



The Organic CULTIVATOR

MONTCHEVRE CHEESE GOING GREEN WITH GOATS

By Kim Wahl

Montchevre Betin (MB) is a company certified by MOSA and based in Rolling Hills Estates, CA. The company operates an innovative cheese plant in the rolling hills of southern Wisconsin.

Michel Betin came to Wisconsin from central France to begin making goat cheese for the expanding US market. Wisconsin was chosen for the existing good supply of goat milk, in the southern part of the state. With the help of Arnaud Solandt (sales, now president) and Jean Rossard (cheese maker, now plant manager), they began to process the first goat cheese in July 1989 at a small plant in Preston.

Quickly outgrowing the Preston facility, they moved south to Belmont in 1995, where MB has since been producing delicious, award-winning goat cheese. They are the number one producer of goat cheese in the US and when a new idea works for them, you can bet the rest of the industry follows.

Making the best cheese possible and developing a sustainable business model are high priorities for MB. The company works with a network of 300 local goat milk producers that sell exclusively to them. The suppliers, located in southwestern Wisconsin, southern Minnesota, eastern Iowa, and Missouri are all small, independent family farms. The milk is of the highest quality and to maintain that quality MB employs field technicians who work closely with the farmers to constantly improve operations, ensuring the best milk possible. As they say, the best milk makes the best cheese.

Caring for the environment is a significant focus at MB, and it's a perfect companion to their business goals:

- In 2005, a MOSA-certified line of organic cheese was developed, including private label organic cheese for Whole Foods and others. The organic milk route began that year with a few Amish farms located near Edgewood, IA. They added six organic

farms in southern Minnesota in 2010, bringing the total of organic milk to about 2 million pounds.

- By increasing the efficiency of their milk routes they are lowering their carbon footprint and delivering fresher product to the marketplace.

- MB is in the process of replacing all older compressors and equipment with higher efficiency models.

- Old lighting fixtures have been replaced with T5 fixtures which are brighter and use less energy.

Going even further in the creation of a sustainable business

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2011 COSTSHARE UPDATE OCTOBER 31 DEADLINE

By Lexy McManaway, Administrative Specialist

In our June/July 2011 Cultivator, MOSA Director Bonnie Wideman provided important information regarding the 2011 Organic Certification Cost-Share Program. Of particular importance to many is that participants are eligible for a costshare reimbursement for each scope of certification. The scopes are crops, livestock, handling and wild crops.

In prior years you could receive 75% of the total cost of your organic certification, with a maximum payment of \$750.00. Now the maximum is \$1500 for two scopes, \$2250 for three scopes or \$3000 for operations with all four scopes.

In early July MOSA provided the various participating state costshare programs with a mailing list of our certified Associates and those who are applying for initial certification in 2011. Arkansas, Colorado, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, New Jersey, North Carolina, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin have confirmed with MOSA they will be sending out the applications directly. If your certified operation is in Illinois, Indiana, Kansas, New York, North Dakota, or Pennsylvania, you will need to contact your state

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FROM THE DIRECTOR BONNIE WIDEMAN

FLIES AND PINKEYE

I have a flerd--sheep and beef together. In the winter, I look at them and think that life is easier for a beef cow than a ewe, especially the hair sheep that look like they forgot to put on their winter jackets, but in summer the tables are turned and I think the sheep have an easier time of it because of the flies on the cows. Although an article about fly control would have been more helpful months ago, this topic is on the minds of many right now and I hope that what I have to share with you will be of value next year if not now. I'm going to start with the worst. If you have pink-eye in your animals you're interested in treatments.

Organic and conventional treatments for pinkeye

First off, as organic farmers we need to recognize that if pinkeye comes on early in the season, it's not just going to go away. We need to treat it.

The conventional treatment is antibiotic. If you need to go this route, you're taking the animal out of organic production. If it's a dairy animal, they need to be removed from the herd. If it's beef brood stock or a beef heifer or calf, they can remain as an organic breeder but they lose their organic slaughter status. The organic standards make it clear that we are not to withhold conventional treatments if prevention and organic-acceptable treatments aren't effective. What are the organic treatments?

I have only come upon three:

- Crystal Creek Wound Spray. There may be comparable products by other companies, but this is the one that a number of farmers claim is effective. Spray the affected eyes. Put on an eye patch or a horse mask. Dairy producer Patty Laskowski reports good results from horse masks on cows used in conjunction with the Wound Spray. She says you can get foal size, small, and medium sizes that seem to fit cattle better. They Velcro on and they reduce the light so the eyes can heal. The cow is a little unsure at first but after they get used to it you can lift the mask at milking to do another treatment of Wound Spray.

- Iodine in the drinking water. Arden Landis, organic inspector and former organic dairyman from Pennsylvania, attests to the efficacy of 3 ounces of 7% iodine added to 500 gallons of drinking water as both treatment and preventative when animals have the watery eye that shows with pinkeye.

- Cod liver oil. Australian vet Pat Coleby in her book "Natural Cattle Care" claims that pinkeye is caused by an organism that only operates if the host is deficient in vitamin A. For treatment, she says to take 20 ml of cod liver oil, squirt 3 ml into each eye and the rest down the throat. I find it hard to accept that vitamin A would be in shortage with fresh pasture during the grazing season, but I gave all my cattle supplemental vitamin A injections when we ran them through the chute and treated the pinkeye cases with Wound Spray and put on eye patches.



