



SPRING 2007



CERTIFIED organic

ORGANIC NEWS, EVENTS AND
CERTIFICATION UPDATES

Organic Liquid
Fertilizers—
Friend or Foe?

Introducing
AB 541

Grower Group
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2007
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From CCOF's Executive Director

BY PEGGY MIARS

Happy springtime to all of you! I've probably had more interaction with CCOF's membership in the last three months than I have had in the last three years. I continue to have a deep respect and admiration for all of you who work hard in the fields and facilities to provide the food that nourishes our families.



Why have I had so much interaction with you lately? Two words – Political Advocacy. It's an area that differentiates CCOF from many other organic certifiers and an area in which we've been extremely active. While CCOF Certification Services provides premier organic certification services, CCOF's trade association works tirelessly to uphold the integrity of organics and to protect and promote organic agriculture. From leafy greens food safety, to genetic engineering, to the Farm Bill, to animal cloning, to industrial hemp – CCOF and our members are actively speaking out on behalf of organic agriculture. Read about some of our recent advocacy work beginning on page 10.

Our feature article on page 16 provides a wealth of information about the 2007 Farm Bill and why it's important to you, whether you're a farmer, a handler, a processor, a distributor, a retailer, or a consumer. We should all support the needs of organic farmers in this important Farm Bill!

Our Certification News section on page 21 always includes critical information for our certified members. Important changes may impact your business, so be sure to check it out. And, the article on Liquid Organic Fertilizers beginning on page 23 is important for all CCOF growers to review.

See page 26 to read about our 2007 Annual Meeting. It was great to see so many active CCOF members gather in Madera to hear about CCOF's work and to express their opinions about important topics. As we start planning for our 2008 Annual Meeting, we need your input. Contact me at peggy@ccof.org with suggestions of topics, speakers, or activities for our next meeting. We want to make it interesting and informative so that more members participate!

A few CCOF members answered our call at the Annual Meeting and stepped up to volunteer on committees. Be sure to take a look at page 12 to learn about CCOF's committees, what they do, and how you can participate with a minimal amount of time. Please contact me at peggy@ccof.org if you'd like more information or if you're ready to volunteer!

By now I hope you're aware that we've moved CCOF's offices. We outgrew our old Victorian house and are now getting situated in our bigger and better building. Since the 2002 implementation of the National Organic Program, CCOF has experienced an average annual membership growth of 12.5% and average annual acreage growth of more than 30%! More and more well-known retailers and restaurants are stepping up to announce their support for sustainable and organic foods, including more humanely produced animal products. Clearly, the organic marketplace continues to grow in California, in the United States, and throughout the world. Thank you for whatever role you play in our organic community, marketplace, movement, industry, or whatever you call this great "thing" that we're all a part of. Congratulations on making choices that improve your health, your family's health, and the health of our planet.



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Organic Community Updates

NOSB Votes Clones and Their Progeny out of Organics

On March 29, The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) voted 12-1 to prohibit progeny of clones throughout organic production. It was said that the outcry from the organic industry was "deafening," so thank you to all those involved in the effort to keep cloned foods out of organics. Major industry players like CCOF certified Humboldt Creamery, Dean Foods, Straus Organic Creamery, CCOF Supporting Member Whole Foods, CCOF Supporting Member Organic Valley, Aurora Organic Dairy, and Horizon Organic were among those carrying major weight in this food fight. While the NOSB officially recognizes that cloning as a production method and animal clones are incompatible with the Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA) and are prohibited under the National Organic Program (NOP) regulations, the NOP still needs to vote on this recommendation.

CCOF and IOIA Co-Sponsor Organic Inspector Training

The Independent Organic Inspectors Association (IOIA) and CCOF will co-sponsor Basic Organic Crop and Livestock Inspector Trainings running concurrently May 14-18 at the Westerbeke Conference Center in Sonoma, CA. For more information and application forms, go to www.ioia.net, or call (406) 436-2031.

Organic Farming Research Foundation Grants Available

The Organic Farming Research Foundation (OFRF) is offering grants of up to \$15,000 to projects that address any agricultural production, social, economic, or policy-related topic of concern to organic farmers and ranchers. OFRF supports research that is relevant to, and takes place in, certified organic systems. Grant proposals are due by July 16, 2007. Visit www.ofrf.org to learn more about funding opportunities.

U.S. Congress Creates Organic Ag Subcommittee

The U.S. House of Representative's Agriculture Committee named Congressman Dennis Cardoza (D-CA) as chairman of the House Agriculture Subcommittee on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture. The subcommittee has jurisdiction over fruits and vegetables, honey and bees, marketing and promotion orders, plant pesticides, quarantine, adulteration of seeds, insect pests, and organic agriculture. The new subcommittee will raise awareness about organic agriculture among Congressional members, and will hopefully give organics a fair voice in the creation of the 2007 Farm Bill, as well as its well deserved place in federal policy.



The CCOF Office has Moved!

We've outgrown our old office and have just completed the move to a new location that will allow us to better serve our members and our staff.

Note our new address:

2155 Delaware Avenue, Suite 150
Santa Cruz, CA 95060

Our phone numbers remain the same:

[831] 423-2263, fax: [831] 423-4528

Check out OMRI's New Organic Seed Database!

The Organic Materials Review Institute unveils its new organic seed database! With a listing of seeds from Agastache to Zinnia, this database makes it far easier than before for growers and certifiers to find organic seed varieties that are 'equivalent' and 'commercially available.' The Organic Seed Database is intended as a listing for growers and certifiers to access the availability of organic seed. If you provide or sell seed varieties directly to growers and/or the general public, you should list your inventory with OMRI. This allows growers and organic certifiers to check with an independent source about your organic certification. Visit OMRI's Organic Seed Database today at www.omri.org.

Approximately 31 Million Certified Organic Hectares Worldwide

The latest global statistics concerning organic acreage were presented at the 2007 BioFach Conference in Germany. Australia accounts for the largest certified organic surface area with 11.8 million hectares, followed by Argentina with 3.1 million, China with 2.3 million, and the USA with 1.6 million. (A hectare is equivalent to 2.5 acres).

FDA Moves to Drop "Irradiated" Labeling Requirements

The Food and Drug Administration may approve a plan to let food producers drop the "irradiated" label from foods that have been treated with radiation, except when the treatment changes the product's material characteristics, and others may be called "pasteurized," a process completely different than radiation. Roughly 40 countries have approved food irradiation, which exposes food to a controlled amount of "ionizing radiation," killing harmful bacteria such as E. coli and Salmonella. The EPA recognizes that all forms of ionizing radiation are known carcinogens, and irradiation plant workers suffer the highest risk, but consumers are also in jeopardy. The Center for Food Safety has stated that the FDA ignored growing evidence that a new class of chemicals, formed when food is irradiated, causes genetic and cellular damage in human cells.

The CCOF Staff Have Been Busy Promoting our Members at Various Events:

- Eco-Farm Conference, Pacific Grove, CA, January 24-27
- California League of Food Processors Expo, Sacramento, CA, January 30
- CCOF Foundation's Going Organic Project, various times and locations in CA
- BioFach Conference, Nuremberg, Germany, February 15-18
- World Ag Expo, Tulare, CA, February 13-15
- The 2007 CCOF Annual Meeting, Madera, CA, February 16 and 17
- Natural Products Expo West, Anaheim, CA, March 8-10
- National Organic Dairy Conference, Fortuna, CA, March 15-17
- Up Next: All Things Organic, Chicago, IL, May 6-8



Certification Services Director Jake Lewin, and Handler Certification Supervisor Jody Biergiel at Natural Products Expo West.



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Federal Rulings Slam GMOs

Precedent Setting Decision Rules Against USDA in GE Alfalfa Case

Federal Judge Charles Breyer, of the Federal District Court in San Francisco, has ruled that the Agriculture Department violated federal environmental laws by failing to adequately assess legitimate environmental impacts prior to their approval of Monsanto's GE alfalfa. The lawsuit, organized by the Center for Food Safety, alfalfa seed companies, and environmental and farm advocacy groups, is the first victory of this magnitude in history. In his ruling, the judge consistently found USDA's arguments unconvincing, without scientific basis, and/or contrary to the law. This is seen as a major victory for farmers, the environment, and for those who advocate on behalf of both. Alfalfa is the country's third most valuable, and fourth most widely grown crop, with an annual worth of \$8 billion. For more information, visit www.centerforfoodsafety.org.



corn product crossing the border from the United States into Mexico at 80% of cost, forcing six million Mexican farmers and their families to abandon their fields. Mexico's farmers are not able to compete due to U.S. subsidy payments for corn, and are thus being led into bankruptcy at an ever increasing rate. The worst part of this equation is that the majority of the NAFTA corn flooding Mexico is genetically engineered.

Federal Ruling Against the USDA Concerning GE Field Trials

Federal District Judge Harold Kennedy ruled against the USDA in a lawsuit filed by the Center for Food Safety, the Klamath-Siskiyou Wildlands Center, and other environmental organizations in 2003, citing potential threats to the environment. The ruling states that the USDA must now halt approval of all new field trials until more rigorous environmental reviews are conducted on a case-by-case basis. This lawsuit came after varieties of creeping bentgrass and Kentucky bluegrass, manufactured by both Monsanto and Scotts to resist Roundup, were discovered miles away from test plots, transferring their GE traits to native Oregon grasses. Last year, EPA researchers found that the escaped GE grasses had even contaminated a national grassland.



Join the Millions Against Monsanto campaign by signing the OCA petition today at www.organicconsumers.org.

Columbia Approves First GMO Plantings

It is unfortunate that during a time when GMOs and GE technologies are being discredited across the globe, Columbia has now decided to allow GM corn to enter its boundaries for the first time. The Columbian Institute of Agriculture (ICA) approved 100 kg of GM corn for import, as well as semi-commercial plantations of GM cassava (a root used for starch foods like tapioca), rice, roses, sugarcane, and coffee slated for commercial approval in 2008. It is said that the ICA will conduct follow-up biosafety studies of the seed, from planting to harvest, and that growers from four regions only will be allowed to plant the seed. Many concerned groups strongly oppose the decision to import GMOs into Columbia, fearing the influx of this unregulated technology will alter the balance of the county's diverse ecosystem, and in turn cause irreversible, long term damage.

