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Winter 2007 Certified Organic

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ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS STATEMENT  
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My personal experience amid
The E. coli O157:H7 outbreak

BY WILL DANIELS

Until about mid-day, September 14, 2006 was just another beautiful autumn day. But, it turned out to be far from ordinary – it was the day that the FDA issued its warning to the general public not to consume fresh spinach. It came in response to reports from the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) that an E. coli outbreak was underway across several states, the common link being spinach.

The next day, with only the knowledge that some of our products might be implicated, Natural Selection Foods (dba Earthbound Farm) issued a voluntary recall of all brands produced, including Earthbound Farm organic, just as the FDA chose to take a broad swipe at protecting public health. That’s why we recalled all of our spinach products, including organic items. At that early stage in the investigation, we just didn’t know enough to limit the scope of the recall safely. As the investigation unfolded, however, DNA evidence implicated only conventional product that we had packed, not organic.

Because we are most closely associated with our Earthbound Farm organic brand, many in the produce industry and the media quickly jumped to the conclusion that our organic practices were the culprit. In fact, the only true support we received during this trying time was from our friends and colleagues in the organic industry including CCOF, OFRF and OTA. This is a clear lesson that organic producers must be vigilant in their food safety practices because the vocal, heavily-funded organic opposition will use any opportunity to undermine consumer confidence in organic foods.

Although this outbreak has been tragic for the victims, their families and our company, it is a watershed event in our industry because status quo “industry best practices” are being questioned, and we are now implementing additional food safety procedures that will prevent future E. coli occurrences.

The biggest change is Earthbound Farm’s new “Test & Hold” program, where every lot of raw product is tested for E. coli, salmonella and other pathogens. Any lots testing positive for such pathogens are diverted and dumped. The program has been used with success in the beef industry, resulting in the diversion of contaminated products from the market and a significant reduction of food borne illness, and we’re working on a finished goods testing program based on these same principles.

As we move forward, we plan on testing all inputs, including seeds, soil, fertilizers and water. We will work closely with our growers to ensure that they are following our Good Agricultural Practices and farming with established setbacks from cattle ranches and other livestock.

While some of the enhancements to our program may not be viable for every farmer and processor, it is imperative that we each take a close look at our food safety practices and make sure we are doing all we can to protect the consumer as well as the organic industry.

With that in mind, I am working on developing a post-harvest organic handling workshop for CCOF members that focuses on food safety. In the meantime, I hope you’ll take this cautionary tale to heart - be sure your focus on the safety of your products is sharp, as the continued success of the organic industry depends on us all!

Will Daniels is Quality Assurance Director for Earthbound Farm/Natural Selection Foods and Chair of CCOF’s Board of Directors.
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CCOF and Organic News

First Organic Farmer Elected to United States Senate!

Senator Elect Jon Tester, an organic farmer for nearly 20 years has been elected as a U.S. Senator from the state of Montana. Jon and his wife Sharla own T-Bone Farms, a diversified organic operation on 1,400 acres in Big Sandy, Montana, and were also named outstanding agricultural leaders by the College of Agriculture at the University of Montana in 2005. Jon Tester previously served as the national treasurer for the Organic Crop Improvement Association International, helped develop the Montana Organic Certification program, and has served in the Montana State Senate. We congratulate him on this historic achievement and know he will bring an important, unprecedented, and much-needed perspective to the U.S. Senate.

Congress’ First Order of Business: the 2007 Farm Bill

While some believe the 2007 Farm Bill will closely resemble the last, many groups involved in organic and sustainable agriculture are demanding reform of existing legislative patterns so that organic agriculture gets the attention it so rightfully deserves. First and foremost, farm groups are pushing for the end of subsidies that support big agri-business with billions of dollars a year, and in turn keep small and family farmers below the poverty line, in foreclosure, or even worse. Subsidy monies must be filtered back into the system to support actual farmers. Also, because the organic industry is consistently growing over 20% each year, it is highly deserving of more than the $4.5 million it receives each year for research, out of the total $1 billion in research set aside annually. CCOF supports The Organic Trade Association’s (OTA) position for establishing an organic title within the next Farm Bill, with the following four provisions: 1) A National Organic Agriculture Initiative to provide overall policy direction for increasing U.S. organic production, comparable to efforts underway abroad. 2) An Organic Production Office responsible for coordinating communication between all USDA organic programs. 3) Support, enhancement, re-authorization, and improvement for existing legislation dealing with organic agriculture, and 4) Agency Cooperative Programs (many USDA agencies have existing programs that could be expanded to meet the needs of organic producers).

Four New Members Appointed to National Organic Standards Board (NOSB)

Steve DeMuri, of CCOF certified Campbell Soup Company, has been named to the National Organic Standards Board as a Handler member. The other three appointees are Tracy Miedema, Tina Ellor, and Katarina Heinze. The four new members will serve terms of five years beginning in late January of 2007. Gerry Davis, of CCOF certified Grimmway Farms, currently still holds a seat on the NOSB.

CCOF Defends Organic Agriculture against Erroneous, Uninformed Attacks

Immediately following the tragic news of the E. coli O157:H7 outbreak from spinach, organic food and processing methods were unjustly and wrongfully attacked by the media, bringing erroneous information to consumers worldwide. CCOF stepped in by publishing a press release on September 25th in hopes of clearing up the confusion and to defend organic agriculture from the mounting attacks. Shortly thereafter, on October 12th, the U.S. FDA and the State of California released their findings implicating the source as cattle feces from adjacent cattle ranches, which were linked to conventional bagged spinach sold under the Dole brand. What became clear to us during and after the outbreak was that corporate-backed media sensationalists used this opportunity as an attempt to discredit organic foods. The only positive aspect to this outbreak is the increased consumer awareness of organic foods.

Western Organic Dairy Producers Form Alliance

Following the Western Organic Dairy Conference in Eureka this past spring, a group of dedicated dairy producers formed a steering committee to lay the groundwork for the official formation of the Western Organic Dairy Producers Alliance (WODPA). Within six months, a conference was planned, a Constitution written, and Bylaws mapped out for membership approval. On October 10th, the first annual conference for the WODPA successfully initiated the organization as the leading voice to represent organic dairy producers in the Western Region of the United States. The WODPA is established as a 501 (c)(5) non-profit corporation with five committees, and Tony Azevedo acting as President. For information contact mcdairy@koalas.com.

CCOF Offers Something for Everyone

CCOF has been busy organizing and attending a series of diverse events to promote organics. First up was the PMA Fresh Summit Conference in San Diego, where CCOF staff promoted organic certification and made important contacts within the produce industry. Immediately following was CCOF’s First Organic Beer and Wine Tasting Event on October 26th at the Ferry Plaza Farmers Market’s Harvest...
Festival in San Francisco, showcasing our members’ wine and beer-making skills. We plan to make this an annual event! CCOF then attended the San Francisco Green Festival to spread awareness about our efforts and the important work we do in the name of organic integrity. The following week, CCOF and the Epicurean Connection hosted a five-city Non-GMO Education and Dialogue with Percy Schmeiser, a Canadian canola farmer who was sued by Monsanto, bringing his story of ongoing struggle and hard facts about GMO’s to a greater audience. Special guests on the tour included Dr. Ignacio Chapella and Michael Pollan. Last but not least, CCOF, with co-sponsorship from Cal Poly State University's Sustainable Agriculture Resource Consortium, held the 5th Annual Sustainable Agriculture Pest Control Advisor Conference which offered expertise and continuing education for professionals in the field.

CCOF is Moving!

As we welcome new certification and trade association members to CCOF, we are outgrowing our office space! CCOF has been in our old Victorian house for several years, but it’s time to move to a bigger, more modern facility where we can better serve our members. We’ll actually have enough parking spaces for all of our employees’ cars, and we’ll be able to host board and committee meetings in our larger conference room. Look for details in the next edition of Certified Organic.

Visit CCOF at These Upcoming Events:

- Fancy Food Show in San Francisco, January 21 - 23
- Eco-Farm Conference in Pacific Grove, CA, January 24 - 27
- CA League of Food Processors Expo in Sacramento, CA, January 29 - 31
- World Ag Expo in Tulare, CA, February 13 - 15
- The CCOF Annual Meeting in Madera, CA, February 16 - 17
- Natural Products Expo-West in Anaheim, CA, March 8 - 11
- Western Dairy Conference in Fortuna, CA, March 15 - 17


Visit www.ccof.org to order your copy today!
GMO Contamination Exposed

USDA Accepting Grant Applications for GMO Risk Assessments!