Ahoy, matey! Bonnie's pirate cow sports a fashionable eye-patch for pinkeye treatment.

Preventing pinkeye

- Keeping animals in optimal condition with feed grown on mineralized, balanced soils is the most basic tenet I've heard.

- Mowing pastures. Coarse, mature pasture grasses and weeds can scratch eyes and lead to sites for infection.

- Some farmers credit free-choice kelp with pinkeye prevention but others say that it needs to be part of an overall good offering of minerals that supports the immune system.

- Vaccinations. I have talked to beef producers who believe that vaccination is the key to pinkeye control. Others have questioned the effectiveness of vaccinations because there are different strains of pinkeye. If vaccinations are

given, they should be given before fly season comes on. I have read that it is possible to create vaccines that are strain-specific for the type of pink-eye on a farm but do not know the method for doing this.

- Breeding. Herefords are known for susceptibility to eye problems - pinkeye and eye cancer - which makes me speculate that dairy breeds might show differences in resistance, also. I have noticed that individual animals carry more horn flies than others, and I think this is worth paying attention to. Joel Salatin in his book "Salad Bar Beef" talks about selection for the "beautiful cow." Perhaps we need to consider susceptibility to pinkeye and fly attraction as traits to be considered in selecting heifer calves.

- Fly control. This is the biggest topic of all.

Basics of effective fly control

It is best to integrate several approaches—sanitation, sprays, fly predators, sticky tapes and traps being the most common. It helps to be able to identify which type of flies are the biggest problems and understand their breeding habits.

Flies that breed in fresh manure. These are face flies and horn flies. The female face flies cluster around an animal's eyes, mouth and muzzle, eat secretions and spread pink-eye. Horn flies live on blood and they can sap the vitality from cattle. They congregate on the backs, shoulders and sides, moving to the undersides in very hot or rainy weather. One sanitation measure to cut down on face and horn flies is to drag pastures and break up manure, but this practice makes life hard for the dung beetle which not only serves to reduce fly habitat by breaking down the manure, but also the beetles serve to reduce internal parasites that live in the dung piles. Dung beetles are harmed by ivermectin, which is the main reason that it would be preferable to have fenbendazole as the allowed wormer for organic production. Possibly, the best sanitation measure to cut down on pasture-breeding flies would be to run poultry on the pastures after grazing for they search the dung for fly larvae. I am intrigued by Joel Salatin's pasture poultry mobile unit that serves this symbiotic purpose, but my goal is fly control more than egg production. I'm imagining having poultry out on the pasture—maybe a tough duck like a Muscovy would be best—in a system that brings them into a protected enclave at night, probably electric poultry netting, because without protection it sounds like this would be providing a new feed option for the coyotes. If the birds don't get trained to come to grain, how do you get them to move on the pastures? How trainable are ducks? Any experiences out there that could be shared?

Flies that breed in organic debris, manure piles and feed waste. This is the stable fly, which bites and the house fly that doesn't bite. Regular removal and composting of wastes is the best sanitation practice to cut down on these flies. Stable flies are the bad ones for attacking the legs and bellies of cows and probably most milker-kicking is related to stable flies. I had really never thought about those half-eaten lumps of round bales being any more than eyesores but when I recently brought my cattle up to the barn lots I found myself standing next to one of the last bales fed in April and my legs were soon spotted with flies! Nothing like a little real-life experience to make what's read sink in. These flies like moist areas. Where water's dripping onto organic debris, they're going to multiply. Don't underestimate the fly control power of poultry in controlling stable and house flies. MOSA producer Jack Stramschor shared with me that he's never had to spray a calf in his calf pens since he started raising poultry along with the calves. Muscovy ducks, other ducks and now just plain chickens—Jack has found that they keep the fly population under control in his calf barn.

Fly repellents and fly smotherers/removers

The most widely used by farmers I've heard from are No-Fly from Crystal Creek and Ecto-Phyte from Agri-Dynamics. There are wick systems with face flags, you can spray or paint these products on, and some farmers develop more sophisticated systems of delivery. I talked to a farmer recently who was setting up a system in his parlor to deliver spray during milking. An inspector told me about a system that was set up out on a pasture, in conjunction with a mineral feeder, triggered by a lever that was tripped when the animals entered, but when I talked to the farmer he said it was a high-maintenance piece of equipment and now the company has gone out of business. I have mounted a sprayer on the back of my four wheeler that has a pump that runs off the battery, and it's a step up from chasing cows around with a hand-held sprayer, but still leaves a lot to be desired. MOSA Certification Specialist Cameron Genter told me that he sprays oil-based No-Fly on his cows at milking time and wipes it on faces. He's observed that the No-Fly kills the horn flies and overall seems to repel the flies for half a day.

A contributor to the ODairy list-serve group, Francis Thicke of Minnesota, shared the following about his fly management: "I find organic soybean oil applied with an automotive paint spray at high pressure (80-100 psi) works very

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HOW MOSA STRUCTURES INSPECTION FEES

Sometimes there is some confusion about inspection fees, especially when people receive an invoice for “Actual Inspection Fees” after their inspection has been completed. Hopefully this will clear up some of the confusion. MOSA welcomes calls to clarify our fee structures.

Payment for your annual organic inspection is done in two parts. When you submit your application for organic certification in the spring, we require that you pay an “Inspection Fee Deposit” of \$200 (producers) or \$300 (handlers). This is a deposit and only rarely does this deposit cover the entire cost of the inspection; there will be a balance due after your annual organic inspection is complete.

