**By Dr. Mercola**

The vast majority of the nearly 66 million pigs raised for food in the United States are born and raised in concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs),[1](http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2012/08/21/heritage-breed-pigs-small-farmers.aspx" \l "_edn1) where they are subject to extreme mental and physical anguish, not to mention subject to incredibly unhealthy practices, like the administration of unnecessary low-dose antibiotics and living in their own waste.

Swine CAFOs are notorious not only for their ammonia emissions into the air, which have been called a public health threat linked to decreased lung function, cardiovascular ailments and premature death, but also for drinking water contamination from the massive amounts of animal waste generated.

It could be argued that swine CAFOs are one of the biggest public health nuisances around …

Ironically, the state of Michigan appears to be ambivalent to the damages being caused by giant swine CAFOs, and instead is choosing to target small farmers raising heritage-breed hogs, in humane, sanitary, outdoor conditions that nature intended.

These small farmers, they say, are raising “invasive species” of feral hogs – and they must be stopped at all costs …

**Farmers Raising Pigs Outside of CAFOs Could Face Felony Charges, Jail Time, Large Fines**

On April 1, 2012, the Invasive Species Order (ISO),[2](http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2012/08/21/heritage-breed-pigs-small-farmers.aspx" \l "_edn2) issued by the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), went into effect.

The ISO prohibits anyone in the state from possessing what they define as “invasive species of swine,” which the state says are carriers of many parasites and disease, and a major source of damage to forests, agricultural lands and water resources. MDNR states that by the end of 2011, more than 340 feral swine had been spotted[3](http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2012/08/21/heritage-breed-pigs-small-farmers.aspx" \l "_edn3) … but the ISO does not simply apply to these so-called rogue feral pigs running wild through the forests.

While the dictionary definition of "feral" refers to an animal running wild, Michigan authorities have taken it a step further and extended the definition to include enclosed private hunting preserves and small farms that are raising heritage breed pigs.

There is no genetic test to determine whether the species on these farms are truly invasive, so authorities are basing their cases against these farmers solely on visual observations. MDNR uses this vague description to describe the prohibited hogs, and makes it clear that this does *not* apply to the domestic hogs raised on CAFOs:[4](http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2012/08/21/heritage-breed-pigs-small-farmers.aspx" \l "_edn4)

*"Wild boar, wild hog, wild swine, feral pig, feral hog, feral swine, Old world swine, razorback, eurasian wild boar, Russian wild boar (Sus scrofa Linnaeus). This subsection does not and is not intended to affect sus domestica involved in domestic hog production."*

Other descriptions supplied by the MDNR include such a wide variety of characteristics that virtually any pig other than the familiar pink domestic breed raised on CAFOs could potentially be deemed "feral":

* Erect or folded/floppy ear structure
* Straight or curly tail
* Solid black, wild/grizzled, solid red/brown, black and white spotted, or black and red/brown spotted coat colorations
* "Other characteristics" not currently known to the MDNR

Any farmer or other individual found to be in possession of such a hog could be charged with a felony and subjected to up to two years in jail and a $20,000 fine. But the real rub is that virtually any hog could be technically defined as feral under the MDNR’s outrageous ISO. The Farm-to-Consumer Legal Defense Fund (FTCLDF) explained:[5](http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2012/08/21/heritage-breed-pigs-small-farmers.aspx" \l "_edn5)

*“ … under the [M]DNR's declaratory ruling, the department can determine that a hog is prohibited under the ISO if it possesses physical characteristics common to any pig even if the animal was raised under the husbandry of humans. In other words, all pigs not raised in confinement cannot possess even one illegal DNR characteristic listed in the declaratory ruling; this is impossible since all swine will have at least one DNR characteristic and would therefore be an invasive species and illegal to own.”*

**The Way Hogs Were Designed to be Raised**

In the video above, Joel Salatin of Polyface Farm shows the way hogs *should* be raised. Unfortunately, this is a far cry from what occurs on hog CAFOs.

