

The Organic Cultivator

A Publication of the Midwest Organic Services Association, Inc.
"The first of its kind with the organic operator in mind."

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www.mosaorganic.org

October/November 2005

New Places and New Faces MOSA Moves in October

By Bonnie Wideman
Interim Executive Director

On Monday, October 17, MOSA will be opening the doors for business at our new location—122 West Jefferson, one door down from where we are now, upstairs in the historic Standpipe Building. The post office box will be changing, too, as we were outgrowing the last one—to Box 821, Viroqua, WI, 54665. Phone and fax remain the same. A Grand Opening at the new location will be held in late winter, in conjunction with the MOSA Annual Meeting—the next Cultivator will bring an announcement of the dates involved and details on the events.



The new MOSA building, on the left, is directly behind the current MOSA building, on the right.

tober. At the end of a hot, stuffy, short-handed work day, I convinced Susan to walk over and take a look at it with me. We walked into the large, well-lit, wood-floored area, took a deep breath (there are windows that open!) and were firmly convinced that we had found the right place. The next day the whole staff toured and we examined the new facility in light of the criteria that had been drafted by the facilities search committee. It passed with flying colors—simply put, a quality environment with more space, room to expand, and within our price range—and we worked out the details with the landlord.

This is kind of like moving to a new farm—you don't have everything down pat until you've been there awhile—so we take it one step at a time....computer hookups, move the cubicles, move the tons of organic paperwork! We're hoping for business as usual on Monday the 17th of October and, if you call and have to leave a message that day, be assured we'll get back to you on Tuesday!

—New Places, New Faces continued on page 12

New Mailing Address:

MOSA
PO Box 821
Viroqua, WI 54665

It was clear to me when I first started working in the MOSA office last year that the space wasn't meeting the needs: besides the fact that one couldn't work without hearing every other conversation in the place, there simply didn't seem to be enough air for all of us! A facility search committee gave reports at most staff meetings, but their optimism dwindled with time, to the point where they almost seemed to be raising the flag of defeat.

In July, right around the time remodeling was going on out in the back storage area to make more space for us, with dust and mold from the work causing health complaints from many, I learned that the space next door was going to be vacated in Oc-

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MOSA's Mission Statement

MOSA provides reliable and efficient verification and certification services to producers and processors primarily in the upper Midwestern United States. MOSA is committed to maintaining a timely, courteous, accurate, transparent and consistent approach throughout the program and on a day-to-day basis.

Help Support MOSA!

Supporting Membership is \$50.00

Supporters receive a one-year subscription to *The Organic Broadcaster*, a bi-monthly, organic industry oriented publication as well as the MOSA newsletter, *The Organic Cultivator*, and MOSA program updates and information.

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Executive Director's Report

Thanks to those who've expressed their sympathy at Jeff's passing. Life goes on, complete with little challenges in the wake of the big one. A couple of weeks ago I got a 7 a.m. call from the gruff neighbor to the south, "You still got sheep? They're on the road." A quick four wheeler ride up around the farm brought a smile to my face when I saw only six sheep, whereas I would have had 100 out there. Best of all, their black faces denied their association with the Wideman flock. Last week, the kindly but excitable neighbor to the north got in touch with the MOSA office before she reached me and all day long I faced inquiries as to whether or not I was able to get my cattle back in. With a little help from my friends—especially with the things that weren't my realm of activity before!—I'm carrying on, and I'm finding that it helps to have a long-term view. I'm going to do soil tests, bring a grazing specialist out to the farm for some advice on reseeding and setting up rotational paddocks, and—if we can manage to build considerable set-back fencing—just might apply for certification next year.

At MOSA, the main challenges have been "the move," and being short-handed. In a few weeks we'll be settled in and our new staff members will be beginning to share the load. It has helped us to identify goals; I shared these with the MOSA Board when they met in Viroqua in September, received feedback, and would like to summarize them for you here. Our goals need to reflect what you, the Associates, have in mind, too. Please contribute your opinions—by email, phone, letter—knowing that your input is appreciated.

1. **Strive to improve the services we provide.** We're always looking for better ways, and priorities are getting back up to full staff, providing the needed training for the new folks on board as well as the training needed to current staff members to be able to handle more tasks in-house. Paper and copier use reduction is a goal.

2. **Providing expanded certification services.** What is wanted by consumers and needed by Associates? There are changes happening with JAS—we want to be fully capable in JAS and EU verification. We need to assess the value of IFOAM certification; is this a direction we need to go? "Value-added" is much talked about these days—what do our Associates need along these lines? Fair Trade and Biodynamic are other areas of interest.

3. **Healthy growth.** Staff members agree that we are open to certification in a wider territory but that our focus is within the Midwest. We don't want to grow beyond our capabilities for good service. Where do applicants hear of us? How can we identify where energy along these lines is best expended? Do we beat the conference trail as much as has been done in the past or are there other, perhaps better, ways of presenting our services to interested farmers and processors?

On another note, the MOSA Board of Directors has initiated a new, regular column for *The Organic Cultivator* in order to keep Associates up to date on board thoughts and activities. We are excited to have more open communication with the Board, and really enjoy sharing ideas and thoughts with them concerning the direction of MOSA's future.

At your service,

Bonnie Wideman,
Interim Executive Director



News from the MOSA Board

The MOSA Board has continued into the fall with a lot of activity and discussion. We are very pleased with the job that Bonnie Wideman has done as Interim Executive Director and thank her for her focus and dedication during this very hard time in her life. We again offer our condolences to Bonnie and her children for their loss, and the loss to MOSA of a great staff inspector in Jeff Wideman. Like all of you, we were very shocked and saddened by the loss and will greatly miss Jeff's warm presence and commitment to organics.

The MOSA staff has been stellar in adapting to the changes in the office, and are responding positively to Bonnie's leadership. We are pleased that numbers of Associates continue to rise, and that staff processing of certification files is way ahead of last year. We hope that you have noticed the professionalism and efficient turn around in your certification and in any questions or exchanges with staff.

As you may have noticed in the September newsletter, Roger Blobaum has joined the Board and has jumped right in as a very active member of the Executive Director Search Committee. The committee is hard at work getting the word out to the U.S. organic community about the open position for Executive Director of MOSA. We expect to be reviewing applicant materials this fall, and hope to be introducing the new MOSA Executive Director to Associates at our winter meeting. This is a very exciting time for MOSA, and the board is confident in its commitment to finding a strong leader to bring MOSA into the future.

We would also like to introduce to you the newest member of the MOSA Board, Atina Diffley of Gardens of Eagan Farm in Farmington, MN. We are very pleased to have Atina join us—she and her husband Martin are not only creative and successful full time wholesale-scale vegetable farmers, but were elected "MOSES Organic Farmers of the Year" in 2004. Coming from one of the longest certified organic operations in the U.S. (first certified in 1975) Atina brings a strong organic farming background and enthusiasm to the MOSA board. Please welcome her with us. Atina is filling the open position created by the resignation of Mrill Ingram, who resigned in August to pursue new career opportunities.

Stay tuned to this column and the newsletter for announcements on the MOSA annual meeting, which is tentatively planned for January or February in Viroqua. Not only will you get to tour the new MOSA office (right next door, but oh so much nicer!) but you can meet the MOSA board and staff and discuss any concerns or inspirations in person. Look for more information on that event.

