

Join Us!

February 26th-28th, 2009

Portland, OR

Organic Seed
Related Events



The Study of a Sustainable Food Future

Seed farmers, companies and researchers are invited to attend Organicology, a three-day gathering of the organic food and farming sector focused on discussions of a sustainable food future. The agenda will include several workshops, an all day intensive, special events, a seed-swap, and trade show booths featuring organic seed and seed-related topics detailed below. For more information about Organicology visit www.organicology.org



Organic Seed Production Intensive – Feb 26th

“Organic Seed Production and On-farm Plant Variety Improvement”

Do you want to grow seed on your farm for your own use or for sale? Focused on small to medium scale farms this course will deliver the production skills you need to produce seed and basic techniques to improve varieties for your local organic farming conditions. Learn how to grow wet and dry seeded crops including considerations of pollination, isolation, population size, crop management, equipment and the basics of harvesting, threshing, and cleaning seed. In addition, we will explore specific methods used in genetic selection and adaptation of the seed crop to the cultural methods and environmental challenges encountered under organic systems.

Presenters: Frank Morton, Wild Garden Seed: Don Tipping, Seven Seeds Farm: John Navazio, Organic Seed Alliance/ WSU: Micaela Colley, Organic Seed Alliance

*****Organicology is offering a \$100 discount on registration cost for farmers and students who qualify. If you are a farmer with net reported income less than \$50,000 you will qualify for this discount!***

Registration cost^{**}: \$250 for Intensive (Thursday) or \$375 for all three days (registration includes all meals and special events that day)

Register online at:
www.tilth.org/organicology

Contact Oregon Tilth with
Questions: 503.378.0690

◆ Seed-related Workshops

Managing Threats of Genetically Engineered Crops

Managing isolation and preventing genetic contamination is a challenge concerning the whole organic industry from seed growers to produce farmers, to retailers. This session will cover strategies growers are using to protect their crop integrity and updates on GMO management strategies, regulations, and litigations in the industry.

Presenters: Matthew Dillon, OSA: George Kimbrell, Center for Food Safety: Frank Morton, Wild Garden Seed



The Politics and Potential of Seeds

What is the real dirt on seeds? This session will start with an overview of basic seed related definitions (OP, Hybrid, GMO) and then cover the big picture politics of seed and genetic ownership issues moving into more focused discussion of seed politics in the organic industry and seed production industry. Topics covered will include seed industry consolidation, patenting and control, organic seed certification and international politics, organic seed regulations and NOSB, seed integrity, and concepts of naturalism.

Presenters: Matthew Dillon, OSA: John Navazio, OSA: Frank Morton, Wild Garden Seed

◆ Special Events

Seed Swap

Saving, sharing, and trading seeds is a fundamental farmers right which marks the birth of agriculture. Today it represents a powerful act of ensuring open access to genetic resources, preserving and increasing biodiversity, and acquiring varieties adapted to your bioregion. Come to the seed swap where you can exercise your rights while celebrating with a cold beer, popcorn (a seed) and good company. Bring your seeds to share if you've got them, but no seed or seed experience is required to join in the seed swap. Some envelopes will be provided, but extra bags and envelopes are encouraged. Next spring sow your garden or farm with seeds from the Organicology community. Seed saving information and experts will be available onsite to field your seedy questions. Cold Organic beer and popcorn provided.

Keynote Presentations

• **Vandana Shiva**, physicist, feminist, philosopher of science, writer and science policy advocate.

• **Claire Hope Cummings** is an environmental lawyer, journalist, and the author of ***Uncertain Peril: Genetic Engineering and the Future of Seeds*** (Beacon Press, March 2008).

