



March 2025 E-Harvest Newsletter

A Message from Commissioner Miller



Texas Agriculture Commissioner

A handwritten signature of Ken Miller in black ink.

Farm Fresh Sharing



Farm Fresh Sharing spotlights TDA partners prioritizing farm fresh foods and nutrition activities. This month’s profile features Harlingen Consolidated ISD, a medium-sized school district with a Child Nutrition department run by Judy Baker. Find the profile [here](#).

The image on the left was provided by Harlingen CISD.

Harvest of the Month

March Harvest of the Month is mushrooms. Did you know that mushrooms are one of the most sustainable crops to grow? One acre can produce one million pounds of mushrooms. Mushrooms use far less water than other crops; to grow one pound requires less than 2 gallons of water, while most other crops use up to 50 gallons of water per pound.

Use this recipe for [Sauteed Mushrooms](#) from TDA’s Farm Fresh Cooking for the Seasons (p.90) on top of burgers or sandwiches to introduce local mushrooms to your students.

For current grant opportunities, visit our Funding Opportunities page [here](#).

Farm Fresh Learning

Use TDA’s [Texas Grown Flashcards](#) to teach your students about some of the items grown across the Lone Star State.

Farm Fresh Producer

Funding Opportunities

Find current funding opportunities for Texas farmers, ranchers, and producers by visiting TDA’s [Grants & Services page](#).

Learning Opportunities

Learn more about what school meals look like by checking out these meal pattern charts for [National School Lunch Program](#) (NSLP), [School Breakfast Program](#) (SBP) and [Summer Food Service Program](#) (SFSP) providers.

Texas Farm Fresh Network

TDA is updating the Farm Fresh Network (FFN) map with new features to make it more user friendly. The current map will continue to be available on SquareMeals.org until the new map is ready. New members not on the map can be found in a list at the top of the FFN page.

New FFN members for March:

Healthy Hart Farms	Rosenberg	Fruit/Vegetable	Jeffrey Hart	sales@healthyhartfarmsllc.com
Central Texas Food Hub	Austin	Other	Matthew Hanson	mhanson@centraltexasfoodbank.org
Heroes Honey (Hives for Heroes)	Houston	Other	Steve Jimenez	steve@hivesforheroes.org



Contact TDA

Email: FarmFresh@TexasAgriculture.gov

Toll Free: (877) TEX-MEAL

Connect with Others

Texas Farm Fresh Network:

Use this tool to connect with Texas food companies that currently sell or are interested in selling to schools, childcare centers, adult care centers and summer meal programs. Company listings include contact information, product availability and distribution radius.

Funding Opportunities:

Financial support from organizations may help establish or advance local Farm Fresh initiatives. This list includes opportunities from TDA, USDA and other organizations.

Interested in learning more about Texas products?

Sign up for the [*Go Local. GO TEXAN E-zine*](#) today.



TEXAS DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
COMMISSIONER SID MILLER



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