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MEMBER NEWS



CULTIVATING RELATIONSHIPS THROUGH COMMUNITY

Registration is Now Open For All Classes at the Organic Education Center!

[Tilth Toolshed Series: Plan, Sow, Plant!](#) at *Luscher Farm*: Feb. 25 - April 28: 3-class series that will show you how to successfully plan, sow and plant your garden.

[Comprehensive Organic Gardener Program](#): March 4 - March 25: This unique and popular course is designed to give the beginning gardener an introduction into the dynamic world of organic gardening and an opportunity to get their hands dirty in the process!

[Organic Gardening Certificate Program](#): March 10 - June 26: Similar to OSU Master Gardener Program, but with an organic focus.

*See the full list of [classes](#) at the OEC.

Spaces will fill up quickly, so [register now!](#) Don't forget that OTCO members receive a special discounted fee.



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! Members of Oregon Tilth receive the bi-monthly *In Good Tilth Magazine*, discounts to events and classes and more!

Become a Fan!



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OTCO Partners with OSU Small Farms Program



The partnership between Oregon Tilth and OSU Small Farms Program couldn't have come at a better time, as the Small Farms Program has faced recession-related budget reductions. In support of organic farmers, the partnership will create the framework for OTCO to continue education and research efforts. Focus areas include education for beginning and transitional farmers, cover crop research and ongoing needs to be added to the agenda in the future. [Read more...](#)

NOP Releases Final Organic Pasture Rule



The final Organic Pasture Rule amends livestock and related provisions of the NOP regulations. The action is to ensure that NOP livestock production regulations are sufficient and clear to enable the NOP to be efficiently administered by accredited certifying agents and to facilitate and improve compliance and enforcement. The rule also satisfies consumer expectation that livestock should be grazing on pasture during grazing season. Stay tuned for Oregon Tilth's comment to livestock producers highlighting any changes necessary. [Read the rule](#) in it's entirety...

USDA Releases Organic Farming Survey Data



The USDA has just released the results of the 2008 Organic Production Survey. It confirms that organics have higher production costs, and therefore higher sales costs. Organic operations had an average of \$217,675 in sales, compared with \$134,807 for all farms, reported in 2001 Census. Production expenditures averaged \$171,978 per organic farm, compared with the average of \$109,359 for all farms. These results will help in future planning and policy making for organics. [Read more...](#)

Attention Oregon Tilth Certified Organic Growers & Processors!

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