In a groundbreaking and exciting move, the USDA just announced a new grant opportunity for projects assessing the risks of GMO crops. Description: “The purpose of the USDA Biotechnology Risk Assessment Grants (BRAG) Program is to assist Federal regulatory agencies in making science-based decisions about the effects of introducing genetically modified organisms into the environment. Investigations of effects on both managed and natural environments are relevant. Applications to the USDA BRAG Program must seek partial funding for a conference or address one of the following areas: 1) Identify and develop practices to minimize risks associated with genetically engineered organisms; 2) Research methods to monitor the dispersal of genetically engineered organisms; 3) Research to increase knowledge about the characteristics, rates, and methods of gene transfer that may occur between genetically engineered organisms, and related organisms; 4) Perform assessments to provide analysis which compares impacts of organisms modified through genetic engineering to other types of production systems; 5) Other areas of research designed to further the purposes of the USDA BRAG program. See RFA for details. www.csrees.usda.gov/funding/rfas/biotech_risk.html

USDA Deregulates Bayer’s Contamination-Causing GE Rice Strain LLRICE601

In a predictable response to Bayer CropScience’s petition to retroactively deregulate the unapproved, GE long-grain rice that contaminated commercial rice bins and food supplies around the world, the USDA has chosen to deregulate the strain. What continues to send international food markets into a feverish frenzy of import bans and lawsuits, the USDA now states that the strain is “determined to present no human health, food safety, or environmental concerns.” This determination came after “thorough review of scientific evidence,” though it does not explain what “evidence” they considered, and once again puts corporate interests ahead of consumer safety, health, and international demands. Immediately following the news that the illegal contamination had occurred, both Japan and the European Union (EU) blocked imports of the rice, sending rice futures plummeting by $150 million, mounting international outrage, and causing retailers to pull contaminated products from their shelves. Bayer CropScience still faces numerous lawsuits from farmer groups around the nation.

GE Rice Bans Alter Export Markets

The U.S. rice harvest is worth about $1.8 billion dollars annually. With California rice exports worth $200 million annually and nearly all of Japan’s rice imports coming from California grown rice, the issue of GE rice even being grown in the state is at the forefront of some major rice producer’s agendas. California’s top rice producers have made recent pushes for legislation banning GE rice in hopes of keeping the doors open for export markets in Japan and the European Union. Japan recently announced it would genetically test every rice shipment entering the country and shut down all U.S. imports if it found any more GE food products therein. The European Commission’s (EC) Standing Committee on the Food Chain recently announced a similar decision following extended negotiations between the USDA and the EC that they will impose mandatory testing in all imports of U.S. long-grain rice entering the EU. Consumers worldwide, some major players in the food industry and international trade officials have spoken - GE and GMO food products are simply not good for commerce.

GMO News continued on page 10
The value of an organic fertilizer can be measured by two critical criteria:

- The amount of nutrition in the bag.
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Nature Safe Natural & Organic Fertilizers are made from quality plant and animal proteins, resulting in the highest N-P-K formulations available in an OMRI listed product.

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International Commodity Traders Go GMO-Free

Diapason Commodities Management recently announced its agricultural commodity-based index, which is now exclusively GMO-free. The Diapason Commodities Agriculture Non-GMO Index includes futures contracts with companies in both Tokyo and the European Union, addressing commodity traders’ international concerns about the regulation of GMO food products, like import bans, and consumer rejection of such foods.

Thailand and Vietnam Join Forces to Protect Export Markets and Reject GMOs

Representatives from Thailand and Vietnam have formed an agreement to collaborate on rice import and export markets, sharing information about global trading and price monitoring on a daily basis. The two countries together account for more than half of all rice traded throughout the world market today. Within this new agreement, the two countries also agreed to cooperate on preventing the use of GMO rice.

Mexico Bans GE Maize – for Now

On October 16th, Mexico’s National Service for Agro-Food Safety and Quality, for the third time since 2005, refused all seven requests from agribusiness giants Monsanto, Dow, and Pioneer to conduct experimental cultivation of GM maize. Mexico did impose a moratorium on the planting of GM crops in 1998, but in 2001, despite the fact that there was no authorization to grow GM maize; traces of GM maize were detected in rural areas around the country. In 2005, Mexico’s President signed a bill that would begin the process for approving such GM plantings in the future. The official ban on GM crops is not final, for others report that pressures from these GM corporations may be more readily accepted under Mexico’s new conservative President, Felipe Calderon, who took office in early December. A key report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture in 2002 stated that GM maize did not demonstrate higher yields compared to traditional varieties, undermining the biotech industries false claims. Farmers in Mexico began to breed corn successfully, without the use of GM technology, approximately 8,000 years ago. The country is now home to only 59 species of maize grown by approximately 3.1 million farmers.

“Booming” GE Ethanol Industry May Seize Conservation Reserve Lands

U.S Department of Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns claims U.S. “farmers” will be able to keep up with increasing demands for corn production to fuel the expanding ethanol industry, but GE agribusiness giants will really be the ones growing and thus profiting from these new monoculture takeovers. The monoculture plantings will not only lead to drastically increased fertilizer use, toxic pesticide applications, polluted run-off entering our various water supplies, and more severe loss of wildlife habitat and diversity, but also to the inevitable seizure of land from struggling farmers and potentially from the U.S. Conservation Reserve Program. Secretary Johanns reports that there are four to seven million acres “idled” in the Conservation Reserve Program that are viable for corn production, and that “new technologies” (GE) will continue to boost yields, although numerous studies undermine the claim that GE monoculture plantings are more productive.

CCOF supports organic and sustainable bio-fuel production, and urges you, the grower, consumer and public, to realize the serious implications associated with GE/GMO bio-fuel production.
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Fall 2006 Update

CCOF’s Executive Director Peggy Miars contacted Congress to advocate for continued funding for the National Organic Certification Cost-Share Program, Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas (ATTRA), and the Conservation Security Program. CCOF also distributed an email blast to thousands of our supporters asking that they contact Congress in support of these imperative programs.

CCOF submitted comments to the Canadian Food Inspection Agency regarding Canada’s Proposed Regulations on Organic Production and advocated for some equivalency with the NOP to reduce the logistical efforts and expense caused to CCOF certified producers who sell in both the United States and Canada.

CCOF urged the NOP to publish their proposed rule and Advanced Notice of Proposed Rulemaking regarding dairy replacements and “access to pasture” for livestock.

Member Benefits

“After being asked for years if I accepted credit cards at the farmers market, I finally did after CCOF offered credit card processing as a member benefit through Affiniscape. My sales have increased 15-20%, and part of the processing fee goes back to supporting CCOF. The bottom line is giving people more ways to buy means more sales for the farmer. This program is another example of why CCOF is the best organic certifier.”  Ryan Rich, San Luis Obispo Chapter President

Members can view this offer by clicking the big green box on the CCOF website homepage: www.ccof.org.

Going Organic Project Quick Facts

See p.19 for more information about the Going Organic Project.
• 40 New Organic Farmers
• 23 Mentors
• 1,192 Acres
• 18 Counties
• 19 Seminars and Field Meetings to Date
• 6 OSP Trainings to Date
• Crops: Almonds, Apples, Blueberries, Citrus, Corn, Cotton, Flowers, Forage, Mixed Market Farms, Olives, Pasture, Peaches, Plums, Pomegranates, Raisins, Rice, Walnuts, Wine Grapes
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World-wide demand for organic foods is growing at an ever-increasing rate - requiring major expansion of our national and international distribution system.

EXPANDED DISTRIBUTION
To meet this growing demand, Global Organics has added additional distributors in California, across the country, and in key international markets.

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With over 30 years of experience, Global Organics and our BioFlora products have become the world quality standard for organics.

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All BioFlora products are designed for organic or sustainable agriculture with several being OMRI Listed. We are also CCOF members and a contributing Audubon International partner.

