

From: Cornell Cooperative Extension Harvest New York on behalf of the New York State
Department of Agriculture and Markets
Date: November 2022

Study of Urban Agriculture Feedback Survey

The New York State Legislature has authorized a study of urban agriculture to be completed by December 22, 2022. The study will be compiled and presented by the New York Department of Agriculture and Markets in collaboration with an urban agriculture work team from the Cornell Cooperative Extension.

The study will identify and illustrate all major forms of urban agriculture currently practiced in urban centers across the state, including, but not limited to, vertical farming, community gardens, and other types of urban farming. While examining the effects that urban agricultural practices and markets have on access to locally grown food, job creation, education opportunities, and impacts on the environment, the study will also include recommendations for legislation and administrative programs intended to advance the positive outcomes associated with all kinds of urban agriculture.

As a stakeholder of urban agriculture in New York, you are invited to provide feedback in response to the following questions. These questions will be discussed live on November 2, 2022 from 11am-2pm EST, but you are encouraged to draft responses to these questions in advance of this meeting and to submit your thoughts to yg88@cornell.edu no later than November 4, 2022 so that they may be included in the study.

Please proceed to the survey, which begins on the following page.

Survey

Each of the following bolded statements represent potential recommendations for the New York State Legislature and Administrators to implement with the purpose of expanding the benefits of urban agriculture. For each recommendation, please consider:

- Does this recommendation resonate with you? Please elaborate on how well this recommendation fits or does not fit the needs of urban agriculture that you encounter.
- How would you envision bringing this recommendation to life? What steps would need to be taken, what would success look like, and what groups should be involved?
- Is this something you have seen in your work? Is this something being done in your area and, if so, what learnings could be applied?

1. Increase coordination and collaboration of urban agricultural systems

<i>Response:</i>

2. Create better access to capital and funding

<i>Response:</i>

3. Promote urban agriculture as a source of community, physical, and social wellbeing
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<i>Response:</i>

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4. Create a regulatory environment that is friendly to urban agriculture by promoting standardized regulation and zoning across the state
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<i>Response:</i>

5. Reduce obstacles to land access for urban farmers

<i>Response:</i>

6. Support business and/or community development

<i>Response:</i>

7. Expand incentives and subsidies for urban growers that extend ecosystems services and increase resilience to environmental shocks

<i>Response:</i>

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8. Increase investment in urban agriculture education to inspire and create the New York food sector workforce of the future

<i>Response:</i>

9. Develop greater access to markets and increase independent and regional distribution capacity

<i>Response:</i>