Mexico Suffers Price Spikes Due to U.S. Corn Subsidy Policies

Mexico's residents, farmers, and food industry professionals have all seen the drastic increase in the price of corn tortillas from six pesos per kilo, to eighteen pesos per kilo, within the last few months. The high prices are directly attributed to both the new interest in unsustainable ethanol production in the United States, as well as highly subsidized

Syngenta Fined \$1.52 Million for Modified Seed Sales

The world's biggest crop chemical producer, Syngenta AG, was recently fined \$1.52 million by the EPA for selling GM corn seeds without approval. The unapproved seeds were sold on 1,037 occasions from 2002 to 2004, and were planted on 37,000 acres in four states, prompting the European Union to ban corn-based animal feed from the United States in 2005.



State Bill 958 Banning GMO Taro in Hawaii Closer to Passing

It would be the first GMO crop ban in the United States, as the state of Hawaii is now nearing closer to a minimum five year moratorium on GMO taro production in the state. After years of protest and efforts to protect taro from GMO patents, the near victory is being strictly attributed to cultural reasons, for taro is known as a sacred native Hawaiian crop that has been cultivated on the islands for as long as time can tell. This case sends an important message about the strength of native peoples around the world who are saying no to genetic modification of their sacred, ancient crops. Stay tuned for developments after SB 958 is heard in the House.

Meet the GMO Challenge

Genetically modified crops are the biggest threat facing organic producers



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GE-Policy Alliance Update

California State Legislation Introduced - AB 541

On February 21st, Assemblymember Jared Huffman (6th AD) introduced AB 541, The Food and Farm Protection Act. The bill would establish California's only state laws related to genetic engineering (GE) in agriculture and protect California farmers, consumers, and the food supply.

The bill is being sponsored by a 14-member coalition of agriculture, environmental, food safety and natural food industry businesses, and CCOF is proud to be a member of this coalition. CCOF Executive Director Peggy Miars spoke at the press conference announcing the bill's introduction.



Assemblymember Huffman Press Conference on AB 541 attended by Peggy Miars

AB 541 protects California farmers and the food supply in four ways:

- Establishes the right of farmers and landowners to compensation for economic losses due to genetic contamination of their crops
- Protects farmers from being sued by a GE manufacturer

if their crop is contaminated by that company's GE product.

- Establishes a county-level GE crop notification process so that farmers can trace contamination to the GE manufacturer
- Protects the food supply by prohibiting the open-field cultivation of genetically engineered food crops used to produce drugs and biologics such as hormones and antibiotics.

This bill represents a reasonable, fair and coherent policy proposal that addresses the risk of GE contamination without banning any GE crop. To read a longer summary of the issue, please refer to the Position Paper posted on the web site of the Genetic Engineering Policy Alliance (www.gepolicyalliance.org).

AB 541 passed out of the Assembly Judiciary Committee hearing on April 10. Peggy Miars was one of two to testify at the hearing. The bill then moved to the Assembly Agriculture Committee floor on April 25th. Stay tuned for further developments on this important legislation.



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political advocacy

Spring 2007 Update

California Rice Industry Calls for GE Rice Legislation

The California Rice Commission (CRC), once regarded as a pro-biotech organization, unanimously adopted a resolution to support a moratorium on all GE rice production in California, making them the first major commodity crop organization in the nation to take such a strong position in opposition to genetic engineering. They join the Rice Producers of California (RPC), and CCOF Certified Sunwest Foods, California's largest rice mill, in taking this groundbreaking stance. The alliance was poised to carry major weight with the AB 2622 Advisory Board, who control test plantings of rice in the state. Despite these efforts, the Advisory Board recently approved an outdoor test site for GMO rice in Imperial County, a hundred miles or so from the nearest commercial fields. The call for legislation is a direct result of last summer's plummeting rice prices (\$150 million within a few days) due to an unapproved strain of GE rice contaminating long-grain rice supplies across the nation.

California Industrial Hemp Bill Rides Again

Assembly Bill 684, the new California Industrial Hemp Farming Act, which was heard for the first time in the Assembly Public Safety Committee on March 27, 2007, is strongly supported by CCOF. AB 684 is authored by Assemblymembers Mark Leno and Chuck DeVore, the same representatives who authored AB 1147, the Industrial Hemp Bill of 2006, which CCOF worked tirelessly in support of last year. AB 1147 was surprisingly vetoed by Governor Schwarzenegger at the last minute in the fall of 2006, even though the bill was widely supported with little to no opposition throughout its duration. A recent survey reports that 71% of Californians support changing state law to allow hemp farming. And today, more than 30 industrialized nations grow industrial hemp and export to the United States, making it the only crop that is illegal to grow but legal for Americans to import.

Leafy Green Products Marketing Agreement

The Leafy Green Handler Marketing Agreement Advisory Board has accepted newly enhanced Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) for leafy greens, which will serve as the cornerstone to the Leafy Green Handler Marketing Agreement. The GAPs have been presented to California growers and handlers, and CCOF representatives continue to participate in as many meetings, conference calls, and events on this topic to ensure our members, especially small growers, are not left out of the discussion. CCOF Board Chair Will Daniels currently sits on the Leafy Green Marketing Agreement Technical Advisory Committee, keeping a close eye and ear

on further developments with this issue. Both Will Daniels and CCOF Executive Director Peggy Miars have talked with various groups, including CCOF members, the Farm Bureau, Western Growers, and Senator Dean Florez's (author of three food safety bills) staff concerning food safety and leafy greens. Unfortunately, there are no organic reps on the Marketing Agreement Advisory Board at this time, so organic producers must remain vigilant on this topic.

Read About CCOF's Efforts on AB 541, The Food and Farm Protection Act, on page 10.

Read About the Fight to Keep Clones out of Organic Production on page 6.

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Introducing the CCOF, Inc. Committees

Welcome to a regular section of *Certified Organic* created in response to our 2005 membership survey. In past and future issues, this section introduces you to CCOF's board, regional service representatives, staff and other aspects of CCOF's services and governance that are available to you. We encourage you to keep these pages and use them to maximize your voice and avail yourself of CCOF's services.

CCOF, Inc. is a trade association providing organic education and advocacy as well as promotion of our members, CCOF, and organics in general. Our board committees are comprised of board members and supporting members who volunteer their time to help guide and lead our organization.

Finance Committee – responsible for proposing CCOF, Inc.'s annual budget to the board, monitoring the financial status and reporting obligations of the organization, and providing guidance and recommendations to the board, the Executive Committee, and the Executive Director as required for the efficient and successful operation of CCOF, Inc.

Chair: Roy Reeves (SL)

Personnel/Leadership Development Committee – responsible for developing and periodically reviewing job

descriptions for all employees of CCOF, CCOF's employee handbook, and other personnel policy documents utilized by CCOF. The Personnel/LD Committee is responsible for conducting an annual performance evaluation of the Executive Director and then making a report and recommendation to the board, providing guidance and recommendations to the board, the Executive Committee, and the Executive Director as required. The Personnel/LD Committee will assist in the search for qualified candidates for any elected or appointed position within CCOF, Inc.

Chair: Malcolm Ricci (KE)

Certification Standards Committee – responsible for annually evaluating the performance of CCOF Certification Services and providing a report to the board and to CCOF Certification Services. May assist CCOF with any standards or materials issues, as requested. Responsible for providing guidance and recommendations to the board, the Executive Committee and the Executive Director as required for the efficient and successful operation of CCOF, Inc.

Chair: Neal MacDougall (SL)

Marketing Committee – responsible for guiding CCOF's marketing programs and services and for providing guidance and recommendations to the board, the Executive Committee and the Executive Director as required for the efficient and successful operation of CCOF, Inc.

Chair: John Taylor (PR)

Government Affairs Committee – responsible for guiding CCOF's government affairs and political advocacy programs and for providing guidance and recommendations to the board, the Executive Committee and the Executive Director as required for the efficient and successful operation of CCOF, Inc.

Chair: Zea Sonnabend (CC)

Long Range Planning Committee – responsible for visioning and guiding the organization in its long-range plans and goals and for providing guidance and recommendations to the board, the Executive Committee and the Executive Director as required for the efficient and successful operation of CCOF, Inc. This committee, along with representatives of the CCOF Certification Services, LLC Management Committee and the CCOF Foundation Board of Trustees, comprises CCOF's Strategic Planning Committee.

Chair: Will Daniels (PR)

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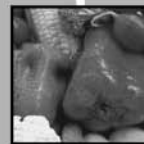
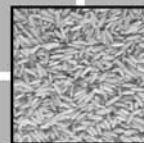
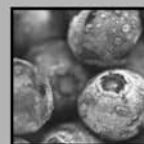
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Achievement and Recognition

At this year's Natural Products Expo West show, the Lundbergs, of CCOF certified **Lundberg Family Farms**, received the **Natural Legacy Award** to recognize their work which helped lay the foundation of the natural products industry, which has grown to a more than \$51 billion a year business in the United States. Three generations of Lundbergs, and a fourth just starting, have grown and produced organic and eco-farmed rice for 70 years. The Natural Foods Merchandiser chose the Lundbergs as a Natural Legacy because of their profound commitment to sustainable and organic agriculture, their ability to farm with vision, and their success as a multi-generational farm and manufacturing business.



Find out how Lundberg Family Farms are farming using sustainable methods at www.lundberg.com.

Congratulations to Eco-Farm Award Recipients

It's not unusual for CCOF members to be acknowledged with awards at the Eco-Farm Conference, and this last January



proved no exception. Here's a quick look at the winners.

Cindy Lashbrook and Bill Thompson of CCOF Certified **Riverdance Farms** were honored with the Gold Pliers Award for keeping their "stuff" together. Everyone in the audience was moved by their obvious passion for organic agriculture, the farming community, and helping others.

