

Organic News, Events, Certification Updates, *Member Profiles and More!*



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Fall 2009

Organic Gives Back

IN THIS ISSUE: Upcoming CCOF Events Member News Food Safety Update

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New Leaf Paper has provided us with an ecologically sane and cost-effective magazine. This edition of Certified Organic is printed on New Leaf Sakura Silk 71# text, which is made from 100% de-inked recycled fiber, processed chlorine free, and designated Ancient Forest Friendly. Learn more at www.newleafpaper.com.

ISSN 1940-8870

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"Certified Organic" is published quarterly by CCOF and serves CCOF's diverse membership base and others in the organic community including consumers and affiliated businesses. Letters to the editor should be sent to peggy@ccof.org. CCOF reserves the right to edit or omit submissions and letters received.

COVER PHOTO: People's Grocery: Growing Justice Summer Program



In addition to providing fresh, organic produce from their certified organic farm, People's Grocery hires youth to participate in an intensive, eight week job training and leadership development program centered on organic farming, nutrition and food justice. The feature article in this issue of *Certified Organic* looks at the diverse ways CCOF members go above and beyond to make positive impacts in

their communities. Read more about People's Grocery on page 10.

Interested in writing for "Certified Organic"? Please contact marketing@ccof.org

First Words



Looking back at 2009, CCOF members have faced enormous obstacles including financial difficulties, wildfires, media stories attacking organic and

numerous other personal disasters that we may never hear about.

Amidst these struggles, I am continually humbled by the generosity of CCOF members who freely give their time, talents and treasures to organizations and individuals in need. Our feature article "Organic Gives Back" beginning on page 10 highlights the stories of CCOF members who are making a difference in their communities.

Certified members should be sure to read important certification updates from the California State Organic Program and the National Organic Program (NOP) beginning on page 22.

I'm very excited to announce that Miles McEvoy has been named the new NOP Director. Miles is well known to us at CCOF and the rest of the organic community and is no stranger to government work. He has been employed for over 20 years at the Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA), first as an organic inspector and most recently as manager of WSDA's organic program.

With all the players in place under the new Administration – Kathleen Merrigan as USDA Deputy Secretary, Rayne Pegg as Administrator of the Agricultural Marketing Service, and now Miles McEvoy as NOP Director – I look forward to continued good news from Washington, DC!

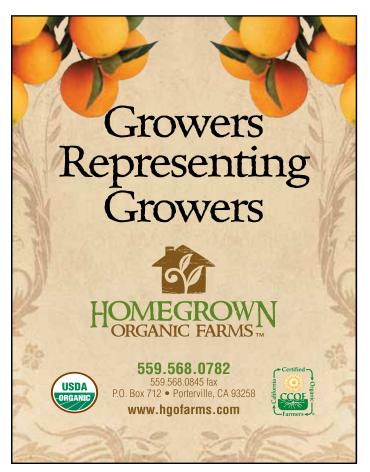
While the news is rosy in some areas, we still face continuing challenges in other areas. Climate change has become a topic of everyday conversation. The combination of less water and increased temperatures is a recipe for disaster that will hit farmers the hardest. We've experienced years of drought in California, and I anticipate we'll see many more to come. Fortunately, some organizations

are already working on this critical issue. CCOF is a founding member of the California Climate and Agriculture Network (CalCAN), which hosted the first California Climate & Agriculture Summit for sustainable agriculture supporters in early October. The conversation will be followed up at CCOF's Annual Convention February 6 and 7 in Chico (See page 28). Tim LaSalle, Executive Director of the Rodale Institute, will present the keynote speech on "Regenerative Organic Farming: A Solution to Global Warming". Participants will leave with real-life tips they can put to work on the farm or in the processing facility.

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Thank you for supporting CCOF's work to certify, educate, advocate, and promote organic. If you're not already a member, please join us at www.ccof. org/support.php. Here's to a happy ending to 2009 and a prosperous 2010!

CCOF Executive Director



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Member News

New Certified Hotel in Napa

CCOF is pleased to announce our first certified organic hotel vegetable garden. Located in the center of Yountville, in the heart of Napa county, the Bardessono Hotel and Spa hosts 62 suites, a luxury spa and a restaurant that serves food from the hotel's



very own CCOF certified organic garden. Bardessono also incorporates a number of energy-efficient and environmentally conscious design elements and practices, which are designed to achieve the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design's (LEED) Platinum certification, the highest standard for environmental design. Eco-conscious tourists now have the perfect place to stay, relax, unwind and eat great organic food while exploring the numerous CCOF certified organic wineries in the region. To find out more about Baredessono Hotel, visit www.bardessono.com.

CCOF Members Develop Innovative Wine Packaging

DeLoach Vineyards has partnered with The Fairmont San Francisco Hotel to develop a Barrel-to-Barrel program, offering their award-winning Pinot Noir in a convenient 10-liter barrel to hotels and restaurants. The barrel, containing the equivalent of 13 standard bottles of wine, reduces the carbon footprint associated with conventional packaging while preserving the wine's exceptional quality. When re-ordered, the wine arrives in a recyclable 10L eco-bag that fits easily inside of the barrel, protecting the wine from oxidation and maintaining exceptional taste. California Natural Products now offers a CalNaturale 2008 Cabernet Sauvignon in a convenient and sustainable Tetra Pak. The liter Pak is 19% lighter than traditional glass bottles and

carries 33% more wine. The wine is also offered in a 500mL Pak. The Tetra Pak carton is portable, unbreakable, lightweight and easy to open, offering a conve-



nient alternative to a glass bottle, while using a portion of the energy normally required to produce wine containers. Seventy percent of the product's packaging comes from renewable resources.

