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<p>US-Canada Equivalence Update</p> <p>Since the National Organic Program and Canada Organic Office together issued an updated Policy Memorandum to the Equivalency Arrangement in November, there continues to be challenges and confusion on the timeline and requirements for importing and exporting organic products across the Canada border. Read more on US-Canada Equivalence Update.</p> <p>NOP Requests Comments on "Made with" Claim Guidance</p> <p>Comments are due by March 14th. NOP states:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. non-organic ingredients in the remaining 30 percent must be on the National List. Synthetic substances used to manufacture 605 items must be on the National List if they are present in the final product. 2. a "made with" statement must include specified organic ingredients or food groups, not simply a total percentage; and an organic percentage statement without the "made with" label claim is allowable. <p>Read NOP's Draft Guidance.</p> <p>USDA Makes Decision on Genetically Engineered Alfalfa</p> <p>The USDA ruled on the controversial decision to deregulate Monsanto Co.'s genetically engineered alfalfa. The agency said it will fully deregulate the crop. This is disturbing to the organic community as pollen from the GE alfalfa is easily distributable up to five miles away, contaminating both organic and conventional crops alike. Read more on GE Alfalfa Deregulation.</p> <p>Tell the President We Don't Want GE Alfalfa!</p> <p>Send a letter or better yet, make a call and tell President Obama we don't want GE alfalfa deregulated! He's the last line of defense now that the USDA has deregulated it. Food and Water Watch has a message already typed up so take a couple of seconds to support this important request.</p> <p>Farm Program Manager, Tiffanie Huson Labbe Journeys Onward</p> <p>We'll all miss you, Tiffanie! Looking forward to crossing paths again! Kristy Korb will be our interim Farm Program Manager. Read Tiffanie's Letter sharing her decision.</p> <p>New OTCO Fee Schedule</p> <p>Oregon Tilth has made adjustments to the fee schedule that reflect the current state of our financial plan and goals. The new fee schedule is effective as of February 1, 2011. Read the Fee Schedule Letter.</p>	<p>In this Issue</p> <p>US-Canada Equivalence Update</p> <p>NOP Requests Comments on "Made with" Claim Guidance</p> <p>USDA Makes Decision on Genetically Engineered Alfalfa</p> <p>Tell the President We Don't Want GE Alfalfa!</p> <p>Farm Program Manager, Tiffanie Huson Labbe Journeys Onward</p> <p>New OTCO Fee Schedule</p> <p>Upcoming Events</p> <p>Plan your Garden at Luscher Farm! February 16, 2011 Lake Oswego, OR</p> <p>Spring is right around the corner and what will you grow? How much will you plant and what varieties will perform best? Attend Plan your Garden to learn practical planning techniques!</p> <p>Vandana Shiva - Soil Not Oil February 23, 2011 Portland, OR</p> <p>One of India's leading physicists, Dr. Vandana Shiva is also a prolific author, world-renowned environmental activist, and eco-feminist whose work focuses on the fundamental connection between human rights and protection of the natural world. A fiery critic of globalization and the WTO, Shiva is a controversial crusader for biodiversity, women, and the world's poorest populous nations. Come listen to Vandana Shiva speak on Feb</p>

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