**Pastured Pork, Illegal?**

What does all of this mean for residents of Michigan? Soon they will be unable to purchase sustainably and humanely grown meat from non-CAFO pigs, like the Mangalitsa "wooly" hogs raised on Baker's Green Acres farm. This particular breed is being raised by only a handful of small farms across the country; whereas more than 2 million pigs are slaughtered each week in the United States, only about 50 of them are Mangalitsas (which have been called the "it" pig by the *New York Times*, as several high-end restaurants and specialty markets have featured the rich, naturally raised meat[6](http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2012/08/21/heritage-breed-pigs-small-farmers.aspx" \l "_edn6)).

But, of course, this issue is about much more than pasture-raised pork from a heritage breed ... it's about your ability, your right, to purchase and consume pure, unadulterated food from small farmers, not CAFOs – a right that continues to be threated for those living in the United States. FTCLDF continued:

*“The ISO is a significant threat to private property rights, freedom of food choice, the ability of small farmers to make a living, and genetic diversity.”*

Interestingly, the Big Pork industry has been planning this anti-feral pig campaign for years, and even bragged about it in a 2010 newsletter.[7](http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2012/08/21/heritage-breed-pigs-small-farmers.aspx" \l "_edn7) It was the same newsletter where they declared a win against the Humane Society of the United States (HSUS) in Ohio, where HSUS was seeking legislation to end the practice of sow gestation stalls (cages so small the sow can't turn around or move).

The Agricultural Leaders of Michigan (ALM), a coalition of agri-business groups including Michigan Pork Producers Association, the Michigan Corn Growers Association, Michigan Allied Poultry Industries, and others, has been instrumental in backing the ISO, and killed an effort in March to have the order delayed. As FTCLDF stated:

*“If the ALM had their way, all farm animals in Michigan would be raised in confinement facilities and there would be no opportunity to purchase animal products from those raising them differently. ALM has been a consistent source of misinformation claiming that swine raised outside are diseased, are a threat to become feral, and are a threat to spread disease to animals raised in confinement.*

*… ALM, like the rest of agri-business, wants only the white pork produced and they want it produced inside of buildings in confinement. If the public stays quiet concerning the ISO, and it's allowed to stand, the right for farmers to raise food animals the way many people want them raised (outdoors and not in confinement) is on the path to becoming illegal.”*

**The ISO is Not a Law, and It Can Still be Rescinded …**

This means we need your help now. MDNR has already begun filing claims against heritage breed hog farmers, a game ranch operator, and a swine pet owner in the state.

But the ISO is not a law; rather, it’s an “action” or “order” that’s been taken by a state agency. Michigan Governor Rick Snyder has the authority to tell MDNR to rescind the ISO, but so far has refused to do so.

Thousands of people have already contacted Governor Snyder’s office to protest the ISO. In March, sixteen Senators and Representatives sent a letter asking Governor Snyder to either rescind the ISO or amend it so it only applies to feral swine (pigs running at large outside fences), "not those under the husbandry of humans and inside a fence,"[8](http://articles.mercola.com/sites/articles/archive/2012/08/21/heritage-breed-pigs-small-farmers.aspx" \l "_edn8) FTCLDF reported. MDNR Director Rodney Stokes even had to step down, presumably because the ISO has generated such public backlash.

There are a few ways you, too, can get involved to express your opinion and help get this ISO rescinded. Remember this impacts not only the state of Michigan, but could also set a worrisome precedent that affects the rest of the United States as well. FTCLDF explained:

*“There are reports that a number of other states are looking to see whether Michigan DNR gets away with enforcing this ISO because, if they do, other states will be trying to implement the exact same thing.”*

To get involved and take a stand to protect your right to food freedom and small farmer’s rights:

* [Sign the online petition opposing the ISO](http://www.farmtoconsumer.org/petitions/pnum1097.php)
* [Send a fax to Governor Snyder](http://www.farmtoconsumer.org/petitions/pnum1097.php) asking him to order MDNR to rescind the ISO
* **Follow up with phone calls** to let Governor Snyder know that we will not let up until justice is rendered and the ISO rescinded (517-335-7858 or 517-335-7858

**STORIES:**

Joel Salatin of Polyface Farm **The Way Hogs Were Designed to be Raised** <http://www.youtube.com/watch?feature=player_embedded&v=JjBtZxlkEDw>

The persecution of....