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For more information on BioFlora/OMRI listed products please call toll-free 888-BioFlora www.bioflora.com ©2007 GO
Introducing the CCOF Staff

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.

Meet CCOF’s Staff

Since implementation of the USDA’s National Organic Program in 2002, CCOF’s staff has been divided into two separate entities. CCOF Certification Services provides certification services for organic businesses. CCOF, Inc. is a trade association providing organic education and advocacy as well as promotion of our members, CCOF, and organics in general. CCOF, Inc. also provides administrative services for CCOF Certification Services.

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Lend us your strength and commitment! CCOF’s board and committees need your input and involvement. You can help guide the organization by participating in the governance and direction of CCOF. Contact us at ccof@ccof.org or (831) 423-2263 to get involved.
Achievement and Recognition

CCOF certified Butte Creek Brewing won the gold medal for their Organic Pilsner at the 25th Great American Beer Festival Awards Ceremony held this fall in Denver, Colorado. Brewmaster Larry Berlin, who developed the award winning pilsner, submitted their Organic Pilsner in the German-style Pilsner category at the largest national beer competition in the United States. The Butte Creek Organic Pilsner was one of three organic beers that placed at the festival, which Berlin feels is an important move toward further legitimizing the organic brewing industry. Congratulations to Chico-based Butte Creek Brewing, who plan to continue on the good path in support of organic farming and great beer. Check them out at www.buttecreek.com.

Sol Food Farm is a CCOF certified 2-acre market garden and small CSA in Western Sonoma County run by Leo Ryan Goldsmith, who is also a caterer, and Andy Szymanowicz and Laura Neale, who work in the restaurant business. Trained as apprentices in sustainable farming and agroecology at the UCSC Farm and Garden, the trio promotes organic farming through their Full Harvest Dinners. Leo is a founding board member of WWOOF (Willing Workers on Organic Farms), and was sent to Japan recently to visit farms and create networks of farmers and volunteers. Laura was asked to represent Sonoma County as a farmer at Slow Food’s Terra Madre 2006 in Turin, Italy.

We want to celebrate your achievements! Send us your news and press releases. Call 831-423-2263 or email cof@ccof.org.
The issue of global warming has taken center stage lately due to the widespread popularity of An Inconvenient Truth, the Al Gore documentary that brings hard facts about environmental devastation caused by industrialization to the tip of our nation’s pollution-laden tongue. Armed with perfect timing, a coalition of nearly 30 states, cities, and environmental organizations are now challenging the Bush administration’s lack of regard for the environment in the case of Massachusetts v. EPA in the United States Supreme Court. This landmark global warming case will decide whether or not the Clean Air Act authorizes the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to regulate the pollution causing global warming. Even in the great green state of California, where tailpipe emissions standards were adopted in lieu of federal standards to reduce fleet-wide global warming emissions from new vehicles by 30% in 2016, we are seeing and suffering from far too many examples of global warming, be it in the air we breathe, the water we so desperately rely on, the ocean’s rising temperatures, the droughts and heat waves, or the ever increasing rates of habitat loss and extinction sweeping the planet.

The Farallon National Wildlife Refuge off the coast of San Francisco, famous for housing the largest seabird colony in the United States, has in the last two years experienced a devastating decline in the breeding success of nearly all of the 20,000 pairs of Cassin’s auklets who nest there. Researchers have performed annual counts of the Cassin’s auklets since 1967, and attribute this rapid decline directly to the recent rise of ocean temperatures from three to five degrees above average, causing a catastrophic domino effect in the marine food chain, and the potential to depress our entire global ecosystem. Global warming is just the tip of the melting iceberg, though.

Environmentalism is a colossal topic, and even though there are more environmentalists now than ever before, the majority of us do not always have time for the full story. When looking into where our food comes from, it becomes clear that the organic movement is deeply rooted in environmentalism as a whole.

As scientists around the world predict the future of agriculture’s capabilities with global warming in mind, many important topics are being addressed that critically affect the global food supply, and therefore stability of life on our planet. According to a report from a Subgroup on Agriculture, Forestry, and Other Systems (AFOS), a rise in average global temperatures of two to three degrees Celsius over the next century will likely result in climatic zones shifting several hundred kilometers toward the poles and significantly reducing the land avail-
able for agriculture. A rise in sea level of approximately 0.3 meters will inundate coastal lands and increase salinity, and begin a gradual breakdown of certain ecosystems, thus leading to additional CO₂ emissions, as well as increased pests, weeds, and ultraviolet radiation leading to reduced biomass and photosynthesis, again enhancing the CO₂ content of the atmosphere. As Lester Brown, a 10-year policy advisor for the USDA and founder of the Earth Policy Institute, puts it, “The vast corn belt of the Northern Hemisphere, for example, will become hotter and dryer, and that change can’t be resolved by merely creating new corn belts further north, because the soils further north are not the same at all…. Each global increase of 1.8 degree Fahrenheit around the world will reduce grain yields like rice, wheat, and corn, by at least 10%.” Pollination fees also continue to rise dramatically, as heat spells across the nation ruin nectar flows and wipe out honeybee hives, making it difficult for certain farmers, like California’s almond farmers, to successfully pollinate their crops.

The golden state of California is our nation’s cornucopia, and with a $30 billion agriculture industry that relies on climate and water alike, the politics of global warming and environmentalism have only just begun. This past summer, California’s 21-day heat wave created serious economic hardships, where in Fresno County alone, the beef, dairy, and poultry losses totaled $85 million after 20 days in a row of temperatures exceeding 100 degrees. In the San Joaquin valley, thousands of cows dropped dead in the dilapidating heat. The warmer temperatures can alter our food system in a number of ways, from blossoms opening weeks too soon before being pollinated, to the increasing need for irrigation, and reliance on mountain snowpacks that provide 75% of the West’s water. As experts from Stanford University predict the snowpack will likely melt too fast each spring and diminish by as much as 90% by the end of the century, scientists around the world are working on similar predictions addressing the food supply.

**Eating is Politics**

For now, our nation’s serious agricultural challenges are still flying below the radar of the masses, but another inconvenient truth at hand is industrial agriculture’s big lie, it’s brainwashing propaganda, the corporate takeover of small family farmers and their lands, the relentless environmental devastation and toxic pollution aftermath, the resulting increases of cancer, asthma, allergies, and neurological impairments and the widespread loss of habitat and species around the globe.

In 1987, the United States signed the Montreal Protocol, vowing to end the use of methyl bromide, a harmful pesticide, by 2005. America has since failed to meet that deadline, and as international tension still mounts 14 years after the

**The Problem: Industrial Agriculture’s Aftermath**

- “DDT is good for me” was a marketing slogan used when DDT hit the market in the 1940’s.
- By 1949 dairy farmers stopped using DDT because it showed up in milk products.
- Organophosphates are the most widely used pesticides in the United States, known to be toxic to humans, birds, and mammals. Combinations of these toxins were used as nerve gas in the German concentration camps, and in the creation of Agent Orange.
- The pesticide industry started because excess WWII chemicals needed a new market. This move was carried out exclusively by the US government.
- One quarter of all pesticide use occurs in homes and yards.
- Since 1989, pesticide use has increased 8%, or 60 million lbs. in the United States.
- 1 million American children ingest unsafe amounts of organophosphates from pesticide residue each year.
- 165 pesticides are known to be carcinogenic.
- 300,000 farm workers suffer acute pesticide poisoning each year in the United States.
- During the last 35 years, global food production has grown 16%, yet 800 million people go hungry every day.
- 1961-2000 America lost an average of 41,333 farms a year.
- 83% of American farm households are below the poverty level.
- 2% of farms produce 50% of agricultural product sales.
- 95% of food is manufactured by corporations.
- The United States lost half of all topsoil since 1960, 17 times faster than nature creates it.
- 1.3 billion tons of manure from factory farms – chemicals, antibiotics, and hormones included – leach into the water supply each year.
- 75% of genetic diversity in agriculture has been lost in the last century.
- Mexico lost 80% of maize varieties since 1930.
- A USDA report from 2000 states there is no overall reduction in pesticide use with GE crops.
- In 1995 over $4 billion in USDA subsidies were given to “Commodity Subsidies”.
- In the USDA Subsidy program, $11 million was given to promote the Pillsbury Doughboy to foreign markets.
- The commercial seed business makes $23 billion/yr.
treaty, the U.S. government blatantly disregards international effort to protect the ozone when requesting approval to produce 7,071 tons of methyl bromide in 2008, an amount greater than all the other nations’ amounts combined. In November, the EPA went farther down the path of irreversible damage when declaring that toxic pesticides can be sprayed over and into waterways without first obtaining a permit. Within the last year, more than 9,000 EPA scientists and employees protested their own administration for pressuring them into rushed studies and cutting corners within their pesticide reports, and many top scientists have since resigned, making public statements about the corruption of the very agency that was established to protect the environment. They demanded that toxic chemicals not be approved unless the EPA can prove with scientific evidence that certain pesticides will not harm neurological development in humans, but the EPA is unable to do that.

