

**Extension Strategic priorities/opportunities.
Northeast Extension Directors (6 States)
Survey of your University Cooperative Extension programs.**

Identify what extension in your state is best positioned to do about these needs now (current capacity).

A. Global food security and hunger - Keep America agriculture competitive while ending world hunger:

- Lead the Plant A Row (PAR) for the hungry in our state and donate vegetables and fruits to food pantries and shelters (35 tons donated in 2009)
- Conduct EFNEP & SNAP-Ed programs
- Partner with Maine Agriculture in the Classroom to build awareness for agriculture and food production with teachers.
- Work with food producers to identify new markets
- Working in partnership with UVM on grain for human consumption initiative what was funded by USDA.
- Support local food producers – including the local fishing initiative we recently facilitated by local campaign for native shrimp and fish.
- can increase our reach to needy areas of the world
- provide education on pricing and cost control for farm enterprises
- Field trials and documentation of best management practices effectiveness
- MRTC ability to offer assistance to entrepreneurs and others existing businesses through business and market plan development

B. Climate change -Mitigate and adapt agriculture to variations in climate:

- Work with Sea Grant on education for coastal regions on adaptations.
- Work with agriculture community to adapt to new crops, change in water conditions, pest and disease issues
- Work with schools to bring researched based resources to local students and families on adapting to a changing climate.
- a leader as land-use planning and management and water quality education

- Sea Grant extension addressing fisheries coastal ecology water quality aquaculture and marine ecology
- extension is well-positioned to help vegetable crop growers and others make a switch to field preparation techniques that help reduce problems from excessive precipitation
- integrated pest management program can provide methods and educational programs to growers and others to address variation in tests and cropping systems to variations in climate
- measure wind flow and cooling in barns during hot weather using vaneometers is another methods to maintain animal health and production
- changes in crop cultivars as they are available to address changes in climate
- fuel cells and digesters to provide methane fortunately shale gas is much cheaper than manure gas at this point
- need to demonstrate farm of the future energy-efficient practices to do climate projections
- limited other than through our current research effort to do variety trials –
- programs directed at environmental issues such as nutrient management Climate Master volunteer program

C. Sustainable energy- Secure America's future through renewable biofuels:

- 4-H Power of Wind curriculum being implemented with support of VISTA workers
- Applied research on oil seed crops for bio diesel, grasses for palletized fuel, wood pellet boilers for sustainable energy in small scale commercial buildings.
- extension can help vegetable growers convert to a reduced tillage such as deep zone tillage
- gasification project with Cambridge environmental
- working with the natural resources impact team

D. Food safety - Improve food safety for all Americans:

- Work with small food processing businesses to address food safety concerns
- Conduct HACCP and Better Processing Control Schools for food processors.
- Work closely with media to inform public regarding emerging food safety issues.
- Support Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) education for agricultural producers to meet the requirements of their markets.
- Food preservation education

-training for food service workers search safe and safe register

E .Childhood obesity -Improve nutrition and childhood obesity:

- Conduct We Can! training for educators and health providers to promote childhood physical activity.
- Conduct SNAP-Ed and EFNEP with limited income eligible audiences.
- Build more physical activity into the 4-H program.
- Working with families through EFNEP
- incorporating active living activities and 4-H afterschool programs
- = schools, athletic teams, parents, adults and youth come