The MOSA board had one of their bi-annual in person meetings in September in Viroqua. We met with the auditor to go over the 2004 MOSA annual audit report, which showed MOSA to be in good financial health, with no audit concerns. We also discussed MOSA's relationship to JAS accreditation, and were pleased to see that office procedures have been tightened up so that JAS compliance certificates can be properly issued to those requesting them. The Board had a lengthy discussion with the Interim Executive Director Bonnie Wideman and Quality Manager Jodi Shrum regarding alternative certification programs and the advantages and disadvantages of MOSA participating in each. Look for more on that subject in further newsletters

Other business at our September meeting was to plan an annual 2 day planning retreat for early February. At this meeting the Board will be taking concentrated time to assess, discuss and plan at a deeper level. This kind of activity has been missing on the Board level to date. Current Board members are again pleased to be instituting this very positive and pro-active change to make MOSA an even stronger and more productive institution within the organic world.

We look forward to meeting you in January,

Judith Scoville, President

Jody Padgham, Secretary

For the MOSA Board

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MOSA's Annual ISO Guide 65 Audit

By Jodi Shrum, Quality Manager

On September 20-22, MOSA was visited by Darrell Wilson, representative of the ISO Guide 65 accreditation program for MOSA's annual ISO on-site audit. Mr. Wilson spent time at the MOSA office reviewing certification files and MOSA policy and procedures, and also observed 1 farm inspection and 1 processor/handler inspection. At the end of the last day of the audit, Mr. Wilson informed us of his findings, and we expect to receive an official report within the next few weeks.

Overall, the audit went well, and Mr. Wilson had only four continuous improvement points. These findings were all minor, and MOSA will be implementing changes to correct these findings over the next several months. The most significant finding was in relation to MOSA's stated scope of services. As the NOP only recognizes the categories of crop, wild crop, livestock and handling, MOSA will be removing the "specialty crop" category, although we will continue to certify for the six categories that the specialty crop category covers. If your current certificate lists "specialty crops" under the categories of operation, next year it will state either crop or wild crop, depending on what you are certifying, and the actual product will be listed below in the crops/products/services section.

This change, and any others that arise in the next several months, will be outlined in the new 2006 MOSA Program Manual which you will receive in your update packets in February 2006.

1st Annual Organic Growers and Grassfed Beef Conference

Wednesday, November 9, 2005

7:45 am—8:15 am: SIGN IN
8:20 am—8:30 am: Overview
(Rob Marquse)
8:30 am—9:15 am: Maury Wills
(IDALS) How to get Certified?
9:20 am—10:10 am: The Numbers—
How You Make It Work by Craig Chase
10:15 am—11:15 am: Marketing Panel:
here Are the Markets? (Faculty)
11:20 am—12:05 pm: Farm Subsidies &
Farm Bill 2007 with Ellen Huntoon
LUNCH: Organic Lunch Provided
12:10 pm—1:00 pm

HOW TO SESSIONS

1:00 pm—1:50 pm: Beef & Pork (Allen
Moody)
2:00 pm—2:50 pm: Grain Farming (Ron
Rosmann)
3:00 pm—3:50 pm: Dairy (Steve Wil-
liams)
4:00 pm—4:50 pm: Vegetable Farming

Thursday, November 10, 2005

7:30 am—8:00 am: SIGN IN
8:00 am—8:30 am: Philosophy of Family
Farming (Fred Kirschenmann)
8:30—9:00 am: Questions—Open Forum
9:00 am—12:00 pm—Overview of
Grassfed Livestock Genetics with Ridge
Shinn
LUNCH: Organic Lunch Provided
12:00 pm—1:00
1:00 pm—6:00 pm: Hands-On Livestock
Demo (Gerald Fry & Ridge Shinn)
Livestock Measuring Demonstration &
Seed Stock Selection Criteria
DINNER: Organic Beef Dinner 6:30—
7:30

*Catered by Central Catering of Hawar-
den, Iowa. Vegetables from the Floyd
Blvd Farmers Market and grassfed beef
provided by KPS Dakota Organic Beef.*

Register online at
www.organicgrassfedbeef.org

ANNUAL ORGANIC GROWERS CONFERENCE

NOVEMBER 9-10, 2005

\$25/EACH

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Certification Notes & Tips

Grazing dairies are economically competitive with confinement operations

Managed grazing is becoming increasingly popular with Wisconsin dairy farmers. Grazing systems reduce labor requirements and provide environmental benefits, as the cows harvest much of their own feed and spread their own manure. In addition to these benefits, a new report from UW-Madison shows that these grazing farms are economically competitive with confinement dairy operations.

“Farms using managed grazing produce less milk per cow on average than confinement farms,” said Tom Kriegl of the UW-Madison Center for Dairy Profitability, who co-authored the report. “But these farms more than offset this production disadvantage through their control of operating expenses, investment and debt.”

Kriegl has been analyzing the financial performance of grazing dairy farms since 1995. In the report *Pastures of Plenty*, he and Ruth McNair of the UW Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems compared grazing and confinement farms in Wisconsin and the Great Lakes. Some of their key findings include:

In Wisconsin and New York, grazing dairies are more profitable per cow and per hundredweight equivalent of milk sold than confinement dairies in these states.

Farms using managed grazing consistently show higher profits and lower costs per hundredweight equivalent than traditional and large modern confinement farms in Wisconsin.

*Farmers who switch from confinement dairy farming to managed grazing need not suffer financial hardship during the transition.

Managed grazing is different from continuous grazing in that farmers move animals to fresh pasture on a regular basis and manage their pastures to maximize the quality and quantity of feed. While continuously grazed dairy cows benefit from fresh air and exercise, these pastures do not provide much quality feed.

“Managed grazing is economically competitive, probably at all sizes,” said Kriegl. “A grazing dairy can provide a family with a good living from a farm they can operate and manage themselves.”

In addition to comparing confinement and managed grazing farms, the report compares grazing farms and identifies qualities that make for successful operations. It also discusses making the transition from traditional dairy farming to managed grazing.

Pastures of Plenty is available online at <http://www.cias.wisc.edu/pdf/grzgf.pdf>. Print copies are also

available free of charge. Call (608) 262-5200 or email to order print copies of this report. For more information contact Tom Kriegl at (608) 263-5665

Original article written by Cris Carusi on 9/14/05. Reprinted with permission from Tom Kriegl. <http://news.cals.wisc.edu/newsDisplay.asp?id=1349>

Congress to act on conservation & nutrition in October

Congress is expected to take up debate in October over how to cut \$3 billion from the 2006 federal agriculture budget. Unfortunately, conservation programs—including the Conservation Security Program (CSP)—are on the chopping block. In addition, there are attempts to severely cut nutrition programs for low income Americans. Ironically, these cuts to stewardship and nutrition programs may be executed at a time when agribusiness interests and commodity groups are fighting to preserve massive crop subsidies for a handful of mega-farms that receive over \$250,000 annually in payments.

It is critical that you call your representatives in Congress today and tell them:

- Make no cuts to CSP
- Limit cuts to food support and nutrition programs
- Put in place real payment limits on commodity crop programs.

To get the telephone number for your U.S. Senators and U.S. Representatives, call the Capitol Switchboard at 202-224-3121. For more information, contact LSP’s Policy Program at 612-722-6377 or marks@landstewardshipproject.org. More information is also available on LSP’s Action Alerts web page at <http://www.landstewardshipproject.org/news-alerts.html>.

“Insider tips” farm credit workshops in November

“Insider tips” workshops on successful farm credit have been scheduled for Friday and Saturday, Nov. 4-5, in Lewiston, MN, and for Nov 11-12 in Montevideo, MN. The workshops will address aspects of both record keeping and loan applications, with a goal of better preparing farmers to manage their farm as a business and feeling confident when they enter a bank. Workshops like this are critical for farmers seeking credit to finance their sustainable farming methods. Find out why at http://www.landstewardshipproject.org/pr/03/newsr_031017.html. The eight-hour training costs \$20 per family for LSP members, or \$25 per family for non-members. The fee includes materials, snacks and lunch Saturday. Pre-registration is required, with priority given to Farm Beginnings graduates. For details, contact Caroline van Schaik in LSP’s Lewiston office at 507-523-3366; caroline@landstewardshipproject.org; or Michelle Skogrand in our Montevideo office at 320-269-2105; lspwest@landstewardshipproject.org.

