



STATE OF IDAHO



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Farmers and Chefs Connect at Local Foods Event

BOISE - The 2011 Treasure Valley Farmer-Chef Collaborative pairs buyers and sellers to facilitate one-on-one discussions to match buyer needs with available local products. Held in Boise at the Doubletree Riverside Inn on May 10th, this interactive event, fashioned after the popular "speed dating", allows farmers, ranchers, and chefs the unique opportunity to discuss ways to source fresh, local agriculture to local foodservice venues.

The Treasure Valley offers great opportunities for growers to connect with restaurants from a wide variety of dining facilities, ranging from high-end establishments to causal style restaurants. "Local restaurants are eager to capitalize on the growing "locavore movement", the desire to eat local and seasonal foods, by offering unique, seasonal menus featuring only the freshest items available," states Skylar Jett of the Idaho State Department Agriculture. The local food movement has succeeded in driving demand and opportunity for local farmers and the local economy. The Farmer-Chef Collaborative aims to build connections within the community while supporting such movements.

The event will be held at the Doubletree Riverside Inn from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm and costs \$25.00 per agribusiness to attend. Pre-registration is required. For more information, or to register, please contact Skylar Jett at the Idaho State Department of Agriculture at (208) 332-8542 or skylar.jett@agri.idaho.gov

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