Stonyfield Farm Attacks Cow Burps with New Feed

In an effort to curb greenhouse gas emissions from the burps of their dairy cows, Stonyfield Farm began a new diet regimen with a new feed which



includes foods high in Omega 3 such as alfalfa, flax and grasses. Since the program's inception, Stonyfield has reduced methane emissions from their cows by an average of 12%. The milk produced is also significantly higher in nutritional value. Stonyfield states, "If every US dairy were to adopt this approach, in less than one year, the amount of greenhouse gas emissions we could reduce would be the equivalent of taking more than half a million cars of the road!"

Albert's Organics Wins University Contract

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CCOF Supporting Member, Albert's Organics, was recently awarded a contract with the University of Colorado at Boulder. The \$90,000 contract brought organic produce and other items including vegan salad dressing, meats and cheeses to the university's eateries. The contract ran for a month with Albert's delivering a minimum of three deliveries a week to the campus.

Whole Foods Market Offers Loans to Small Producers

The Whole Foods Market Local Producers Loan Program offers up to \$100,000 to small producers. Since the program's inception in 2006, Whole Foods has committed \$2.5 million to businesses trying to succeed. With a goal to reach \$10 million the loan program offers no closing fees, repayment fees, or application fees for its recipients. Interest rates vary from 5 to 9%. Applicants attest to the straightforwardness and simplicity of the application and loan process. The application can be downloaded from the Whole Foods Market website at www.wholefoodsmarket.com/values/ local-producer-loan-program.php.

Sweet Earth Chocolates Opens Retail Shop

Sweet Earth Organic Chocolates opened its first retail shop in San Luis Obispo on July 11. The shop offers a selection of award-winning chocolates,



memorabilia and body care products. Profits benefit small farmers in Ghana and Cote D'Ivoire through Project Hope and Fairness. For more information, visit www.sweetearthchocolates.com.

Continued on page 32

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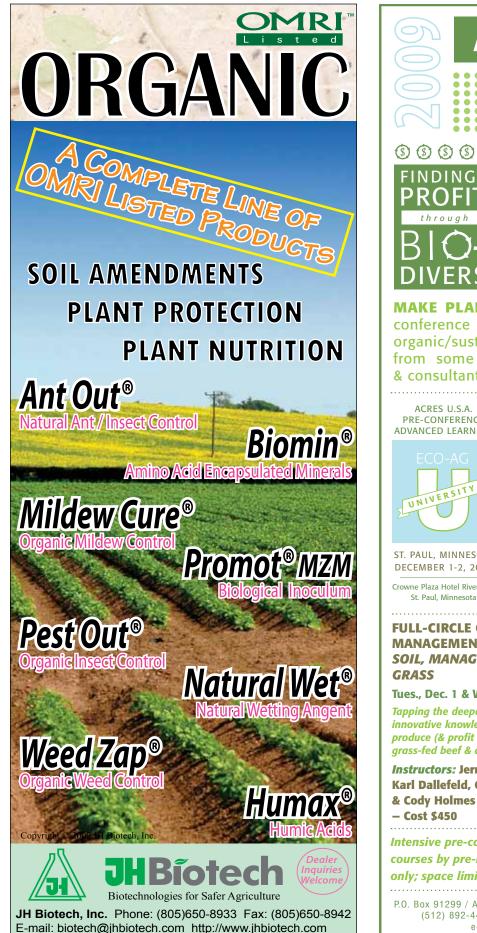
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In The News

Uncommon Ground Raises the Roof on Organics

Uncommon Ground has been recognized as the nation's first restaurant with their own certified organic rooftop garden. Owners, Helen and Michael Cameron, started the restaurant with the idea of testing out organic farming for themselves.





The organic garden is located on the 2,500-square-foot rooftop in Chicago. The produce that Uncommon Ground grows can only be enjoyed in meals at their restaurant. The restaurant has also received numerous awards for their sustainable efforts such as: Chicago Magazine's 2008 award as Best New Restaurant, Time Out Chicago's 2008 award as Best New Breakfast Spot, the U.S. Green Building Council's 2009 Environmotion award and the Edgewater Chamber of Commerce's 2009 Green Business of the Year award. For more information about Uncommon Ground visit their website at www.uncommonground.com.

Organic Farms as Subdivision Amenities

From Central California to Vermont, developers are establishing residential subdivisions around organic farms. Ed McMahon, a senior fellow with the Urban Land Institute, stated, "There are currently at least 200 projects that include agriculture as a key community component." He finds that open space improves the return for developers. By living near a farm, homeowners have access to open space for visual aesthetics, wholesome activities for children and trails for recreational purposes. The Prairie Crossing, a subdivision among agricultural land in Boise, Idaho, serves as an innovative model for future developers; the 1,756-acre project repaid a \$12 million loan and claimed a \$2.8 million pretax profit by selling 785 of 2008 lots by 2008.

U.S Department of Agriculture Releases 2007 Census of Agriculture

The U. S. Department of Agriculture ranked California, Wisconsin, Washington, and New York as the top four states in the nation, touting the largest numbers of organic farms. The 2007 census of agriculture showed that out of the 20,437 nationwide organic farms, California boasts 3,515 occupying 368,934 acres of farmland. California remains a major contributor to the US sales of organic production, which totaled \$1.7 billion in 2007. Read the full report at www.agcensus. usda.gov.

