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November 2008

Oregon Tilth Certified Organic

Get Schooled in Organicology

[Oregon Tilth](#), [Organically Grown Company](#), [Organic Seed Alliance](#) and the [Food Trade Sustainability Leadership Association](#) have teamed up to create what promises to be the most intensive and outrageous trade event of the year. We have combined our experience and expertise to bring you a high energy networking opportunity loaded with unparalleled educational programming relevant to all aspects of the organic foods trade.



Do not miss this stimulating event to be held in beautiful Portland, OR.

- Keynote presentations by Dr. Vandana Shiva and Paul Roberts
- All day intensive training sessions for your business, workshops
- Tradeshow and stimulating entertainment

[Learn more](#) about this stimulating event. [Register Today!](#)

NOP Releases New Proposed Pasture Regulations

The National Organic Program has released it's proposed pasture regulation. These proposed changes, if adopted, would affect every organic livestock producer, regardless of size, livestock species, or region. There is a 60 day comment period. Comments on this proposal are due by December 23rd, 2008. Oregon Tilth will be commenting and will be happy to collect comments from any of our certified operations and submit them on your behalf. Read the [summary of the changes provided by Oregon Tilth](#), please read through them carefully and see how they may affect your operation. Contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Oregon Tilth Submits Comments to the NOSB

The next meeting for the National Organic Standards Board is November 17-19th. There are several issues of discussion and recommendations that will be considered at this 3 day meeting. Oregon Tilth has carefully reviewed recommendations as posted, and has submitted comments on the following issues:

- 100% Organic Labeling Category
- Certification of Multisite Operations (Grower Groups)
- Commercial Availability and Organic Seed
- Materials for addition to National List, Removal of Soy Lecithin from List
- Ag vs. Non-ag

[Click here to view Oregon Tilth Comments](#) on these issues. To read the full recommendations please visit the [NOSB website](#), and review the agenda for this meeting.

USDA Amends Certification Cost Share Program

The U.S. Department of Agriculture today announced an amendment to its National Organic Certification Cost Assistance program, first announced Sept. 18. USDA has amended the program by changing the start date from Oct. 1, 2008, to Oct. 1, 2007. The change will make funds available to a greater number of eligible persons, achieving Congress' intent that use of cost-share funds begin with Fiscal Year 2008. [Click here for more information.](#)

In this Issue

[Organicology](#)

[NOP Releases Pasture Regulation](#)

[NOSB Comments](#)

[USDA Amends Cost Share Program](#)

[Canadian Regulations Update](#)

Upcoming Events

Green Festival - San Francisco
November 14-16, 2008
 San Francisco, CA

7th Annual Green Festival

Green Festival, the nation's largest green consumer living event will make its seventh trip to San Francisco. The festival will highlight economic and environmental sustainability issues that have been so relevant in headlines and town halls across the nation. While the country finds itself at a pivotal point in terms of solving significant environmental concerns, the Green Festival program will help navigate this unusually uncertain time by offering ideas for attainable change.

[Get more information or Register!](#)

ACRES USA Conference
December 4-6, 2008
 St. Louis, Missouri

The annual Acres U.S.A. conference sets the standards for innovation and learning. It is where you find farmers and consultants from every side of eco-farming who come together to share their experience and expertise. Attend the non-stop event, learn the latest in cutting-edge technology and methods, and return home ready to

Canada Organic Regulations Continue to Delay

The final version of the Canada Organic Regulations, set to be implemented June 2009, continue to be delayed. Although the final regulations have not yet been released Oregon Tilth continues to work with industry and governmental officials to be sure that the implementation is as seamless as possible for all OTCO certified entities. OTCO's accreditation and programming are well underway as we await patiently for the finalized standards with all final changes. Please be sure to review the [Oregon Tilth Canadian webpage](#) for regular and timely updates on the Canadian Organic Regulations and other important updates.

make your farming operation the best it can be. Pre-conference intensives, tradeshow and workshops.

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