantzfarmsdetroit.com

Xe Susane Moua City Backyard Farming (St. Paul, MN) www.citybackyardfarming.com

Anna Chan The Lemon Lady (Concord, CA) www.thelemonlady.blogspot.com

Discover your Inner Tomato

Know and understand yourself and your passions and how these elements can work together to craft a fulfilling livelihood that leaves this world a better place. Are you a Brandywine, slowly ripening to yield some of the sweetest fruit? Or are you a Green Zebra: Unique in green striped design, early to ripe and a dash tarter, edgier than most? Whoever you may be — relish and celebrate your uniqueness. — Lisa Kivirist

3. Children Focus

Barb & Dave Perkins Vermont Falley Community Farm (Blue Mounds, WI) www.vermontvalley.com

Nancy Vail & Jared Lawson Pie Ranch (Pescadero, CA) www.pieranch.org



Key Ingredients for Tomorrow

4. Authenticity

Jai & Joel Kellum Kings Hill Farm (Mineral Point, WI) kingshillfarm@gmail.com

Seth Kroeck Crystal Spring Farms (Brunswick, ME) www.crystalspringcsa.com

Jamie Collins Serendipity Farms (Aromas, CA) www.serendipity-organic-farm.com

5. Diversification

Carrie Johnson & Kristi Langhus Argyle Fiber Mill (Argyle, WI) www.argylefibermill.com

All-electric CitiCar, completely recharged by the sun with a photovoltaic system.

Resources

Rural Renaissance: Renewing the Quest for the Good Life, by Lisa Kivirist and John Ivanko

ECOpreneuring: Putting Purpose and the Planet before Profits, by Lisa Kivirist and John Ivanko

Edible Earth: Savoring the Good Life with Vegetarian Recipes from Inn Serendipity by Lisa Kivirist and John Ivanko

Midwest Organic & Sustainable Education Service (MOSES) Website: www.mosesorganic.org
Hosts the nation's largest organic farming conference; mentor program, Rural Women's Project focuses on outreach toward women farmers and food-based ecopreneurs.

Renewing the Countryside

Website: www.renewingthecountryside.org Aims to strengthen rural areas by highlighting the initiatives and projects of rural communities, farmers, artists, entrepreneurs, educators, and activists.

About Inn Serendipity® Bed & Breakfast and Farm

Completely powered by the wind and sun, the award-winning Inn Serendipity is among the "Top 10 ecodestinations in North America", Travel Green Wisconsin and Green Routes certified, and earned "5 Green Stars" from Eco Hotels of the World. The Inn features hearty vegetarian breakffasts prepared with ingredients mostly harvested from the Inn's organic gardens. The innkeepersauthors' book, Rural Renaissance, details their journey on their 5.5 acre farmstead, located outside Monroe, Wisconsin, and contains both personal stories and practical resources. www.innserendipity.com



National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (NSAC):

Website: www.sustainableagriculture.net Represents over 80 grassroots sustainable agriculture groups nationwide on Capitol Hill. Free "Farm & Agriculture Resources for Media (FARM)" toolkit on website (under "Take Action"). Sends helpful e-mail newsletter synthesizing federal policy issues related to sustainable and organic agriculture (sign up on website).

Midwest Renewable Energy Association (MREA):

Website: www.the-mrea.org

Organizes world's largest renewable energy and sustainbale living Fair every June.

National Farm to School Network:

Website: www.farmtoschool.org

Food Corps:

Website: www.food-corps.org