**bakersgreen**acres.com

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<http://www.naturalnews.com/035372_Michigan_pigs_farm_freedom.html>

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<http://www.farmtoconsumer.org/michigan-swine-iso.htm>

http://handpickednation.com/watch/a-pigs-tale/

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**HELP:**

[](http://www.farmtoconsumer.org/) [www.farmtoconsumer.org](http://www.farmtoconsumer.org)

|  |
| --- |
| **Community-supported agriculture** (in North America sometimes known as community-shared agriculture) **(CSA)** is an alternative, locally-based [socio-economic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Socio-economic) model of [agriculture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Agriculture) and [food distribution](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Food_distribution). A CSA also refers to a particular network or association of individuals who have pledged to support one or more local farms, with growers and consumers sharing the risks and benefits of food production. CSA members or subscribers pay at the onset of the growing season for a share of the anticipated harvest; once harvesting begins, they receive weekly shares of vegetables and fruit, in a [vegetable box scheme](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Vegetable_box_scheme), and also sometimes herbs, cut flowers, honey, eggs, dairy products and meat, as well. Some CSAs provide for contributions of labor in lieu of a portion of subscription costs |

**History**

Community-supported agriculture began in the early 1960s in Germany, Switzerland and Japan as a response to concerns about food safety and the urbanization of agricultural land. In the 1960s groups of consumers and farmers in Europe formed cooperative partnerships to fund farming and pay the full costs of ecologically sound and socially equitable agriculture. In Europe, many of the CSA style farms were inspired by the economic ideas of [Rudolf Steiner](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rudolf_Steiner) and experiments with community agriculture took place on farms using [biodynamic agriculture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biodynamic_agriculture). In 1965 mothers in Japan who were concerned about the rise of imported food, the loss of arable land, and the migration of farmers into cities[[1]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture" \l "cite_note-0) started the first CSA projects called [*Teikei*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teikei) (提携) in Japanese – most likely unrelated to the developments in Europe.

The idea started to take root in the United States in 1984 when [Jan VanderTuin](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Jan_VanderTuin) brought the concept of CSA to North America from Europe.[[2]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-1) At the same time German Biodynamic farmer Trauger Groh and colleagues founded the Temple-Wilton Community Farm in Wilton, New Hampshire.[[3]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-2) VanderTuin had co-founded a community-supported agricultural project named Topinambur located near Zurich, Switzerland. Coinage of the term "community-supported agriculture" stems from Vander Tuin and the Great Barrington CSA that he co-founded with its proprietor [Robyn Van En](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Robyn_Van_En).[[4]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-3) Since that time community supported farms have been organized throughout North America — mainly in the Northwest, the Pacific coast, the Upper-Midwest and [Canada](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada). [North America](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_America) now has at least 13,000 CSA farms of which 12,549 are in the US according to the US Department of Agriculture in 2007.[[5]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-4) The rise of CSAs seems to be correlated with the increase in awareness of the [environmental movement in the United States](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Environmental_movement_in_the_United_States).Some examples of larger and well established CSAs in the US are [Angelic Organics](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Angelic_Organics)[[6]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-5) and Roxbury Farm.[[7]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-6) CSA's have even become popular in urban environments as proven by the [New York City Coalition Against Hunger](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/New_York_City_Coalition_Against_Hunger_(NYCCAH))'s own CSA program that maintains locations in all five boroughs of the city.[[8]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-7) The largest subscription CSA with over 13,000 families is [Farm Fresh To You](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Farm_Fresh_To_You) in [Capay Valley](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Capay_Valley), California.[[9]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-8)The Québec CSA network (17 years old in 2012) is one of the larger in the world. It is a unique system where a non-profit organization reach the costumers for the farmers and provide these farmers with technical support. More than one hundred farms are part of this network. For more info : www.equiterre.org