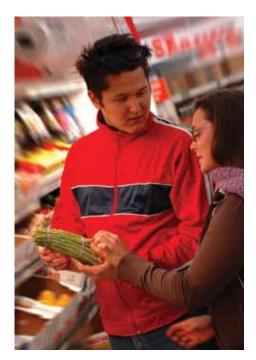
New Report Finds Greater Benefits of Organic Food

The Agronomy for Sustainable Development Journal published a report in May 2009 by the French Agency for Food Safety (AFSSA), which shows the benefits of organic food compared to conventionally grown food. The study performed an evaluation of the nutritional and sanitary quality of organic food and found that organic plant products contain more dry matter and minerals (Fe, Mg) and anti-oxidant micronutrients such as phenols and salicylic acid than their conventional counterparts. Additionally, organic animal products contain more polyunsaturated fatty acids shown to lower the risk of heart attacks and cardiovascular diseases. The research also showed organic vegetables contain around 50% less nitrates than conventionally grown food and 94–100% of organic food does not contain pesticide residues.

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U. S. Families Increase Household Purchases of Organic Products

The economic recession has not stopped U. S. families from spending the extra dollar on organic products. The 2009 U. S. Families' Organic Attitudes and Beliefs Study, sponsored by the Organic Trade Association (OTA) and KIWI Magazine, found three out of ten U. S. families are purchasing more organic products compared to a year ago. Seventeen percent of surveyed U. S. families reported an increase in household spending on organics over the last year.



In The News

Numi Tea Launches New Sustainability Projects

Numi Organic Tea Brand launched a new carbon offset program in June that donates money to domestic wind energy and international water treatment projects, while also offsetting its total emissions for a year by purchasing renewable energy certificates from the Wilton Wind Energy Center. In



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addition, all of Numi's packaging materials are biodegradable, recyclable, and cello-wrap free. Post-consumer waste or bamboo makes up ninety-five percent of their packaging materials. "We've strived to ensure that our values align with the brand, and I think our line extensions and product innovation have been keys to our success," states the co-founder and CEO of Numi, Ahmed Rahim.

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Organic Gives Back

by: Bridgett McGrath

Embedded within the philosophy of organic agriculture and food production is the commitment to protecting the soil and water for future generations and the vision for a food system that fosters a diverse and dynamic landscape. At CCOF, we have seen how many of our members have taken this philosophy beyond the regulations and paperwork and addressed deeper concerns of human health, poverty, education and sustainable living systems. In a year in which many people have suffered economic hardships and challenges, we have chosen to focus on how organic is giving back. The stories featured in this article provide just a few examples of how CCOF members have embraced a broader commitment to their communities, both near and far, in truly remarkable ways.

McEvoy Ranch stands on 550 acres of a former dairy farm in Petaluma, CA. The ranch boasts a longstanding reputation for producing some of the highest quality organic olive oil in the country. "From the very beginning our goal has been to produce the best olive oil" says Jefferey Creque, McEvoy Ranch Operations Manager. "What that means and how we achieve it has made us take a broader community and world view."

Over the past few years McEvoy Ranch found an increasing number of donation requests coming from various organizations within their community. McEvoy staff members needed to formulate a strategy for responding. They put together a 10% Fund, where a percentage of the fees associated with the public tours of the ranch would be donated to various organizations including the Marin Agricultural Land Trust (MALT), UCSC Farm and Garden Program, Strybing Arboretum and the Petaluma Educational Foundation among others. Several staff members were involved in these educational programs before working for McEvoy Ranch, so supporting them is something that remains very close and personal.

"We see our responsibility as agriculturalists through the lenses of an organic farmer, but know that in order to share our commitment we must form a business model that connects our visitors to our mission." – Jefferey Creque, McEvoy Ranch



Clockwise from top: The McEvoy family, tour of the McEvoy ranch, Jean Leducq founder of Elhers Estate and the Leducq Foundation

leff believes the 10% Fund program, "provides [McEvoy] Ranch] with a systematic way of dealing with a variety of requests, which in turn fosters a lot of awareness of the needs of agricultural institutions amongst the broader community." McEvoy Ranch has received an overwhelming amount of positive feedback from tour attendees since it began. "It has been a catalyst for tourists who have never heard of these programs to get involved. We're just happy to get the word out."

Ehlers Estate winemaker and general manager, Kevin Morrisey wears many different hats in his position overseeing the winery's operations, but for him all of the long hours are worth it; "You work harder when you know where the money is going and the impact it makes."

Jean Leducq, founder of Ehlers Estate, had a vision of creating a French-style winery in the heart of Napa Valley. He dedicated his life to producing rich and complex wines and his entrepreneurial success went hand-in-hand with his philanthropic work. As a long-time sufferer of heart disease, Jean, along with his wife Sylvaine, saw a need for more work to be done in understanding, diagnosing and treating cardiovascular disease. As a result they founded the Leducq Foundation with the intention of encouraging innovative cardiovascular research through

where their food comes from," says Linda. Yet, although the feedback was great, Linda and Trent felt that they were only scratching the surface. "We saw a big hole in the California

education system as science

programs weakened due to lack of funds and supplies

and we wanted to develop

provide a hands on learning

Linda have begun creating an all-inclusive K-2 Classroom

Kit that will include a Teacher

Resource Pack with instructions and lesson plans. They

have also teamed up with

The National Gardeners

Association (NGA), who

distribution channel that

nation to access the cur-

folks to stand up and say

allows teachers all over the

riculum. "They were the first

provide an important

a curriculum that would

experience" says Trent. As a result, Trent and

international collaboration.