It is clear we cannot always rely on government to make the best decisions about our health, our food, and our future. The only easy solution that seems to work is for consumers to educate themselves about the facts of food production and vote for the future of farming and vitality of our environment with their dollars and sense, shifting the market toward organic foods and sustainable products. In the words of Alice Walker, “We are the ones we’ve been waiting for. There is no one else coming.”

The Solutions
Supporting Organic Farming and Sustainable Living

Organic farming, sustainable living, and conscious consumerism is a grassroots effort creating major shifts in economics and the start of what is materializing into a successful revolution backed by informed choices, environmental solutions, and commerce. Individuals who do not vote consciously with their dollars and sense continue to support industrial agriculture as well as its effects. The solution is to vote for certified organic, for as stated in the National Organic Program rule, a certified organic operation “must maintain or improve the natural resources of the operation, including soil, water, wetlands, woodlands, and wildlife.”

Decreasing Excessive Energy Consumption

As listed in the 2006 Organic Center Report: Impacts of Organic Farming on the Efficiency of Energy Use in Agriculture, the U.S. food system uses approximately 19% of the total fossil energy burned annually, while organic farming systems reduce fossil energy inputs by one-third due to the absence of toxic chemical pesticides and nitrogen fertilizer applications. One of the main conclusions of the study is that fossil energy use in organic corn production was 31% lower than conventional corn production, with organic soybean production energy use being 17% lower than conventional. If only 10% of all U.S. corn were grown organically, we would save 4.6 million barrels, or 200 million gallons, of oil each year.

The way we feed livestock in the United States significantly contributes to energy loss because it takes 45 million tons of plant protein annually to produce 7.5 million tons of animal protein in the form of meat, milk, and eggs. Organic methods prove better again when beef cows feed on organic pasture, a method which requires only half as much energy as grain-fed beef production. Also, when compared to conventional, two organic milk production systems in Sweden and Denmark showed that 29% and 35% less fossil energy per unit of milk, respectively, could be achieved, a significant improvement.

Reducing Toxic Pesticide Pollution

This one is simple, organic agriculture does not use toxic chemical pesticides, period. When you make organic purchases, you are an instrumental warrior in the fight for a more sustainable, less toxic world. By purchasing organic products in California alone, you will help reduce California’s pesticide use increase of 40% per year, or an increase of 7.2 million pounds of pesticides each year. Voting organic with your dollars also seriously decreases the amount of raw sewage sludge that is applied to crop fields and cuts down the risks of foodborne diseases like E.coli. Studies have shown that organic food is more nutrient rich and beneficial than non-organic food, and eating organically could greatly reduce your risks of cancers, neurological disorders, and other serious health problems. A study from the University of Washington in Seattle concludes that children consuming an almost exclusive organic diet immediately eliminate exposures to dangerous pesticides known to disrupt neurological development. By supporting organic farming practices, consumers are directly funding and advancing a revolution of solutions, the end to toxic chemical pesticides and fertilizers.
in our environment, and the beginning of healing the planet and ourselves.

**Increasing Biodiversity**

The National Organic Program requires that organic producers promote ecological balance and conserve biodiversity. CCOF is considering incorporating new biodiversity measures into the organic certification inspection process, which would greatly benefit farmers and the environment, starting with cost reductions for insect, rodent, and weed control by farming in harmony with nature’s natural predators and increasing habitat for beneficial insects and mammals to thrive in. Biodiversity farming measures will also improve water quality by implementing vegetative filtering methods to decrease the amount of harmful sediments in the water, naturally. According to a Wild Farm Alliance proposal, promoting biodiversity on the farm will also lead to more efficient pollination by creating habitat for native pollinators, natural enemy insects, and predatory birds and bats, as wild pollinators are now valued at an estimated $4-7 billion annually in the United States alone. And, as the Wild Farm Alliance report states, “When riparian vegetation and wetlands are safeguarded and restored, they can help to filter runoff and recharge dwindling groundwater supplies, which can equate to the alleviation of water quality fines and a reduction of pumping taxes, and to abundant clean water for future agriculture and community uses.”

*If only 10% of all U.S. corn were grown organically, we would save 4.6 million barrels, or 200 million gallons, of oil each year.*

**Protecting Waterways from Conventional Agriculture**

It’s obvious that decreasing and eventually eliminating toxic chemical pesticide and fertilizer use in agriculture will lessen the amount of harmful toxins, sediments, and nutrients in our waterways, but what is actually being done about it? The State of Washington is now funding farmers in the Skokomish watershed to transition to organic farming practices in hopes of improving water quality through the reduction of harmful nutrients entering the watershed. The Skokomish watershed supports large runs of salmon as well as the state’s oyster industry, and the goal is to prove that fish die-offs in recent years can be directly attributed to high levels of dissolved oxygen and nitrates that leach into the water from nearby conventional farms.

And within our own CCOF family, we have the CCOF Foundation’s Going Organic project being funded by the California State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB). What was launched as a pilot project funded by the Heller Foundation and CCOF, Inc. in 2003, has now grown into a groundbreaking effort to convert 40 farmers to organic production within three years. The goal of the project is to prove that implementing organic farming practices will mitigate pesticides, sediments, and nutrient runoff in the Sacramento and San Joaquin River Basins. As Fred Thomas, the Going Organic Project Coordinator, states, “The Going Organic project received significant funding from the California State Water Resources Control Board in 2005 because the SWRCB recognized organic farm practices as beneficial for water quality in Basin Plan Management Measure 3.” The Going Organic project is underway, transferring technology and information via seminars and mentor farmer-trainee relationships, and monitoring three organic drainage study sites for water quality improvements.

Numerous other research and funding opportunities are underway through organizations such as the Organic Farming Research Foundation (OFRF), ATTRA, The Rodale Institute, the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education Program (SARE), and the Organic Center, to name a few. As the research and conclusive evidence begins to mount on the side of organic agriculture and sustainable living, the worth of this progressive movement will have numerous opportunities to make its case, being armed not only with perfect timing, but with the voices of informed consumers worldwide.

**To Non-Progressive Environmental, Agricultural, and Food Policy**

There are many ways to change the world. By staying informed and in the loop about environmental, agricultural, and food politics, and by becoming involved in organizations like CCOF and the Center for Food Safety, you can ensure your voice is heard at a legislative level near you, be it locally, federally, or internationally. The organic community was successful in keeping “the big three” out of organic standards in 1997, with the largest public outcry to the USDA (280,000 voices) ever recorded in history, and in 2006 the environmental and food community defeated California Senate Bill 1056 (aka the Monsanto Bill), which died in committee without a vote, due to the relentless opposition from a community intolerant of GE and GMO crops. We will eventually be successful in shaping and molding a more progressive world and a more sustainable future for ourselves and our families, but we’ve got a long road ahead.

Above all else, the most immediate possibility for progressive change can only be achieved through economics. Vote for change, for organic agriculture, for less toxic water, for biodiversity, for your health and mine, for the end of GE and GMO crops, for decreasing energy consumption and global warming gasses; vote for it all with your conscious dollars and sense.

