

MEMBER NEWS



April 2008

Education: Visit us at Ag Fest!

Come meet Oregon Tilth staff members at the [Oregon Ag Fest](#) at the Oregon State Fairgrounds, on April 26th & 27th. This annual event is a great way for kids to learn about the importance of agriculture through a petting zoo, seed planting, and other hands-on activities.

Research: Pesticides and Produce

Learn how to cut your risk of dietary pesticide exposure with [The Organic Center's](#) recently released report [Simplifying the Pesticide Risk Equation: The Organic Option](#). Also, download their handy pocket guide for use at the grocery store.

Advocacy: Tilth in Kansas City

Oregon Tilth staff members tabled at the [Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education](#) 20th Anniversary Conference in Kansas City, Missouri. Scientists and extension agents from around the country gathered at the event to advance sustainable agriculture.

Certification: Organic Q&A

Q: I know that GMOs are prohibited from organic production, but what exactly is a GMO?

A: GMO stands for genetically modified organism, which is a plant or animal that has been modified on the genetic level to include genetic material from organisms that would not mix in nature. This is different than cross breeding and grafting, which are techniques that involve closely related species. Biotechnology companies tout the benefits of GMO crops and livestock, but some scientists have significant concerns about the future ramifications of this technology.

Q: Tell me more about the prohibition of GMOs in organic certification.

A: When the USDA National Organic Program standards were being written, public comments were overwhelmingly against the allowance of GMOs. The USDA took note and the standards strictly prohibit the use of GMO crops and livestock in organic production. So when you purchase organic products, you know that this new and questionable technology was not

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Out and About

So far this year Oregon Tilth staff has attended 10 events in 6 different states, and we've got more to come! We're out promoting the message of Oregon Tilth and sustainable agriculture, and our members' support helps make this possible! Thank you!

Invite a Friend

Do you know someone who is interested in food systems that are healthy for people as well as the environment? Invite them to [become a supporting member](#) of Oregon Tilth!

used at any stage of production. For more information on GMOs, visit the [Council for Responsible Genetics' website](#).

Forward News to a Friend

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Oregon Tilth is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that supports and promotes biologically sound and socially equitable agriculture through education, research, advocacy and product certification.



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