Monica Moore of Pesticide Action Network North America received the coveted Justice Award for

work in the area of social justice in agriculture. "Not a day without love; not a day without struggle."

George Siemon, CEO of CCOF Supporting Member **Organic Valley Family of Farms**, accepted a Sustie Award on behalf of his company. "If you don't play out of your league, you don't get out of your league." "We are an industry led by a movement."

Noted chef **Jesse Cool** of the **Cool Café, Flea St. Café, and jZCool Eatery**, also took home a Sustie in celebration of her work supporting sustainable agriculture.

Jim Leap and Diane Nichols were on hand to accept a Sustie Award on behalf of the CCOF Certified **UC Santa Cruz Farm & Garden**. They proudly announced that more than 1,200 students have graduated from their program. And, they invited everyone to participate in the Farm & Garden's 40th anniversary celebration July 27-29 (in conjunction with Alan Chadwick's birthday).

Congratulations to all the award recipients!

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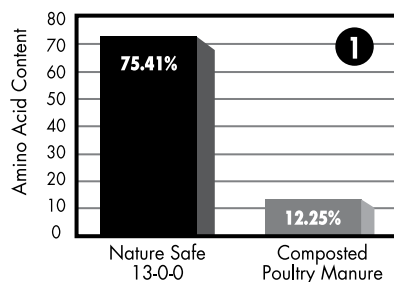
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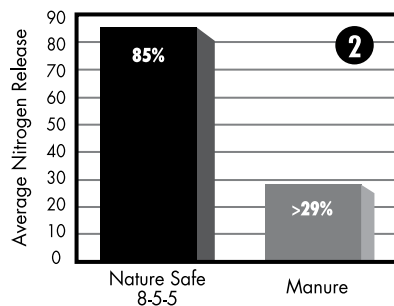
ORGANIC FERTILIZER?

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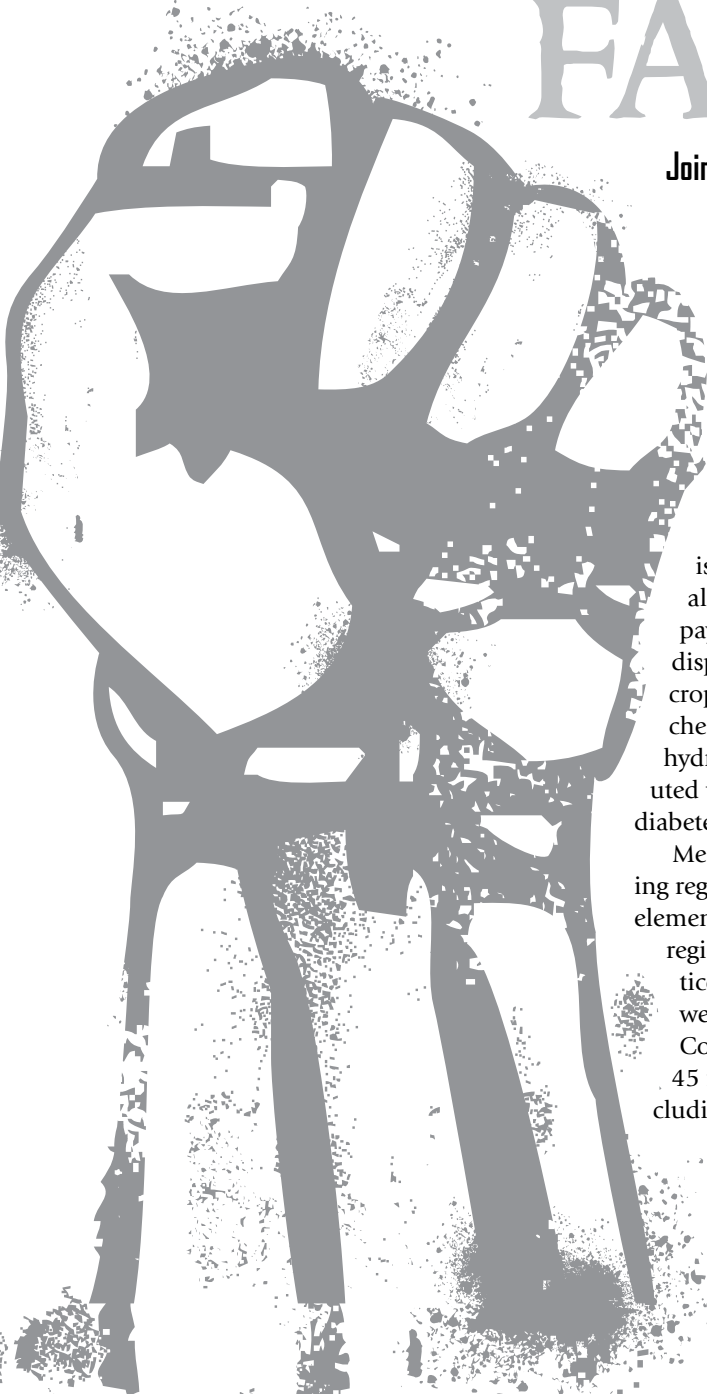
Natural & Organic Fertilizers

Organic Farmers Demand Their Fair Share

2007 FARM BILL

Join The Campaign for a Just and Sustainable Food and Farm Policy

Co-authored by Kari Hamerschlag of the
California Coalition for Food and Farming, and
Colleen Bednarz, Program Coordinator for CCOF



NEARLY \$300 BILLION IN TAXPAYER DOLLARS is at stake over the next five years, as Congress gears up to write the Farm Bill in 2007, a collection of policies that impact all aspects of our food and farm system, as well as our environment. Historically, what is needed from national farm policy and what the Farm Bill actually delivers have never been in balance, as the majority of farm payments have been in the form of commodity subsidies that flow disproportionately to large farms growing a handful of commodity crops in a few regions of the country. These subsidy payments lead to cheap corn and soybean byproducts like high fructose corn syrup and hydrogenated vegetable oils (i.e., trans fats) that have directly contributed to alarming obesity rates and other chronic diseases like type 2 diabetes and heart disease.

Meanwhile, little federal support has gone to fund diversified farming regions like California that grow fruits and vegetables, the essential elements of a healthy diet. Hardly any investment has gone to promote regional food systems, small-scale farmers, and organic farming practices that deliver multiple environmental and economic benefits, as well as an abundant supply of safe, healthy foods. The California Coalition for Food and Farming (Food and Farming), an alliance of 45 food, farming, health, environmental, and nutrition groups, including CCOF, is working tirelessly each day to change federal policy to reflect the new needs of our ever evolving food system.

California's organic farmers grow more than half of all organic produce sold in the United States, and in 2005, California produced approximately 50% of the nation's fresh fruits, vegetables, and nuts, with the farming and ranching industry accounting for nearly \$31 billion worth of goods. Despite the apparent agricultural bounty that the 350 different crops grown

in California provides, millions of families across the state suffer from poverty, hunger, and poor nutrition, and many inner cities and isolated rural areas do not have access to safe, healthy, and wholesome foods. Major strides have been made in recent years to address these issues, like farmers markets, farm to institution programs, and new investments in retail outlets and urban farms. Many farmers, especially small to mid sized growers, are facing increasing pressures such as environmental challenges, development and regulatory pressures, high energy costs, and competition from developing countries, yet federal policy under invests in these positive efforts and undermines the major impacts that sustainable food producers and programs have on total community health, from improving nutrition and reducing obesity to creating new jobs and increasing civic participation.

Organic farming and ranching provides multiple benefits that contribute to all U.S. strategic goals for agriculture: a safe and secure food system, environmental protection, less dependence on fossil fuels, increased trade opportunities, improved human health and nutrition, and prosperous rural communities. Over the past decade, the organic industry has seen an annual growth of 20%, with estimates placing 2006 organic retail sales close to 3% of total U.S. food sales, and 5% of U.S. fruit and vegetable sales. Despite these impressive market trends,

2007 Farm Bill continued on next page

On right (top to bottom): sustainable food system supporters protest in Sacramento; CCOF's Phil LaRocca fights for organics; Glenn Anderson, Russ Lester, and Cindy Lashbrook on Capitol Hill during 2007 Farm Bill meetings; Food Justice rally in Sacramento.



Key Proposals from the Organic Sign-on Letter

- Provide mandatory funding for the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service-Integrated Organic Program (IOP) of at least \$15 million/year and expand the IOP
- Establish a "Fair Share" framework at Agricultural Research Service (ARS) to ensure higher funding of organic agriculture research
- Ensure that the proposed Specialty Crops Economic and Policy Research Institute incorporates a specific focus on organic agriculture
- Increase current authorization funding for the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (SARE) Program from \$60 million to \$100 million
- Fully fund the Conservation Security Program (CSP) and direct CSP to prioritize evaluation of organic conservation practices in the program's scoring system
- Reauthorize Organic Certification Cost-Share at \$25 million
- Establish a National Organic Conversion and Stewardship Incentive Program at \$50 million annually that prioritizes small and mid-sized growers and the adoption of advanced 100% organic farming conservation systems
- Increase funding for the Farmers Market Promotion Program (FMPP) and Value-Added Producer Grant Program
- Establish equitable fee structures in crop insurance programs as well as reimbursement rates for organic losses based on historical payments for the organic crops

2007 Farm Bill continued from previous page

programs geared towards organic agriculture receive less than one tenth of 1% of federal Farm Bill funding. And although organics are on the rise, the growth in organic acreage has leveled off, as US imports of organic foods reached approximately \$1.5 billion in 2002, which is eight times higher than the value of our exports. In order to keep organic production on domestic soil, the organic sector needs far more public investment in research, extension, marketing, and conservation. At the very least, federal investment in organic agriculture should be equivalent to its proportional share of the United States food market. The USDA reports federal support for organics at \$7 million a year, while in Europe, the public sector invests more than \$70 million euros each year in organic agriculture.