Only when we receive your inspection report and the inspector’s billing do we know the full cost of your inspection. The full cost is based on the length of your inspection, mileage, food and lodging and other administrative charges the inspector may bill for. You receive a copy of your inspection report with a statement showing the balance due for the inspection. Even if your operation did not change from the previous year, your total inspection fee could be higher or lower than last year, depending on how efficiently your inspector was able to schedule your inspection with others they have assigned in your area.

Contract inspector rates are fairly uniform with MOSA staff inspector rates, but there can be slight variations in their fee schedules that can also make your inspection costs vary slightly from year to year. If you have new crops or products that were not previously listed on your certificate, or if you are new to MOSA, you may have additional travel expenses because of your particular scheduling needs.

By dividing your inspection bill into two parts, a deposit and a balance due, we are trying to help keep down the amount of money due with your application to MOSA. Deferring part of the expense of the inspection until after your inspection has occurred hopefully helps to spread out the total cost over time.

Aaron Brin
Inspection Manager

PRODUCER UPDATE FORMS OUT IN EARLY JANUARY

Each year, certified organic operations are required by the National Organic Program to update their paperwork and be inspected. MOSA makes every effort to keep this annual requirement as “user friendly” as possible by using short update forms two years in a row before requiring long forms, and by keeping our forms as simple as we can while still getting the information we need to assess each operation’s compliance with the National Organic Standards.

We send update papers to you each winter. What we send to you is based on your previous year’s certification as well as any information you have given us about upcoming changes to your operation. In 2011, we sent update papers to you in **early January**, along with an invoice detailing the update fees due. We anticipate that timeline for 2012 as well.

Your update papers and fees are **due on May 1st every year**. You’re required to submit both papers and fees by this deadline or you could incur both late fees and noncompliances. Once you receive your update papers from us in January, contact us as soon as possible if you have questions or special needs.

Send forms in as complete as possible; we understand that things may change prior to inspection. Your inspector can help you update your forms with any changes at inspection. The papers that are *essential* in order to move your file along in the process are all pertinent Organic System Plan forms (Farm, Livestock, Greenhouse, Wild Crop, etc.) and your Current Year Field Plan. Even if you’re unsure what you will be doing in the upcoming season, please send in the Current Year Field Plan as complete as you are able. To recap:

- **In early January of 2012, MOSA will send your updated papers along with an invoice for fees due;**

- **On May 1, 2012, your updated papers (including the Current Year Field Plan) and fees are due in the office to avoid noncompliances and late fees.**

In addition, be aware that organic certification never simply expires. Thus, if your certificate lists a Last Inspected Date of July 15, 2011, this does not mean that your certificate expires on July 15, 2012. As long as you have submitted your update papers and are up-to-date on fees, your certificate remains good as you move through the updating process.

Gabrielle Daniels
Administrative Specialist

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well for cows in the milking parlor. The soybean oil will kill horn flies on contact, and it puts the stable flies in a state of confusion and they mostly seem to end up on the sticky tape ribbons strung across the ceiling of the milking parlor. By mid-summer, I find generally that horn flies are virtually eliminated from the milking herd with this method. I have tried a walk-through fly catcher for horn flies, but found it to be a real nuisance to train the cows to walk through it when coming into the parlor, especially new heifers. I spike the soybean oil with some Crystal Creek No-Fly to give it a bit of residual repelling effect (though I am not sure how effective that part is). I have an air compressor in the utility room with a hose leading to a wind-up hose on the wall in the milking parlor. I switch out both sides of our double 8 milking parlor at the same time and roll out the hose and spray both sides of the parlor. I spray the cows' backs and then go into the parlor pit and spray their legs and bellies, which relieves them from the biting that causes them to kick and knock milking machines off."

Other physical means of fly kill

From Patti Laskowski: "As for a 'trap' that seems to be a very successful part of our multi-pronged approach to fly control (kill as many flies as possible), before we start milking we spray the underbellies and front legs of the cows. We put the hose nozzle on mist and spray down the flies. They drop onto the floor and we get a lot of flies that way."

Bedding

Wood products or sand sustain fewer flies than straw. Diatomaceous earth, lime, or plant products like coconut or peanut hull, peppermint, pine, basil or lavender may serve to reduce fly concentrations.

Biological control agents

Parasitic wasps occur naturally in barn vicinities. They lay eggs in fly pupae and an adult wasp will emerge instead of a fly. They are not as prolific as the flies and have a slower rate of development. It is reported that parasitic wasps can contribute to 50% fewer flies when used in combination with adequate manure removal. If you are going to purchase and use parasitic wasps, you need to start early (May) and continue until mid-September. They need to be released every 1-2 weeks. Patti Laskowski shared the following: "I tried a different parasitic wasp company last year and it was a complete failure and all those stinking fly pupae overwintered and came on super strong this year. Went back to Spalding Labs this year and I do believe they are the most

experienced with knowledge of various systems of cattle. We have the fly predators delivered every week and spread some around milking center but mainly out on the pasture where the cows have left 1-3 days ago. That timing will get the adult fly predators close to the dung pats as the flies are pupating. But spread, spread, spread is the key."

In conclusion, after all my fly research and solicitation of input on the subject I've come to understand that fly control in organic production has to be a multi-faceted approach. We have no silver bullets like insecticide ear tags or salt blocks. Our choice to farm organically is a commitment to find better ways to deal with the challenges. I thank those who shared their practices with me for this article and I encourage all who discover good organic practices—whether it's in fly control for livestock or any aspect of organic production of handling—to contribute their ideas to this newsletter to be shared with others.