*Colleen Bednarz is a writer devoted to environmental issues and Program Coordinator for CCOF, Inc.*

**Sources**

*Fatal Harvest,* The Center for Food Safety, Andrew Kimbrell, 2002
*EWG Farm Subsidy Database;*
*Global Warming Could Slam Food Supply,* August 5, 2006, ABC News
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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

The United States District Court in the District of Maine dismissed a legal action filed by Mr. Arthur Harvey in which he alleged that the Secretary of Agriculture failed to meet the requirements of the Order of the District Court. In the filing, Mr. Harvey objected to the Secretary’s interpretation of the requirements of the amendments to the Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA) that were passed by the Congress of the United States in late 2005. Mr. Harvey’s motion sought an order from the Court on the issues of synthetic processing aids and “food contact substances.”


New Global Market Access Program Certificate

To improve CCOF’s Global Market Access program we have revised our international certificate. The new certificate now shows all international standards your operation meets. It also eliminates long listings of specific products in favor of them appearing on our new client profile (see below).

Now, each CCOF and Global Market Access program certificate will be a single page and specific information for both programs will appear on a single improved client profile.

Improved CCOF Client Profile

This important document is produced as a client benefit to show you and the world specific details about your certified organic program. The improved version will be easier to read and will show your NOP and international compliance information (where applicable). You will now see your parcels, crops, and/or products, and brands will be able to use it to demonstrate organic status to buyers and others who want to know more about your operation.

Online Client Access.

In the coming months, CCOF will be testing and introducing a unique service that will allow clients to log in to our system to view certification information maintained by CCOF. This will allow clients to track the renewal process, specific certification information such as products and parcels, the status of compliance letters and inspections in addition to printing copies of important documents. We hope to launch the system for clients in the coming months and will continue to improve it as we receive input from clients.
Expedited Certification Program

To respond to client and market needs, CCOF has developed a program to rush certification in special cases. To ensure cost effective service for all operations, CCOF encourages existing operations to submit certification requests such as new facilities, certifications, and additional acreages with plenty of time for them to undergo review and inspection. However, CCOF increasingly receives requests to provide “immediate” certification to new operations or additional acreage and/or production facilities. This has put tremendous strain on the organization to ensure that the both the needs of clients with time-sensitive situations and ongoing certification are balanced equitably.

As always, CCOF provides our best possible service to all clients. To ensure fairness and consistency, requests, new applications, and additional products or acreage are processed in the order they are received. However, to meet the needs of all clients, CCOF now offers the option of expedited services for additional costs. Under the Expedited Certification Program, operations with compressed timelines or special needs will be able to receive additional attention and quicker turnaround times without affecting the quality of service received by other CCOF operations. Expedited Certification Program enrollment cannot guarantee certification since certification is based strictly on the compliance of the operation and inspection findings. Instead, the program ensures that every effort will be made to process certifications quickly. These efforts include inspection report submission and review within 48 and 72 hours, respectively, in addition to courier service for paperwork and email receipt of all certificates, etc.

For more information about the program, or to enroll, please see the Expedited Service Program sign-up form on the facing page. Additional copies can be downloaded from www.ccof.org/forms.php.

The Organic Directory is Coming!

The CCOF annual Organic Directory is widely distributed and reaches an influential group of organic farmers, processors, retailers, wholesalers, policy makers, media representatives, and consumers. This includes more than 1100 certified organic growers, more than 400 certified organic processor/handlers, and CCOF supporting businesses and individual members. In addition, the Organic Directory is a popular resource distributed nationwide and abroad at natural and organic tradeshows and conferences.

Reserve Your Ad Space and Update Your Information Today!

Space reservations and ads are due by November 10, 2007 for the 2008 Directory.

If you have further questions regarding ad sizes, rates or specs, please contact marketing at (831) 423-2263, ext. 31 or by email at marketing@ccof.org.
Expedited Certification Program

CCOF rush service: when you need organic certification fast

CCOF is dedicated to providing efficient, professional, cost-effective service. All applications and special requests are processed in the order received. Due to the importance and complexity of the application review, inspection, and compliance review process, CCOF recommends that certification applications are submitted 12 weeks prior to organic harvest, projected sales or other deadlines.

For special situations with short certification time frames, CCOF provides expedited services to meet your needs. To enroll sign up below and fax the completed form to CCOF at (831) 423-4528

Who is this program for?

• Operations that are capable of compliance but have not allowed sufficient time to undergo the certification process. Examples include operations with impending harvests, market releases, or product launch deadlines.
• Operations who wish to finish the certification process as soon as possible.

What will CCOF provide?

• Your application receives top priority processing. Any letters resulting from your application will be emailed and/or faxed to you immediately. All mailing and document transmission throughout the process will be performed using scanned electronic means, faxes or delivery services such as FedEx.
• CCOF will begin securing an inspector immediately. Once your application is reviewed and accepted, your inspection will occur as soon as possible based upon inspector availability and your schedule.
• The inspection report will be submitted to CCOF within 48 hours of inspection.
• CCOF will review the inspection report and address any outstanding issues within 72 hours.
• All responses from you will be applied to the certification process immediately.
• Your certificate will be provided both electronically and through expedited shipping.

How much does expedited service cost?

• $750 for new certifications or additional facilities added to existing certifications.
• $400 for new acreage at existing operations.
• Inspection and annual certification costs still apply. While CCOF makes every effort to minimize inspection costs, expedited services may incur higher costs.

What is expected of the client?

• A complete application describing your organic practices is fundamental to organic certification and will be critical for CCOF staff to successfully expedite the process.
• Timely responses to information requests during the application and inspection review processes.
• Payment of expedited service fees and payment of subsequent certification costs.

Can certification be guaranteed by a certain date?

• No, certification is dependent upon compliance on-site, quality of your application, and the inspector’s findings. CCOF will pull out all the stops in the process, but many factors affect the final certification decision.

What if I don’t enroll?

• CCOF will process your application as quickly as possible and provide you our best available service. Every effort will continue to be made to ensure the process continues efficiently.

I have read and understand the terms of CCOF’s Expedited Certification Program. Please enroll my operation and begin expedited services immediately.

Company Name

Name  Signature  Date

Start the Organic Certification Process Today!
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movie reviews

A Silent Forest

A Silent Forest: The Growing Threat of GE Trees, Produced by Three Americas, Inc. and Raindancer Environmental Media, Directed and Edited by Ed Schehl

Narrated by Dr. David Suzuki, former director of the largest genetic research lab in Canada and award winning host of The Nature of Things, the film brings to light the serious dangers of open-air plantations of these untested, unsafe, manmade trees. Dr. Suzuki also confronts the uneducated and uninformed rush to commercialize the unproven products of biotechnology, spreading the truth about how the application of this dangerous technology will forever alter the natural world as we know it.

The issue of GE crops, trees, and pharmaceuticals is one of the most serious and detrimental topics we face today, and it is time to take a closer look at A Silent Forest in order to understand what could easily happen to the natural life of our planet if we don’t act now, act often, and spread the truth.

web corner

Resources On-line

Visit Scorecard.org to track pollution in your state, county, city, and local community. Scorecard.org is packed with critical information, listing the top polluters in the United States, who releases the most cancer-causing pollutants, which chemicals pose the greatest risk to the ozone and much, much more. You can even search companies by name to research those of concern to you and your family.

The Center for Food Safety became the nation’s leading food activism site by campaigning and spreading awareness about the harmful effects of GE/GMO foods, food irradiation, and the manufacturing of cloned animals for dinner plates worldwide. They are instrumental in supporting crucial campaigns like the current Labeling and Safety Testing of GE Foods Campaign, or HR 5269 and HR 5268. Join their online network to stay informed and get involved in the politics of food. www.centerforfoodsafety.com
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For Sale – New and Pre-owned Sizers and Graders, complete packlines, cup graders and Highspeed Aweta / Greefa and more. Contact nico@tradeandservice.com or visit www.tradeandservice.com.

For Sale – 40 ft. Cooler Unit – works perfectly, back and side doors for loading. Has been used on a farm, runs on diesel, tires still good enough for a move. Has a thermo king unit. Fully water and air tight, good floor, includes stairs. In Watsonville, CA. Vanessa 831-728-4540

For Sale – Tractor Seat Belts. Offering a huge selection of tractor seat belts including 2 point (lap only) non-retractable or retractable seat belts, and microswitch seat belts that will not let the equipment startup until the operator has buckled up. We also carry fuel cells and trailer accessories including tie downs, rope ties, d-rings, tire bonnets, axle straps and more. Purchase online http://wescoperformance.stores.yahoo.net/tractor-seat-belt.html.