Certification Notes & Tips

MOSA Welcomes New Associates



- Michael & Susan Bailey, *Maitri Farm*, Viroqua, WI
- William Gorman, Goodhue, MN
- Carl Ramsey & Dr. Mike McCloskey, *Fair Oaks Dairy Farm, LLC*, Fair Oaks, IN
- Edwin & Lucy Burkholder, *Farm B*, Greenwood, WI
- Andrew Halverson, Viroqua, WI
- Walter Mecusker, Menomonie, WI
- David Sletten, *Pine Breezes*, Montevideo, MN
- Donald Rogers, *Blue Moon Organics*, Cashton, WI
- Steve & Patt Larson, Cashton, WI
- Shawn Gengerke, *Shawn Gengerke Farm*, Groton, SD
- Kevin Everhart, *K & K Cheese*, Cashton, WI
- Lowell Monroe & Cynthia Leiran-Monroe, *Monroe Farm*, Genoa, WI
- Blake & Judy Peterson, *Peterson Farm*, Viroqua, WI

FSA HAS FARM STORAGE FACILITY LOAN FUNDS AVAILABLE

Ben Brancel, State Executive Director of the Wisconsin Farm Service Agency, says producers who are short of storage space and considering other marketing alternatives should take a look at FSA's Farm Storage Facility Loan Program.

Hurricane Katrina and low water levels on the Upper Mississippi River are causing uncertainty for many Wisconsin producers, who are concerned not only about the availability of usual grain marketing channels, but also the economic implications.

The FSFL program offers producers an opportunity to meet storage needs by offering marketing flexibility. "On-farm storage gives farmers the control they need to segregate their crops and decide when to sell them," said Brancel.

This program provides seven-year financing for on-farm storage of wheat, soybeans, sunflower seed, canola, safflower, flaxseed, mustard seed, crambe, corn, grain sorghum, oats, and barley. The interest rate, currently at 4.250 percent for September, changes monthly. The interest rate in effect at the time the loan is approved will remain in effect for the term of the loan.

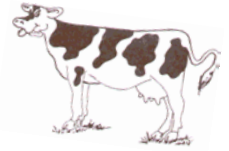
A fact sheet on the FSFL program is available at <http://www.fsa.usda.gov/dafp/psd/programs.htm> To apply for a FSFL or for additional information, contact your local county FSA office or USDA Service Center.

KOW Consulting Association

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Septic Tanks

By Cate Irsfeld Eddy, Certification Staff

Don't poo poo this subject, folks! If you have your septic tank pumped out, be aware that this can NOT be spread onto certified organic land. Septic materials are considered sewage sludge, prohibited for use in the production of organic products, according to the National Organic Standard 205.105(g).

Adding land in mid-stream? Here's what we need

1. Submit a **Prior Land Use Declaration** if it is not land that has been under your management for the past 36 months, **OR**, submit a **3 Year Field History Form** if it has been under your management for the past 36 months.
2. Submit a **map** of the land to be added.
3. Submit an **Additional Product/Service Affidavit**.
4. Submit **Verification of Adjoining Land Use** forms or **buffering information** (if needed).
5. Submit **harvest information** and **equipment used** with this added land and **clean out plans/records** if not covered by your Organic Plan.
6. Submit **any other related Organic Plan changes**.

Organic Trade Association Pushes for Organic Law Change

By Steve Walker,
Certification Program Manager

The organic community is working feverishly to come up with best ways to maintain organics' future stability and growth in reaction to the Arthur Harvey vs. Secretary of Agriculture Court decision. In mid-September, in a behind the scenes effort, the Organic Trade Association (OTA), and supporters working with Attorney Wm. Jay Friedman proposed highly-controversial amendments to the 1990 Organic Foods Production Act (OFPA), the Law which led to the creation of the existing National Organic Standards (NOS). The proposed amendments, in the Senate Agriculture Appropriations bill, are an effort to maintain the status quo that would be changed by the Harvey outcome. Harvey maintained that the Standards are inconsistent with the Law and filed suit against the USDA. His court appeal was upheld on three of nine counts. Since this outcome was announced, MOSA has been warning current organic operators and certification applicants that changes likely to be mandated would 1- remove the allowance of most National List-allowed synthetics in processed foods, 2- change the way we assess commercial availability when determining whether limited nonorganic ingredients can be used in otherwise organic foods, and, 3- remove the "80/20" feed option that enables new organic dairy operators to more easily convert their herds to organic milk production. To this point, these changes were seen as fairly inevitable. As such, we've been operating in preparation that most synthetics, commercial unavailability allowances, and 80/20 were to be gone by June of 2007.

"It is an overriding principle of the Organic Committee and our partners that opening the OFPA is dangerous, and should only be attempted as a last resort, in the light of day, and through a transparent process."

—NCSA Organic Committee

But the organic community has been working on revised Standards language to address their OFPA inconsistencies, while some feel that directly changing the OFPA is the best way to proceed to keep the industry growing at current rates. However, opening OFPA is seen as a possibly damaging approach. Taking proposed changes to Capital Hill could enable special interest groups to change, and possibly weaken, what has been a solid organic law for 15 years. The National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture (NCSA) Organic Committee comments, "It is an overriding principle of the Organic Committee and our partners that opening the OFPA is dangerous, and should only be attempted as a last resort, in the light of day, and through a transparent process." Conversely, the proposed OTA amendments came quickly, and were seen by many as a stealth effort neglecting due process with public input.

Failed agreement effort - Just days before the proposed OFPA amendments were put into the Senate Agriculture Appropriations bill, talks were still underway between OTA/industry supporters, and the NCSA Organic Steering Committee and many organizations including others, like NCSA, that had signed on as *amici* ("friends of the court") in the Harvey case (by preparing documents in support of Harvey's arguments). Others involved in the talks included the Center for Food Safety, National Organic Coalition, Rural Advancement Foundation International, National Cooperative Grocers Association, Beyond Pesticides, and others. During February, March, April and May, discussions in this working group were aimed at finding a middle ground solu-

tion. According to NCSA, early in the discussions, OTA seemed committed to OFPA change. Those concerned with this approach tried to obtain a copy of the draft rule change from the OTA, but this was not offered. In May, the working group presented a concrete petition for rule-making, for wider community comment. This rule-making proposal was formally submitted to the USDA on June 22nd. But by late summer, NCSA reports, it seemed OTA's Law change effort was moving fast. And there was extreme concern that no community agreement was yet reached. On September 15th, a compromise was proposed, and OTA attendees at this meeting suggested there was 98% agreement. But all compromise was rejected on September 19th, and then the OTA amendments as originally written were submitted to the Senate Agriculture Appropriations committee.

Opposition raised - Quickly, the word spread that controversial OFPA changes were imminent. The Board of Directors for the Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service (MOSES) was one of many organizations lobbying against the OTA amendments, noting, "The wording has been kept secret by Jay Friedman and the Organic Trade Association. Jay and OTA have been unwilling to work with the organic community to improve wording." As the amendments became public, others stated the language was flawed. In part, the OTA amendments were seen as leaving open the possibility that synthetic processing aids would not need review by the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB), and may not even need to appear on the National List. It was stated the proposed OFPA amendments also fail to include the criteria used as status quo by the NOSB for review of synthetic processing materials. Also, with respect to commercial availability, the OTA amendment suggests the Secretary of Agriculture shall have the authority to develop emergency procedures for designating agricultural products that are commercially unavailable in organic form, for placement on the National List for a pe-

riod of time not to exceed 12 months. While the current petition and review process involving the NOSB is indeed slow, and not suitable for such commercial unavailability evaluation, the proposed OTA commercial availability amendment is criticized as allowing a decision process without public input.

