

[Click to view this email in a browser](#)



August 2008

Oregon Tilth Certified Organic

Canada Organic Regulation: Full Implementation Date Delayed!

On September 17th the Canada Gazette II released an official amendment to the Canadian Organic Products Regulations delaying the implementation date until June 30, 2009. The COR was originally set for full implementation on December 14th, 2008, however, with several amendments yet to be made and a required 75 day comment period for the proposed regulations, the Canadian authorities determined it best to postpone full implementation. This extension will allow for the 75-day comment period for the amendments to the Regulations, and will also ensure that industry and trading partners are not faced with implementing two sets of regulatory requirements within just a few months of each other. Full announcement published in the [Canada Gazette II can be accessed here](#).

The new version of the COR with all amendments has yet to be publicly released. If you are an OTCO certified organization in Canada or ship product to Canada we urge you to continue to check in with Oregon Tilth and regularly visit the OTCO [Canada certification webpage](#) where we will maintain the most up to date and current information as it is released. If you have specific questions please [contact Jim Pierce](#).

OTA Schedules GOTS Web Based Seminar

OTA will present an interactive web-based seminar on the Global Organic Textile Standard (GOTS) on Oct. 7 from 2 to 3:30 p.m. EDT. If your company is involved in organic textiles or wants to be part of this fast growing sector, this seminar is for you. Presenters include Connie Karr, OTCO Processing Program Manager, and several other industry experts to help you further understand the requirements under the GOTS standards and how it applies to you. Registration and more information available through the [Organic Trade Association](#).



USDA Crop Insurance Final Program Dates Approaching!

The Risk Management Agency (RMA) Spokane Regional Office reminded Pacific Northwest producers of the following 2009 crop year final Fall Sales Closing dates for Multi-Peril Crop Insurance (MPCI) programs:

- Mint with Winter Coverage – September 30, 2008
- Forage Production – September 30, 2008 (Klamath and Malheur counties, Oregon)
- Forage (Alfalfa) Seed Pilot – September 30, 2008 (in selected counties)
- Fall Planted Barley with Winter Coverage – September 30, 2008 (in selected counties)
- Wheat – September 30, 2008

Producers are encouraged to visit with both their local crop insurance agent and local FSA office to ensure they are in compliance with the new linkage requirements. A list of crop insurance agents is available at all USDA Service Centers throughout the U.S. or at the website address:

<http://www3.rma.usda.gov/tools/agents/>

Oregon Tilth and Other Industry Leaders Join the FTSLA

The Food Trade Sustainability Leadership Association (FTSLA) based in Eugene, OR serves hundreds of organic growers, distributors, processors, retailers and certifiers. The purpose of the association is to provide a hub for businesses to network, share best practices and work toward solutions to shared challenges. The initial step of the association has been to complete the launch of a "Declaration of Sustainability" Sign-on Campaign, an 11-point action plan to promote education and action toward sustainable business practices in the natural food trade. Companies who sign this pledge commit to continual improvement and transparency around their practices in key areas; in return they receive the education and tools needed to support their efforts. The FTSLA is working to have the organic sector lead the way to a sustainable food system. Become a part of this important leadership group. To become involved or for more information contact [Jim Pierce](#) with Oregon Tilth or [Natalie Reitman-White](#), Executive Director of FTSLA.

In this Issue

[Canada Organic Regulation](#)

[GOTS Webinar](#)

[Food Trade Sustainability Leadership Association](#)

[USDA Crop Insurance](#)

[FLAG Resource Articles](#)

Upcoming Events

OTCO AIB Joint Training

Ontario, CA
Sept. 30 - Oct. 2

Oregon Tilth Certified Organic and [AIB](#) are once again teaming up to offer the 3 day course "Organic Certification with Foundation in Food Safety". Learn how you can protect the integrity of your organic products with the development of an Organic Systems Plan and proper Food Safety Programs. Protect consumers, your brand name, and your company's image with the valuable information learned at this seminar. The [full agenda and registration details](#) are available by contacting the Oregon Tilth office or online through AIB. Don't miss this exciting event and opportunity to learn in detail all you need to about organic certification and food safety and how they overlap. [Register Today!](#)

Natural Products Expo East

Boston, MA
Oct. 15 - 18th

Guide Helps Organic Dairy Farmers Negotiate Contracts

The organic milk market is competitive, and organic dairy producers need information to understand their options when selling organic milk. Farmers' Legal Action Group, Inc. (FLAG) has two articles to help farmers negotiate organic dairy contracts. The articles contain important legal information for dairy farmers interested in selling organic milk to a processor, as well as for those who are already doing so. [Hushed up: Confidentiality Clauses in Organic Milk Contracts](#) and [When Your Processor Requires More than Organic Certification: Additional Requirements in Organic Milk Contracts](#) are helpful resource articles for today's organic dairy farmer. There are also many other helpful articles to guide farmers with GMO concerns and more. [Visit FLAG](#) to see their full article and resource list.

Showcasing products and branded ingredients from 1,200 of the most passionate manufacturers, education from the experts, and networking events that'll be big news for you and your business. [Learn more...](#)

[Forward this message to a friend](#) | 503.378.0690