On February 20th, Food and Farming, the Organic Farming Research Foundation (OFRF) and CCOF took this message directly to Congressman Dennis Cardoza at a Farm Bill listening session in Modesto, CA. Rep. Cardoza is the Chair of the newly established House Subcommittee on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture that will be responsible for drafting the pieces of the Farm Bill that relate to organic agriculture. CCOF Board Member and certified organic grower Cindy Lashbrook, of Riverdance Farms, delivered a letter to her representative that was signed by more than 100 farmers, businesses, and organizations. The letter outlined our alli-

ance's ideas for promoting Farm Bill legislation that meets the growing needs and competitive opportunities of the organic farming, ranching, and business sectors in California, calling for greater federal investment in organic farming. "In order to remain competitive, the

organic sector needs far more public investment in research, extension, marketing, and conservation. At the very least, federal investment in organic agriculture should be equivalent to its proportional share of the United States food market," the letter said. The letter asked Rep. Cardoza to include a number of organic proposals in his flagship Specialty Crop Marker Bill, the EAT Healthy America Act that was introduced in the House on March 20th, but those proposals were not included.

Immediately following this action, Cindy Lashbrook took her message to Washington, DC, in early March, where she joined a California delegation of six organic farmers and six organizations coordinated by Food and Farming and the Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (SAC). Over the course

In order to keep organic production on domestic soil, the organic sector needs far more public investment in research, extension, marketing, and conservation. At the very least, federal investment in organic agriculture should be equivalent to its proportional share of the United States food market.

of three days, delegation members met with 15 House and Senate offices to advocate for organic agriculture, as well as beginning and minority farmers, and increased access to local and sustainable food systems. "We need greater public investment in organics and local food systems, especially to help small and mid sized growers remain competitive in this increasingly globalized system," Lashbrook said.

"California's organic growers protect our environment in so many ways. We help conserve our state's water, soil and air quality. We help reduce our dependency on fossil fuels. Yet, unlike corn, soybeans, and other major commodity crops, we receive almost no federal support." The delegation advocating for a fairly represented Farm Bill included CCOF certified almond producer Glen Anderson, Russ Lester of CCOF certified Dixon Ridge Farms, and Tony Azevedo, an organic dairyman from Rep.

Cardoza's district.

The delegation visit to DC was part of Food and Farming's broader Farm Bill campaign for a Just and Sustainable Food and Farm Policy. Together with the California Food and Justice Coalition (CFJC), OFRF, CCOF, Agriculture and Land Based Training Association (ALBA), Community Alliance with Family Farmers (CAFF), and others, Food and Farming is working to bring urban and rural constituencies together to rally California Congressional support for Farm Bill legislation that embraces the vision for a more just and sustainable agriculture and food system. **Together, we are advocating for:**

- Increased funding and improved effectiveness of conservation programs, especially the severely under funded Conservation Security Program
- Increased support for organic farmers
- Increased investment in local food systems, new markets and regional food distribution
- Increased access to fresh, local, healthy and nutritious food, especially in limited resource communities and schools
- Increased support for beginning and minority farmers
- Meaningful payment limitation reform and gradually replacing commodity subsidies with a new system of farm income stabilization policies.

Even though the organic proposals didn't make it into the EAT Healthy America Act, there is still time to get organic proposals included elsewhere, as the House Subcommittee on Horticulture and Organic Agriculture begins to mark up the 2007 Farm Bill. The Food and Farming alliance is aiming to mobilize organic farmers in key agricultural regions around the state. "California has four Congressional members on the House Agricultural Committee that will be in



charge of writing the Farm Bill. If we want to have influence, we need organic and sustainable farmers to call and meet with their representatives," said Peggy Miars, Executive Director of CCOF. "With California's organic farmers producing 50% of the nation's organic fruits and vegetables, California lawmakers need to take the lead in advocating for organic agriculture. This will only happen if organic farmers get involved," she said.

Food and Farming will be working with the CFJC to reach out to California's urban members, including many who are part of the House Organic Caucus. "We think urban members could actually make the main difference in this year's Farm Bill," said Heathy Fenny, coordinator of CFJC. Together with Food and Farming, CFJC is organizing Farm Bill Action Teams to meet with their representatives in urban areas, making the case for our legislative proposals. "There will be a lot of specific pieces of legislation emerging over the coming months and we need to be ready to let our representatives know where we stand," Fenny said. "We will also be actively trying to get them to sign on as co-sponsors to different pieces of legislation that support our priorities." One bill, the Healthy Farm, Food and Fuels Act, introduced by Congressman Ron Kind from Wisconsin, includes two key organic provisions, including the continuation of the popular organic cost share program and the establishment of a new organic transition and technical assistance program. The Bill also includes significant expansion of the popular Farmers Market Promotion program that provides funding for direct marketing initiatives. Senator Barbara Boxer from California is a lead co-sponsor of the Senate version of the Kind Bill.

For the Senate, Patrick Leahy and Tom Harkin are working on a set of comprehensive proposals to support organic agriculture, and with their strong leadership in place, the Senate will likely lead the march for organics in this year's Farm Bill. The final Bill, however, will be a tough negotiation between the House and Senate, so it is critical to build as much support as possible on the House side, and California lawmakers will be more than instrumental in this effort.

Nationally, the Organic Trade Association (OTA), the National Organic Coalition (NOC), Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (SAC), and OFRF are among the groups taking the lead in this year's federal Farm Bill strategies that promote sustainable agriculture. CCOF and Food and Farming are coordinating as much as possible with these organizations to make sure we have maximum impact in our California strategy.

While awareness is rising about the need for dramatic reform in our food and farming system, the extremely tight Farm Bill budget makes the possibility for real reform and dramatic increases in spending unlikely. At the same time, the tight budget speaks to the need for even greater and stronger action, for the current budget provides little or no new money for the 2007 Farm Bill and dictates "pay go" rules that require all increases to find offsets in other places in the budget. One key strategy to address the problematic budget is to force money out of inequitable and wasteful programs

like the commodity payment programs. Haven't we all had enough of GMO corn and high fructose corn syrup, anyway?

Watch for the Grassley-Dorgan amendment, which will be back at a later date, as it may end up being the action to get resources for organic agriculture and other sustainable agriculture programs into the Farm Bill. With enough pressure, lawmakers will hopefully find money somewhere for new programs and both the Senate and House have put reserve funds aside for that purpose. If the current "pay go" scheme remains, however, they will still need to identify the sources of those new funds (either other program cuts or new taxes), which is never a simple task.

2007 is a critical year for our country's food system. The time to take action is now, so let your voice be heard, loud and clear. Will organic farmers get their fair share of federal funding in the 2007 Farm Bill? It's up to you.



Enjoying a break in a Farm Bill meeting – (l to r) Gary Peterson of ALBA, Kari Hamerschlag of the California Coalition for Food and Farming, Congressman Sam Farr, Melody Meyer of Albert's Organics, Mark Lipson of OFRF, and Peggy Miars of CCOF.

Take Action! Advocate, Educate, Speak Out and Spread the Word

Contact Kari Hamerschlag at calfoodfarming@gmail.com to sign up for updates and action alerts. For more information, email or call Kari at (510) 295-4781 or visit the California Coalition for Food and Farming's website at www.calfoodandfarming.org.

- Speak Out! Respond to Farm Bill action alerts by sending emails or calling your Member of Congress [You can communicate directly with and/or find out who your representative is at: www.house.gov/writerep]
- Sign on to letters calling for specific actions on legislation at www.calfoodandfarming.org
- Join a Farm Bill action team and meet with your member of Congress by sending an email to calfoodfarming@gmail.com
- Write letters to the editor or op-ed pieces for your local newspaper
- Educate others! Host a meeting in your community about the Farm Bill
- Spread the Word! Encourage your friends and colleagues to get involved

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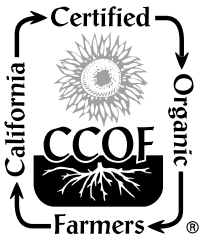
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Certification News

Updates, information, and tips for CCOF clients and members.

Spring 2007

Welcome

Welcome to *Certification News*, a permanent section of *Certified Organic* — the CCOF magazine that provides important standards and certification updates in one easy to find location.

Certification Developments & Improvements

In recent months, CCOF has been in communication with the National Organic Program (NOP) and attended a NOP certifier training during the Eco Farm Conference in January 2007. A number of issues were discussed and clarified for CCOF and other certifiers. This has forced CCOF and other certifiers to adjust policies and interpretations. Some changes are significant and others are minor.

Propane for Rodent Control

Please be aware that propane combustion has been identified as a rodent control material incompatible with organic production. Commonly, this is marketed as an injection and combustion system under the Rodenator brand. While CCOF previously approved this use, recent clarifications have made it clear that organic growers may not use this or other similar products for rodent control in organic fields. Please note that CCOF expects the manufacturer to

CCOF sends heartfelt condolences

to CCOF Inspector Mark Chass and his family for the tragic loss of their 16 year old son Jeremiah.

Mark has been an inspector with CCOF for well over 15 years. His son Jeremiah is described as "like finding the holy grail" by his teachers and was leading a campus beautification project.

Analy High School is establishing a feed the "Empty Bowls Project" and Peace Garden in Jeremiah's honor.

Anyone wishing to donate garden supplies or funds should contact **Elizabeth Whitlow (707) 824-2246** or ewi@ccof.org

petition for inclusion of this use on the National List and CCOF may support the petition if requested by its clients.

Certificate Expiration Dates

In response to market needs and to ensure integrity in organic trade, CCOF is pleased to announce that CCOF certificates will soon include an expiration date. Originally, these important dates were removed from CCOF certificates during implementation of the NOP. However, NOP Associate Deputy Administrator Mark Bradley has indicated recently that while certification is valid until withdrawn, suspended, or revoked, certifiers may include document expiration dates for printed certificates. Therefore, in the coming months, CCOF will give its current certificate a facelift and include this important piece of information. This will facilitate buying decisions and ensure that old certificates are not used after an operation is no longer certified.