The Accredited Certifier's Association (ACA) scrambled to survey members and put forth a stance. In response, I communicated MOSA's position as to "not support an opening of the OFPA at this time, but to insist on a participatory process from all stakeholders." After hearing the talk in the organic community, and knowing the risks in opening OFPA, it seemed to me the OTA amendments effort was occurring too quickly, without needed stakeholder input. While I remain open to the possibility that opening the OFPA can be productive, I maintain that approaching changes via Capital Hill must be a very careful effort. I am conscious that haste very often makes waste. The MOSA "do not open OFPA/insist on process" opinion was in line with all accredited certifiers expressing opinions on the ACA forum. (One ACA commenter did support the OTA amendments in principle, but also expressed reservations about the process under which they were proposed.)

Time for input, study - In the short term, the lobbying effort encouraged the Senate to reject the proposed OTA amendments. Instead of adopting the OTA's proposed OFPA amendments as written, Senator Patrick Leahy (D-VT) offered revised language that buys time for discussion. The Senate substituted Appropriations bill language directing the USDA to study the issues raised by the Harvey decision, including the use of approved synthetic substances in organic processing and the standards for converting dairy cows to organic milk production, and to report findings back to the Senate within 90 days. As this "study and report" language was passed in the Senate Appropriations Act, but not in the House version, the next step was to be a conference between the House and Senate subcommittees to resolve differences between the two bills. Assuming the "study and report" amendment goes through, if the report from

USDA gives Congress information that's favorable toward restoring the NOP to its pre-Harvey status, Congress would then have a factual basis to take legislative action. This "study and report" amendment creates some time for community

I feel that it is crucial to all to sit down and work through this and to let our love of organics be our guide and not allow fractions and sensationalism blur our past commitment to consensus.

—George Siemon

wide discussion about changes to the OFPA. The Senate Appropriations language creates a sort of placeholder in the Agricultural Appropriations package that forces OTA and other processors to negotiate with other organic community members on actual amendments to the OFPA. Senate members that heard recent OFPA-change objections now will expect a compromise amendment to be placed in the Appropriations bill by the House-Senate conference committee for the bill. To that end, Senate staffers will convene negotiation between the OTA and the public interest community.

Organic Valley/CROPP was among organizations supporting the short-term OFPA change. In a position clarification sent September 23rd, Organic Valley CEO George Siemon stated, "The Harvey lawsuit declared that some of the work of NOSB was illegal (not reflecting OFPA), but it does not say that the standards vetted by the NOSB public process were the wrong standards. After all these years meeting to reach consensus, we at CROPP feel we need to honor that process and that the critical and safe position now is to support the NOSB standards as we have hammered them out. To do that, we need to go to Congress and change the wording of OFPA to reflect our hard work of the past thirteen years."

Among issues specifically noted, CROPP supports adding an OFPA requirement that replacement dairy animals be managed organically from the last third of

gestation. This was not part of the OTA proposed amendments. An unintended consequence of the Harvey ruling is that if/when the 80/20 feed allowance is dropped, so will be the requirement that once converted, all animals must be managed organically.

Moving forth – Siemon's clarification also noted, "Unfortunately, the lawsuit resulted in a split organic community. I have done everything I could to weld them together. However, that did not happen and we are now seeing a divided camp while we are going to Congress which is an extremely risky move. I am not

happy about the lack of cohesion and don't want to point fingers as to why that has happen. I feel that it is crucial to all sit down and work through this and to let our love of organics be our guide and not allow fractions and sensationalism blur our past commitment to consensus. Organics to me is about the 'parts making a whole' and throwing rocks at each other is not organic and will not protect our common love of organic foods."

So, the time is now for the parts to try to come together and reach common ground. With some time for public input, opening OFPA remains a possibility, and the OTA continues to rally for support of their proposed amendments. MOSA Associates and other interested stakeholders are encouraged to get involved and express opinions to your representatives on Capital Hill. The congressional switchboard number is 202-224-3121. From the switchboard, you can ask to be connected to the Representative and Senator's offices for your state.

The next NOSB meeting is set for November 16th and 17th in Washington, DC. The primary agenda discussion centers on re-evaluation for all materials on the National List ("sunset" provisions), but this meeting and public comment opportunity will certainly occur against an interesting backdrop. The news is developing quickly, and we'll see what changes by then. Stay tuned to the Cultivator, or call the MOSA office for details.

Farm Equipment For Sale

Following is machinery I, Eric Kindberg, have for sale at my organic farm: Horticultural Equipment, Other Farming Equipment. Location: 1491 Mahogany Ave, Fairfield, IA. Contact: Carol Lee and Bob Kessel at 641-472-0380. If questions about directions please call ahead. The equipment is off solid gravel 1/2 mile on a dirt road that gets muddy under rainy conditions. So, call ahead to understand weather or walk in if pouring rain. Cash or bank check only at time of pick up delivered to Kessel's. Or, you can pay in advance by contacting Kessel's to secure the item(s) you may want. The following horticultural equipment minus the potato and irrigation equipment sold to a single purchaser is offered for \$20,000 a savings off the pricing herein of \$2150.

Cultivating Tractor:

AC "G" tractor, hydraulic lift for belly cultivator, with an installed new and virtually unused Kubota 31 hp 3 cylinder diesel engine, \$4000

Field Preparation Equipment for Vegetable Production:

"Yeoman's" 5 shank sub soiling plow, 3 mounting tool bars, 8 feet wide, 2 are 25 inch shanks and 3 are 15 inch shanks, \$3000

"MF" 8 foot "cut a way" tandem double disk, 3 pt hitch, virtually new, works perfect for tearing out a vegetable bed, not touching other beds. \$700

"Lily-Rotera" earth preparation tool, 8 feet, is like a Rota-tiller but stirs the ground with vertical pins rather than pounds and creates hardpan like a rotatiller, pto driven, \$1000

Bed Forming, Bed Preparation Equipment:

"Yeoman's" double disk bed former with 3 25" sub soiling shanks, bed roller/firmer and leveling chain. 3 point hitch, 4x4x3/8 inch tubular frame, 3 mounting bars, 8 foot width, depth control system and wheels. Beds are flexible in width. We use 44 inches on the top at 6 feet center to center tractor wheels. One pass bed forming on reasonably textured soil, works perfect when rebuilding a bed between two existing beds, \$4000

7 foot "International" originally horse drawn 3 pt hitch rotary hoe, old, but works exceedingly well for pre plant preparation, weeding beds prior to planting and after planting, ground driven, \$300

"Brillion" double roller for firming and crushing clods on raised beds up to 5 feet. Rebuilt bearings, 3 pt hitch, ground driven, \$300

"Buddingh" basket weeder for bed seed

surface preparation, two parts, a basket roller in front for depth control followed by the double ground driven basket weeders, back basket twice as fast as the front, new, little used, \$800

Planters/over-seeding equipment for beds, etc.:

"Nibex" Swedish precision unit planter, 3 rows on a bed, special tool bar, 3 pt hitch, 7 different sizes of cups plant from lettuce to cantaloupe/cucumber, 36 gear changes for different seeding rates/spacing, excellent, ground driven, \$3000

5 foot "Brillion" legume/grass seeder, double roller, rebuilt, excellent rollers and bearings though very old, grass and legume boxes, fits on up to 5 foot beds with damaging adjoining beds, 3 pt hitch, ground driven, \$750

Vacuum plug tray seeder, excellent, fast and accurate, all brassicas easy, tomatoes and peppers more detailed attention, high pressure vacuum, and new \$500

Side/depth wheel controlled equipment:

Three units below work together uses side wheel self/depth control on beds. They also work well during cultivation with the "Nibex" precision planter.