**The CSA system**

CSAs generally focus on the production of high quality foods for a local community, often using [organic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organic_farming) or [biodynamic farming](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biodynamic_agriculture) methods, and a shared risk membership–marketing structure. This kind of farming operates with a much greater degree of involvement of consumers and other stakeholders than usual — resulting in a stronger consumer-producer relationship.[[10]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-9) The core design includes developing a cohesive consumer group that is willing to fund a whole season’s budget in order to get quality foods. The system has many variations on how the farm budget is supported by the consumers and how the producers then deliver the foods. CSA theory purports that the more a farm embraces whole-farm, whole-budget support, the more it can focus on quality and reduce the risk of food waste or financial loss.

**Structure**

In its most formal and structured [European](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Europe) and [North American](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/North_America) forms CSAs focus on having:

* a transparent, whole season budget for producing a specified wide array of products for a set number of weeks a year;
* a common-pricing system where producers and consumers discuss and democratically agree to pricing based on the acceptance of the budget; and
* a ‘shared risk and reward’ agreement, *i.e.* that the consumers receive what the farmers grow even with the vagaries of seasonal growing.

Meaning that individuals, families, &/or groups do not directly pay for x pounds or kilograms of produce but rather support the budget of the whole farm and receive weekly what is [seasonally ripe](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Seasonal_food).

This approach eliminates the marketing risks, costs for the producer and an enormous amount of time and labor, and allows producers to focus on quality care of the soils, crops, animals and co-workers as well as on serving the customers. There is financial stability in this system which allows for thorough planning on the part of the farmer.

Some farms are dedicated entirely to their CSA while others also sell through on-farm stands, [farmers' markets](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Farmers%27_market) and other channels. Most CSAs are owned by the farmers while some offer shares in the farm as well as the harvest. Consumers have organized their own CSA projects and have gone as far as leasing land and hiring farmers. Many CSAs have a core group of members that assist with CSA administration. Some require or offer the option of members providing labor as part of the share price.

Some CSAs have evolved into [social enterprises](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Social_enterprise) employing a number of local staff, improving the lot of local farmers and educating the local community about organic and ecologically responsible farming.

Typically CSA farms are small, independent, labor-intensive family farms. By providing a guaranteed market through prepaid annual sales consumers essentially help finance farming operations. This allows farmers to not only focus on quality growing but can also level the playing field in a food market that favors large-scale, [industrialized agriculture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Industrial_agriculture) over local food.

Vegetables and fruit are the most common CSA crops. Many CSAs practice [ecological](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ecology), [organic](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organic_agriculture) or [biodynamic agriculture](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biodynamic_agriculture) by avoiding [pesticides](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Pesticides) and inorganic fertilizers. The cost of a share is usually competitively priced when compared to the same amount of vegetables conventionally grown – partly because the cost of distribution is lowered.

**Distribution and marketing methods**

A distinctive feature of CSAs is the method of distribution. In the [U.S.](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States) and [Canada](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Canada) shares are usually provided weekly with pick-ups or deliveries occurring on a designated day and time. CSA subscribers often live in towns and cities – local drop-off locations, convenient to a number of members, are organized, often at the homes of members. Shares are also usually available on-farm.

CSAs are different from buying clubs and home delivery services where the consumer buys a specific product at a predetermined price. CSA members purchase only what the farm is able to successfully grow and harvest sharing some of the growing risk with the farmer. If the strawberry crop is not successful, for example, the CSA member will share the burden of the crop failure by receiving fewer, or lower quality, strawberries for the season. CSA members are often more actively involved in the growing and distribution process through shared newsletters and recipes, farm visits, farm work-days, advance purchases of shares and picking up their shares of produce.