Important European Union (EU) Import Rule Changes

Huge changes are afoot for organic exporters to the EU. In January, the European Union enacted new import regulations that eliminate the current system of import licenses.

Under the new system, foreign certifiers will be able to achieve accreditation and acceptance onto a "third country list" of approved certifiers. CCOF is aggressively pursuing this option on behalf of our clients. Once application procedures are clarified, CCOF will ensure its inclusion on appropriate EU certifier lists.

Certification Update continued on next page

Grower Group Certification

Another issue causing concern in the organic community is the clarification of the NOP's position on group certification systems at home and abroad. Under these "grower group certifications" internal control structures are maintained but only a limited percentage of sites (typically 20%) are inspected. This is commonly used for homogeneous groups of coffee or other commodities in the developing world where infrastructure and sheer numbers make full annual inspection visits difficult. Also, this approach has been used by certifiers to provide retail certification to chains with many stores without requiring annual inspections of all locations.

Over the years, CCOF has not seen this system as

Group Certification
continued on next page



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Group Certification

continued from previous page

compliant with the National Organic Program and, therefore, has not provided group limited site inspection certification programs internationally or domestically. CCOF currently visits all production sites, store locations, and processing facilities and will continue to do so. However, we recognize the role group certification systems have played in the development of organic production internationally. CCOF, certifiers, aid groups, IFOAM and others will be working in the coming months to address potential solutions to this issue. It is not clear if there will be a change to organic standards to support group systems in developing countries or if a system of full inspection will have to be adopted worldwide. If you depend on ingredients grown using grower group certification systems, now is the time to communicate with CCOF, the NOSB, and NOP. Contact CCOF at ccof@ccof.org or (831) 423-2263. The NOP and NOSB can be reached online at www.ams.usda.gov/nop, and www.ams.usda.gov/nosb, respectively.

Certification Update *continued from previous page*

In the interim, the import license system remains in effect for 12 months after the first list is published. The EU is developing a set of implementation rules that will define the certifier and operator requirements and specific documents required for future imports. CCOF is working with the Foreign Agricultural Service, the NOP, and the Agricultural Marketing Service of the USDA to help ensure these new rules are reasonable. For more information visit the Updates & Resources section of www.ccof.org, under "Certification."

Potassium Bicarbonate

This important material reduces the use of sulfur in grape and berry production and is quite similar to baking soda. Often sold under the trade name Kaligreen, Potassium Bicarbonate is not currently approved for use in agricultural products shipped to the EU. CCOF and several clients in partnership with US Agricultural Marketing Service Administrator Lloyd Day have been working diligently to achieve recognition of this material in the EU. U.S. authorities have been very helpful, and CCOF hopes to see this material approved for use in EU-bound organic products in the near future.

Commercial Availability Deadline Upon Us—Ingredients Petitioned

As we've reported in previous Certification

News issues, as of June 7, 2007, non-organic agricultural ingredients in the 5% component of products labeled "organic" must appear on the National List (205.606). Alternatively, the product must be reformulated to use organic ingredients or the label claim changed to a Made With Organic... label. Per the recent NOP training and subsequent notes, products sold after June 7, 2007, must comply with this requirement.

While many ingredients have been petitioned for inclusion on 205.606, they must be approved by the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) and printed in the Federal Register by June 7th in order to be allowed. During a review meeting in March, the NOSB reviewed over 50 materials and ingredients and indicated their initial approval for hops and several other ingredients. However, blanket petitions for broad categories such as "spices" were initially identified as too broad and are unlikely to appear on 205.606.

If you produce a product labeled "organic" that uses non-organic agricultural components for less than 5% of the formulation, it is critical that you verify whether the ingredient has been approved. If not, you must adjust your formulation and/or label immediately to meet the June 7, 2007, deadline. Visit www.ams.usda.gov/nop for the current list of petitioned ingredients. Products entering the stream of commerce after June 7, 2007, must be produced in compliance with new commercial availability rules. ☞



Potassium Bicarbonate is not currently approved for use in agricultural products shipped to the EU.

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Liquid Organic Fertilizers: Friend or Foe?

Over the past several months, CCOF has become increasingly concerned with the prevalence of perfectly flowable high nitrogen liquid fertilizers commonly available to organic growers. While larger concerns remain about the role of off-farm high nitrogen inputs, there are also short term hot-button potential issues with product formulations to consider. CCOF has increased its efforts to ensure the integrity of inputs used by CCOF certified organic growers.

The Role of Nitrogen Fertilizers

Nitrogen is essential to plant growth, and the nitrogen cycle is an important concept for organic agriculture, overall. Most farming rotations will acknowledge this cycle by cover cropping whenever possible to collect free nitrogen from the air in plant biomass that is incorporated to the soil.

Nitrogen can also be supplemented by using soil amendments that add to the organic matter content of the soil, thus providing more humus particles that serve as sites for slow release nitrogen fertilizers. This can be done by using compost for both short term fertility and long term soil building, and enhancing the soil improvement program with liquid or sidedressed fertilizers with faster availability.

The need for supplemental products is particularly great in heavy feeding, shallow rooted crops that are in the ground for a whole season, such as strawberries. They may also be useful in cooler weather when nutrient cycles in the soil are slower at providing plants what they need, and in soils that have not yet built their organic matter up enough to provide nutrients throughout the season.

Fertilizer Formulation

The nitrogen in fertilizers used in organic production must come from starting materials that are high in nitrogen from natural sources, and not from petroleum or ammonia-derived fertilizers like ammonium nitrate or synthetic urea. Natural materials high in nitrogen are usually proteins or high protein feedstock like fish, blood meal, meat or feathers, and manures. Worm castings can be quite high in nitrogen, and so can produce trimmings, kitchen waste, and food processing by-products. The skill in making fertilizers is to stabilize the nitrogen while still making a product which has the nitrogen available.

The rule of thumb in fertilizer manufacturing is that every 6.2% protein turns into 1% nitrogen. Therefore, a typical fish fertilizer at 5% N would have started with a product that is 31% liquid protein, or 62% dry weight protein, since liquid products are often half water and half dry matter. Innovative companies try various approaches to concentrate the nitrogen more like evaporating the water further, adding specific microbes which are claimed to have a further concentration effect, or experimenting with ultrasound technology. However, liquid fertilizers that claim more than 6% nitrogen seem improbable through normal chemistry.

Guidelines for producers thinking about liquid fertilizers

- Consider better ways to provide fertility to your crop before you plant to avoid having to use liquid fertilizers. Look into cover crops, composts, and pre-plant slow-release products.
- Is the product you want to use on the OMRI or WSDA lists? And are there restrictions with its use (such as if the product contains manures or sodium nitrate)? Order listed products early as they may be in short supply this year.
- Ask the supplier to get listed by OMRI or WSDA before you buy or use the product. Be suspicious of self-certification schemes, promises for results that are too good to be true, smells that smell wrong, and salespeople with dubious claims. If growers keep asking, the companies will comply.
- Send a Materials Review Request Form (www.ccof.org/forms.php) to CCOF before using any unlisted product. CCOF is only likely to do a site visit ourselves if numerous growers want to use the same product and/or if the supplier wants to help defray the cost. Plan well ahead because if you are using something that is not listed, you stand the chance of receiving a "cease and desist" notice or even a loss of certification.

Concerns Deepen

Recently the organic fertilizer manufacturers have come under increased scrutiny from certifiers, growers, Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI), and the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA). One product, Biolizer XN, which was 6% Nitrogen, was removed from the market voluntarily after a CDFA investigation. While intentional wrongdoing was not publicly stated by either CDFA or the company, it has affected the rest of the organic fertilizer market by making conscientious growers more suspicious of

Liquid Organic Fertilizers continued on next page



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California Liquid Fertilizers continued from previous page

the other products on the market with even higher analyses.

CCOF is under pressure from the National Organic Program (NOP), CDFA, its own concerned growers who have a lot to lose if they make a mistake, auditors from ISO and international programs, and fertilizer companies who suspect their competition. Each of these groups rightfully expect CCOF Certification Services to give clients accurate and consistent information about what products can be used for fertilizer. Therefore, it is becoming increasingly cumbersome for growers to use a substance that has not been reviewed by an outside party such as OMRI or the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA).

Outside review protects CCOF growers. Therefore, we would like to see increased effective oversight over fertilizer manufacturers. CCOF is urging OMRI to take an approach to fertilizer approval that increasingly relies on inspections and audits of manufacturing sites. After all, if all growers are inspected thoroughly, why shouldn't organic fertilizers be also? There are currently several liquid fertilizers on the market with nitrogen ratings in the 8% and higher range. These materials will be receiving increased scrutiny in the future to ensure the integrity of CCOF organic products is maintained and CCOF

growers are protected.

While some fertilizer companies avoid OMRI listing, CCOF understands that the questions and thoroughness are essential to protect CCOF growers and avoid another situation like Biolizer XN.

We are pleased to see that OMRI is in the process of setting up site visit and audit procedures and should be able to implement them sometime this spring. In the meantime, CCOF Certification Services is heading towards requiring that liquid fertilizers either be listed by OMRI or WSDA, or else CCOF will perform our own site visits and audits. It will not be automatically accepted for growers to use liquid fertilizers that are not listed. CCOF is also exploring options for requiring site visits in the near future of specific materials brought into question by CCOF growers and other concerned parties.