Transplanters: Two (2) identical "Mechanical Transplanter's, ground driven, best design to transplant with rubber pockets to place transplant tops, one is mounted with watering system mounted on 3 pt hitch bar, solid steel #: diamond toolbar uses side wheel self/depth control for beds, other unit has no tool bar and has not been mounted. \$1000.

Planter: "International" three on a bed unit plate planters, ground driven, on tool bar with plates for squash (plates for 3 different sizes of squash seeds), string beans, sweet corn, soybeans, uses side

wheel self/depth control for beds, 3" tubular toolbar, \$300

Cultivator: Custom designed bed ground driven cultivator: "Lillinston" 2 spyders cultivate raised beds. "between row" weeder with hydraulic motor driven dry granular fertility applicator (applies material beside plant row), mounted on a 3 point hitch solid steel 3 inch tool bar, uses side wheel self/depth control on beds, \$1000

Supreme In Row Cultivator:

"Buddingh" in row weeder consisting of two rubber finger weeders (spyders) followed by a steel dirt mulching spyder, some mounting hardware, ground driven, \$800

Produce Washing:

Washing, drying and revolving 5 foot grading table with gas Kawasaki engine, new dry rollers and other flat rubber ready for installation, \$1000

Potato Equipment:

2 row potato planter, excellent, \$1500

2 row potato digger and windrower, excellent, \$1500

Potato grader on wheels with screens, \$200

Irrigation Equipment:

PTO driven large capacity 1000 gallons per minute irrigation pump, good condition, on small bumper hitch trailer for mobility, intake filter and pipe, with 18 30 feet lengths of 4 inch aluminum pipe each with 18 inch risers and double throw commercial "Rainbird" sprinklers, enough laterals and sprinkler pipes for 3 acres at once, plus valves, T's and elbows, all new rubber seals and pipe wagon to carry all pipe, \$2500

Other Farming Equipment, Organic Farm Sprayer:

Three bed sprayer unit for 2/3 rows on a bed application of liquid fertility (covers

18 feet), BT, etc., with 250 gallon tank, pto driven pump, on 3 pt hitch setup. \$250.

11 foot older "McCormick Deering" grain drill with individual row steel press wheels, adapted for 3 pt hitch 2.5 inch solid steel tool bar, heavy and good, \$500
12 foot "Kewanee" tandem double disk for field preparation, all new grease fittings and bearings \$500

Truck, Trailer, Dump and Cattle Trailer:

1992 Ford 5 ton flat bed truck, V8, automatic trans, excellent, good tires, new brakes, excellent engine and transmission, high side racks, 115,000 miles on it, both bumper and in bed trailer hitches, pampered motion picture studio truck to 85,000 miles, \$4000

23 foot steel, well built, all 8 inch channel, 3000 lbs empty, low flat bed trailer, two axle, low boy 10 ply or above tires, bumper hitch, easy conversion to bed hitch. Black Walnut, non-rotting, easy in and out, very strong floor and side stake pockets. \$1500

Older ford dump truck, rough but workable, good hydraulics operating condition, \$450

14 foot cattle trailer with new black locust 2 inch floor, bumper hitch and steel cover, \$750

Belarus diesel tractor and loader:

85 PTO HP, 4 wheel drive, needs new or rebuilding of transmission and overhaul of engine, live pto, 16 forward gears, heater, air conditioned cab missing one door, have all books and info. \$3000

"Memo" made in Germany, quick detach loader, quick change bucket and fork lift, \$3000 excellent condition, fits Belarus or any tractor when frame mounting parts are attached, have all books and info.

Hay Equipment:

"International" 7 foot pto tractor mower, good condition \$100

"Ford" 4 row, row crop cultivator, 2.5 inch solid tool bar, \$150

6 row solid 3 inch tool bar with hydraulics, \$150

2 Allis Chalmers round balers, good condition, \$200

"International 990" 9 foot haybine, needs conditioning, but good. \$500

Field Crop Equipment

One excellent "International" 4 row vacuum bean/corn planter with coulter openers with two extra rows for spare parts. \$300

"Lilliston" 4 row crop cultivator with many spare parts and cultivation units, shields, 3 pt hitch, ground driven, set up for potatoes, \$300

"International" 12 feet rotary hoe, drag type, 3 pt hitch, \$75

Roller, 8 feet, corkscrew trailing for field crops, new \$300

"Hercules" chain linked leveling harrow, little used, 9 feet wide \$300

12 foot flail chopper, pto driven, good condition, \$400

7 foot flail chopper for cutting over vegetable beds, good, \$400

More:

A large amount of commercial tillage parts, coulters, sweeps, etc. \$150

PTO driven post-pounder, 3 point hitch, good condition \$900

A 3 pt hitch "Texas" post hole drill, \$100

Grain roller mill, belt driven, no motor, \$150

Much, much greenhouse glass, enough to make a peaked green house 100 by 50 feet, plus all the steel supporting structure for planting tables and mounting supporting structure for the windows, no wood \$500

Jacobs 3500 watt, 32 volt wind generator good condition, broken hub, no blades, top of mounting tower, tail, book, taken down in Homer Alaska, \$800

Farm Maintenance Equipment:

"Miller" CP 300 amp mig wire feed welder, 220 volt, 3 phase with Argon Tank. \$1200.



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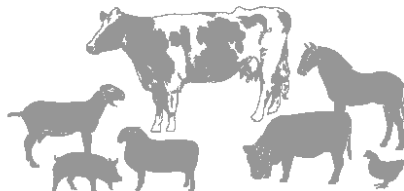
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MEETS NATIONAL ORGANIC STANDARDS BOARD
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR USE IN ORGANIC LIVESTOCK PRODUCTIONS

New Places, New Faces

- continued from page 1

The Board has suggested a Grand Opening at the new location be held in conjunction with the MOSA Annual Meeting in late winter and the staff will soon be making plans for this—details in the next Cultivator.

Along with the new spaces, we have new faces. We are extremely pleased to be able to announce the additions to our certification staff of the following individuals:

Steven Arnold comes to us as a Certification Specialist with experience as an organic farmer, a coordinator of a farmer cooperative, and having worked in education and administration at a nature center and an environmental camp. In his words, “It is my strongly held belief that farmers work best with other farmers, with people who are aware of their strivings and empathetic with the many challenges that are unique to farming...MOSA serves a crucial role in helping farmers adopt to the practices that will enable them to market their product as ‘organic’.” Steven lives in Viroqua with wife Sorel, who operates a home Waldorf pre-school, and their 2 year old daughter, Mayla.



Steven Arnold

Brian Wickert has an Indiana farm background, a degree in Ag Economics and a strong interest in biodynamic and organic agriculture. Brian has a work back-



Brian Wickert

ground in sales. In addition to being an out-going “people person”, he has strong facilitation/group work skills. Brian and Patti, an R.N. working on her Master’s degree, have lived in Viroqua for 10 years with their sons, Zachary, 15, and Ethan, 13.

Erin Beard has been hired as a Staff Inspector. While completing her degree in Agribusiness at Northwestern College, Orange City, IA, Erin contacted MOSA, inquiring about the requirements for inspection work. She went to IOIA training in



Erin Beard

Idaho, tagged along with me on the inspection trail, and then formally apprenticed. While she was still doing her college coursework, I

served as her mentor in an agricultural writing project, the focus of which was organic inspection reports. Erin impressed us all with her rapid professional development, both as an inspector and in certification work in the office, and the favorable feedback from Associates was significant, also, in our decision to offer her a position on the staff. Erin lives in rural Decorah, Iowa, not far from the family farm she grew up on, a MOSA-certified dairy. Actually, she’s not home much right now—last time she was in the office I loaded her up with around 40 inspections for October and November!