Jean also wanted his passion for winemaking to live on long after him and after his death in 2002, the estate was left in trust to the Leducg Foundation with 100% of its profits used to fund the Foundation's research. Currently the foundation funds 23 grants in 16 different countries and has provided \$170 million since 1999. Unlike many privately funded projects, the research conducted with grants from the Leducq Foundation must be shared publicly throughout the cardiovascular research community. The grants are awarded across international borders to a network of



Linda and Trent McNair (right) work with local Central Coast schools to set up organic vegetable gardens and classroom curricula.

researchers. "The most basic, cutting edge research is often the most difficult to find funding for," says Kevin. "What sets the Leducg Foundation apart from other research grants is the commitment to transparency and collaboration. Disease and suffering have no nationality and the ability to cross borders has a significant impact, especially for developing nations."

rent and Linda McNair, owners of **Surf City Growers**,

both worked in the high-tech industry before they made the decision to quit their jobs and open an organic nursery. The McNairs have developed a My First Organic seed starting kit that encourages parents to teach their children about 'yup we want to be a part of it'" says Trent. "It's not just about gardening; it's about making links to earth science, environmentalism and nutrition."

When asked about their hopes for the future, Trent responded, "we know we will have made a difference when we are able to work and live in a sustainable food system that allows us to produce and deliver organic food within our own county, with that money going back to our local schools and economy."

n a West Oakland community where families struggle to meet their basic needs, the conversation around organic

where their food comes from and how it is grown. The kit includes all of the supplies necessary to produce a variety of organic vegetables as well as a coloring book explaining the process of growing healthy food. For every kit that is sold, a percentage of the proceeds is donated to a school of choice.

Since the launch of the kit. the McNairs have had a wave of positive responses from both parents and teachers. "It is exciting to see the momentum of the grow-your-own movement. Parents are getting outside with their children. away from the computer and video games, and engaging in activities that teach responsibility and understanding of



People's Grocery fosters nutrition education, job training and community outreach through various programs in West Oakland.

farming undoubtedly sits on the periphery. Yet the managers of **People's Grocery** made a personal decision to have the organization's three-acre farm in Sunol certified organic, serving as a catalyst to conversations about sustainability while fortifying a passion for community driven agriculture.

Brahm Ahmadi and Malaika Edwards, the cofounders of People's Grocery, saw that the need for food access remained continually unanswered. After years of working against unjust systems within urban areas, looking at food insecurity seemed the logical jumping off point. They realized that

Continued from page 11

they needed to take on a holistic vision if they wanted to effectively address health and social justice within their community. The types of health problems they were seeing were

directly related to an environment void of grocery stores and access to healthy foods.

People's Grocery has developed a number of programs that focus on enterprise development, urban agriculture and community outreach and education. Some of their projects include a Peer 2 Peer program in which fellow middle and high school students educate each other about food justice and eating healthy, job training

that provides community members with skills to be competitive in the workplace and a modified CSA (community supported agriculture) program called The Grub Box. The Grub Box allows residents to subscribe to a seasonal, culturally-appropriate, affordable bag of organic fruits and vegetables from the Sunol Farm and community gardens on a weekly or bi-monthly basis at an affordable price. Through these programs People's Grocery has been able to make a significant impact within their community and they have big plans for the future. They are in the process of developing a program called Community HANDS





Guayaki's reforestation team works with local farmers to repair rainforest land and establish sustainable farming models.

"Our main belief is that

you cannot uncouple

social justice and

environmental issues."

-Brahm Ahmadi,

People's Grocery

(Health and Nutrition Demonstrators), which trains community members to deliver demonstrations and educate other community members in exchange for compensation. They also are in the early stages of building a fully equipped grocery store in West Oakland. "We hope that through our projects we can help build a new food system" shares Brahm.

Local, community-based food movements gave birth to the concept of integrated food systems, but in today's global economy it is equally important to recognize the impact that our food choices have on communities worldwide.

Guayakí Yerba Mate began as a senior project of two students, Alex Pryor and David Karr, from Cal Poly University in San Luis Obispo. Their goal was to provide organic and fair trade yerba mate teas through an innovative business model called Market Driven Restoration. Through this business model, Guayakí serves as a bridge, linking consumer purchases of healthy Yerba Mate products with indigenous communities engaged in sustainable agriculture and reforestation. "In the beginning our focus was organic, fair trade and shade grown, but we have evolved and grown,

> and with that growth we have felt the need to look at not just sustaining what we are doing currently but also towards reparation of lands that have already been damaged," says Pierre Ferrari, Guayaki's VP of Marketing. "The most important thing we communicate to our customers is that the price they pay for their Yerba Mate is for more than what they hold in their hand."

Currently, Guayaki has a team of five

employees dedicated to reforestation projects in Argentina, Paraguay and Brazil. The team provides technical assistance and support for farmers by maintaining nurseries of indigenous plants while providing technical assistance in the process of successional transplanting. In addition, Guayaki brings experts on organic farming and local mate growers together in various seminars to talk about the best possible practices. The seminars are open to the entire community, thus encouraging many farmers to adopt organic practices.