Some families have enrolled in subscription CSAs in which a family pays a fixed price for each delivery and can start or stop the service as they wish. This kind of arrangement is also referred to as crop-sharing or box schemes. In such cases the farmer may supplement each box with produce brought in from neighboring farms for a wider variety. Thus there is a distinction between the farmers selling pre-paid shares in the upcoming season's harvest or a weekly subscription that represents that week's harvest. In all cases participants purchase a portion of the farm's harvest either by the season or by the week in return for what the farm is able to successfully grow and harvest.

An advantage of the close consumer-producer relationship is increased freshness of the produce because it does not have to be shipped long distances. The close proximity of the farm to the members also helps the environment by reducing pollution caused by transporting the produce. CSAs often include recipes and farm news in each box in which tours of the farm and work days are announced. Over a period of time consumers get to know who is producing their food and what production methods are used.

Share prices can vary dramatically depending on location. Variables also include the length of share season and average quantity and selection of food per share. As a rough average, in North America, a basic share may be $350–550 for a season lasting for 14–20 weeks in June to September (or October). The produce would be enough of each included crop for at least two people consisting of perhaps 8–12 common garden vegetables[*[citation needed](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wikipedia:Citation_needed" \o "Wikipedia:Citation needed)*]. Seasonal eating is implied as shares are usually based on the outdoor [growing season](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Growing_season) which means a smaller selection at the beginning, and perhaps the end, of the period as well as a changing variety as the season progresses. Some CSA programs offer different share sizes or choices of share periods e.g. full-season and peak season.

Although there are many benefits to community supported agriculture, there are some disadvantages. As CSAs currently only serve a very small population in the U.S. (National Research Council, 2010), some people argue that the benefits of CSAs do not cover a broad population of people, especially lower socioeconomic groups (Cone & Myhre, 2000). Another criticism of CSAs is that it is somewhat risky. Because of shared financial support between farmers and consumers, loss and gain is not only experienced by the farmer. Since the “CSA is a system that works on trust and familiarity” (Kumar et al., 2011, p. 544), some people are hesitant to adopt this lifestyle of food purchasing.

The film [*The Real Dirt on Farmer John*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/The_Real_Dirt_on_Farmer_John) documents the resurrection of a [family farm](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Family_farm) through its conversion to a CSA model.

**Environmental context**

The environment’s benefit is quite simple- the minimal transportation required to transport food locally is a significant reduction of [carbon dioxide emissions](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Carbon_dioxide_emissions). Many CSA farmers also produce their food without the use of pesticides or inorganic fertilizers, so they are as natural as possible, limiting their impact on the environment.[[11]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-10) The human fixed nitrogen used as fertilizer for crops accounts for 75% of human fixed nitrogen, which causes eutrophication, greatly harming aquatic ecosystems.[[12]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-autogenerated1-11) The environment also benefits indirectly through the elimination of the farm’s need for subsidies. Farm subsidies “can foster overloading of croplands, leading to erosion and compaction of topsoil, pollution from synthetic fertilizers and pesticides, denitrification of soils, and release of [greenhouse gases](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Greenhouse_gases), among other adverse effects,”[[12]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-autogenerated1-11). [Biocides](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Biocides) have also become an increasingly important issue. At least a billion pounds of biocides are used each year in the U.S. alone, only 1% of which actually end up killing what they were meant to.[[12]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-autogenerated1-11) CSAs eliminate all of this, as long as they are following the traditional CSA methodology of [organic farming](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Organic_farming).

The growth of the environmental movement has certainly helped CSAs to grow. Concern for a healthy environment is the primary reason that CSA members join. Other primary reasons for belonging to a CSA are a desire to eat vegetables in season, source of organic produce, and support of local food sources.[[13]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-12) These reasons are all connected to the environmental movement, issues that pertain to sustainability and spending locally. The environmental movement also had large influence over the awareness of the issues surrounding pesticide use, popularized by [Rachel Carson](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Rachel_Carson), which was likely a huge spark to the fast-growing fire of CSAs.

