

# SUSTAINABILITY, NUTRITION, TRAINING

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Once upon a chow call, already unsure of the palatability of what lay ahead, I passed by the trash collection to spy canned vegetables. "Golden Harvest" being the brand in review; manufactured, processed, provided by China. It was a vegetable mix with carrots the color of radiation.

This is disturbing on so many levels and should not be allowed as a viable option under any circumstance. Just of all, the nutritional content does not meet the standards of the U.S.D.A / F.D.A. nor their approval. Is this just another venue for inmate testing? How can this product be allowed through the Department of Corrections?

Some of our produce, milk and canned items is processed on site

at Georgia Men's Reformatory State Prison.  
The vegetables already provided to us  
through this facility covers the vegetables  
included in the mix supplied by "Golden  
Harvest"

Not only is that conflicting as to  
sourcing and availability, it seems as though  
the feasibility of this an option is an  
exhaustive waste. Why would we IMPORT  
PRODUCE FROM ANOTHER COUNTRY WHEN  
WE HAVE A SYMBIOTIC SOURCE OF SUPPLY  
IN STATE AND INTRA AGENCY?

The location of the G.D.C. facility is  
Alto, Habersham, Georgia. This land  
is rich and fertile and plenty. There  
is room on site for greenhouse and  
gardening facilities. There is an

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already established cow and pig farm overseen by inmates that is adjacent to the property. This land would be a valuable asset to utilize for crop production and rotation. Also there is accessible forest land for provisional forest farming.

Currently there is a Beekeeping program in place at Lee Atendale Women's Facility. This program completion provides a certification of completion. It would be reasonable and beneficial

to expand upon this certification, with other sustainable and entrepreneurial opportunities.

As convicted felons, our circumstances will be hard fought. We will have obstacles along the way, from the

supplementation of sustainable food sourcing and production, those obstacles could be considerably lessened.

on this farm that houses animals not intended for our consumption or profit, why not exchange for something we ~~use~~ like chicken and turkey?

We could establish green building practices to house the poultry and keep the production local. This would not only solve issues of sustainability but could also provide <sup>OT</sup> training and opportunity for future success upon release.

With the crop production and gardening and horticultural experience, why not establish a small carney and instill a life practice and homemaking

Necessity. Instead of propagating the uncertainty and complacency of accepting whatever it is we are given, allow us to have the tools to be able to establish a stronghold in our future.

Nutrition is the backbone of any established society. ~~And~~ Agriculture is the basis of successful modern establishment.

Allow us to put the steps in place for sustainable prison agriculture.

Expand our On-the-Job-Training opportunities. Teach us women to be able to provide for ourselves, our loved ones and each other as well as we can. We can do this simply in ways that are more economically

feasible, nutritionally complete  
and environmentally compatible.

In addition to food production,  
medicinal and culinary herbs