Growing Food - Challenges and Opportunities –

Northeast US

- Extreme weather
- Floods and droughts
- High temperature stress
- New pests
- Adequate water
- Longer and warmer growing seasons
- Reductions in productivity elsewhere
- Potential to expand and diversify?
- Markets – 22% U.S. population
- Job creation, economic growth
Proof!
A Changing Interconnected and Interdependent Food System?

- Growing food is no longer business as usual
- Supply chains changing
- Supply and price volatility
- More risk

The Menu is Changing!

Bon appétit!
You messing with my dinner?
A Changing Interconnected and Interdependent Food System

The Menu is Changing!
NOW?
2050?
2100?
Take a look
Most of us are fortunate…
But what if?

Low income/poor
You live where agriculture is rain-fed
You have few resources to adapt

A food security challenge
A national security challenge
A moral challenge
Meeting the Challenge
- Research, Education, Partnerships – Cornell University

New/Adapted Crops
New Pests
Soil Health
Heat Stress in Dairy Cattle
Climate Modeling/Extreme Weather
Communicating Climate Change
Water Management
Outreach/Education
Reducing GHG Emissions
Renewable/Bioenergy/Energy Conservation
Nutrient Management
Partnerships Essential – All hands on deck!
Empire State Poll 2014:

Do you believe that climate change is happening?

- 81% Yes, climate change is happening
- 15% No, climate change is not happening
- 4% Do Not Know

In your opinion, what do you think is the single most important issue facing New York State as a whole?

[Bar chart showing the percentage of respondents for various issues]
Challenges & Opportunities for All of Us

• The steps
  o Awareness – listen to the science
  o Acceptance – “Oh sh…”
  o Action

*The Green Boat*, Mary Pipher

“To live is to roll up your sleeves and embrace trouble”  
*Nikos Kazantzakis, Zorba the Greek*

Image Credit: The Kochi Reading Group.  
- Climate Change -
A grand challenge we can tackle
If we have the will
Challenges & Opportunities for All of Us

Get informed, stay informed
Accept the truth
Make it personal

Act - Lead!
And raise your voices
In 2050, what will they say about us?

Did we try?
Contact Information

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TEDx: Climate Change: It’s time to raise our voices