



# CCOF

Organic Certification Trade Association Education & Outreach Political Advocacy

For Immediate Release

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## Sustainable Pest Management Conference Promotes Organic Education

(October 4, 2007) Santa Cruz, CA – CCOF and Cal Poly's Sustainable Agriculture Resource Consortium (SARC) have announced a new slate of speakers and panel participants for the upcoming 6th Annual Sustainable Agriculture Pest Management Conference. The event will take place on Friday, November 30, and Saturday, December 1, 2007, in beautiful San Luis Obispo, CA, featuring experts fresh from the fields of sustainable and organic agriculture.

Day 1 convenes on November 30 at the San Luis Obispo County Veteran's Hall, while Day 2 involves Special Workshop panels addressing the topics: Developing Tools for Bio-Control, Practical Aspects of Soil Microbiology in Pest Control, and Pest Problems and Grower Solutions in California Production Ag at the Cal Poly Crops Unit location.

Participants will gain a greater understanding of organic practices, standards, and effective sustainable pest control from presentations such as Organic Compliance, Crop Insurance, Growing Vibrant Local Food Systems, The Low Down on Low Nitrogen in Fruit Trees, The PCA as Biologist, and Invasive Species Update for California.

The conference is open to anyone with an interest in sustainable agriculture, as well as PCAs. Continuing Education Units are available including 3 Laws and Regulations Units for PCAs (8 units for Day 1, 4 additional units for Day 2. Two day total =12). 11.5 CEU credits have also been approved for Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs). The conference fee is \$150 for Day 1, and \$75 for Day 2 for registrations postmarked before November 16. Registration includes parking, meals, and materials. Student pricing available.

Find information on registration and sponsorship at [www.ccof.org/pcaconference.php](http://www.ccof.org/pcaconference.php), call 831-423-2263, or email [ccof@ccof.org](mailto:ccof@ccof.org). Booth space is still available for interested Sponsors. Sign up now to sponsor alongside OMRI, Central Coast Vineyard Team, California Organic Fertilizers, Monterey Ag Resources, Agra Quest, MGK, and KeyPlex.

### About CCOF

*CCOF (California Certified Organic Farmers), 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 product and to expand public support for organic agriculture.*
- *Advocacy for governmental policies that protect and encourage organic agriculture.*

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