GOODBYE, EMMA LOU

MOSA lost a dear friend and mascot recently. Bonnie Wideman's 8 year old pug Emma passed away in July. She and her funny office antics will be missed!

Costshare

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costshare program directly. (Note: Many states have downloadable applications on their websites.)

If you have not received your 2011 costshare application or do not receive communication from your state regarding costshare by August 15, 2011, you should contact your state costshare program directly. An updated contact list of state costshare programs is at the end of this article. This list replaces the contact list in our June/July newsletter.

You do not have to provide your financial (paid invoice) information or scope information with your application. The first week of October 2011 MOSA will provide both your state costshare program and you with your paid invoice information (certification costs incurred from October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011) and scope information (crop, livestock, handler, wild crop).

With the exception of Ohio, applicants who were already certified in 2010 do **not** need to provide a copy of their certificate with their applications. However, Ohio does require that all applicants provide a copy of their certificate with their application. For the remaining states, MOSA will confirm your certification is in good standing when requested to do so by the state costshare program.

If you are newly certified in 2011, prior to October 1, 2011, you will need to send along a copy of your certificate with your application. *Note: operations certified on or after October 1, 2011 are not eligible to apply in the 2011 costshare application year, but may include those costs in their 2012 applications.*

COST-SHARE AT A GLANCE

- Application deadline: October 31, 2011.
- If you have not received your 2011 costshare application by August 15, 2011, contact your state costshare program directly. **Submit your applications as soon as possible.**
 - In early October 2011 MOSA will provide applicants' financial statements (costs incurred from October 1, 2010 through September 30, 2011) and scope information to the individual state costshare programs.
 - File your costshare application in the state where you file your taxes.
 - **With the exception of Ohio,** if you were certified in 2010 and your certificate is in good standing, you do not

need to provide a copy of your certificate with your application. MOSA will confirm the good standing of your certificate as requested by the state. **Certified operations in Ohio must provide a copy of their MOSA certificate with their applications.**

- If you are newly certified in 2011, prior to October 1, 2011, you will need to provide a copy of your MOSA certificate with your application.
- Operations certified on or after October 1, 2011 are not eligible for reimbursement in 2011, but may include those costs in a 2012 application.
- See our June/July 2011 newsletter or the National Organic Program (NOP) website for a list of costs that are allowed and not allowed; contact your state costshare program with any questions.

- **Multi-scope Reimbursement: 75% of the costs for each USDA certificate (scope); maximum payment of \$750 per scope.**

• An updated contact list begins below; it replaces the list from the June/July newsletter. The website of the NOP is www.ams.usda.gov/nop. It is helpful and informative.

OCTOBER 31, 2011 IS THE COST-SHARE APPLICATION DEADLINE FOR ALL STATES

MICHIGAN ASSOCIATES! In our June/July newsletter we indicated that Michigan would not be participating in 2011 Cost-Share; that has since changed. Michigan has announced that they will be participating in the 2011 Organic Certification Cost-Share Program.

Feel free to contact MOSA with any questions regarding the 2011 Organic Certification Cost-Share Program.

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Goats Go Green

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model, MB built and went online with an anaerobic digester (aka biogas or methane digester) that converts cheese plant waste into electricity and other beneficial byproducts.

Like other cheese producers, the company has a significant amount of waste product - water and whey - and they wanted to find a more effective solution to disposing of those wastes. Previously all wastewater from the cheese-making process was hauled away for land application - in 2010 that was 20 million gallons!

After 8 years of considering all options, MB partnered with Milwaukee-based ProCorps Enterprises, LLC (specialists in sustainable water and wastewater treatment solutions), Clear Horizons (a Wisconsin firm that specializes in organic waste management solutions and biogas energy systems) and Alliant Energy to create a system that would transform industrial waste into energy. Construction of the 600,000-gallon digester began in early November of 2009. MB inaugurated the anaerobic digester on October 8th, 2010, becoming the first goat cheese manufacturer in the United States to use this type of wastewater treatment. Finally, they can turn the whey and wastewater into clean water and methane that can be burned in a generator to produce electricity, providing power to produce more cheese.

The digester produces 5,270 kilowatt hours of energy daily - five times more electricity than needed by MB and extra electricity is sold to the local power company, Alliant Energy. The average Wisconsin home uses around 24 kilowatt hours per day so the system helps to power anywhere from 200 - 240 local homes daily.

What is anaerobic digestion?

Anaerobic means the absence of oxygen. Anaerobic digestion is the process by which organic materials are broken down by micro-organisms, in an enclosed container. Organic waste for biogas generally falls into two main categories: agricultural wastes like manure and wastewater; and urban waste like food scraps and yard clippings. Anaerobic digestion produces biogas, a renewable gas, consisting primarily of methane and carbon dioxide. This gas can be burned just like natural gas to generate electricity. The digester process also creates useful byproducts such as pathogen-free fertilizer, fluffy bedding for animals, and compost

In Europe, the biogas industry is mature and wide-spread, with more than 10,000 biogas-producing digesters in operation. Here in the U.S., the biogas industry is just beginning to grow. Biogas represents a domestic energy source with great untapped potential - farms, industry, wastewater plants, countless sources of urban, organic waste could produce 70 million megawatt-hours

of electricity. Wisconsin is a national leader in this renewable energy segment with 26 manure digesters in operation.

