

27 March 2016

Bendigo update

Alex and Julia visited Bendigo for the day in order to conduct interviews.

Interviews were with Ros at Peppergreen Farms, Ray of Bendigo Foodshare, Gavin at Maiden Gully farm, Sara Hill from Go&Grow and several gardens, and Elliot from 400 Acres farm who previously provided us data via one of the e-mailed surveys we sent out.

Information obtained included data such as annual turnover, job data such as employee numbers, whom each organisation are supplying to or procuring from and the limitations that each organisation faces.

For example Gavin mentioned his annual turnover, his employee numbers and types and the limitations he faces such as lack of land, seasonality of produce, climate and rain, price variation, lack of control over prices and intensive labour. In regards to his supplying and procuring, he is currently supplying to four local IGAs, three Coles, a local Aussie Farmers Direct whom are working off of his site, market gardens in Kangaroo Flat and Bendigo and retailers in Eaglehawk and Strath, and he mentioned who provides his seedlings.

We are in the process of compiling our notes from the day and organising the information into a spread sheet.

In addition to this work, we are currently writing a literature review, we are still waiting on more responses to surveys we have e-mailed to several hospitality, food procurement and other organisations, and we are slowly adding to our pool of results. Finally, we have launched a Facebook group entitled Bendigo's Local Food Movement. The page contains links to surveys for backyard producers, those producing products from backyard production and local food, and food rescuers.