**Similar experiences worldwide**

The term CSA is mostly used in the USA but a variety of similar production and economic sub-systems are in use worldwide:

* [*Association pour le maintien de l’agriculture paysanne*](http://fr.wikipedia.org/wiki/Association_pour_le_maintien_d'une_agriculture_paysanne) (AMAP) in France,
* *Agriculture soutenue par la communauté* (ASC) in Québec,
* [*Teikei*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Teikei) (提携) in Japan,
* *Reciproco* in Portugal,
* *Landwirtschaftsgemeinschaftshof* in Germany,
* *Andelslandbruk* in Norway,
* [*Gruppi di Acquisto Solidale*](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gruppi_di_Acquisto_Solidale) (GAS) in Italy, (see also, [Ethical purchasing groups](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ethical_purchasing_groups)),
* *Съпричастно земеделие* in Bulgaria,
* [*Asociația pentru Susținerea Agriculturii Țărănești*](http://asat.ecosapiens.ro/) (ASAT) in Romania.

**Solidarity Gardens**

Orti Solidali (meaning Solidarity Gardens) is an example of a CSA in Italy; the reasons for participating are mostly ethical. Participants' commitment to sustainable, local produce protect the development of the network from mainstream market forces, allowing it to develop independently and flourish. Key to its success are shared ethical and environmental values, as well as the nature of the relationships that are formed, which help to shape and constitute this protective environment. Orti Solidali uses a sustainable agronomic method for food production and supplies locally-sourced produce while providing revenue and fair working conditions for the producers. With one of the aims being the reduction of economic growth, also known as [degrowth](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Degrowth), the objective is to transition to a new economic system based on environmental protection and social equity.[[14]](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_note-13)

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  14. [**^**](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Community-supported_agriculture#cite_ref-13) [Agricultural Innovation: Sustaining What Agriculture? For What European Bio-Economy?](http://www.tni.org/sites/www.tni.org/files/download/CREPE_Final_Report.pdf) page 26 of the CREPE report

**Additional reading**

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* *Organic Gardening*. (1984). "Produce by Subscription," April.
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* [Van En, Robyn. (1995). "Eating for Your Community: A Report from the Founder of Community Supported Agriculture," *Context*, Fall, p, 29.](http://www.context.org/ICLIB/IC42/VanEn.htm)
* [Vander Tuin, Jan. (1992). "Zürich Supported Agriculture," *RAIN magazine* 14(2), Winter/Spring.](http://www.urbanology.com/csa/zurcsa.html)

**External links**

* [Wilson College's community-supported agriculture database for CSA registration or research.](http://www.wilson.edu/about-wilson-college/fulton/robyn-van-en-center/csa-search/index.aspx)
* [Directory of US CSAs](http://www.ecovian.com/csa)
* [National Agricultural Library of the U.S. Department of Agriculture CSA resource](http://www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/csa/)
* [Community Supported Agriculture Benefits Body and Budget](http://www.savings.com/blog/post/Lifestyler-Community-Supported-Agriculture-Benefits-Body-and-Budget.html)
* [Getting Started with a CSA](http://www.lifestylermag.com/features/getting-started-with-community-supported-agriculture)
* [Comprehensive map of CSAs in the United States](http://www.localharvest.org/csa/)
* [Going beyond CSAs with Community Food Systems](http://www.postcarbon.org/report/136551-food-growing-community-food-systems)
* [Community Supported Agriculture Management System](http://www.farmigo.com)
* [UN Report on Sustainability](http://www.unu.edu/unupress/unupbooks/uu24ee/uu24ee00.htm#Contents)

**CSA” stands for Community Supported (or the Canadian “Shared”) Agriculture.**

**http://www.localharvest.org/csa/**