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OTCO News

Ensuring Integrity Through Certification

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NOP Requesting Comment on Four Draft Guidance Documents

The NOP has published a request for public comment on four draft guidance documents. The following are addressed: The use of kelp in organic livestock, responding to results from pesticide residue testing, seeds, annual seedlings, and planting stock in organic crop production, and evaluating allowed ingredients and sources of vitamins and minerals for organic livestock feed, feed supplements, and feed additives. Read more on Draft Guidance Documents...

USDA Filling Five Vacancies on the National Organic Standards Board

The USDA is seeking nominations for five upcoming vacancies on the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB). Appointees will serve a five-year term beginning Jan. 24, 2012. Vacancies for the 15-member organic advisory board must represent a particular constituency as identified by Congress. Read more on the Five NOSB Vacancies...

USDA Finds in Favor of Grass-Fed Cows

A study by USDA scientists finds that raising cows on grass, instead of in factory farms, produces fewer greenhouse-gas emissions and other pollutants. Read more on Grass-Fed Cows Study Results...

Announcement of Availability of Funds and Request for Application for Competitive Cooperative Partnership Agreements

On June 14, Risk Management Education and Outreach Partnerships Program announced its intent to award approximately $3.5 million to fund the Risk Management Education and Outreach Partnerships Program. The 2011 announcement is a combination of the programs previously known as the "Commodity Partnerships for Small Agricultural Risk Management Education Sessions" and the "Community Outreach and Assistance Partnerships Program." Read more on Federal Register Funds...

Canada Organic Regulation has Become Fully Effective

The Canada Organic Regulations which were introduced in June 2009 became fully effective on July 1, 2011 meaning that clients certified to COR are expected to be in full compliance. Deviations which were up to this point issued reminders will now be issued non-compliances. Read more on COR being Fully Effective...

Canada and EU Reach Bi-lateral Equivalency Agreement

The EU and Canada have reached agreement on an equivalency in organic products. Respective decisions on organic equivalency follow long and intensive discussions between the European Commission and Canadian authorities. Read more on Canada and EU Equivalency Agreement...

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Canada Standards and Permitted Substances List Updated

Upcoming Events

The Tilth Table
July 17, 2011
Lake Oswego, OR

A hands-on and creative farm and chef experience presented by Oregon Tilth and Allium Bistro. Learn to plant and harvest a variety of crops, then pair up with an experienced chef to gather provisions to prepare your unique dish together. Read more on The Tilth Table...

OEC Class Postings New Web Page
Around Portland, OR

OEC has all class postings organized on their Classes Page. Be sure to visit and see the upcoming classes!

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Canada Standards and Permitted Substances List Updated

On July 1 the Canada Organic Office published revised Standards. There are a significant number of changes which will affect clients in Canada. Changes to the COR certification program will be forthcoming in the next weeks. Read mroe on Canada Standards and Permitted Substances List Updates...

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