More new faces...Board member Mrill Ingram resigned her position recently, needing to devote more time to her work. Thanks to Mrill for the time and energy

given to MOSA! We have a new Board Member to introduce—

Atina Diffley may be a familiar name in organic circles, since she and husband Martin were given the MOSES Farmer of the Year Award in 2004. The Diffley’s 120 acre farm—certified since 1974, making it one of the longest certified farms in the country—is located near Lakeville, Minnesota. The farm is oriented toward wholesale sales of field-grown vegetables: tomatoes, peppers, cole crops, watermelons, cukes and squash. Atina and Martin, in addition to large-scale vegetable production, have been very active in land preservation, consumer education, conference presentations, working with the Hmong and other immigrants, and in training through internships.

“After years in the field producing”, she says, “I’m excited for this opportunity to move from the field to the boardroom and contribute in the organic community without getting my clothes dirty. Organics in the next decade will be making gigantic inroads in the world’s food systems. It is going to be exponential.” Atina is also a musician, on piano and dulcimer. We welcome her skills and dedication to organics to the MOSA Board!



Atina Diffley

—Bonnie Wideman

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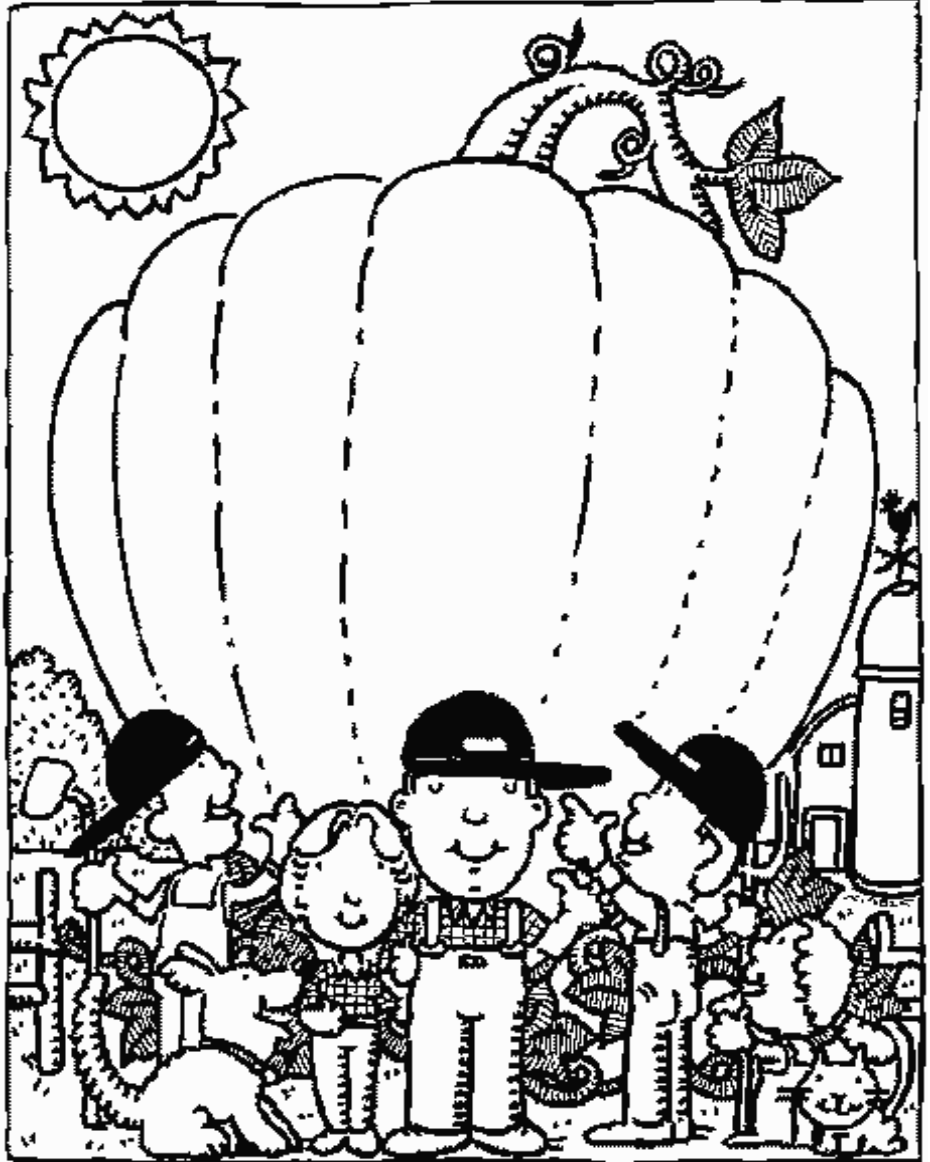


Office 815-438-2543
Fax 815-438-2546
Cell 815-499-9663

Coloring & Story Contest

Hey, kids! MOSA is having a coloring and story contest! Color this picture and write a short story below about the picture, and send it in to our office. Entries must be received by November 30, 2005. 2 winners will be chosen for each age group (5-10, 11 & up). Winning entries will be published in our next newsletter. First place winners will receive \$10, second place winners will receive \$5. Feel free to attach additional pages for your story if you need to.

Have Fun!



Name _____ Age _____

Announcement for Executive Director Position at MOSA

Midwest Organic Services Association (MOSA) seeks a motivated and competent individual to serve as its Executive Director. This is a full time position. The Executive Director supervises and coordinates daily activities of MOSA, manages the personnel involved in performing all operations in the MOSA office, and represents MOSA within the larger organic community.

We seek someone with:

- Extensive organic farming/industry/certification experience
- Excellent verbal and written communication skills
- Strong office administrative, personnel management, and facilitation skills
- Good team building skills
- The ability to listen and work effectively with the staff and Board of Directors
- Experience with financial management and budget development
- Minimum college level education with basic computer skills

Specific responsibilities include:

- Providing guidance and educational opportunities to the MOSA staff to facilitate their specific responsibilities and decision making process
- Develop the budget and oversee financial management of MOSA with the help of the Management Team
- Communicate and interface with the Board of Directors (BOD) including:
 - Planning, preparing for and participating in BOD meetings
 - Dissemination of necessary documentation to the BOD prior to meetings
 - Ensure handling of items delegated by the BOD
- Ensuring the continued accreditation of MOSA and full compliance with NOP standards
- Maintain a continuing understanding of National Organic Standards, the National List, USDA NOP, ISO Guide 65 and International Organic regulations
- Maintain familiarity with and suggest updates to MOSA policies and procedures as outlined in the MOSA Administrative, Quality, Program, and Personnel Manuals
- Support and ensure the integrity of the MOSA inspection and certification system

Salary and benefits will be commensurate with experience.

MOSA offers high quality organic certification and verification services to farmers and processors primarily in the Midwestern United States. We are a member-based non-profit organization. Our office is located in the attractive town of Viroqua, Wisconsin.

Questions concerning the position may be directed to Roger Blobaum 202-537-0191; RJBlobaum@cs.com

To access a complete job description, please consult employment opportunities on the MOSA website (www.mosaorganic.org). Applications consisting of a letter of interest, current resume, and list of three references (with complete contact information) should be either e-mailed (preferred) or mailed to: Judith Scoville, President of the Board of Directors, 2093 Jefferson Ave, St. Paul, MN 55105; scovillej@msn.com

MOSA is an equal opportunity employer.

For Sale

Livestock

For Sale: (Sauk County) FVO certified registered Holstein heifer. Due in November. \$2,000. 608-489-2291 or r.j.goodman@mwt.net.

For Sale: (Vernon County) 350 Brown laying hens, brown egg layers. Were May '05 pullets. MOSA certified. \$3.50 each. Contact Levi M. Mast, S619 Irish Ridge Rd., Cashton, WI 54619.