Everyone wants to grow abundant and delicious crops. Let's make sure that they are grown within the spirit of soil balance, ecosystem harmony, and stewardship that the organic movement was founded on.



books

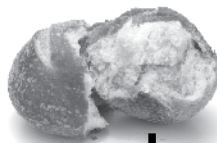
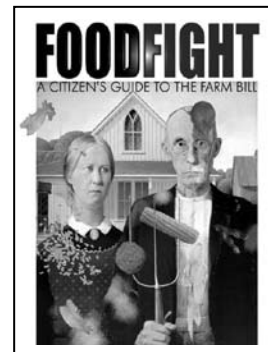
Shaping our Food System

Food Fight, A Citizen's Guide to a Food and Farm Bill

by Daniel Imhoff

The 2007 Farm Bill is the topic of this edition of Certified Organic, and perhaps the single most significant land use legislation enacted in the United States, yet many remain unaware of its full scope and power. With subsidies

reaching \$25 billion dollars per year, the Farm Bill largely dictates who grows what crops, on what acreage, and under what conditions — all with major impacts on the country's rural economies, health and nutrition, national security, and biodiversity. As debate and wrangling over the 2007 Farm Bill intensifies, "Food Fight" offers a highly informative and visually engaging overview of legislation that literally shapes our food system, our bodies, and our future. If you have questions about the Farm Bill, and need answers from the sustainable community, this book is the place to start. Purchase online at www.wildfarmalliance.org



web corner

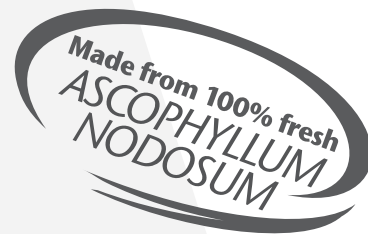
Resources On-line

Visit The Organic Center's website today to learn how they are accomplishing their mission of generating credible scientific information and communicating the ways in which organic farming and products benefit society. The Organic Center publishes noteworthy reports on topics such as pesticides, energy consumption, nutrition, and food safety. Consider them the new source for user-friendly organic information, www.organic-center.org.





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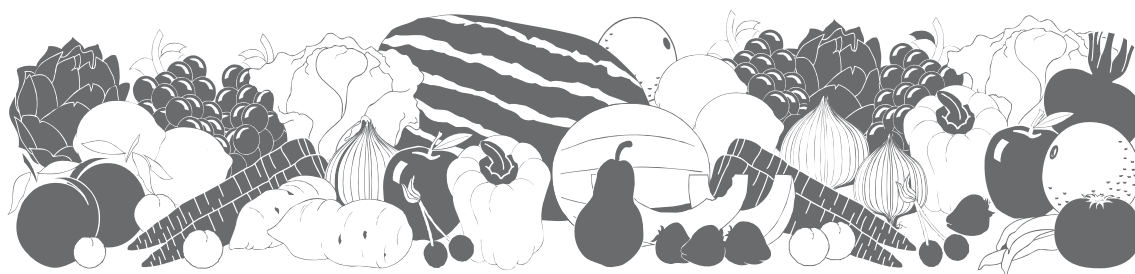
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2007 Annual Meeting Recap

The CCOF Fresno Tulare Chapter hosted CCOF's 2007 Annual Meeting in sunny Madera, CA, on Friday, February 16th, and Saturday, February 17th.

CCOF's Annual Meeting kicked-off with a fun and informal organic farm bus tour, highlighting some of our members' certified operations local to the area. This year, the bus tour started out at **T & D Willey Farms**, where 55 enthusiastic participants climbed onto a tractor trailer to tour the fields, learning what makes a full-season farm successful in California's Central Valley. Next stop was **Sherman Thomas Ranch**, where tour participants learned about orchard cover cropping while sampling delicious organic pistachios grown on site. The group enjoyed a catered lunch at **Mariposa Winery**, and then headed south to **Valley Fig Growers** in Fresno, to learn about processing organic figs, and the business thereof.



CCOF members mingle at the Annual Meeting reception



Above, farm tour attendees take a closer look at Family Farm Organics. Right, farm tour attendees climb on board and cruise the fields of T & D Willey Farms. Below, right, Mike Braga receives Leadership Award.



Last stop on the tour was **Family Farm Organics**, where they showed how to grow for CSA markets, and what crops work best in the Madera countryside. Hooray for farm tours!

On Saturday, Annual Meeting attendees met at the Madera Clubhouse where six back-to-back educational presentations started off the day. Fred Thomas gave a presentation about the CCOF Foundation's Going Organic project, Jo Ann Baumgartner of the Wild Farm Alliance presented on Organic Farms and Biodiversity, Kari Hamerschlag spoke about the California Coalition for Food and Farming Farm Bill Campaign, James Rickert of Prather Ranch highlighted Or-

ganic Beef Production, and Dr. John Phillips from Cal Poly, and Cindy Daley from CSU Chico, spoke about their experiences certifying university farms.

After the mid-day lunch break, the group convened for the 2007 Annual Membership Meeting, where Board Chair Will Daniels, Executive Director Peggy Miars, and Board Treasurer Roy Reeves gave presentations reviewing CCOF, Inc. for 2006. Awards were presented to **Mike Braga**, who received the "CCOF Leadership Award", and to **Abe Abuhilal**, who received the award for "Most Traveled CCOF Member." After the award ceremony, members mingled, met, and exchanged ideas and contact information at our organic beer and wine reception, followed by a delicious organic dinner, thanks to the many donations we received from CCOF growers, vintners, brewers, and processors. A special thanks to the Fresno Tulare Chapter Annual Meeting Planning Committee who helped plan the affair: Abe and Marie Abuhilal, Mike Braga, Erik Eklund, and Cynthia Ortegon.


All in all, the 2007 CCOF Annual Meeting was a great success, and we look forward to your feedback about how to make next year's event even better.



Abe and Marie Abuhilal happily celebrate his Most Traveled CCOF Member award



ganic Beef Production, and Dr. John Phillips from Cal Poly, and Cindy Daley from CSU Chico, spoke about their experiences certifying university farms.



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Bus Tour Hosts

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Sherman Thomas Ranch
(Mike Braga)
Mariposa Wine Company
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High-Quality Timers San Francisco Community Power is offering **FREE automatic timers** for battery-powered equipment to any PG&E ratepayer. They can be attached to battery-powered pallet jacks and forklifts – any equipment that uses electricity but that doesn't necessarily need to be on during peak hours. You can request as many timers as you need, so long as they'll be used to shift the time at which a battery-powered piece of equipment is recharged. For more information and to obtain a program application, visit www.sfpower.org/smb/loadshifting.htm or contact San Francisco Community Power at 415-626-8723 or info@sfpower.org.

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5 Acres Organic Certifiable Farm for Lease 2 wells, Deer-fenced with on-grid electricity and irrigation with great site for your trailer. Previous mixed Veggie operation with well prepared sandy loam soil in the Sierra Foothills wine country. Local natural foods market eager to buy produce. Great opportunity for ambitious dirt farmer or just a welcome lifestyle change to live in the foothills — \$800 per month or a creative offer. Inquires: toby@noahlandis.com.

18 Acres For Sale/Lease CCOF certified specialty fruit grower in north San Diego county (Rainbow) for sale, lease, or short-term caretaking. Approximately 5-6 acres planted with (in order of size) blueberries, cherimoya, pommelo, blackberries, guava, bananas, lemons, mulberries, lavender, jujube and a wide range of other individual varieties. Parcel includes a 2000 sf building/dwelling with working and living space. Unique location with a south facing view to the pacific ocean causes climate to be milder than others in the area. Terms are flexible depending on the situation and circumstances. For more information call Wendy Reisman at 760-731-1428.

16 Acre Organic Fruit Orchard Half citrus. Generates \$70-\$100K/year. =1800sq' home. 3 Bdr 2 Btrm. Outdoor in ground pool and spa. 1 acre formal gardens around home. 2 Outbuildings — packing shed with walk-in cooler, and separate home storage shed. \$890,000. Capay valley location. Contact 530-787-3884

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Services

Good Nature offers high quality graphic design services to all California Oaks, Grasses, Hedgerows for Farms, Conifers poster field guides full color art by award winning artists see Good Nature Publishing www.goodnaturepublishing.com. Call Tim Colman, poster sherpa 800-631 3086.

Calendar

Employment

CCOF is seeking qualified Part-time Inspectors on an on-going basis according to regional needs. Contact Sean Feder at sean@ccof.org for more information.

The Ecological Farming Association seeks both an Executive Director and Communications Director of The Ecological Farming Association, based in Watsonville, CA, is hiring 2 permanent employees to join the team for our year round sustainable agriculture programming. Please review job descriptions and application procedures at www.eco-farm.org/efa/hiring.

Driscolls is looking for an outstanding Organic Business Liaison to join the Organic Business Unit. In this position, you will represent Driscoll's in the field to all organic berry producers in the United States and Mexico. Specifically, you will work with growers to ensure compliance with organic production standards and practices and provide the growers with updates on recommended production practices. Send resumes to resumes@driscolls.com.

Apprenticeships/Internships

SUSTAINABLE COFFEE Student Summer Programs in Costa Rica Nespresso, a pioneer in sustainable coffee production, is currently accepting student applications for its first 'AAA Sustainable Quality' Summer Campus Program in Costa Rica: www.nespresso-aaa-campus.com.

Apprentice Insectary Workers! Rincon-Vitova Insectaries, Inc. welcomes two apprentice insectary workers for the 2007 season, mid-April to mid-September. Based northwest of Ventura city limits our 'bugfarm' produces and sells fly parasites for biological fly control, a scale predator, other non-insect pest control products, and buys or imports beneficial insects from other US, European and Canadian producers for nationwide sales and technical support for organic pest control. Info at www.rinconvitova.com.

Production and Research Internship in Mexico! Reiter Affiliated Companies, an International Berry Company is seeking a dynamic individual to participate in our internship program for our Production team. We currently have an internship opportunity available for a Production Intern at our operations in California and Mexico. This Intern will be responsible for applying University knowledge and assisting in the process of the day to day operations of a strawberry and or raspberry ranch. Info at www.berry.net.

CCOF Client Classifieds: CCOF certified clients and supporting members may run classified ads for free online and in Certified Organic, the CCOF Magazine, as space permits. To submit your ad please email marketing@ccof.org or fax your ad to CCOF at 831-423-4528 with a subject line of "CCOF client classified ad".

