

Connecting willing markets and quality sources of food from farm and fisheries to fork

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July 2012

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## Participating <u>States:</u>

Alabama

Arkansas

Colorado

District of Columbia

Florida

Georgia

Illinois

Indiana

Iowa

Kentucky

Louisiana

Michigan

Mississippi

Nebraska

New York

Ohio

Pennsylvania

South Carolina

Texas

Wyoming

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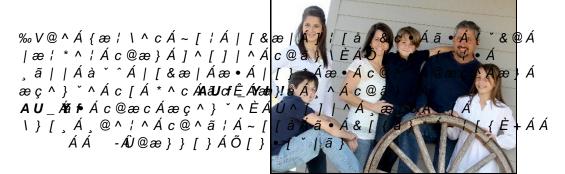


An advocate for local foods, Shannon Gonsoulin of Gonsoulin Land and Cattle believes that most consumers will buy local even though it may be a bit more pricey than mass-produced foods.

Gonsoulin credits MarketMaker for a 20-25% boost in sales in the South Louisiana area. %KY'UfY'jYfm'd`YUgYX' gdcbgY'kY'\UjY'fYWY]jYX cif'dfcXiWh'`]ghYX']b'A

The Gonsoulin Family has a long history in the cattle business. In 1770, Frenchman Jean Francois de Beaumelle Gonsoulin, registered the F2 brand in St. Martin Parish, LA. In addition to raising cattle, the family includes a long list of butchers and meat market operators. Shannon and Toni Gonsoulin began their grass-fed business in 2006 with the intent of producing quality beef as Mother Nature intended—using no antibiotics or growth hormones.

Gonsoulin Land and Cattle is proud of its commitment to conserve natural resources and has been awarded the Conservation Cooperator Award four years in a row for outstanding accomplishments in the conservation of soil, water and related natural resources from the USDA-NRC. They recently joined the American Grassfed Association, are members of the National and Louisiana Cattleman's Association, have been accepted into the LA Branded Beef Program, and have received their license to use the "Certified LA Product" label.



The Gonsoulin Family

Find Gonsoulin Land & Cattle on MarketMaker, the Web, on Facebook, or call (337) 519-7848

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### MarketMaker Welcomes Wyoming!

National Food MarketMaker is excited to welcome Wyoming to their growing online network of states. The state went live on Monday, July 2. MarketMaker now includes 19 states plus the District of Columbia.



Wyoming MarketMaker is sponsored by the Wyoming Business Council and coordinated by the Agribusiness Division.







Wyoming MarketMaker coordinator, Terri Barr, comments, "We are very proud to be a part of the MarketMaker "group" and look forward to seeing how this effort impacts Wyoming producers and State. We hope that MarketMaker will increase the marketing opportunities for Wyoming producers, farmers, ranchers, farmers markets, and businesses as well as having an overall impact throughout the food marketing chain."

"An online database isn't new to Wyoming, but MarketMaker presents a new way of marketing Wyoming agricultural products," said Cindy Garretson-Weibel, Agribusiness Director for the Wyoming Business Council.

Experience the West by clicking on the logo above or go to: <u>wy.foodmarketmaker.com</u>. View all the MarketMaker states on the national website at: <u>www.foodmarketmaker.com</u>.



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NATIONAL FOOD MARKETMAKER INNOVATION AWA

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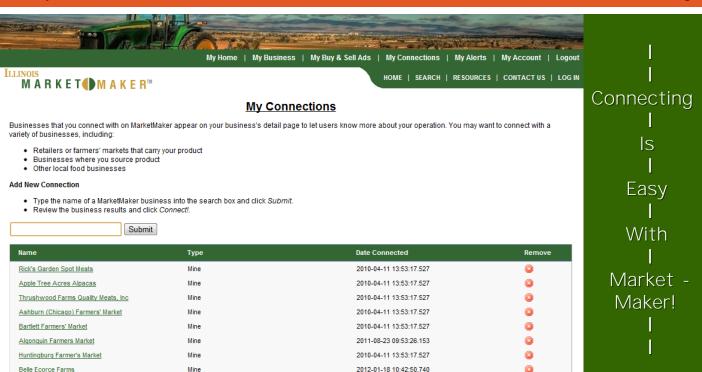
Pictured: Ken Hood, MS; Martha Sullins, CO; Blake Lanford, SC; Gary Matteson, Farm Credit; Tim Woods, KY; and Kevin Heidemann, KY

The 2012 National MarketMaker Innovation Awards sponsored by Farm Credit were presented during the National Value Added Ag Conference in Traverse City, MI on July 25th.

Gary Matteson, Farm Credit Vice President of Young, Beginning, Small Farmer Programs and Outreach was on hand to present the awards.

Congratulations go to M i s s i s s i p p i M a r k e t Moatkeer first place award in the MarketMaker Partnership category and South Carolina as first runner up in that group.

KentuMcakryketMbakMirestr place in the Education, Research and Outreach category with Colorado as first runner up. July 2012 Page 3



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#### Gonsoulin Grassfed Beef Featured

The "New Orleans Eat Local Challenge" began June 1st. For 30 days, residents were challenged to eat only foods raised or grown within a 200 mile radius of New Orleans to heighten awareness of the benefits of local foods.

Mine

Grassfed beef from Gonsoulin Land and Cattle was featured on the menu at the Irish House Restaurant in New Orleans as part of that challenge.

Dollinger Family Farm



#### Make New Connections with MarketMaker

Connecting with other busines

Let users know more about your business by connecting with farmers markets where you sell your produce, retailers that carry your produce, or other local food businesses that are important to your operation.

To make a connection, log into your account and select the "My Connections" tab. Type the name of a MarketMaker business with whom you would like to connect and click to add that business.

An email is then sent to the added business to let them know that you've made a connection. Add as many businesses as you like. Businesses you connect with on MarketMaker appear on your business's detail page.

### MarketPlace 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 by clicking on MarketPlace Buy & Sell Forum on the National site: <a href="https://www.foodmarketmaker.com">www.foodmarketmaker.com</a>.

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