For Sale: (Vernon County) Jerseys—2 organic heifers, 1 year old, and 1 steer, 1 year old. Call 608-625-2128.

For Sale: (Green Lake County) Mullets certified organic pork and veal (live animals). Joni Mullet, W3699 Heritage Rd, Markesan, WI 53946. Please write for prices. MOSA certified.

For Sale: 8 Holstein heifers-open-2 years old-fed 100% certified organic feed (since March 28, 2003). 1 registered, all from johnes free herd. \$2,000 each or best offer. Selling due to owner's poor health. Call 608-427-2201 or far-mallf20@mwt.net.

For Sale: (Trempealeau County) 7 Jersey cows, organic, johnes free, top genetics. Call 608-792-6013.

For Sale: (Pepin County) Certified organic dairy cows. 140 scc, 4.1 fat, 3.2 protein. Johnes negative. A.I. bred. Call 715-495-2710.

For Sale: Certified organic poultry: Fryer/Broilers ready now! We will custom grow birds for you live or processed, order your Thanksgiving turkey new. State inspected, Mother approved. J&K Poultry, 1785 CHY V, Columbus, WI 53925. Call 608-837-0485.

For Sale: Dutch belted Jersey cross open heifer, and Dutch belted milking Devon heifer, due to calf 1st of April '06. Call 507-542-4515.

Land/Farms

For Sale: (Monroe County) Beautiful organic farm for sale, 155 acres w/115 tillable, well kept ranch home, many outbuildings including barn and pipeline, Located in Monroe County in the St. Mary's Ridge area. This is a dream farm. Asking \$650,500.00. Call Don Potter Realty, 608-625-4316.

For Sale: (Sauk/Richland County) 50+ certifiable acres with about 25 tillable (~20 woods). Recently updated 4+ bedroom, 1 1/2 bath house w/new roof, remodeled kitchen, wood & high efficiency has furnaces & HE & WH. Barn and other outbuildings (fair condition). Located at the Sauk/Richland County line off Hwy 145. Call Chad at 608-604-4802.

For Sale

Land/Farms

For Sale: 80 acre certifiable rectangular plot, located north of Salem, IN. Approx. 60 acres tillable. Creek, woods and paved county road frontage. Call 812-472-3044.

Feed

For Sale: Organic feed wheat for sale. Oregon Tilth certified. Several thousand bushels available. Will sell any amount. \$4.50/bu. Contact Paul Daugherty, Box 154, Wolverton, MN 56594 or call 218-995-2428.

For Sale: (Vernon County) 55 large round bales of organic hay (not certified). First crop this year. 5 miles east of Viroqua. You haul. \$35/bale. Call John Karlstad at 608-637-7011.

For Sale: MCIA certified organic alfalfa, small, large and round bales. Call Lois Brink at 651-777-8723.

For Sale: (Vernon County) 1st and 2nd cut organically grown hay, 1,200 lb round bales. Put up dry, no mold. Price negotiable. Call 608-634-3828.

For Sale: Certified organic hay. Alfalfa 50%/Grass 50%. \$120.00 plus shipping from North Dakota. Please call for more info. 715-743-4673 or email silbernagel@tds.net.

For Sale: (Richland County) 24 large bales 2nd crop hay, 28 bales organic barley straw, and 45 acres shelled corn. Can deliver. Call 608-583-5183.

For Sale: (Chippewa County) MOSA certified organic barley round bales, wrapped, feed quality. Also second crop round bales hay, MOSA certified. Call Chris at Culver Farms, Inc. 715-568-3758.

For Sale: (Winnebago County) 1st crop round bales. Net wrapped, stored inside, no rain. MOSA certified. 90/10 alfalfa grass mix. Email pjhunter@fbx.com or call 563-382-8045.

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For Sale: (Grant County) 2005 organic corn from combine, MOSA certified. Call 608-732-7945 or 608-943-6844.

For Sale: (St. Croix County) Certified organic oats, 50 bu. Call Bob at 715-265-7520.

For Sale: (Vernon County) MOSA certified organic hay, small squares, \$2.00/bale. Call 608-689-2147.

Classifieds

For Sale

Feed

For Sale: (Grant County) MOSA certified organic hay: 200 bales 3x3x8, 14% moisture, 22% protein, RFV 146. 270 big round baleage, 1st crop, 27% moisture, 18.5% protein, RFV 123. Call Eli Hershberger at 608-943-6224.

For Sale: (Calhoun County) MOSA certified hay, large squares and round bales. Delivery available. Call 712-830-2616.

Seed

For Sale: Certified organic winter wheat and rye seed. Conventional, untreated winter triticale and fall forage mixes. The American Organic Seed Company, 815-266-4010 or art@gristmillinc.com for brochure and sales contacts.

For Sale: (Brown County) OCIA certified organic soft red winter wheat seed. Call Mike at 920-983-2324 (Green Bay, WI) leave message.

For Sale: (Meeker County) Approximately 500 bu. 2005 OCIA spring wheat suitable for seed or feed. Also, 300 gal bulk tank. Contact Craig Anderson, 320-275-2596.

HY VIEW FEEDS—Organically certified feed mill and soybean roasting facility in SE MN. Complete feeds, proteins and mineral mixes. Bag or bulk. Also nonGMO formulas. Fertrell Balancers available. For information: 507-493-5564 hyview@mabeltel.coop

Miscellaneous

For Sale: MOSA certified organic oat straw in small square bales. John I. Kauffman, Exeland, WI. 715-943-2285.

For Sale: (Juneau County) Organic straw from field, Kendall area. Contact Doug Johnson 262-567-8424.

Wanted

Wanted: Organic grassfed beef livestock—premiums paid. Slaughter weight or feeders. Live weight pricing. Call Robert Pridie at 712-568-3433. More information at www.organicgrassfedbeef.org rjpridie@direcway.com.

Wanted: (Dodge County) Steers & cull cows: must be Guernsey or Jersey or crossbred including Guernsey, Jersey & Hereford combination. Also need: Jacob sheep, Saanen goats, Berkshire hogs. Can be organic or transitional. Mike Noble 507-789-6679.

Wanted

Wanted: Grain producers looking for a market for their grain. Contact Paulette Bradley, Coordinator, Wisconsin Organic Marketing Alliance. Call 608-427-2201 or mcdonald@mwt.net

Wanted: (Dairy farmers looking for certified organic grain. Contact Paulette Bradley, Coordinator, Wisconsin Organic marketing Alliance. Call 608-427-2201 or mcdonald@mwt.net.

For Rent

For Rent: (Grant County) Dairy barn, 54 tie stalls, on a certified organic farm in Southwest WI. Organic feed available. Qualified inquiries only please. 608-943-6844 or 608-732-7945.

For Rent: Steel bin for corn storage. Crawford/Vernon county line. Call Bonnie at 608-624-5714 or 608-637-2526.

Notice to Producers and Handlers from the USDA

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) has published a notice to inform certified organic producers and handlers of AMS' intention to release the names and addresses of certified operations to the general public. AMS has determined that the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990, as amended, 7 U.S.C. 6501 *et seq.* (OFPA), authorizes the release of the names and addresses of certified organic producers and handlers under the broad category of information characterized by the OFPA as "certification documents." Therefore, AMS intends to release the names and addresses of certified producers and handlers to the general public in response to requests for such information.

Per NOS §205.501(a)(15)(ii), MOSA must "submit to the Administrator (NOP) a list, on January 2 of each year, including the name, address, and telephone number of each operation granted certification during the preceding year. This information, excluding telephone numbers, and including certification categories and copies of certificates, are also made available to the public on the MOSA website, per NOS 205.504 (b)(5)(ii), which states that MOSA must make available to the general public upon request, "a list of producers and handlers whose operations it has certified, including for each the name of the operation, type(s) of operation, products produced, and the effective date of the certification, during the current and 3 preceding calendar years."

