



Your Information
Source on Food
Safety and Farming

Special Report

Facts, information and updates on food safety issues.

FOOD INC: THE MOVIE

The movie Food Inc, released in June 2009, unfortunately relies on the use of extreme examples to convey its message. We are always enthusiastic about people learning more about how food is grown in this country, however, this movie doesn't accurately depict the daily efforts of America's farmers.

The Reality of Farming Today:

- Ninety-five percent of U.S. farms are run by families, farmer partnerships or cooperatives—less than 5% are corporate farms.
- Outside of certain very urbanized areas, most people in this country know a farmer. If you don't know a farmer, than it's likely you know someone who works in the food industry. These people are our friends and neighbors. They should be acknowledged for the job they do, how hard they work and what they give back to their local communities.
- We enjoy the safest, most abundant and most affordable food supply in the world grown by hard working family farmers. No other industry is more important to the people of this country than farming.
- American farmers provide food consumers want, need and can afford. Through the efforts of farmers, busy families enjoy a variety of convenient and healthy foods.
- To ensure that food is grown in a safe and sustainable manner, the United States has strict laws and regulations for farming operations. Or, to ensure that food is grown in a safe and sustainable manner.
- While the term "sustainable" is relatively new to the food world, the concept is not new to farmers. Many family farms have been in business for generations. These farmers know the value of keeping the land healthy and flourishing generation after generation.

Some Facts:

- Americans spend only 9.8% of their income on food. This is less than citizens of any other country.
- In a recent Harris interactive poll, 91% of Americans think it is important to produce food domestically.
- Agriculture employs 21 million people—more than seven times as many workers as the U.S. automotive industry (prior to recent layoffs).
- The life expectancy of Americans has steadily increased over the years and this is largely attributed to the increased availability of healthy foods, like fruits and vegetables. In addition, a recent report from the American Cancer Society shows that deaths from cancer are also continuing to decline in the United States.

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