Guayaki's biggest endeavor, 2000 by 2010, is an ambitious project that aims to establish the

restoration of 2000 acres of rainforest land by the year 2010. In order to achieve this goal, they have launched a wide variety of new products. "Getting people to try something new that they may never have heard of before can be quite a challenge" says Pierre, "but passion and awareness are infectious. The more you begin to learn about the benefits of Yerba Mate and the impact we are making on the areas where it is grown, the more you see how your choices impact a community thousands of miles away from you."

Amidst the conversation with each of these individuals there lies a common thread; each member views their choice to grow and produce organically as an integral part of their overall mission. Giving back is not an after-thought, it is an extension of personal values that are carried through every action and decision they make as successful business people. ■

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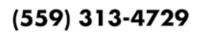
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For more information contact: Melanie Semper Madera, CA



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Organic Produce Nourishes the Hungry

By Annelise Kelly

n its 19-year history, Ag Against Hunger (AAH) has distributed over 150 million pounds of surplus fresh produce from California's Salinas and Pajaro Valleys. Due to price fluctuations, picked processed vegetables and fruit from this productive region are often left unsold or stuck in warehouses without a buyer; acres of nutritious crops get scheduled to be plowed under.

The non-profit, founded by Tim Driscoll of Driscoll Strawberry Associates; Jess Brown, Executive Director of the Santa Cruz County Farm Bureau; and Willy Elliot-McCrae, Executive Director of Second Harvest Food Bank of



Santa Cruz County, is determined to channel abundant excess harvest to the poor, whose diets are chronically short of fresh fruits and vegetables. In addition to distributing donations, AAH organizes gleaning parties to rescue produce left in the field due to cosmetic blemishes or low prices.

Of the 50-60 growers who contribute to AAH, about 10% have some acreage under organic cultivation. According to Abby Silva-Taylor, the executive director of AAH, recipients appreciate both organic and conventional produce. She finds that small organic producers are particularly active contributors to AAH's gleaning program, and "the organic growers tend to really make a connection with the gleaners. They go out in the fields and share their farm stories with volunteers."

A number of CCOF certified members are active participants in the AAH program. Earthbound Farm has been contributing to AAH since 2006. Since then, "we have provided almost one million pounds of fresh and nutritious produce" states Hillary Fish, Marketing Associate for Earthbound Farm and a board member of AAH. She finds it "staggering that 20% of people living here in the Monterey Bay area are food insecure." Fresh produce is particularly valuable because "the low income people in our community also live at the greatest risk of obesity because they don't have access to healthy food choices."

Each year, a number of Driscoll farms donate "20,000-100,000 pounds of produce, depending on crop and market conditions" says Greg Anderson, Retail Sales Manager and AAH board member. "It's so great to see the community come together for such a great cause--feeding the hungry. They [AAH] have a long heritage of helping those in need and I think they'll be around a long time."

Dale Coke, of Coke Farm/Jardines, appreciates the gleaning program because "it's great that people get a chance to do the work and see what that's like."

Thanks to the combined efforts of growers, distributors and social service agencies, Ag Against Hunger has become a model for produce recovery and distribution. Executive Director Abby Silva-Taylor welcomes inquires from anyone interested in pursuing a similar mission. "We've helped organizations throughout the country feed the hungry." For more information on how to get involved, visit www.agagainsthunger.org.





Annelise Kelly is a Portland, Oregon-based food and travel writer. Her writing has appeared in *National Geographic Traveler, Pacific Fishing Magazine, The Santa Cruz Weekly, the Salinas Californian,* and Portland's *Southeast Examiner*. She's been interviewed on NPR's *Weekend Edition* by Liane Hansen and was a prize-winner in Lonely Planet's "One Tank Getaway" contest. She has traveled extensively in Europe, Asia, the Caribbean and North America, and is perpetually fascinated by food, culture and issues of sustainability.

Education & Promotion

Napa Valley Grapegrowers Organic Winegrowing Conference

This year, CCOF again participated in the Napa Valley Grapegrowers Organic Winegrowing Conference held at Frog's Leap Winery in Rutherford, CA on July 23. Elizabeth Whitlow, CCOF's North Coast Regional Service Representative, spoke on the process of becoming certified organic and the pitfalls to avoid. In addition, Jody Biergel, CCOF Director of Handler Certification, gave a presentation on the regulations revolving around organic wine labeling. Of the conference participants, a third were already certified organic wine grape growers and wineries, another third were in transition to organic and the remaining third were looking to learn

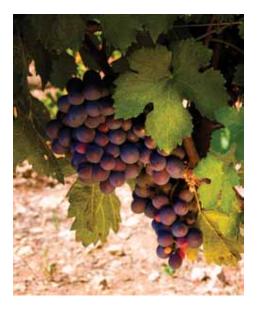


Elizabeth Whitlow

more about what is involved in organic certification. "This is an excellent, informative event for all those interested in learning about organic wine, grapegrowing, winemaking and new techniques in pest management including the innovative vineyard equipment now available. We are very happy to be involved in the event" states Biergel.

