

# Expanding Meat & Poultry Processing for Small- and Medium-Scale Producers: A Multi-Stakeholder Effort

Christopher Danner | Senior, Supply Chain & Operations Mgmt. / Food Systems

January 14, 2021

# Current Capacity Not Meeting Rising Demand for Locally-Raised Meats

- >50% of MN livestock producers would raise more animals if capacity were available
- COVID-19 has exacerbated situation
- Limits individual and regional economic growth



Photo: Iron Shoe Farms, Princeton, MN

# New Coalition Hopes to Accelerate Current Progress to Resolve Bottleneck



Minnesota  
Institute for  
Sustainable  
Agriculture



# Goals for the Project



Photo: Iron Shoe Farms, Princeton, MN

1. Increase # of slaughter and processing plants
2. Help existing plants expand their physical footprint
3. Move custom plants toward inspected status
4. Increase labor pool through certification programs

# UMN Students Advancing Progress Through Case Studies of Existing Plants

- U-CAN project brings student volunteers to forefront of issue
- Anticipate 5-7 case studies to inform work of broader committee
- Looking at ownership models, funding needs, operational challenges



Photo: Iron Shoe Farms, Princeton, MN



UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

**Driven to Discover®**

Crookston Duluth Morris Rochester Twin Cities

The University of Minnesota is an equal opportunity educator and employer.