

Safety urged at farmers markets

(KLZA)-- Farmers markets are very popular in the area giving local consumers an opportunity to purchase fresh goods from local producers.

During a daily COVID-19 update at the state capitol last week, Nebraska Ag Director Steve Wellman provided some tips on precautions to take due to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Vendors should not give out samples, should be wearing gloves and be the only ones handling produce. In addition more space for customers should be allowed and sanitizers should be available.

Consumers are reminded to only pick up the food you are going to purchase.

While the Nebraska Ag Department is not responsible for operation of the farmers markets, the Department does have coupons available for those eligible for the Women, Infants and Children program to use at farmers markets. Each person eligible can get a coupon worth \$24. Call the Department of Agriculture to get information on how to receive coupons.

Currently Nebraska has 33-thousand participants eligible for the WIC program with projections for a large increase due to the coronavirus.

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