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 Farm & Nursery Partner for  
 New Produce Market

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**Participating  
 States:**

- Alabama
- Arkansas
- Colorado
- District of Columbia
- Florida
- Georgia
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kentucky
- Louisiana
- Michigan
- Mississippi
- Nebraska
- New York
- Ohio
- Pennsylvania
- South Carolina
- Texas
- Wyoming

**FOOD HUB INSIDE NURSERY PROVIDES A  
 UNIQUE SHOPPING EXPERIENCE**



**“Plants and produce—  
 they go hand in hand.”**

*Bruce Curry  
 Owner, Country Corner*



Two Illinois family-owned businesses joined forces to provide their local area with a new produce destination. Country Corner Farm Market, Alpha, IL and Corn Crib Nursery, Coal Valley, IL partnered to form a new summer produce market inside the garden center.

Bruce Curry, owner of Country Corner, read an article about local businesses working together. He proposed the idea to Duane and Ken White, owners of the Corn Crib. “They have the plants; we have the produce. They go hand in hand,” states Mr. Curry. “It’s a win-win situation for all.”

Since nursery sales are seasonal, the Whites are hopeful that the market will bring in new customers during the hot summer months. Their recently renovated nursery provides shopper friendly additions that coincide well with the produce market.



Mr. Curry gathers produce from several other leading area farms so shoppers have a variety of fresh, local foods. Mr. Curry says that the new hub offers producers the opportunity to sell seven days a week instead of once a week at a farmers market.

Country Corner Farm Market was named Illinois Agritourism Business of the Year in 2011 and 2012. It was also one of the host sites for President Barack Obama’s town hall meetings in 2011.

For more information, visit Country Corner Farm Market’s MarketMaker profile ([www.marketmaker.uiuc.edu/business/1234](http://www.marketmaker.uiuc.edu/business/1234)) or call (309) 629-2359.

## 2013 National MarketMaker Innovation Awards Sponsored by Farm Credit

The 2013 National MarketMaker Innovation Awards sponsored by Farm Credit were presented during the National Value Added Ag Conference in Rogers, AR on May 20th.

Gary Matteson, Farm Credit Vice President of Young, Beginning, Small Farmer Programs and Outreach presented the awards.

**Michigan MarketMaker** took top honors for “Using Michigan MarketMaker to Expand the Impact of Michigan Food Banks”. This program resulted in the addition of the Food Banks category to MarketMaker’s searchable profiles.



Pictured: Craig Tordsen, IA; Tom Kalchik, MI; Gary Matteson, Farm Credit; Khin Mar Cho, NY; and Ray Hansen, IA

First runner-up went to **Iowa MarketMaker** for “Employment Opportunities –MarketMaker Job Board” which led to the addition of an Employment Opportunity category on the Iowa Buy & Sell Forum.

**New York MarketMaker** was second runner-up. Their program, “Developing New Markets and Interests for Rural Producers and Processors” resulted in Faith-Based Organizations being added to the Buyer profile.

National MarketMaker extends congratulations to the winners and thanks Farm Credit for their continued support of the Innovation Awards.

### Have you considered selling to schools in your area?

Not only would you have a new market, but the children in your area would be eating local foods!  
Check "Farm to School" on your MarketMaker profile under "Methods of Sale" to make your business searchable by educational institutions looking for fresh, local foods.

## Buy & Sell Forum

Post your ad for products and/or services you have to sell or want to buy. The Buy & Sell Forum is available to you at no cost. See detailed ads on our website at: [www.foodmarketmaker/main/marketplace](http://www.foodmarketmaker/main/marketplace).



<b>BUY</b> 4 listings	<b>SELL</b> 85 listings	<b>SERVICES/EQUIPMENT</b> 6 listings	<b>TRANSPORTATION</b> 0 listing	<b>OTHER</b> 5 listings
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