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OTCO News

Ensuring Integrity Through Certification

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Canada Recognizes USDA Organic Pasture Regulations as Equivalent

The National Organic Program is pleased to announce that Canada has recognized the USDA organic pasture regulations as equivalent to the Canadian organic stocking rates. Read more on Canada/USDA Equivalency...

2012 EQIP Organic Initiative

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) was reauthorized in the Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002 (Farm Bill) to provide a voluntary conservation program for farmers and ranchers that promotes agricultural production and environmental quality as compatible national goals. Read more on the 2012 Organic Initiative...

Sunset 2012 & Vitamins and Minerals Comments

The Sunset 2012 and vitamins and minerals proposed rules were published in the Federal Register on Jan 12 and the comment period is now open. These rules were previewed online earlier this week and have been replaced with the Federal Register versions. Read more on Sunset 2012 & Vitamins and Minerals comments...

NOP Seeks Public Comment on Porposed Rule Changes

Public comment on proposed rule changes for non-agricultural ingredients listed in, §205.605 and non-organic ingredients listed in §205.606 is now open. The National Organic Program is asking that comments be submitted for proposed changes to Yeast, Pectin, Colors, Potassium Iodide and Hops by February 13, 2012. Read more on Proposed Rule Changes...

NOP Updates Website with New Training Modules

NOP recently posted several new Training Modules to its website. Examples of new training modules include a label review and exercise, adverse action notices review and exercise, review of procedures for submitting questions to NOP, and NOP's GMO policy. Additionally, NOP has added several new documents related to accreditation and certification procedures to the NOP Program Handbook. Read more on the New NOP Training Modules...

USDA Seeks Proposals for Organic Research and Extension Initiative Grants

The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) has posted a request for proposals for the Organic Research and Extension Initiative (OREI) for fiscal year 2012, with a submission deadline of March 9. Read more on Organic Research and Extension Initiative Grants...

OFRF Awards $50,640 in Grants to Organic Farm Research

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OTA Board Votes to Move Forward on Exploring Organic Check-off Program

Missouri Organic Association Invites Public to Workshops

Upcoming Events

FTSLA - The Natural Step Framework
February 10, 2012
Portland, OR

The FTSLA Learning Lab presents a one-day, interactive workshop where you will learn and practice The Natural Step Framework (TNSF) as a tool for planning towards Sustainability in complex systems specifically for the organic food and agriculture industry.

Read more about the Natural Step Framework...

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The Organic Farming Research Foundation (OFRF) has awarded four grants totaling $50,640 to fund research for organic farmers. Read more on OFRF Grants...

OTA Board Votes to Move Forward on Exploring Organic Check-off Program

At its recent quarterly meeting and annual retreat, OTA's Board of Directors agreed to move forward to Phase 2 of an initiative to facilitate an industry decision on a research and promotion order for organic. After reviewing the feasibility assessment prepared by a member-based steering committee, the Board looks forward to continuing this exploration with the entire organic industry. Read more on Organic Check-off Program...

Missouri Organic Association Invites Public to Workshops

The Missouri Organic Association (MOA) meets February 2-4 at the Union Station Mariott for their annual conference, with a packed schedule of educational and thought-provoking events that are open to the public. "The most special thing about this year's conference is Jeffrey Smith and his Seeds of Deception presentation which helps people understand that they do have a choice when it comes to the food they eat," said MOA board chair Sue Baird. "It's a great opportunity for people to hear the truth about their food sources." Read more on MOA Workshops...

Check out these other tilth-worthy events!

NEW Certification Section on Oregon Tilth's Website!

Visit our homepage and click the button that corresponds with your service (Farm/Livestock/Wild Harvest or Handlers/Processors) to be taken to a page with all your forms, renewal applications and information!

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