

October 8, 2004

Editor
The New York Times
229 West 43rd Street
New York, New York 10036-3959



Farm & Food Justice for All

To the Editor:

Re. Bleak Landscapes, Green Produce (Oct. 8, 2004): Our non-profit organization, called Just Food, is the group that helped start up the La Familia Verde Farmers' Market noted in your article; we also helped three other such markets start up this year, and the demand keeps growing. To complement this work, we have a growing urban extension service: a corps of skilled urban farmers who train others to expand their NYC neighborhood harvests. During WWII the U.S. Victory Gardens program enabled gardeners to provide 40% of the nation's food supply. These programs demonstrate that a relatively small investment – even in times of scarcity – can go along way toward improving community health and self-reliance in NYC.

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