Eco-winegrowing in the North Coast

CCOF also participated in "Growing Even Greener: Eco-winegrowing in California's North Coast Region" in August in Hopland, California. The two day conference, hosted by UC Cooperative Extension, the Mendocino Winegrape & Wine Commission and



California Sustainable Winegrowing Alliance, was created to help grape growers learn about green trends and innovations, and to further increase quality and market advantage through sustainable, organic and biodynamic practices in vineyards and wineries. Elizabeth Whitlow, CCOF's North Coast Regional Service Representative, discussed organic wine labeling along with a panel of CCOF certified winemakers: Benziger, Mendocino Wine Co. and Bonterra Vineyards. Other inspiring topics at this event included a discussion by Paul Dolan on 'green opportunities'; water conservation and dry farming in winegrapes, increasing resilience and biodiversity in vineyards, carbon sequestration and innovative pest management practices.

The Organic Summit

CCOF staff members attended the Organic Summit conference in Stevenson, Washington in June to discuss the future of organic, emerging regulatory issues and market trends. Conference attendees were greeted by a video message from USDA Deputy Secretary Kathleen Merrigan. Merrigan continues to voice her commitment to organic and shared her goal to integrate organic into every agency within the USDA. Her comments marked an historic day for the organic sector.

Certification Staff Training Tours

CCOF Certification Staff members took part in a number of tours of CCOF certified processing facilities over the past year. The tours allow our staff to keep up-to-date on various steps and procedures in organic processing and provide a more comprehensive background for answering questions from our certified members. We would like to thank Fresno Cooperative Raisin Growers, Tomatek Processing, Fetzer Winery, Marich Confectionary, and Straus Creamery for taking the time to provide tours through their facilities. If CCOF

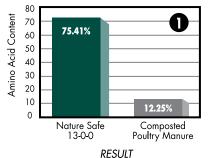


members are interested in hosting tours please email marketing@ccof.org.

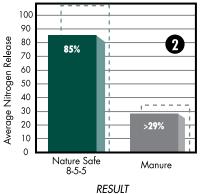
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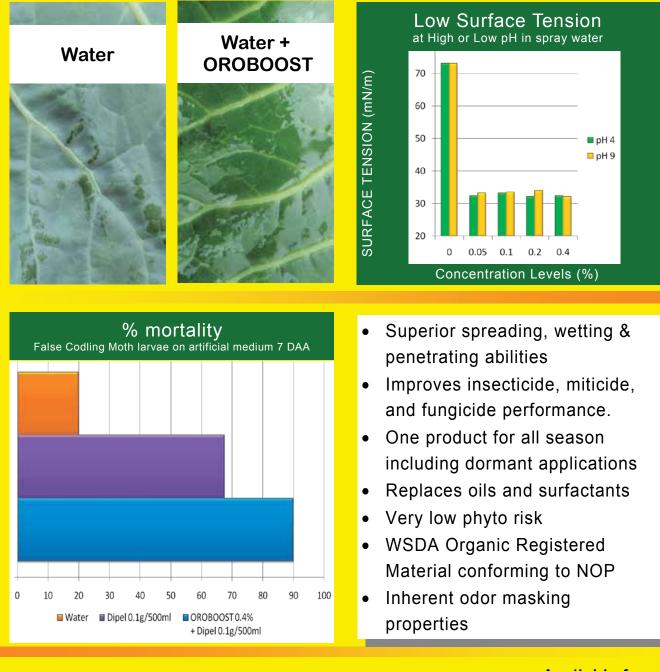


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Education & Promotion Continued from page 16

Organic Strawberry Workshop

CCOF partnered with the Organic Research Network to promote their series of workshops on organic strawberries and vegetables, which took place in Watsonville, CA and concluded a five year study on pest control and fertility management for organic strawberries. The projects were conducted by researchers from UC Santa Cruz, UC Davis and the University of California Cooperative Extension (UCCE). With the focus of most of the studies centered in California's Central Coast, the results proved especially



valuable for strawberry farmers in this region. The first day of presentations focused on soil fertility management in organic strawberry and vegetable production. The majority of the trials focused on nitrogen (N) fertility using a mixture of cover crops and timed application of organic N fertilizers. The second day of presentations focused on evaluating the challenges of pest management and the struggle to maintain a vital production level through effective disease control. For more information on these studies, visit www. ccof.org/org_resources_ucscstrawberries.php or visit www.agroecology. com to access presentation material.

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Attend the CCOF 2010 Convention

CCOF invites you to join us for our 2010 Annual Convention February 6-7 at the Dairy Pavilion at CSU Chico.

The convention combines CCOF's two-day Educational Conference entitled "Healthy Soils, Healthy Food" with our Annual Meeting. Contact ccof@ccof.org for more information.



CCOF Certified Organic Magazine-Fall 2009





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Know Your CCOF

Jon Grucci, Handler Certification Specialist



Jon Grucci came to CCOF over eight months ago with a Bachelor's degree in Geography from the University of Delaware. Prior to joining CCOF, he

worked with Devine Consultants for eight years, where he designed and took care of custom home vineyards. Jon spends most of his time reviewing new applications for food handling/processing companies and updating organic system plans. He is passionate about organic and sustainable agriculture. Outside of CCOF, he enjoys music, especially percussion, and has a fondness for camping and backpacking. While he would like to travel world-wide, he is happy tending to his plants at home through landscaping and gardening.

Bridgett McGrath, Marketing Specialist



Bridgett McGrath began working at CCOF as an intern in September 2007 while a student at UC Santa Cruz. Bridgett was one of the first members

of the CCOF internship program. She graduated with a Bachelor's degree in Environmental Studies in June of 2008. Bridgett was thrilled to return to CCOF as a full-time staff member in October 2008. As Marketing Specialist, she edits the quarterly magazine, maintains the CCOF website, coordinates events and tradeshows, manages the intern team and talks to prospective applicants looking to become certified organic. Outside of CCOF, Bridgett loves the outdoors and enjoys hiking, collecting rocks, gardening and admittedly confesses to being a big architecture geek.

