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February 2008

Oregon Tilth Certified Organic

## Oregon Tilth and AIB Team up to Offer Processor Education Program

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 two-day seminar focused for food handlers. Learn all the details of effectively implementing an Organic Handling plan and how this crosses over to existing food safety programs and more!



Unlike any other education program offered across the US.

[Learn More or Register Now!](#)

## NOP Announces Reorganization

The Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) recently announced organizational and structural changes for National Organic Program (NOP) after five-plus years of program implementation. The NOP is reorganizing into three branches:

- Standards Development & Review
- Accreditation, Auditing & Training
- Compliance & Enforcement.

Deputy Administrator for Transportation & Marketing Programs Barbara Robinson will assume overall leadership for the NOP in addition to her other duties, while Mark Bradley will assume leadership for the Accreditation, Auditing & Training Branch, and Richard Mathews will head up the Standards Development & Review Branch. These changes will help NOP continue to accomplish its goals—ensuring the integrity of the USDA organic seal, applying regulatory consistency, and providing transparency to its stakeholders. [See full announcement.](#)

## NOP Lists New Livestock Health Treatment Materials

Section 205.603, listing livestock health treatments, recently added several items making them allowed for use in Organic Livestock Production Systems. These materials are of benefit to organic livestock during times of illness and give producers more options to provide aid and relief for those animals.

There are 7 new materials and all come with restrictions that need to be observed when administering them. The list of materials can be found on the NOP website under [Today's News for 12/14/07](#)

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## Upcoming Events

**Organic Seed Growers Conference Feb 14-15, 2008**  
Salem, OR

5th Annual Seed Conference  
Presented by the Organic Seed Alliance.

The Organic Seed Growers Conference, hosted by OSA with partnership from Oregon State University and Washington State University, is the largest meeting of seed professionals engaged in organic seed production, research, and plant breeding in the United States. This event brings together producers, university Extension and researchers, seed industry professionals, and food industry participants from across the country.

[Get more Information or Register!](#)

**Organic Farming Conference**  
February 21-23, 2008

## 2008 Updated Farm and Livestock Applications

The time for updating those Organic Farm Plans is upon us! Our organic producers will be glad to see a new slimmed down version of the Oregon Tilth Update form for both Crop and Livestock classes. Submission of these condensed updates to OTCO by March 15th will allow us to efficiently schedule inspections and swiftly get through the renewal process. Updates received by March 15 will receive \$25 off their annual certification/inspection costs! Look for those updates in your mailbox soon! Contact [Tiffanie Huson Labbe](#), Farm Program Manager for questions.

## OMRI Slashes Prices for Listing in Seed Database

The Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI) recently slashed prices for seed suppliers to list organic varieties in its Organic Seed Database. The Organic Seed Database enables organic growers to search the availability of organic seed, both open pollinated varieties and newly developed hybrids. Now, the new fee is a \$60 flat rate. Payments not made through PayPal will cost \$15 extra. [Get your seeds listed now!](#)

## Food Processor Training in Conjunction with Expo West

Sansom and Associates will be presenting a training for Food Processors March 13th and 14th in Santa Ana, CA. The main objective of this Two day intensive seminar for Food Processor is to learn to efficiently integrate the requirements of the National Organic Program into Food Processors existing Quality Assurance Program. Sponsored by Oregon Tilth and Organic Processing Magazine. [\(learn more....\)](#)

Lacrosse, WI

19th Annual Organic Farming Conference Presented by MOSES

An extraordinary, farmer-centered event, this gathering is the largest organic farming conference in the U.S. Last year, more than 2200 people attended, with participants traveling from 41 states and 7 foreign countries. Sponsored by the Wisconsin-based Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service (MOSES), the conference is celebrated as the foremost educational and networking event in the organic farming community

[Register Now!](#)

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