For Sale – Almond Hulling Equipment. Fadie Huller, 100 cubic yard portable metal storage, various elevators, 3 air-legs, sorting table, pit, de-sticker. $2,500 or best offer. Email jen@moller.com or call 530-756-5086 weekdays between 8 am and 5 pm, or evenings/weekends 707-678-2371; please ask for Paul.


For Sale – 18 Acre Certified Organic Farm, Fallbrook/Rainbow. Blueberries, blackberries, guava, cherimoyas, etc., home site has ocean views, large barn with living quarters, all utilities. Splittable. $999,000. www.DiscoverTemecula.net 951-694-9209.

For Sale – Land. Third year “in transition to organic” walnuts: On 71 acres (60 +/- planted) in Glenn County, California. Class-1 alluvial fan soils next to the Sacramento River. Offered at $720,000 cash. For more details call Robin at 530-701-4010.

Wanted – Cheap, organic, bulk wine to distill into spirits, at least 2000-2500 gallons at 11% alcohol or higher, preferably from the San Joaquin Valley but other locations will do, any varietal is fine but we need wine from 2004-2006. Please email theloft@loftliqueurs.com or call 510-595-3330.

Services Offered – Work Training Center, Chico. Two woodshops, one sewing facility, crafts boxes, crates, display systems, garments and other innovative ideas - sustainable materials emphasized. You produce a natural product - use materials to display, ship, and sell what you grow! Contact Joe 530-624-4346 or email jkrulder@ewtc.org.

Apprenticeship – Peaceful Glen Organics is looking for an apprentice greenhouse worker for the spring 2007 season near Covelo. Private room, shared bath and small stipend. For details, see classified at www.ccof.org. If interested, email jrtrint@saber.net or check www.peacefulglen.com.

Employment – Organic farmers, Blondie’s Farm outside of Fairfield. 96 irrigated acres with plan to expand orchard, olive trees, and grapes. Housing may be included in your relationship with Blondie’s Farm. Send resume including your agricultural education and experience to ken@blondiesfarm.com or mail to Ken Sarachan at 2401 Telegraph Avenue, Berkeley, CA 94704.

Employment – Assistant Farm Manager for the 2007 growing season. Ideal position for someone with previous farming experience looking to take on more of a management role. Salary is commensurate with experience. Submit a letter of interest to gideon@atlasfarm.com or mail to: Gideon Porth/Atlas Farm 8 Pine Street South Deerfield, MA 01373.

Dairy Energy Efficiency Program for PG&E Customers to dairy farmers and dairy products manufacturers in PG&E territory who stand to save hundreds of thousands of dollars and reduce on-farm electrical usage through the new Dairy Energy Efficiency Program

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Free – Organic Rice Fiber makes an excellent animal feed. Stockton manufacturing facility has rice fiber available 1-2 times per week. You haul. Call for directions: 209-938-0900, 8-5 pm Mon-Fri.

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Calendar
Visit www.ccof.org/calander.php for links and a complete listing of events.

January 21–23, 2007
Fancy Food Conference, Moscone Center, San Francisco, CA
Join the specialty food industry to sample and view the latest new products to hit the market. Visit CCOF in Booth # 759. www.specialtyfood.com.

January 24–27, 2007
Eco–Farm 2007, Asilomar Conference Grounds, Pacific Grove, CA
“Eco–Farm” features prominent keynote speakers and more than 50 workshops on sustainable agriculture, including technical, marketing, research, and policy issues. Visit CCOF in the Exhibitor Tent. http://ecofarm.org/efc/aboutefc.html.

January 29–31, 2007
California League of Food Processors Conference, Sacramento, CA
More than a thousand Food Industry professionals will meet to discuss issues, develop business opportunities, and look at new technologies for productivity, safety, energy management, environmental controls and more. Come hear CCOF speakers present on important organic topics. The event is being held at the Sacramento Convention Center. www.cclf.com.

CCOF Foundation Going Organic Meetings
January 30, 2007 – Going Organic Meeting: OSP 101, Placerville, CA
February 20, 2007 – Going Organic Meeting: OSP 101, Chico, CA
February 2, 2007 – Going Organic Meeting: OSP 101, Lakeport, CA
February 21, 2007 – Going Organic Meeting: OSP 101, Merced, CA
February 22, 2007 – Going Organic Meeting: OSP 101, Santa Rosa, CA
February 23, 2007 – Going Organic Meeting: OSP 101, Lakeport, CA
February 27, 2007 – Going Organic Meeting: OSP 101, Fresno, CA
www.ccof.org/goingorganic.php

February 6 – 7, 2007
National Organic Standards Board Meeting, Washington, DC
This will be a ‘public working session’ focusing mainly on § 205.606 issues. There will not be a chance for public comment at this meeting but it will be open to the public. www.ams.usda.gov/nosb/

February 13–15, 2007
World Ag Expo, Tulare, CA
Each year, the World Ag Expo is the largest agricultural event on the globe. Visit CCOF in Booth # 3024. www.worldagexpo.com.

February 16–17, 2007
CCOF Annual Meeting, Madera, CA
The 2007 CCOF Annual Meeting, hosted by the Fresno-Tulare Chapter, will be held at the Madera Municipal Golf Course for CCOF members and clients. The event will feature a bus tour of local farms on Friday, and educational speakers, reception and dinner on Saturday. www.ccof.org/annualmeeting.php.
New Certified Clients

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

A AND P GROWERS
Tulare, CA
559-683-3663
dqoarf@apgrowers.com
Certified: Nut Packing, Nut Roasting, Pistachios

ADM RICE, INC.
Arbuckle, CA
530-476-2862
johnny_barntette@admworld.com
www.admworld.com
Certified: Milling, Packaging

AGRICOLA BAJA S.A. de C.V.
Valle de Vizcaino, BS
530-982-2220
ARLO BECKER
harrys_r_us@yahoo.com
559-665-1770
APPLE FLATS FARM
deskchat@aim.com
330-674-0998
AMISH NATURALS, INC.
Chowchilla, CA
559-665-1770
defskch@aim.com
Certified: Apples

ARLO BECKER
Butte City, CA
530-982-2220
Certified: Corn [Dry]

AROMAS BERRY FARMS
Oxnard, CA
805-207-9067
Certified: Blackberries, Cover Crop, Fallow, Raspberries, Strawberries

AZTLAN COLD STORAGE, INC.
Los Angeles, CA
213-955-4900
Certified: Apples, Apricots, Arugula, Avocados, Bananas, Basil, Beets, Blueberries, Bok Choy, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Carrots [Mini Peeled], Cauliflower, Celery, Celery Hearts, Chad, Cherry, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Ginger Root, Grapefruit, Grapes, Greens, Herbs, Kale, Kiwi, Leeks, Lemons, Lettuces, Mango, Melons, Mushrooms, Nectarines, Onions, Oranges, Parsnips, Peaches, Pears, Peppers, Pineapple, Plums, Potatoes, Rutabaga, Salad Mix, Spinach, Sprouts, Squash, Strawberries, Tomatoes, Yams

BALBARO VINEYARDS/ MONDAVI
St. Helena, CA
530-974-1412
bethhuruma@comcast.net
Certified: Grapes [Riesling]

BEDNAR VINEYARD
Redwood Valley, CA
707-485-7343
jrbrednar@isaber.net
Certified: Grapes [Carignane], Grapes [Syrah]

BERETTA DAIRY
Santa Rosa, CA
707-588-8614
Certified: Pasture, Pasture & Rangeland, Ryegress

BOLDRINI DAIRY [HCA]
Ferndale, CA
707-786-4507
Certified: Dairy Cows, Pasture, Milk [Raw]

CACHE CREEK NURSERY AND FARM
Rumsey, CA
530-796-2511
www.cachecreeknursery.com
Certified: Oranges, Ornamental Plants, Vegetable Transplants

CALIFORNIA FRESH FARMS, LLC.
Salinas, CA
831-796-2373
earl.pirtle@mannpacking.com
Certified: Sweet Potatoes