Examples of Anaerobic Digesters in the US:

Crave Dairy And Cheese Factory - Waterloo, Wisconsin

An anaerobic digestion system helps manage the farm's manure and generates enough electricity to power the farm, cheese factory, and 300 area homes. The digester, owned and installed by Clear Horizons, is computer controlled over the Internet from the company's office in Milwaukee. The digester reduces odor from the manure and also provides some saleable products. The liquid byproducts are used as fertilizer on fields and the solid byproducts (dry organic matter) are used as animal bedding and in a line of organic potting soil.

Community Biogas Project - Waunakee, Wisconsin

Home to 400 dairy farms, Dane County recently dedicated a community-scale manure-to-methane generating system designed to reduce nutrient runoff into the Yahara Lakes. This community digester is the first of its kind in the United States to serve a cluster of farms and employ phosphorus separation technology. At two megawatts, it is also the largest on farm biogas generating facility operating. Manure from 3 participating dairy farms is piped into the digester.

Plans to build a second community biogas installation in Dane County are underway.

American Crystal Sugar - Moorehead, Minnesota

Is a world-class agricultural cooperative that specializes in sugar and sugar-based products and by-products. They digest waste products at their plant in Moorehead, Minnesota.

New Belguim Brewery - Fort Collins, Colorado

A wastewater treatment plant run by Oberon (a fish feed research and development company) that cleans wastewater and generates methane and sludge in the process. These by-products are used by Oberon to create a high protein fish food.

Methane from the wastewater plant is recaptured and converted into heating and electricity; this system produces 15 percent of New Belgium's electricity needs.

For more information

The Midwest Rural Energy Council (MREC), the Wisconsin Department of Ag., Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP), and Wisconsin Biogas Development Group have assembled a list of current resources on the topic of anaerobic digestion - <http://www.mrec.org/anaerobicdigestion.html>. It includes information on digester basics, financial assistance & economics of using anaerobic digesters, and farmers experiences.

Thanks to Montchevre-Betin for an inspiring commitment to sustainability!

Contact List*Continued from page 7***PENNSYLVANIA**

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HY VIEW ORGANICS

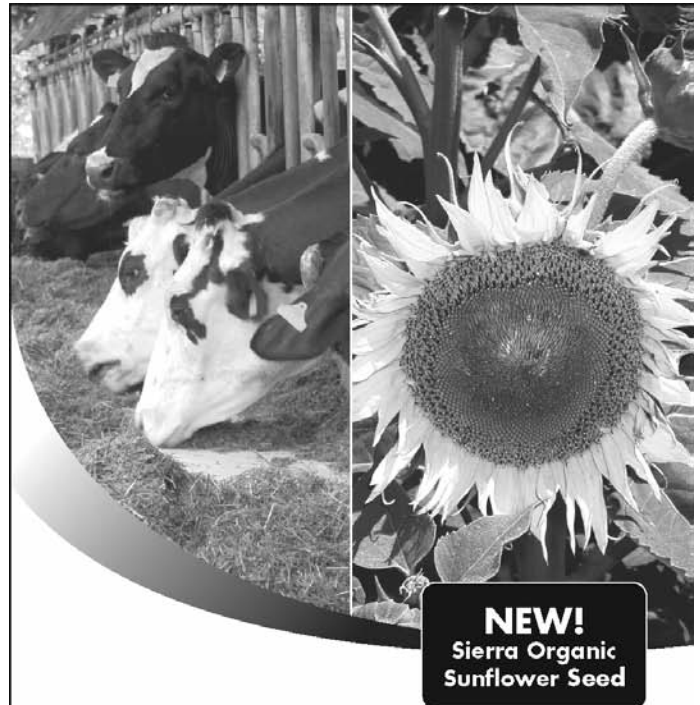
Organic &
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Seed
Products



Organic
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Feeds
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Organic crops start with the seed.

PLANT ORGANIC. FARM BETTER.

- Excellent silage tonnage
- Organic sorghum sudangrass and alfalfa
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Corn | Sunflowers | Sudangrass | Soybeans | Red Clover | Alfalfa

ORGANIC CLASSIFIEDS

LIVESTOCK/MEATS

FOR SALE: Two Jersey bulls, 2 years old, pure bred, registered. Wauzeka, WI. Bob Molini, 608-875-5810.

FOR SALE: Two family cows. They will calve in early September. Wauzeka, WI. Bob Molini 608-875-5810.

FOR SALE: Milking shorthorn cows pick 5-10 from 40 all fresh or springing. SCC 54. \$1800 each. 715-572-5052.

FEED/SEED

FOR SALE: 2nd and 3rd crop certified organic alfalfa hay from the field, \$100.00/ ton, Viroqua, WI. Call: 608-632-0376

FOR SALE: Certified organic garlic. High quality and large quantities. 26 varieties available. \$10 per lb plus shipping. On-farm pickup available or pickup at Rochester (MN) Downtown Farmers Market. Email Paul at pschmidty@centurylink.net or call 507-259-1964.

FOR SALE: Certified organic rolled roasted soybeans. Also buying organic feed grade soybeans. Andersen Feeds, Inc., Galesville, WI 54630. 608-582-2595.

BUY AND SELL: Quality certified organic grains and proteins. Custom feed milling and soybean roasting. Bulk auger delivery in Wisconsin. Golden Grains, Sparta, WI. Call 608-269-5150.