May 10, 2007

Going Organic Meeting, Loomis, CA

Organic Farming Field Meeting. Attend a weed control, pest, marketing, and equipment demonstration at the Hansen Ranch in Loomis. Rain or shine. Please bring your own lawn chair for the meeting. For More Information Randy Hansen, 530-626-9696, hansenrr@pacbell.net, Steve Bird, 530-647-0690, celticgardens@netzero.com, Fred Thomas, 530-819-6958, fred@cerusconsulting.com, Or Visit www.ccof.org/programs.php to learn more about CCOF's Going Organic Program.

May 11-13, 2007

Whole Earth Festival , Davis, CA

Arise, Smile and Be the Change! The Whole Earth Festival envisions and creates a community driven festival of education, music, and art. We will cultivate amazing organic produce grown in the WEF garden into tasty, nutritional meals to feed volunteers, staff, & performers, while making it both yummy and educational. Frugality and ecological sustainability come hand in hand. More info at <http://wef.ucdavis.edu>.

continued on next page



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May 12, 2007

“Solar Energy Systems” One-day Course, Davis, CA

Saturday, May 12, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. “Solar Energy Systems” Topics include solar resources in California, state and federal incentives for residential and commercial applications, system design and maximization, utility interconnection and net metering, and “zero-energy” dwellings. For more information on these classes or to enroll, call 800-752-0881 or visit <http://extension.ucdavis.edu/engineering>.

May 14–18, 2007

CCOF and IOIA Co-Sponsor Organic Inspector Training, Sonoma, CA

IOIA [Independent Organic Inspectors Association] and CCOF will cosponsor Basic Organic Crop and Livestock Inspection Trainings running concurrently at the Westerbeke Conference Center in Sonoma, California. For more detailed information and application forms go to www.ioia.net, or contact IOIA at 406-436-2031.

May 28, 2007 CCOF Office Closed, Memorial Day

June 1, 2007

5th Organic Seed Growers Conference Calls for Proposals and Input

In preparation for the 2008 Conference, the conference committee seeks input from diverse public and private stakeholders in developing an agenda. Input and proposals for presentations and posters must be submitted by June 1, 2007. www.seedalliance.org.

June 2, 2007

8th Annual Heartland Festival, Livingston, CA

Celebrate food, farming and healthy living in the San Joaquin Valley, at Riverdance Farms in Livingston. A project of the Ecological Farming Association. For more details visit the Heartland Festival Webpage, <http://eco-farm.org/heartland>.

June 9, 2007

“Bioenergy Systems” One-day Course, Davis, CA

Saturday, June 9, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. “Bioenergy Systems” UC Davis Extension and the UC Davis College of Engineering, the California Energy Commission, the California Wind Collaborative, and experts from public and private agencies to present a one-day new course focusing on the fundamental concepts and future potential of bioenergy systems. For more information, call 800-752-0881.

June 24–27, 2007

Sustainability Conference at University California Santa Barbara, CA

Contact Katie Maynard, Conference Coordinator at 805-893-2003.

July 4, 2007 CCOF Office Closed, Independence Day

July 27–29, 2007

The Back Forty Celebration, UC Santa Cruz CA

2007 marks the 40th anniversary of one of the country’s oldest organic training programs: The Farm and Garden Apprenticeship at the UC Santa Cruz Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems. The Back Forty Celebration weekend will include distinct events combining a beautiful setting with great local food and an engaging lineup of speakers, slideshows, tours, music, and time for mingling with old-timers and newcomers to the sustainable agriculture community. <http://casfs.ucsc.edu/back40>.

July 28, 2007

Fifth Annual Mendocino Herb Fair, Mendocino CA

The 5th Annual “Mendocino Herb Fair” features herbal artisans, healers and medicine makers, showcasing herbal bath and body products, plants and herbs, herbal edibles, locally harvested herbs from the seas, and more. Info call Terri at 707-490-2977 terri@naturalherbgardens.com.

October 26, 2007

CCOF 2nd Annual Organic Beer and Wine Tasting, San Francisco Ferry Building, CA

Join us for a day of sensory delight. CCOF Certified Members will offer an array of Organic Beer and Wine Tasting at the San Francisco Ferry Building. Contact viella@ccof.org for more information.

November 30–December 1, 2007

6th. Annual Sustainable Agriculture PCA Conference, San Luis Obispo, CA

The 6th Annual Sustainable Agriculture Pest Control Advisors Conference is sponsored by CCOF and co-sponsored by Cal Poly State University’s Sustainable Agriculture Resource Consortium [SARC]. More information visit www.ccof.org/pcaconference.php.

Listing your event: Please submit event announcements via email to CCOF at ccof@ccof.org or fax to 831-423-4528. Please indicate “New CCOF Calendar Listing” in the subject. Submission is based on a space available basis.

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The following businesses have recently achieved CCOF organic certification under the USDA National Organic Program.

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cdaley@csuchico.edu; lackerman@
csuchico.edu
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Corn [Fresh], Cover Crop, Dairy
Cows, Forage, Milk [Raw], Pasture,
Safflower

DUSTY ACRES

Carpinteria, CA
805-684-5275
dzbensen@yahoo.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Avocados

EARTH SOURCE, INC.

San Diego, CA
858-451-8663
info@doctorbsteas.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Blending, Coffee & Tea Blends,
Food Bar, Formulating, Packaging,
Shipping

FIELDS FARM

Acampo, CA
209-482-0427
russ@russfieldlaw.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Grapes

FLYING GOAT COFFEE

Healdsburg, CA
707-433-3599
phil@flyinggoatcoffee.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Coffee

FRAHM RANCH

Valley Center, CA
760-749-0679
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Avocados

GALAXY GRANOLA, LLC

San Rafael, CA
415-259-0582
luke@galaxygranola.com
www.galaxygranola.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Granola

continued on next page

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831.459-3240



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Logan, UT
435-752-9365
jim.jessen@gossner.com
www.gossner.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Milk

HAS BEANS COFFEE & TEA CO.

Chico, CA
530-332-9645
wv@hasbeans.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Coffee

HAWLEY VINEYARDS

Healdsburg, CA
707-431-2705
john@hawleywine.com
www.hawleywine.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Grapes, Grapes (Cabernet
Sauvignon), Grapes (Merlot), Grapes
(Viognier), Grapes (Zinfandel)

HELIOS RANCH

Alamo, CA
925-274-1184
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Grapes (Petit Syrah), Olives

HEWITSON FARMS

Avenal, CA
559-386-5829
rloffice@rlhewitson.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Carrots, Fallow, Wheat

HILL STAR GROVE (DUFEEK RANCH)

Temecula, CA
951-302-5530
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Oranges

INDIGO LABS

Vista, CA
760-727-3455
lucy_indigo@msn.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Bottling, Processing

JOE & CHERYL TAKEMOTO

Lindsay, CA
559-562-2632
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Mandarins, Oranges

KIRSCHENMAN ENTERPRISES

Edison, CA
661-366-5736
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Potatoes

LADYBUG FARM

Santa Cruz, CA
831-476-4056
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Beans (Dry)

LAMACCHIA RANCH

Gonzales, CA
831-675-3841
plbar@sprynet.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Beef Cattle, Hay, Pasture, Young
Stock

LAXMI'S DELIGHTS

San Ramon, CA
925-833-0115
hilaxmi@pacbell.net
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Condiment

LONE WOLF FARM

Valley Center, CA
760-751-2053
jwberk21@hotmail.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Grapefruit, Oranges

MARICH CONFECTIONERY CO.

Hollister, CA
831-634-4700
tvandam@marich.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Chocolate, Chocolate Covered
Coffee Beans

MARIE M. ISHIDA

Watsonville, CA
831-728-8028
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Oranges, Valencias

MARINO BROTHERS

Merced, CA
209-722-5521
marino@bigvalley.net
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Almonds

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Norcross, GA
404-377-4555
neil@masadabakery.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Bread

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Healdsburg, CA
707-431-8845
ames@medlockames.com
www.medlockames.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Grapes (Wine)

MONTE BELLO

Watsonville, CA
831-750-2528
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Beans (Fresh), Chiles, Eggplant,
Jojoba, Peppers, Squash (Winter),
Tomatoes (Fresh Market)

NILES RANCH (HCA)

Loleta, CA
707-733-5378
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Dairy Cows, Milk (Raw), Pasture

NOLA MONTGOMERY

Lower Lake, CA
707-279-8084
nola@pacific.net
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Walnuts

OCEAN BEACH PEOPLE'S ORGANIC FOOD COOPERATIVE, INC.

San Diego, CA
619-224-1387
gm@oceanbeachpeoples.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Retail

ORIGIN ORGANIC FARMS USA, INC.

Delta, BC
terry@southadler.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Greenhouse Grown Tomatoes,
Peppers

PACIFIC PIMA GIN CO. INC. & PAUL REINHART, INC.

Fresno, CA
559-271-6650
rcozzi@reinhardt.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Animal Feeds, Cotton, Cotton
Ginning, Cottonseed, Trader

PARAMOUNT FRUIT PROCESSING

Del Rey, CA
559-888-8500
dbatchlor@pomwonderful.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Pomegranate, Pomegranate Juice

QUAIL H FARMS

Livingston, CA
209-632-5055
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Packing, Storage, Washing, Yams

RANCHO LAS PALMAS

Davenport, CA
831-423-4319
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Beans (Fresh), Pumpkins,
Strawberries, Tomatoes (Fresh
Market), Zucchini

RANCHO PROVIDENCIA

Temecula, CA
951-693-1940
mefo951@earthlink.net
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Avocados, Guavas, Lemons,
Oranges, Tangerines

RENNER RANCHES, INC. (HCA)

Loleta, CA
707-496-1701
rrloleta@softcom.net
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Dairy Cows, Milk (Raw), Pasture,
Young Stock

RUSSIAN RIVER PISTACHIOS

Calpella, CA
707-462-3498
www.rripistachios.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Pistachios

SAGE RIDGE RANCH

Carmel Valley, CA
831-659-4883
linchill@comcast.net
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Citrus, Pasture, Tomatoes
(Greenhouse)

SAKAI FARMS, LLC (DSA)

Watsonville, CA
831-320-2911
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Strawberries

SALINAS NURSERY, INC.

