



CCOF

Organic Certification Trade Association Education & Outreach Political Advocacy

For Immediate Release

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CCOF Certification Director Named to ACA Board

(June 5, 2007) Santa Cruz, CA – California Certified Organic Farmers (CCOF) announces the appointment of CCOF Certification Services Director Jake Lewin to the Accredited Certifiers Association (ACA) Board. Lewin states, “CCOF has built a strong reputation and significant customer loyalty through a dedication to integrity and service. We hope our participation in the activities of the ACA board will further strengthen organic certification under the National Organic Program.”

ACA, Inc. was formed in 2004 with the purpose of providing a forum for USDA-accredited certifiers. The ACA also aims to establish constructive relations with all organic community members in order to address the many challenges and opportunities facing the organic industry today. CCOF believes the mission and activities of the ACA will help to ensure that a strong and legitimate organic marketplace continues.

To the ACA board, Lewin brings a wealth of certification experience and a deep understanding of organic standards in the United States and abroad, including more than eight years in the organic food, farming, and certification field. Lewin’s other experience includes working on an organic strawberry farm and as a certification reviewer, program manager and organic inspector for a variety of organic certifiers.

CCOF certifies more than 1,600 organic farmers, processors, handlers, retailers, and private labelers, including about 75% of the organic acreage in California. More than 300 supporting members are comprised of consumers, suppliers and other individuals and businesses interested in furthering CCOF’s work.

About CCOF

CCOF, a nonprofit organization, was founded in 1973 and is one of the nation’s oldest and largest third-party organic certifying agencies. CCOF certifies, educates, advocates and promotes organic in California and elsewhere through:

- *A premier organic certification program for growers, processors, handlers, and retailers.*
- *Programs to increase awareness of and demand for certified organic products and to expand public support for organic agriculture.*
- *Advocacy for governmental policies that protect and encourage organic agriculture.*

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