FOR SALE: MOSA certified 4X5 net wrapped 1st crop. 715-879-5572

FOR SALE: got organic milk? need organic hay? 1st crop 4x5 round grass, 900# bales, stored inside. \$48 a bale, delivery available up to 50 miles from Medford, WI. 715-748-6863.

FOR SALE: Certified organic alfalfa, large round bales. Delivery available. Located in Waseca, MN. Call 507-521-5525.

FOR SALE: 2011 organic hay, big round bale. Wauzeka, WI. Bob Molini 608-875-5810.

FOR SALE: Rocambole, hardneck garlic. For seed or eating. \$7.00 per pound. Makes 2 to 2 1/2 inch bulbs. Has large, easy to peel cloves. MOSA certified. Also, garlic tincture: 8 oz. for \$20; 16 oz for \$35; 32 oz. for \$55. Israel Swarey, N83 Hall Dr., Stetsonville, WI 54480.

FOR SALE: Top Quality Certified Organic SEED GARLIC. Proven Varieties. Farmer Friendly pricing available. For best selection order early. www.organicgarlicseedfarm.com or Liz @ (541) 846-0602

FOR SALE: Roasted soybeans, good quality, ICO-certified organic. \$910/ton. Contact John S. Bornreger, S769 Dell Road, Cashton, WI 54619.

MISCELLANEOUS

WANTED: Organic straw in summer of 2011. Growers in ND, MN, contact 563-543-4513.

FOR SALE: ROSS KAMP Roller Mill, Good condition. Located in Kewaunee, WI. Call Steve at 920-388-3368.

MOWING HELP WANTED: Someone with a tractor or team to mow approximately 5 acres of grassy field. Property is located between Viroqua and Chaseburg off County Y. Please contact Lexy at 608-606-1334.



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FOR SALE: Hiniker 4 row cultivator no till sweeps in great condition with front mount kit as option model 6000 (\$400), 6 row flame cultivator with LP tank (\$600). 12 Osborne Hog Feeders round style 2 ton (very reasonable call for details). 563-543-4513.

FOR SALE: 400 black locust fence posts. \$4.00-\$8.00. Eli J. Yoder, E17343 Kouba Valley Road, Hillsboro, WI 54634.

FOR SALE: CASE 4-18" Onland Roll-over Plow. Excellent Condition. Coulters & extra shares. \$1,800.00 OBO. Contact: Gerald Klinkner, 28040 Omega Road, Cashton, WI 54619. Call 608-654-7971.

FOR SALE: Every organic farmer needs to know about Bourquin's organic weed puller. You may not need it, but you need to know about it. Bourquin Organic Weed Puller can save your crops. Check us out at www.organicweedpuller.com or e-mail us at dan@organicweedpuller.com.

LAND FOR SALE

FOR SALE: 35 Acre organic farmette in Wild Rose WI \$299,000. The property includes a restored 3 bedroom 1 and 1/2 bath farmhouse, renovated 40 x 80 barn with a new metal roof, 40 x 40 metal pole barn, 30 x 40 garage (2 car with workshop) and a granary. 15 acres have been planted in mixed grass/alfalfa. Current MOSA certification has lapsed, all record-keeping current and in order to renew certification. Please contact us for additional information or pictures. taylor.warsek@gmail.com or 920-344-1033.

FOR SALE: A motivated Seller is selling a successful small certified organic CSA farm/business just south of Madison, WI. A green built 18x18 House, tools of the trade, & a green house. Seller will mentor new owner. Gardens produce vegetables, fruit, old fashioned & exotic flowers. Across from 300 acres of DNR land & a Class 1 trout stream. Need to see to appreciate. \$195,000 Mary Anderson - Bunbury Realtors 608-438-8072 or manderson@bunburyrealtors.com

FOR SALE: #S2289 Schuester Lane above Chaseburg, off County Road K. 155 acres, 75 tillable. Has been fallow, in CRP, for twenty years. \$4000 per acre or best offer. Contact Carl Henden at 208-720-9121 or cjhenden@yahoo.com. All serious offers will be considered.

FOR SALE OR RENT-TO-OWN: Seeking organic dairy farmer for long-term lease with option to buy: New Spirit Farmland Partnerships is accepting applications for our newly launched Organic Farm Succession Program. This program helps experienced farmers and qualified beginning farmers by allowing them to take over a mature certified organic operation from a retiring farmer. We're currently seeking an organic dairy farmer for a certified organic dairy farm near Richland Center, WI. To learn more, please visit [http://newspiritfp.com/?q=Organic Farm Succession Program](http://newspiritfp.com/?q=Organic%20Farm%20Succession%20Program) or contact Jim Holub at Jim.Holub@NewSpiritFP.com or 319-310-7263.

FOR SALE: 130 crop acres certified organic, two houses & other buildings. Owners need to retire. \$500,000. West Central Wisconsin. 608-323-7297.

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MOSA WELCOMES NEW STAFF

Robert Caldwell, Staff Inspector, has been living in Southwestern Wisconsin since 1989. Hailing from South Carolina, he is familiar to many MOSA farmers. He has farmed crops and dairy cattle, as well as vegetables for Organic Valley. Robert has been inspecting farm and processing facilities since 1993. Now officially a full-time inspector, Robert joined MOSA forces during a busy time of year, jumping right in to inspect all over the Midwest. He likes his work and enjoys meeting new people.

