



Issue No. 74: Support a Farmer, Support America

Supermarkets are a wonder: fruits and vegetables displayed out of season, aisle after aisle of multicolored products, and just about everything you need all in one place. But while supermarkets (and the food production system behind them) have made variety and abundance possible, it has frequently come at the cost of quality and, dare we say it, sustainability.

Aside from soil depletion, heavy reliance on fertilizer and pesticides, and supply chain woes, an extremely small number of farmers and producers place the vast majority of the food on our shelves. Further, the devastating effects of lockdowns revealed that our entire food system is far less secure than we'd like to believe. Add to that our strange, FDA-induced habit of inserting high-fructose corn syrup and industrially produced seed oils into nearly every product, and it's easy to see that our food system isn't what it should be.

But there are solutions. One way to support food resiliency (and get fresher, better food in the process) is to shop local. Thanks to some of the great organizations and businesses below, there are a lot of easy ways to help you do that.

The Better Alternative

A great place to start your search for fresh food from close to home is [Local Harvest](#). They show you local farms, farmers markets, and CSAs (Community Supported Agriculture—a popular method to buy food directly from farmers) in your area. Maybe as you search you can pick up some local dairy products—a staple in every fridge.

[Market Wagon](#) is another great option. They've established delivery networks to bring local farm items directly to your doorstep. Right now they have operations primarily in the South, Mid Atlantic, and Midwest, but if they don't cover your area yet, they are looking to expand. As you stock up and build out a well-balanced fridge, note that Market Wagon has a great selection of produce in their areas of operation.

When it comes to meat, we have two great options for you. The first is

The Provision House. A sprawling ranch just west of Fort Worth, Texas, [The Provision House](#) is devoted to restoring the depleted soil of the land and delivering the highest quality grass fed beef, along with other choices like bacon, chicken, or sausage. Even better, more ranchers are committing to their vision and joining the Provision House network, so your options are growing every day.

Lastly, the [Beef Initiative](#) is a trade group that gives you the ability to buy local meat by the cut or the cow. Their ultimate goal is secure, localized food supply chains, so when you buy from them, you support that mission, too.

Business Spotlight

One of the difficulties buying from local farms is that the price is often higher than the grocery store. One of the reasons is that very few areas have a reasonably priced, fully stocked farmers market, and having food delivered to your door is a lot more expensive than buying it all in one central location. [Azure Standard](#) is a great way to bridge the gap.

To save consumers money, Azure delivers local, organic food to centralized community locations using full-sized, refrigerated trucks. You place an order for a large variety of fresh and frozen food items and save money by picking them up at your community location. While Azure can provide just about anything you'd need to fill your pantry and fridge, if you're sampling the different options and recommendations we've made above, you can use Azure to buy your oils, spices, snacks, and other specialty ingredients. With over 2,600 locations scattered throughout nearly every state (and more planned upon consumer request), Azure puts good food at your fingertips.

The Bigger Picture

The Spectator World recently featured New Founding, ALIGN's parent company, in a piece on how the right can answer woke corporatism. The author, Amber Athey, understands our mission. [From the piece:](#)

"Any attempt to fight back against wokeness in the business world and America writ large is inadequate if it doesn't offer a compelling moral vision to replace the ideology of woke. New Founding is an attempt to provide this vision and reinforce it."

ALIGN is a critical part of that project. We don't just feature companies and brands that aren't woke. We help people find businesses that love America, hire American workers, and support a way of life filled with meaning and purpose. Thank you for being a part of this movement. Every purchase makes a difference.

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