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| **C:\Users\ar47\Documents\2012\Small Farms\logo.png** | **Emerging Opportunities to Enhance Viability and Support of Small Farms in New York**  **(in order of priority based upon 49 responses)** |

**DOWNSTATE Results**

1. Identify **alternative financing strategies** accessible to small farms
2. Develop **food distribution strategies** (e.g. collaborative marketing, product pooling and trucking, food hubs) to expand small farm access to local and regional markets
3. **Document economic impact of small farms** on their communities to increase investment in and support of small farms
4. Advocate for **greater investment in small farm services** (i.e. research, extension and education)
5. Develop new and/or expand existing **livestock processing facilities**
6. Develop and promote affordable **energy conservation and renewable energy sources** for small farms
7. Evaluate **livestock processing regulations and policy** for impact on small farms
8. Develop strategies to expand on **agricultural land access**
9. **RECRUIT youth, minorities, and military** veterans into farming
10. Conduct trainings on **alternative livestock production and marketing strategies** to overcome processing bottlenecks
11. Expand support for **small farms producing in urban areas**
12. Evaluate and promote profitable **value-added processing of milk** (e.g. yogurt, cheese) to expand market opportunities for small dairies
13. Conduct research and education on **food safety risks** of small farms
14. Expand **grazing education and research**
15. Identify novel technologies/practices to improve viability of **small dairy FlUID milk production**
16. Expand production and processing of **local biomass and biofuels** for small farms