Kelly Lehman, Grower/Certification Specialist



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Kelly started working for CCOF just over seven months ago. Before coming to California, she worked for Pennsylvania Certified Organic,

also as a certification specialist. She received her post-graduate degree in Law with a concentration in Environmental Law and worked at an environmental law firm. Her current work at CCOF involves reviewing applications from new applicants, handling inquiries over the phone and working with other members of the grower certification staff. Kelly enjoys her job here because she feels that the office is a great and open learning environment (and the location is great, too!). Her hobbies outside of CCOF involve hiking, tending to her backyard garden and cooking.

SAVE THE DATE:



"Healthy Soils, Healthy Food" CCOF Education Conference

February 6 – 7, 2009 Dairy Pavilion, Chico CA



CCOF's two-day Educational Conference will include presentations; break out sessions and farm tours aimed at helping participants understand the complex relationship between soil, inputs, resources, outputs and the food system. The keynote speaker, Tim LeSalle, Executive Director of the Rodale Institute, will be discussing new research that shows the positive effects healthy soil can have on our environment. Other participants will include CSU Chico faculty, local growers and processors and regulators. Attendees will also participate in a variety of farm tours in the area, including tours of La Rocca Vineyards, CSU Chico's vegetable farm and dairy.

For more information, visit www.ccof.org/educationconference.php.

Sponsorship opportunities available, contact advertising@ccof.org.

Certification News

CDFA State Organic Program Prohibits Two Compost Products

On August 5, 2009 the California Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) State Organic Program (SOP) sent a notice to all registered organic growers and certifiers informing them that Nortech Gold Compost could not be used in organic production. A similar notice was distributed on September 23, 2009 regarding Grover Wonder Grow Compost. The notices state that continued use of these materials in organic production could jeopardize an operation's organic status. This action is largely unprecedented and may be an indication of future enforcement actions.

New Products and Labels: Seek Approval Prior to Production and/or Printing

During recent National Organic Program (NOP) certifier trainings, the NOP indicated that there is limited



tolerance for the use of non-compliant labels in the marketplace. CCOF operations that produce products or new labels that do not meet either formulation or labeling requirements are increasingly likely to receive notices of non-compliance, and may not be allowed to use up existing labels that do not meet NOP standards. Please note that certifiers are required to submit copies of notices of non-compliance to the USDA.

Please submit labels and products to CCOF prior to production to avoid costly errors. CCOF will review your label and/or product as quickly as possible. If you have a compressed timeline, please inform CCOF of your deadline so we can try to meet it. New products or labels that are disclosed during inspections and found to be out of compliance may be considered significant issues. The NOP has indicated a clear preference that certified operations use up labels with minor mistakes within 90 days.

A (3 A)

Minor mistakes are categorized by USDA to include:

• Incorrect formatting or location of "Certified organic by CCOF" statement.

Common serious mistakes on labels include:

- Failure to include the statement "Certified organic by CCOF" below information identifying the handler or distributor.
- Use of "100% Organic" on labels when the product does not meet the specific requirements for this labeling category.
- Failure to correctly identify organic ingredients in the ingredient panel or unintentionally representing non-organic ingredients as organic.
- Use of the USDA seal in colors other than the allowed combinations: green and brown or black on a white or transparent background. Indistinguishable variances such as dark navy blue instead of black may be permissible, particularly on labels printed in only one color.
- Identification of a product with 70-95% organic content as "Organic" when it should be labeled "Made with organic (specified ingredient or food group)."
- Use of "Organic" on labels for products that include non-approved ingredients or processing aids.

To view the NOP's presentation on labeling, go to www.ccof. org and click on "Certification," then "Updates and Resources."

International Standards Updates:

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Korean Organic Standards Deadline Looms

As reported in past issues, the Korean Organic Standards are scheduled to be implemented on January 1, 2010. As of this writing, the Korean government has been firm that after this date products sold as organic in Korea must be produced and certified to Korean standards and certified by the Ministry for Food, Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries (MIFAFF) accredited certifier. The accreditation and certification requirements are problematic for US certifiers, and it appears unlikely that all ingredients can be re-certified to this new standard.

CCOF, along with many other US organic certifiers, several US Senators, the Organic Trade Association, a variety of traders, the Foreign Agricultural Service and the National Organic Program have been working with Korean trade representatives to address this issue. Korea is seeking equivalency with Australia, and US officials are pursuing a similar arrangement for US organic goods. It remains to be seen what will happen when the new standard goes into effect; however, Korean officials have indicated that any product in Korea or shipped prior to January 1, 2010 will be allowed to be sold as organic until the product's expiration date.

CCOF is exploring options to work with foreign certifiers to provide Korean Organic Standards certification in the US for CCOF clients. This is not a preferable option and may only be viable for those companies with relatively few suppliers who are all CCOF-certified or certified to Korean standards independently. As new standards develop worldwide we sincerely hope to see more equivalency agreements, such as the recent agreement between the US and Canada. If you have specific concerns, work with the Korean market, or have additional questions, please contact export@ccof.org for more information. CCOF depends on feedback from clients to effectively advocate for and meet your needs.

