
NOTES, QUOTES AND RUMINATIONS

Local food (also regional food or food patriotism) or the local food movement is a “collaborative effort to build more locally based, self-reliant food economies—one in which sustainable food production, processing, distribution and consumption is integrated to enhance the economic, environmental and social health of a particular place” and is considered to be a part of the broader sustainability movement. It is part of the concept of local purchasing and local economies, a preference to buy locally produced goods and services. Those who prefer to eat locally grown/produced food sometimes call themselves “localvores” or locavores.

“Should I assume that I have a God-given right to access the entire earth’s bounty, however far away some of its produce is grown?” asks ethnobotanist Gary Paul Nabhan in his 2002 memoir, *Coming Home to Eat: The Pleasures and Politics of Local Foods*.

Commitment to eating locally... “is probably driven by three things. The first is the taste of live food; the second is my relation to frugality; the third is my deep concern about the state of the planet.”—Columbia University nutritionist Joan Dye Gussow writes in her 2001 memoir, *This Organic Life*.

“Using sophisticated machinery and powerful chemicals, a farmer today can produce 120 bushels of corn an acre, twice the yield produced in 1960. For consumers, this increased efficiency has meant lower costs for food. But it also means that when inflation is taken into account, a farmer makes less on his crop and needs to work twice as many acres to survive, which has driven the trend toward larger agricultural businesses,” said Terry Francl, an economist with the American Farm Bureau in Park Ridge, IL

“Look at the numbers and really analyze it before they get into it and make sure that they realize the impacts with increasing corn prices and other input prices. Make sure you look into it and really determine the economic feasibility before you move forward.” Audrey Luke-Morgan with the College of Agricultural and Environmental Sciences, University of Georgia, on the feasibility of ethanol facilities in Georgia. Corn Prices are at record highs and affecting dairy, poultry, beef, and commodity prices nationwide. Farmers in 2008 are planting 8 percent less corn due to the high price it commands, thus raising prices more.

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