Cullen Carns-Hilliker, Certification Specialist, was born in Madison, WI, and has lived in Wisconsin all of his life, except for two years in Massachusetts for graduate school. Cullen moved to Viroqua in 2008 and worked on a MOSA certified organic farm for 2 1/2 years before getting a job in the Administrative Department at MOSA. He joined the Certification Staff in March of this year and enjoys working with farmers to build the organic movement. Cullen is married and has two boys, Luca (5 2/3) and Ephraem (11 months). When not debating the finer points of the organic standards with his co-workers, Cullen enjoys gardening, canning, reading, bicycling, and fishing with Luca.

Mike Crotser, Certification Specialist, was raised in Champaign, Illinois and went to the University of Illinois in Champaign – Urbana, where he studied Horticulture, specifically ornamental horticulture and vegetable crop production. Mike taught plant science classes at the University of Wisconsin - River Falls. There he focused on developing sus-



MOSA welcomes several new staff members: Mike Crotser, Robert Caldwell, Angela Davidson, Lexy McManaway, and Cullen Carns-Hilliker who has moved from the MOSA Admin Department to the Certification Department.



MOSA welcomes two other new staff members as well: Liz Daines and Delia Hollbach.

tainable agriculture curriculum and research on reducing herbicide inputs in cropping systems. Mike's wife works as a Certified Nurse Midwife at Gunderson Lutheran and has provided health care for women and delivered countless babies in her career. They have two lovely daughters, Esther (5 years) and Frances (1 year) and the family currently lives in Viroqua, WI. They enjoy the farmers market, playing music, reading books and relaxing in a small town.

Liz Daines, Administrative Specialist and Inspection Coordinator, was born and raised on a tobacco farm in Valley, WI, near La Farge. She and her husband Dan moved back to the Driftless area after 13 years in Madison because Liz missed the hills and wanted to be closer to family. Liz became interested in organic and local food systems through Environmental Studies classes at UW-Madison, and was particularly inspired by Prof. Jack Kloppenburg. She's worked the past 6 years at organic vegetable CSA farms in the Madison and Viroqua areas as a harvest crew member, truck driver, and manager. She currently lives in Viroqua with her husband Dan and their cat.

Angela Davidson, Certification Specialist, is the daughter of Tom and Margaret Davidson of Soldiers Grove, WI. She grew up on her family's dairy farm and is getting back into the swing of the dairy farming lifestyle again now that she's back. She has a Broad Area Agriculture degree with an Animal Science minor from the University of Wisconsin - River Falls. Angela has just moved back to the area after living in Bozeman, MT, for the last 8 years. In her free time, Angela enjoys riding horses.

*Please turn to **Welcome** on page 13*

Welcome

Continued from page 12

Delia Hollbach, Staff Inspector, grew up in a small town in Western Australia, known for mining and large scale wheat and sheep production. She had never really heard of “organic foods” but she knew that the best veges around came from her grandmother’s vegetable patch (which in hindsight, Delia said, was as sustainable and organic as any out there!).

Delia first heard about organic inspection at the 2010 MOSES conference. It was there she met Kathy Connell, a long time organic inspector, who told her about the training courses available and encouraged Delia to consider inspecting. Previously Delia had worked as an industrial quality control engineer and more recently on food safety tools for small scale farmers. She’d also spent all of 2009 volunteering on organic farms around the US. Little did she know then that her casual conversation with Kathy would lead her to become an inspector.

Soon she completed the training, and was quickly out in the field apprenticing with experienced inspectors. Delia feels she owes much to these inspectors who helped her

early on this path. “Many thanks to all of you for giving me a chance,” Delia said. She commenced working for MOSA in April this year. It’s been amazing to visit so many interesting operations – she learns something new every day.

Lexy McManaway, Administrative Specialist, moved to Viroqua from Cape Cod, MA, ten years ago. The Cape is now known for its beaches and tourism but when Lexy was a child, it was primarily rural. People supported themselves on farming and fishing. Lexy’s family had a small farm surrounded by several larger farms. She and her siblings helped with the chores on larger farms in exchange for hay and milk. They often rode their horses to school. The farms are gone, replaced by housing developments and shopping malls. Lexy’s background in organic farming comes from uncomplicated sea coast farming practices, practices which the Wampanaog tribe shared with the European settlers. Farmers in the area used materials available to them including herring, salt grass, seaweed, and sea shells. In the family vegetable gardens, they followed the Three Sisters planting, which uses corn, beans, and squash as companion plants.



Midwestern Bio-Ag

Please join us at the 20th annual Midwestern Bio-Ag

Field Day

Tuesday, Aug. 16

****9 a.m. to 4 p.m. **All activities Free, including Lunch** No pre-registration required****

Get out of the way and grow! The principles of biological farming

Hay, what's that? Knowing and Growing Quality Forages

Now that's a Healthy Cow! Productive, profitable dairying

Where'd the weeds go? Successful Organic Farming

Not the same old corn & beans! Growing row crops for yield and quality

Make the most of manure: Getting valuable nutrients from livestock manures
Growing Quality Vegetables & Specialty Crops: Guest speaker Ellen Polishuk

PLUS booths, tillage demos, farm walk with Gary Zimmer & more!

