AVAILABLE ONLINE RESOURCES RELATED TO THE FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN AND COVID-19

WHAT ONLINE RESOURCES ARE AVAILABLE RELATED TO COVID-19 AND THE FOOD SUPPLY CHAIN?

COVID-19 presented unique challaneges to producers and the supply chain. As a part of this study, researchers examined available online resources related to shorter, regional supply chains during COVID-19. To assess this topic, an environmental scan was conducted. Findings from this study will be used to assist researchers in creating useful and timely resources related to the supply chain. Data were collected from February 1 to April 15, 2021.

An environmental scan is a common method used in communication fields to scientifically and systematically assess materials. Researchers found a total of 779 resources related to the supply chain and COVID-19.
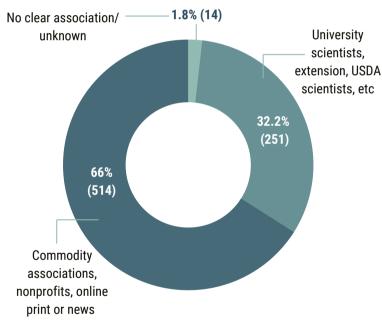
Findings showed that 66 percent of resources were credited to commodity associations, nonprofits, online print or news sources, etc. Approximately 32 percent of resources were credited to university scientists, extension, USDA scientists, etc. The remaining almost 2 percent had no clear association or were unknown.

This research is important, because it shows that there is room for scientists and extension to publish credible information related to the supply chain and COVID-19. It also indicated gaps in the resources, like a lack of resources related to restaurants, schools, and delivery services.

Quality resources are important when trying to make a decision. Identify quality resources by assessing the relevance, accuracy, author credibility, source credibility, references, and biases of the resource. The most credible resources will have a lack of biases and be peer reviewed.

For more information about this project, please visit
https://ruralengagement.org/lessons-from-covid-19/

WHO GENERATED THESE RESOURCES?

No clear association/ unknown — 1.8% (14)

University scientists, extension, USDA scientists, etc — 32.2% (251)

Commodity associations, nonprofits, online print or news — 66% (514)

TOP FIVE KEY WORDS FOUND IN RESOURCES:

1. Farmer(s)
2. Resource(s)
3. Farm(s)
4. Market(s)
5. Business(s)