COAST PRODUCE COMPANY, INC.
Los Angeles, CA
213-955-4900
Certified: Apples, Apricots, Arugula, Avocados, Bananas, Basil, Beets, Blueberries, Bok Choy, Broccoli, Cabbage, Carrots, Carrots [Mini Peeled], Cauliflower, Celery, Celery Hearts, Chad, Cherry, Cucumber, Eggplant, Garlic, Ginger Root, Grapefruit, Grapes, Greens, Herbs, Kale, Kiwi, Leeks, Lemons, Lettuce, Mango, Melons, Mushrooms, Nectarines, Onions, Oranges, Parsnips, Peaches, Pears, Peppers, Pineapple, Plums, Potatoes, Rutabaga, Salad Mix, Spinach, Sprouts, Squash, Strawberries, Tomatoes, Yams

COLLENBERG DAIRY
Arcata, CA
707-822-5907
our dairy@aal.com
Certified: Hay and Pasture, Pasture

COLORFUL HARVEST, LLC
Monterey, CA
831-464-2100
dranno@colorfulharvest.com
www.colorfulharvest.com
Certified: Strawberries

DAIRYMEN’S FEED & SUPPLY CO-OP
Petaluma, CA
707-765-1585
roger@dairymensfeed.com
Certified: Animal Feeds, Broker

DAMIANO VINEYARDS
Ukiah, CA
707-621-3024
downs@pacific.net
Certified: Grapes [Merlot]

DAN-D FOODS LTD
Richmond, BC
604-274-3263
Certified: Almonds, Apricots, Barley, Buckwheat, Bulgur Wheat, Couscous, Dried Fruits, Flax Seed, Flour [Unbleached White], Kamut Flour, Lentils, Millet, Muesli, Oats, Prunes, Quinoa, Raisins, Rice [Basmati], Rice [Jasmine], Rice [Long Grain], Rice [Short Grain], Rice Flour [Brown], Sesame Seed, Soybeans, Spelt, Spelt Flour, Split Peas, Sunflower Seed, Whole Wheat, Rice [Wild], Whole Wheat Malt

DE LA ROSA ORGANIC FARM
Hollister, CA
831-637-8995
Certified: Mixed Vegetables

DIVERSIFIED FOOD NETWORK, LLC
Spreckels, CA
831-455-2201
jscattini@ddivfoodnet.com
Certified: Raisins

DOTY BRICK DRIER, LLC.
Gridley, CA
530-682-9918
Certified: Rice Drying, Rice Storage

EAKLE FARMS
Kelseyville, CA
707-272-2116
Certified: Walnuts

EARTH & VINE PROVISIONS, INC.
Loomis, CA
916-434-8399
gregb@earthwine.com
Certified: Jam

EARTHBOUND FARM’S FARM STAND/ THE ORGANIC KITCHEN
Carmel Valley, CA
831-623-7880
farmstand@ebfarm.com
www.ebfarm.com

ENVIRONMENTAL SEED PRODUCERS (JOHN BODGER & SONS)
Lompoc, CA
805-735-8888
alavie@espseeds.com
www.espseeds.com
Certified: Seed

FARM PAK/ BARNES FARMING CORP.
Spring Hope, NC
252-459-3101
jose.calderon@farmpak.com
www.farmpak.com
Certified: Sweet Potatoes

continued on page 32
A Good Start
Re-mineralizing can increase germination

Reeds Spring High School Botany Class
Pecan Germination Study

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Holtville
HURLBERT FARMS
Paso Robles, CA
805-238-3333
Certified: Walnuts

INN FOODS, INC
Watsonville, CA
831-724-2026
mmontenero@innfoods.com
Certified: Broker, Vegetables [Frozen]

J & A FARMS
Winton, CA
209-489-9375
Certified: Almonds

GUADALUPE COOLING COMPANY
Los Banos, CA
707-279-2582
www.foodremembers.com
Certified: Broccoli, Potatoes [Certified: Broccoli, Potatoes]

FOX RIDGE NURSERY
Los Banos, CA
707-485-7104
707-245-7896
goodnursery@aol.com
Certified: Tomatoes

GENESA ORGANICS
Alamo, CA
925-389-7052
dsmith@alamoorganics.com
Certified: Tomatoes, Cucumbers

GNECH FARM
Maddock, CA
530-398-4615
hay2you@earthlink.net
Certified: Alfalfa

GOOD SIP COFFEE CO.
Lincoln, NE
402-488-2468
twheeler@goodsip.com
www.goodsip.com
Certified: Coffee

GREEN SPROUT FARM
Lakeport, CA
707-245-7896
kgbhp@yahoo.com
Certified: Walnuts

GRIDER HOME RANCH
Ukiah, CA
707-485-7104
Certified: Grapes (Cabernet Sauvignon), Grapes (Chardonnay), Grapes (Merlot), Grapes (Zinfandel)

GRIFFITH DAIRY [PLEASANT POINT DAIRY FARM]
Ferndale, CA
707-752-3029
mgiff@netzero.com
Certified: Grapes, Dairies (Certified: Grapes, Dairies)

GUADALUPE COOLING COMPANY
Guadalupe, CA
805-238-3333
Certified: Grapes (Wine), Carrots

HARTJE VINEYARDS
Redwood Valley, CA
707-485-7561
Certified: Grapes (Wine)

HURLBERT FARMS
Paso Robles, CA
805-238-3333
Certified: Walnuts

INN FOODS, INC
Watsonville, CA
831-724-2026
mmontenero@innfoods.com
Certified: Broker, Vegetables [Frozen]

J & A FARMS
Winton, CA
209-489-9375
Certified: Almonds

JACK A CHAVIRA
Davis, CA
530-759-9988
jachavira@pacbell.net
Certified: Fallow

JEREMIAH HARPER
Wheatland, CA
530-682-9474
Certified: Rice

JOHN SCOTT THUENEN
Yuba City, CA
530-682-5269
lthuen@aol.com
Certified: Walnuts

JOSE L. HOMEN DAIRY / JOSE & GLORIA HOMEM [HCA]
Arcata, CA
530-822-2747
jjjhomen@sbcomglobal.net
Certified: Hay and Pasture

JUDY AND PAUL FOGEL
Malibu, CA
310-457-7252
jmikebrady@yahoo.com
Certified: Avocados, Fallow, Figs, Lemons, Oranges, Rosemary

KERN RIDGE GROWERS, LLC
Arvin, CA
661-854-3141
www.kernridge.com
Certified: Carrots

KIRK & CYNTHIA GIUSTI FARMS
Yuba City, CA
530-674-7122
geekviolet@yahoo.com
Certified: Rice

LA SEMENZA FARM
Santa Cruz, CA
831-212-1244
bruce@beerlink.com
Certified: Apples

LAXON CORPORATION
Torrance, CA
310-782-6111
laxonmp@aol.com
Certified: Alfalfa, Barley

LONE STOP RANCH
Orland, CA
530-865-0185
Certified: Almonds

LOSA DAIRY [HCA]
Ferndale, CA
707-725-5852
Certified: Dairy Cows, Milk [Raw], Pasture

LUCCETTI RANCH
Witter Springs, CA
707-275-9146
lucchetti@pacific.net
Certified: Walnuts

LUCKY NICKEL RANCH, INC.
Eloy, AZ
520-466-1420
luckynickelranch@direcway.com
Certified: Pasture, Vegetables

M & N MIRANDA DAIRY [HCA]
Fortuna, CA
707-725-9909
miranda44@hughes.net
Certified: Dairy Cows, Milk [Raw], Pasture

MANN PACKING
Salinas, CA
831-422-7405
2121.gibbs@mappackaging.com
www.mappackaging.com
Certified: Vegetables [Certified: Vegetables]

MARK ENOS
Artois, CA
530-934-3935
Certified: Rice

MARTIN BROS.
Willows, CA
530-330-2842
paultinam@aol.com
Certified: Rice

MCCLONE RANCH
Placerville, CA
530-626-8704
mmclonex@mclone.net
Certified: Apples, Grapes [Wine], Pears

MERIDIAN RIVER ROSES
Meridian, CA
530-696-0245
avis@meridianriver.com or tim@meridianriver.com
www.meridianriver.com
Certified: Rose