Held on: **Otter Creek Organic Farm & the Bio-Ag Learning Center**

(in SW Wisconsin on Hwy 130, 15 mi. north of Dodgeville or 5 mi. south of Lone Rock)

Map to the farms, updates and more details on our all-new website: www.midwesternbioag.com

Or call 1-800-327-6012

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EVENTS CALENDAR

August 16 - 18 Rock Springs, PA

Ag Progress Days

Russell E. Larson Agricultural Research Center

Ag Progress Days, Pennsylvania's largest outdoor agricultural exposition, features the latest technology and research exhibits, education programs and guided tours. For more information, call 814-865-2081 or email agprogressdays@psu.edu

August 6 Stewart, OH

Build Your Own Compost Bin

Anne Glass will present a hands-on lesson building a simple composting system with low-cost materials. 740-593-5971. <http://www.communityfoodinitiatives.com/page04.html>
Stewart Community Gardens
State Route 329, Stewart, OH

August 7 Columbus, OH

Swainway Urban Farm Tour

Joseph Swain operates a certified organic urban farm located in the heart of Columbus. On a sub-acre plot he intensively grows a variety of vegetables, herbs, mushrooms, specialty crops, and seedlings. In an effort to encourage backyard gardens and to spread awareness about sustainable food and farming practices, Joseph educates others about growing their own vegetables. Swainway Urban Farm also offers on-site consulting services to those interested in developing urban gardens and is currently developing programs geared toward children. This farm tour is sponsored by the Innovative Farmers of Ohio. Directions: From I-71, take the Cooke Rd. exit and turn to go west on Indianola Ave. At the first light, turn left on Glenmount Ave. Turn right on Sharon Ave. The farm is on the left. 285 Canyon Dr., Columbus, Ohio 43214. (800) 372-6092, (614) 557-8902, <http://www.ifoh.org>

August 2-4 Redwood County, MN
Farmfest

THE Largest Outdoor Agricultural Event in Minnesota! Now in its 30th year, Farmfest continues to connect industry leading manufacturers/providers with decision making producers. Farmfest:

- Connects 35,000+ attendees with over 625 local and leading companies in the farming industry.
- Features highly topical educational and political forums highlighting topics relevant to the issues that face today's farmers.
- Presents successful field demonstrations which

feature the latest technological advancements in the farming industry.

- Offers programs and entertainment for the entire family.

Farmfest strives to provide both the traditional programs that bring attendees back year after year while also offering new, dynamic events and programs which are designed both to entertain and entice new attendees. At the Gilfillan Estate in Redwood County, Minnesota. New information will be posted online as it becomes available. 800-827-8007 or 952-894-8252. Learn more at <http://farmshows.com/FFST/index.html>

August 17 Montevideo, MN
In Her Boots: Sustainable Farming for Women, By Women; Moonstone Farm

Moonstone Farm, Audrey Arner; 9:30am - 4:30pm. Livestock and grass-fed meat operations; rotational grazing; agritourism; permaculture and land stewardship. \$20/person. Join pioneering organic farmer and activist, Audrey Arner of Moonstone Farm in west-Central Minnesota, and spend a day delving into a diversity of on-farm business ventures and practices, including grass-fed meat and controlled grazing, agritourism (B&B), land stewardship practices and edible landscaping. Additionally, Audrey showcases the important role organic farmers can play in leading and championing this movement by serving various grassroots organizations. Farming with her husband, Richard Handeen, their 240-acre operation continues the Handeen family farming tradition that started in 1872. Partners for this workshop include the Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy (IATP), Renewing the Countryside and the Land Stewardship Project. Pre-registration is required. Scholarships are available.

For information, email angie@mosesorganic.org or call 715-778-5775. You could also find out more online: <http://www.mosesorganic.org/womensprojectinherboots.html>

August 25 Milton, PA
Central Susquehanna Valley Organic Crop Growers Network Workshop
Jeremy Erb Farm

Penn State Extension is teaming up with local organic crop growers to offer on-farm educational opportunities for farmers interested in organic and/or biological farming. For more information, or to register call 784-6660. Free.

MOSES Field Day:
Organic Row Crops, Grains and Forages
September 9 Pana, IL

Hosted by Jack Erisman of Goldmine Farms. Overview of fertility, weed and pest management of organic corn (yellow and specialty corn), beans, small grains and forages. For more information contact MOSES at 715-778-5775. Time: 1pm - 4pm

**PFI Field Day:
Farm Succession, Niche Pork and Energy
September 10 Elma, IA**

Hosted by James, Tom and Irene Frantzen of Frantzen Farm. Tom and Irene will share their farm succession-planning process and direction. Their' son, James, has prepared a slide show of his farmstead reconstruction efforts as he improves buildings, invests in farm equipment and builds a business! Also, hear about an on-farm energy research project. Discussion will include business planning for a feeder pig operation and production costs. Contact Practical Farmers of Iowa for more information; 515-232-5661. Time: 1pm - 5pm

**Mother Earth News Fair
September 24-25 Seven Springs, PA**

A family-friendly sustainable-living event that features more than 120 hands-on workshops from experts on real food, organic gardening, homesteading, renewable energy, green building and remodeling, DIY projects, small-scale livestock, green transportation, and related topics. For more information or to purchase tickets online visit the website. Time: Sat., 9am - 7pm and Sun., 9am -6pm. Cost: \$15.00 for a one day pass to \$25.00 for a weekend pass. Children 17 and under are FREE. Call 800-234-3368 or go to www.motherearthnews.com/fair/SevenSprings.aspx.

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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.

Visit the web! www.mosaorganic.org

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