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<p>Organic Cost Share Applications Still Available</p> <p>Update: You can be reimbursed 75% up to \$750 for each service to which you're certified!</p> <p>If you haven't applied yet, please do so! If the allotted money isn't used, it won't be available next year. The USDA Organic Cost Share Reimbursement Program was approved by Congress and funds were made available through the USDA to applicant states. We want you to know that there is still opportunity to take advantage of these funds. Find out more about the organic cost share program...</p> <p>Oregon Tilth Launches Certification Program to NSF/ANSI 305</p> <p>Oregon Tilth Certified Organic is now offering certification to the NSF/ANSI-305 Standard for Personal Care products. Companies with greater than 70% Organic content may apply and once certified include the "Contains Organic Ingredients..." statement and apply the NSF "Contains Organic Ingredients" logo to their labels. Find out more about the NSF/ANSI 305 Program...</p> <p>Study: Switching from Conventional to Organic Practices Reduces Drug Resistant Bacteria</p> <p>Antibiotic use in conventional animal food production in the United States has created public health concern having been shown to contribute to the development of antibiotic-resistant bacteria that can potentially spread to humans. A new study, led by Dr. Amy R. Sapkota of the University of Maryland School of Public Health, provides data demonstrating that poultry farms have significantly lower levels of drug-resistant enterococci bacteria after switching to Organic practices and ceasing the use of antibiotics. Read more on the study of bacteria...</p> <p>Help Stop "Roundup Ready" Alfalfa</p> <p>Roundup Ready alfalfa can contaminate other non-genetically engineered alfalfa seed and hay. They also lead to the creation of herbicide tolerant weeds, weeds that result in increased use of herbicides. The Center for Food Safety is embarking on a mission to help stop "Roundup Ready" alfalfa...</p> <p>USDA Raises Quotas for Organic Sugar</p> <p>The USDA has boosted the volume of specialty sugar available to the U.S. market. The agency last week raised the fiscal year 2011 specialty sugar tariff-rate quota by 10,000 short tons raw value. Read the full Organic Sugar Quota document (pdf).</p> <p>NOP Releases Report on Organic Certifying Agents' Activities in China</p> <p>The National Organic Program has released its report based on its review of certifying agents' activities in China last year. Read the full report on CAs' Activities in China (pdf).</p>	<p>In this Issue</p> <p>Organic Cost Share Applications Still Available</p> <p>Oregon Tilth Launches Certification Program to NSF/ANSI 305</p> <p>Switching from Conventional to Organic Practices Reduces Drug Resistant Bacteria</p> <p>Help Stop "Roundup Ready" Alfalfa</p> <p>USDA Raises Quotas for Organic Sugar</p> <p>NOP Releases Report on Organic Certifying Agents' Activities in China</p> <p><u>Upcoming Events</u></p> <p>Come visit us at Expo East! Baltimore, MD</p> <p>Attended by as many as 25,000 industry professionals and featuring thousands of exhibits, Natural Products Expo East (www.expoeast.com) is the largest natural, organic, and healthy products trade show on the East Coast! With the newest and best-selling products and branded ingredients available this show features the best in organic at All Things Organic/Organic Products Expo-BioFach America, offers an extensive retailer training program and provides an advocacy platform through a strategic partnership with Natural Products Association East. Natural Products Expo East is ranked as one of the top 200 tradeshow in the US. More details to come on our events page!</p>

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