MODEAN FARMS, INC.
Modesto, CA
209-524-0546
Certified: Shelling

MORITA’S BACKYARD
Sebastopol, CA
707-823-4839
moritab99@hotmail.com
Certified: Apples, Asian Pears, Flowers, Lemons, Persimmons

NEAL MCGEOGHEGAN FARMS
Willows, CA
711 [TTY 934] 530-934-5869
mcgeoghe@willows.net
Certified: Rice

NEVADA COUNTY WINE GUILD, INC.
Nevada City, CA
530-265-3662
Certified: Wine

NEWARK NUT COMPANY
Linden, NJ
908-523-0533
david@nutsonline.com
www.nutsonline.com
Certified: Walnuts, Almonds, Peanuts

NICHOLSON DAIRY [HCA]
Arcata, CA
530-822-0140
Certified: Dairy Cows, Hay and Pasture, Milk [Raw], Pasture

NOBLE RANCH
Bonanza, OR
541-545-6903
nobleeranch@hotmail.com
Certified: Alfalfa

OAKRIDGE RANCH dba BRANDT FAMILY TRUST
Chico, CA
530-228-6414
kbbrandt25@aol.com
Certified: Kiwifruit, Pears

OMEGA SEED
Glenn, CA
530-934-5149
sirthomas@hotmai.com
Certified: Seed, Seed Cleaning

OSGOOD FARMS
Paso Robles, CA
805-239-0161
osgoodfarms@tcn.net
Certified: Walnuts

PAUL VINEYARDS
Redwood Valley, CA
707-485-1324
Certified: Grapes (Wine)

PEREZ & DE AVILA
Hollister, CA
831-637-4287
Certified: Walnuts

PERRY RANCH
Kelseyville, CA
707-279-2582
Certified: Walnuts

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 30
PETE'S VALLEY CATTLE
Zamora, CA
530-207-7216
Certified: Beef Cattle, Pasture

PRODUCERS DAIRY FOODS INC
Fresno, CA
559-264-6583
doug@producersdairy.com
Certified: Milk

R & R FARM
Linden, CA
209-881-3986
jradavero@earthlink.net
Certified: Walnuts

RAINBOW RANCH ORGANICS
Santa Barbara, CA
805-568-1434
lynnmac@rain.org
Certified: Rice

RANCHO ALDEA ANTIGUA, LLC
Carpentaria, CA
530-671-4488
Certified: Alfalfa, Fallow, Pasture

RICK SIMSON
Glenn, CA
530-934-4156
Certified: Pasture, Rice

ROGERS HEAVEN SENT RANCH, LLC
Benson, AZ
520-247-3420
www.RogersHSR.com
Certified: Alfalfa, Fallow, Pasture

RON BENSON
Scotia, CA
707-722-4320
rbenson@palco.com
Certified: Corn [Dry]

S & J MANDARIN GROVE
Newcastle, CA
916-663-3310
sjmandarin@sbcglobal.net
Certified: Mandarins

SACRAMENTO PACKING INC.
Yuba City, CA
530-671-4488
jbains@sacramentopacking.com
www.sacramentopacking.com
Certified: Prune Processing, Prunes

SACRAMENTO VALLEY WALNUT GROWERS, LLC
Yuba City, CA
530-671-7630
clblack@sacvalleynut.com
Certified: Walnuts

SAN GREGORIO COMPANY FARM
San Gregorio, CA
650-726-0565
Certified: Apples, Flowers, Garlic, Mixed Vegetables, Tomatoes [Fresh Market]

SANTA PAULA HAY AND FEED
Fullmore, CA
805-797-4295
Certified: Oranges

SCOTT PARSONS DAIRY (HCA)
Eureka, CA
707-442-0257
parsonscafl ranch@netscape.com
Certified: Dairy Cows, Milk [Raw], Pasture

SHEA’S ORGANICS
Santa Rosa, CA
707-495-0727
erinmshnea@gmail.com
Certified: Mixed Vegetables

SHINN DAIRY (HCA)
Ferndale, CA
707-786-9678
shindairy@humboldt1.com
Certified: Dairy Cows, Milk [Raw], Pasture

SOUSA RANCHES
Delaney, NY
845-676-3282
tracey@sproutsorganicbaby.com
Certified: Baby Food

SUTTER HOME WINERY, INC.
St. Helena, CA
707-963-3104
gandrade@tewines.com
Certified: Wine

SWIFT SUBTROPICALS
Los Osos, CA
805-542-0216
Certified: Apples [Fuji], Asian Pears, Beef Cattle, Corn [Fresh], Cucumbers, Feijoa, Jelly Palm, Kiwifruit, Melons, Passionfruit, Pasture & Rangeland, Pepinos, Persimmons, Potatoes, Tuberos, Yakon

TESTA VINEYARDS
Calpella, CA
707-986-7465
julia@johannesen.com
Certified: Grapes [Cabernet Sauvignon]

THE VILLA BARONE
Mountain View, CA
650-814-0432
www.thevillabarone.com
Certified: Olives

THEODORE & JUDITH COONROD
Paso Robles, CA
805-226-8956
judithart@hotmail.com
Certified: Walnuts

TISSELL FARMS
Lakeport, CA
650-344-0598
Certified: Walnuts

TOM WHITE KIWIFRUIT
Chico, CA
530-342-6530
Certified: Fallow, Kiwifruit

TOPANGA GREEN
Topanga, CA
310-455-4215
riverday@aol.com
Certified: Citrus, Flowers, Herbs, Mixed Vegetables, Nursery

TRI-COUNTY PISTACHIO CO.
Maricopa, CA
661-766-2177
tristan@sbpistachios.com
Certified: Pistachios

UESUGI FARMS, INC.
Gilroy, CA
808-482-1294
diane@uesugifarms.com
Certified: Cooling, Packing, Peppers

VISTA ACRES
Chico, CA
530-899-1316
Certified: Almonds

WALKER DAIRY
Ferndale, CA
707-786-4529
walkers48@aol.com
Certified: Dairy Cows, Milk [Raw], Pasture

WF FARMS
Firebaugh, CA
559-659-3931
wf@sbcsglobal.net
Certified: Cotton

WILLIAM R. CIRIGLIANO
Willows, CA
530-330-0283
rococirigliano@yahoo.com
Certified: Rice

WILLIAMS FOODS, INC.
Lexena, KS
913-888-4343
ngorzovalitis@williamsfoods.com
www.williamsfood.com
Certified: Spice Blends

WILLOW HAVEN
Vacaville, CA
707-447-8331
willowsong@myifp.com
Certified: Citrus

WOOD CATTLE RANCH, INC.
Zamora, CA
530-207-7216
Certified: Beef Cattle, Pasture & Rangeland

YORKVILLE VINEYARDS
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707-895-2636
yvcellars@pacific.net
www.yorkvillecellars.com
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ZWALD RANCH – ANDY ZWALD
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katherinel@ensave.com

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www.fullcirclesolar.com
mike@fullcirclesolar.com
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john@nutiva.com

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Mecca, CA (760) 396-2156
www.pashamkt.com
fdeklotz@msgrape.com

Port Organic Products
Nelson, Isaac
Bakersfield, CA (661) 243-6679
marizyme@aim.com

The Epicurean Connection
Davis, Sheana
Sonoma, CA (707) 935-7960
www.sheanadavis.com
sheana@vom.com
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Gary, IN (219) 881-0212
www.thejuicegarden.com
thejuicegarden@truevine.net
Vegan Rent-A-Chef
Christensen, Donald & Sharon
Angwin, CA (707) 965-2076
www.veganrentachef.com
veganculinary@mchsi.com

Weed Farms
Weed, David
Healdsburg, CA (510) 697-5099
weedfarms@gmail.com
Chestnuts, Kiwifruit and Wine Grapes

Work Training Center
Krulder, Joe
Chico, CA (530) 624-4346
jkrulder@ewtc.org
Work Training Center is a not-for-profit organization dedicated to meeting the training and vocational needs of adults with disabilities. We provide work for over 600 people. Through our wood and sewing facilities, we produce sustainable packaging for California farmers.

Visit the CCOF website to learn more about certification, membership and organics.
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For more information, call Steve Janedis at 303-537-0247 Ext. 54467 or visit www.albertsorganics.com.