MOSA Disclaimer:

MOSA does not guarantee that all products posted in our classifieds section are certified organic, and MOSA is not responsible for the accidental purchase of non-organic products through the use of this page. Always double check and verify the organic status of any product before purchasing or using.

October 2005

Third Quarter Statements and User Fee Billing Statements went out the first week of October to all associates who required them. Please pay your balance due and report your 3Q05 user fees as soon as possible. You may have noticed the different looking User Fee Billing Statement this quarter. We separated producers and processors into their own categories to hopefully clarify any confusion on how much to report and at what rate to report them at for each.

If you are still hoping to take advantage of your state's cost share program, it's not too late for most states. Most of the state forms read, "Should be postmarked by the middle of November to qualify". However your fees still have to have been paid between 10-1-04 and 9-30-05. Also if you are a first-time certifier you had to have been certified by 9-30-05. Please let us know if you need anything from us, such as a detailed invoice, copy of your certificate, or the state form for your request.

—Katie Starr,
Accounts Manager

Phone: (608) 637-2526
Fax: (608) 637-7032
e-mail: kstarr@mosaorganic.org

*Happy
Harvest!
—MOSA staff*



11: Minneapolis/St. Paul, MN— 2nd Dine Fresh Dine Local event. Contact Blue Sky Guide, 651-698-5586; Food Alliance Midwest, 651-653-0618; www.dinefreshdinelocal.com

14-16: Traverse City, MI—Great Lakes Bioneers Conference, 1308 Neahtwanta Rd, Traverse City, MI. The annual Great Lakes Bioneers Conference is a part of the Beaming Bioneers network that has led to connections and organizing on behalf of the planet. The GL Bioneers Conference is organized by SEEDS, the Neahtawanta Center and a broad coalition of volunteers. Bioneers plenary workshops are broadcast live, combined with local keynote speakers and workshops. Call 800-220-1415 www.glbconference.org

15: Deadline—Organic Farmer of the Year award nominations. MOSES, PO Box 339, Spring Valley, WI 54767; 715-772-3153; info@mosesorganic.org www.mosesorganic.org

17: Camp Douglas, WI—Shaking the Money Tree: funding sources for farm and entrepreneurial innovators. This one-day workshop is designed to help farmers design good projects, identify potential funding sources, and figure out the nuts and bolts of applying for funds. The focus will be on sustainable projects (ones that benefit the environment, farm profits, and people). Farmers with projects in mind and agricultural educators are the target audience. This event will be held in the Lemonweir Valley Telephone Building on Hwy 12 and 16. Pre-registration is required. \$10.00 registration fee includes lunch and materials for the workshop. Call Cindy Blackburn by October 10 at 608-263-7320 or Cynthia.blackburn@ces.uwex.edu to reserve a space.

19: Ames, IA—How Agriculture Can Sustain Natural Resources and Small Farms lecture. Free. Contact Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, 515-294-3711

21: Westby, WI—Friday Organic Basics for Farmers: Introduction to Organic Dairy Production. All attending must pre-register. Call MOSES at 715-772-3153 or email cathy@mosesorganic.org. \$10.00 fee collected at door to cover lunch and refreshments. info@mosesorganic.org

22: Olathe, KS—Business Development for Small Farms Workshop. Contact Katherine Kelly, Growing Growers Training Program, 35125 W 135th St., Olathe, KS 66061; 913-488-1270; growers@ksu.edu; www.growinggrowers.org

22: West Plains, MO—Farm Beginnings Course. Call 417-256-2391

25-26: Oacama, SD—South Dakota Agri-Cultural Tourism Conference. The conference will cover such topics as identifying a customer base, networking, building sustainable niche markets, and promoting rural community cultural experiences and products. [Http://www.southdakotaagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=722&yr=2005](http://www.southdakotaagconnection.com/story-state.cfm?Id=722&yr=2005)

Calendar of Events

November 2005

1-2: Des Moines, IA—Risk Management Midwest Regional Outreach Conference. Workshop topics include regional marketing issues, legal liabilities, family generational issues, managing production costs, community cooperatives, specialty crops and financial considerations for the small farmer and rancher. Full scholarships, travel and hotel costs are available for farmers, ranchers, representatives from community based organizations, agribusiness leaders and USDA personnel. MOSES, 715-772-3153; www.mosesorganic.org; info@mosesorganic.org

1-3: Lincoln, NE—Cheesemaking workshop, \$375. Tina Koeppe, Univ. of NE-Lincoln Food Processing Center, 402-472-9751; tkoeppe2@unl.edu; <http://fpc.unl.edu/Workshops/Cheese.htm>

3-5: Comumbia, MO—13th National Small Farm Trade Show and Conference—the largest annual small farm conference and trade show in the U.S. “Profit from Small, Hobby, Family and Lifestyle Farms” is the theme for this year’s conference. www.smallfarmtoday.com

4-5: Columbia, MO—Labeling Genetically Modified Food Conference. Univ. of Missouri-Columbia departments are co-sponsoring this interdisciplinary conference, with a range of speakers on food labeling issues. [Www.missouri.edu/~weirichp/food_conference.htm](http://www.missouri.edu/~weirichp/food_conference.htm)

7-8: Minneapolis, MN—Cooperative Opportunities in a Global Economy: 8th Annual Farmer Cooperatives Conference, \$320. Univ. of WI Center for Cooperatives, 608-262-3981; danzhale@wisc.edu; www.wisc.edu/uwcc/farmercoops05

8-10: River Falls, WI—DBIC Turning Chaos into Control: Milk to Artisanal masterpiece Conference—The conference is designed to encourage cheesemakers to produce new artisanal cheeses and show participants how to use existing equipment to convert milk into a masterpiece, as well as empower participants to take control of the make process. www.dbicusa.org

9-10: Rockford, IL—Grazing and Sustainable Agriculture Workshop. Joel Salatin is the leader of this two-day workshop that looks at the Polyface Farm example and discusses pastured poultry, family friendly farming, farm layout, salad bar beef and marketing. www.grassworks.org/calendar.htm

9-10: Sergeant Bluff, IA—Annual Organic Growers Conference, \$25/each. Bluff’s Area Family Center, 903 Topaz Drive, Sergeant Bluff, IA. Woodbury County 1st Annual Organic Growers Conference and Organic Grassfed Beef Conference. Register online at www.organicgrassfedbeef.org See the agenda on page 6.

14: Ames, IA—5th Annual Iowa Organic Conference, Scheman building at Iowa State University. This year’s sessions include flax production, farmer-chef connections, marketing

innovations, organic greenhouse production, and more. 515-294-5116; www.ucs.iastate.edu/mnet/organic05/about.html


14-15: Des Moines, IA—Energy Efficiency and Agriculture: Ag Forum. American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy presents this special event. The conference will highlight energy efficiency technologies, policies, and actions that can contribute to increased viability and sustainability of farms, ranches, and the rural business community. The forum’s theme is “Increasing Energy Efficiency in the Agriculture Sector: Farms, Ranches, and Rural Small Business” and it will offer an agenda spanning the many energy issues found in rural America. [Http://aceee.org/pubsmeetings/curmtgindex.htm](http://aceee.org/pubsmeetings/curmtgindex.htm)

December 2005

December 8: Ames, IA—Leopold Center Marketing and Food Systems Workshop. Rich Pirog, Marketing and Food Systems Program Leader, 515-294-1854; rspirop@iastate.edu

December 8-10: Indianapolis, IN—Acres USA Conference. www.acresusa.com/events/events.htm

For more information on any of these events, log onto our website, www.mosaorganic.org and click on the Calendar of Events link.



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