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# MEMBER NEWS



March 2008

## March at Oregon Tilth

March is here, and at Oregon Tilth that means lots of activity as staff members attend trade shows and farms gear up for the growing season. Here's a snapshot of what we've been up to lately:

### Education: OEC classes announced!

Oregon Tilth's Organic Education Center has announced it's spring [class schedule](#). Come learn about organic gardening, soil health and permaculture at one of our [demonstration gardens](#).

### Research: Pesky Pests

As the flowers and trees outside your window start to wake up from winter so do outdoor pests. Take advantage of [Northwest Coalition for Alternatives to Pesticides'](#) extensive collection of [reports](#) and arm yourself with chemical-free methods to battle unwanted bugs!

### Advocacy: Around the Globe

An Oregon Tilth staff member recently attended the EuroFins International Seminar in Paris, France. The seminar brings together international experts in biotechnology and food safety. While there she gave a presentation on organic certification in the United States.

### Certification: Organic Q&A

Q: How are Oregon Tilth's organic standards different than the USDA organic standards?

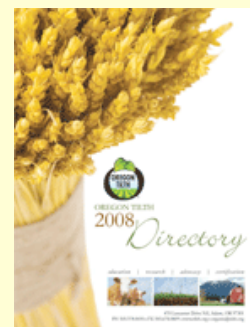
A: This is one of the most common questions we get from the public, and to answer it you need to know a little history. Prior to 2002, organic certifiers each had their own standards that they used when certifying organic produce and products. The standards were similar, but they were each different and were owned by the certifier. In 2002 the [USDA National Organic Program](#) took effect, and the [NOP Final Rule](#) became the one standard used for certifying organic products in the US. Since that time, when you pick up a product labeled organic you know that it was certified to the same standard as all other organic products, regardless of who certified it.

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## 2008 Directory

The Oregon Tilth 2008 Organic Directory is here! Oregon Tilth supporting members receive a complementary copy, so check your mailbox later this month for this much-anticipated listing of Oregon Tilth certified farms, processors, handlers, retailers and more!



## Invite a Friend

Do you know someone who is interested in food

### Forward News to a Friend

By forwarding this newsletter to a friend they will be able to temporarily receive the electronic newsletter. If you know someone who would like to receive this, click below to forward this newsletter to them!

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.

systems that are healthy for people as well as the environment? Invite them to [become a supporting member](#) of Oregon Tilth!

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