Fresno, CA
559-233-5600
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Vegetable Transplants

SAMUEL AGUILERA JR. AND HORTENCIA R. AGUILERA

Strathmore, CA
559-568-2871
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Lemons, Oranges

SAN FELIPE FARMS

Hollister, CA
831-637-3200
Tim@abkcherry.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Barley, Onions, Peppers, Spring Mix

SANTA BARBARA PISTACHIO COMPANY

Maricopa, CA
661-766-2177
josh@sbpistachio.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Pistachios

SHIN SHIN FOODS, INC

Portland, OR
503-262-7833
yan@shinshinfoods.com
www.shinshinfoods.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Granola

SKYVIEW COOLING

Yuma, AZ
928-726-9540
jstuder@skyviewcooling.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Cooling, Storage

STICK WITH US PRODUCTS, INC.

Richmond, BC
604-241-0448
shoja@moom.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Personal Care Items

SUNDANCE NATURAL FOODS CO.

Oceanside, CA
760-945-9898
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Avocados, Citrus, Grapefruit,
Guava, Kumquat, Lemons, Oranges,
Persimmon, Pomegranate

**SUNDANCE NATURAL FOODS CO.
-SNFL MANAGED SITES PRODUCER**

Oceanside, CA
760-945-9898
reg-cert@
sundancenaturalfoodscompany.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Avocados, Fallow, Grapefruit,
Kumquats, Lemons, Lemons
[Meyer], Mandarins, Oranges,
Sapote, Tangelos, Tangerines,
Valencias

**SUNDANCE NATURAL FOODS CO.-
WHH OWNED SITES PRODUCER**

Oceanside, CA
760-945-9898
reg-cert@
sundancenaturalfoodscompany.com
www.
sundancenaturalfoodscompany.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Avocados, Citrus, Fallow, Grapefruit,
Guavas, Kumquats, Lemons, Lemons
[Meyer], Limes, Mandarins, Oranges,
Tangelos, Tangerines, Valencias

SUNFOOD NUTRITION

San Diego, CA
619-596-7979
druid@rawfood.com
www.rawfood.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Agave Syrup, Almonds [Raw],
Apricots [dried], Brazil Nut Oil,
Brazil Nuts, Cacao, Cacao Butter,
Cacao Nibs, Cacao Powder, Cashews,
Cherries [Dried], Coconut Oil, Corn
[Purple], Figs [Dried], Flax Seed,
Goji Berries, Incan Berries, Lucuma,
Lucuma Powder

**SUNNYSIDE PACKING COMPANY
INC.**

Selma, CA
559-896-7200
todd@sunnysidepacking.com
www.sunnysidepacking.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Beans [Fresh], Cucumbers, Eggplant,
Peppers, Squash [Summer], Squash
[Winter], Zucchini

SURABIAN PACKING CO.

Reedley, CA
559-638-8399
Surapac@theworks.com
NA
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Cold Storage, Fruit Packing

**TAKEMOTO CERTIFIED ORGANIC
FARMS**

Lindsay, CA
559-562-4580
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Oranges, Persimmons

**TAKEMOTO FARMS (CERTIFIED
FARMERS MARKET)**

Lindsay, CA
559-562-4580
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Grapefruit, Oranges, Peaches, Pluots

THE ORGANIC FOOD CHEF, LLC

Woodland Hills, CA
818-974-3612
818-974-3612
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Fruit Juice, Fruit Powder

TROY FARMS dba PACIFIC ALMOND

Lost Hills, CA
661-465-5661
renee@pacificalmond.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Almond Processing

**TRULY ORGANIC BAKING
COMPANY**

San Jose, CA
408-204-8619
kari@trulyorganicbaking.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Granola, Granola Bar

TULOCAY & CO, INC

Napa, CA
707-253-7655
howard@madeinnapavalley.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Spice Packet

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Valley Center, CA
760-749-4552
astehly@aol.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Avocados

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Santa Ana, CA
949-250-8672
john@veripak.net
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Encapsulating, Packaging, Tableting

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559-5284699
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Peaches, Plums

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925-253-7788
john@whitworthsinc.com
Certified Crops/Products/Services:
Prunes, Raisins, Trader

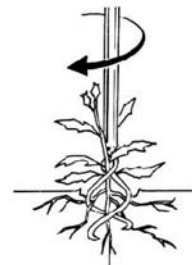
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johnjzoria@comcast.net
www.Zoria.com
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info@acadian.ca

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Santa Fe, NM

(505) 438-8080

marc.cool@effem.com

Seeds of Change started in 1989 with 100% certified organic seeds, setting out to preserve biodiversity and promote sustainable organic agriculture by offering a diverse range of seeds to our gardeners. All of our foods are 100% organically grown in a manner that nourishes the crop and the soil, without conventional fertilizers or pesticides.

Brown-Forman Corporation

850 Dixie Highway

Louisville, KY

mark_smith@b-f.com

Over the years, Brown-Forman has developed and nurtured a set of core values that have become deeply ingrained in our consciousness and our culture. These time-honored values — integrity, respect, trust, teamwork, and excellence — remain real and relevant today, guiding us in the conduct of our day-to-day business.

Contributing Business

Tulare Ag Products

Mark Veteto

3233 S. I St.

Tulare, CA

(559) 686-5115

GGs Land Corporation

Michael Simon

26W065 Marion Ave

Wheaton, IL

(312) 545-8158

msimon@sjztech.com

Sambrailo Packaging

Jim Scattini

800 Walker Street

Watsonville, CA

(831) 724-7581

jims@sambrailo.com

Listening to customer requests, focusing on technical issues and progressive research of “Whatever is best for the produce” continues to be an underlying factor to the success of Sambrailo products.

Promoting Businesses

Noli n Nali

Kenda Haines

819 Hillcrest Drive

Felton, CA

(831) 706-4313

kenda@nolinnali.com

Noli n Nali is an Organic and Natural Mother and Child skin care line. All of our products are made of 72% to 100% certified organic ingredients.

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Nicole Landers

1680 N. Vine St., Ste. 1005

Hollywood, CA

(323) 377-4356

nicole@landerspr.com

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Puerto del Cielo Vineyards

Jeff Ketelhut

36 Pinecrest Drive

Thousand Oaks, CA

(805) 497-2425

jeffk@amgen.com

ForOrganic, Inc.

Kimberly Young

660 Preston Forest Center #336

Dallas, TX

(214) 669-3150

kimberly@fororganic.com

Organic brokerage services, providing sales, marketing, and customer service for manufacturers offering products that are 95% + organic.

Haygrove

Will Delamore

245 Guadalupe Street

Guadalupe, CA

(805) 343-1065

will.delamore@haygrove.com

Supporting Retailer

Sun Service, Inc.

Mike Galam

1041 N Highland Ave.

Los Angeles, CA

(310) 910-3825

mikeqypsum@yahoo.com

Woods Agri Business Services

Wayne Woods

9530 Fairhaven Drive

Stockton, CA

(209) 401-8749

Ag Advisors/Consultants

James Mose

13555 S. De Wolf Ave.

Selma, CA

(559) 285-7757

mosebug@wcoastmail.com

Shelley Weier

PO Box 1383

Temecula, CA

(951) 587-2100

shelley217@verizon.net

Western Farm Service

Tom Van Der Weide

26966 Carranza Drive

Mission Viejo, CA

(714) 549-2871

tvdw@earthlink.net

Western Farm Service

Scott Fichtner

2517 Escalon Ave.

Clovis, CA

(559) 299-6646

sfichtner@agriumretail.com

Western Farm Service

Richard Soria

5 Lakeview Drive

Watsonville, CA

(831) 254-1936

richard@wfsiwatsonville.com

Kleen Globe Ag Service

Roel Rodriguez

11280 Commercial Parkway, PO Box

1125

Castroville, CA

(831) 633-2043

rodriguezroel@yahoo.com

Contributing Individual

Ralph Begley

Carpenteria, CA

Promoting Individuals

Carroll J. Jones Jr.

Modesto, CA

Roanne Kaplow

Wild Garden Farm

Petaluma, CA

Laurie Rubin

Santa Cruz, CA

James Schinnerer

Albany, CA

John Sediuy

Novozymes.com

Salem, VA

Leigh Stanley

Aptos, CA

Santa Cruz Saturday Market

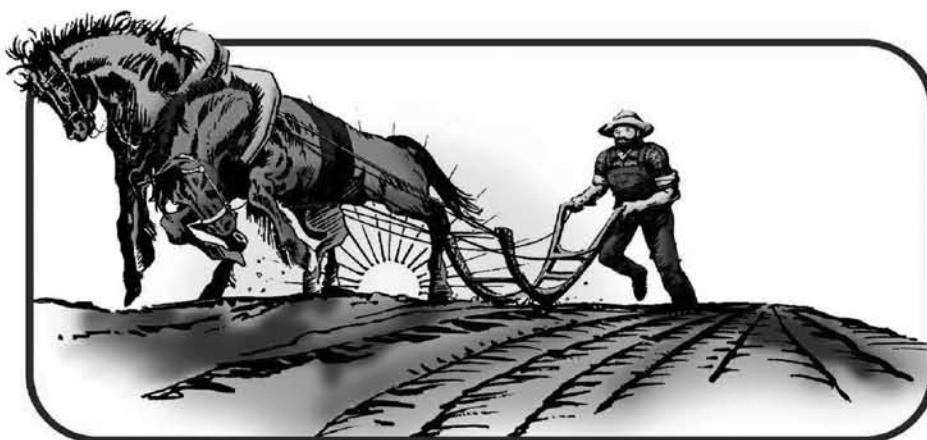
Santa Cruz, CA



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Questions? Call Melody Meyer
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visit www.albertsorganics.com



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ccof@ccof.org • www.ccof.org

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