Certification News

NEW EU Standards in Place - CCOF Applies for Direct Equivalency

Under the new European Union Organic Standards 834/2007 (formerly 2092/91) the EU has revised their regulations and created new options for foreign certifiers and companies. CCOF incorporated the updates in

our recent revisions to CCOF Manual III and Global Market Access Program applications. The required practices remain essentially the same, but the standards and citations referenced have changed. There

are very few, if any, new requirements for CCOF farmers and processors.

In the current system, certifiers verify that organic operations met EU requirements but importers are required to seek import license derogations for



each US-based exporter. This slows down the process, requires significant paperwork and is subject to differing interpretations of various EU member states and certifiers. Now, the EU is accepting applications from certifiers to be recognized as equivalent on a certifier-by-certifier basis. Once

> implemented, import licenses will no longer be required. CCOF has worked hard during 2009 to prepare our application and will submit it by the October 31, 2009 deadline. We expect to

receive a response in 2010, and the first list of recognized certifiers should be published in early 2011. Once listed, CCOF certified companies deemed EU Equivalent will have easier access to the EU and will not require mountains of import license paperwork. Additionally, they will be allowed to produce organic retail products for the EU market and will be able to use an EU organic seal on labels.

CCOF is grateful to the EU Commission for providing this option; we expect these changes to be significant and are working hard to make this a reality. Throughout the process, CCOF will strive to eliminate as many standards differences as possible so that both you and CCOF can concentrate increasingly on the most substantive issues in certification and organic production and less on minor standards or small differences in materials allowances. CCOF clients can expect changes and updates as this process unfolds and can rest assured that CCOF is doing everything we can to simplify organic exports.



8th Annual Sustainable Agriculture Pest Management Conference

December 4-5, 2009

Join Us!

Update your skills, earn continuing education credits and enjoy the beautiful surroundings of San Luis Obispo at the Sustainable Agriculture Pest Management Conference.

Topics include:

- Innovative practices in the management of pests in sustainable agricultural systems
- Certified organic regulations
- Organic and sustainable materials and production practices

A workshop on day two will teach attendees how to identify ant and mealybug species. Information will be included about their biology, pest status and control solutions. Visual aids, handouts and microscopic examination of specimens will be provided. The conference also features a keynote presentation from California Department of Food and Agriculture Secretary AG Kawamura on the challenges and opportunities in sustainable pest management in California agriculture.



To Register

For more information or to register visit www.ccof.org Or call CCOF (831) 423.2263 ext. 25.

Continuing Education Credits

12 Continuing Education Units including 4 Laws and Regulations Units for PCAs have been approved by the California Department of Pesticide Regulation (8 units for Day 1 Conference. 4 additional units for Day 2.) 11.5 CEU credits have also been approved for Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs) and 12 RWQCB Ag Waiver units will be given for full attendance.

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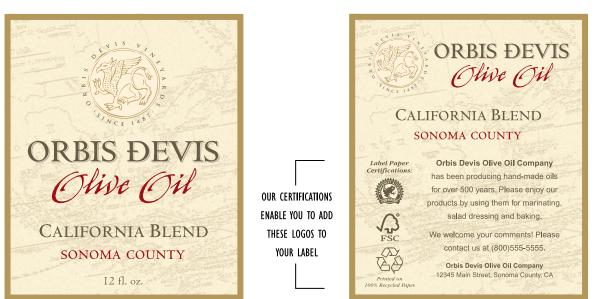
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Sourcing and using the products is not enough however. To attain compliance, our

print facilities gained FSC and Rainforest Alliance certification. This certification means that we provide you label papers from a closed-loop supply chain, guaranteeing the sourcing claims.

Select among these materials and we can add the recycled, FSC, and, or Rainforest Alliance logos to your product label. Associations with these institutions help you further promote your brand and company philosophy. Please talk to us about adjusting your label graphics to incorporate the below logos.



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Advocacy

Food Safety Update

CCOF continues to work on food safety legislation and marketing agreements, on both the national and Californiastate levels. Members of the House of Representatives heard legislation in late spring 2009 that contained some food safety provisions. Congresswoman Lynn Woolsey (D-Marin) asked CCOF specifically for our official position on



this legislation, which was "oppose unless amend," and offered to carry our message to the House floor.

CCOF's position on food safety legislation encompasses the following points:

- 1. Food safety is a shared responsibility. Organic food producers and handlers of all scales and in all regions must be concerned about providing safe food. The steps taken to assure safety must be customized for each situation, but must incorporate principles discussed below:
- 2. We support food safety legislation as long as it does not duplicate what organic farmers and processers already do under the National Organic Program (NOP) rule or conflict with existing NOP regulations. This would include any provision that requires "sterile" farming -- i.e. removing wildlife habitat, buffers, hedgerows, etc. -- in order to discourage the presence of wildlife or other organisms.
- **3.** The fees farmers must pay should be kept at a minimum. Any fee assessed for implementing new food safety programs should exist on a sliding scale fee structure, as

opposed to a flat fee. The largest segment of farming in America is the small-to mid-size farms, and fees can add up very quickly. Certified organic farmers and processors pay their certifier for the service, and in some cases, pay their state agriculture programs for organic registration. These fees are on top of the fees all farmers pay for various government services and enforcement actions. It isn't fair that a fee to pay for additional inspections should be the same for a farmer who is working two acres of land as it is for the agri-business working 25,000 acres of land.

- **4.** Food safety legislation should enforce existing laws first. The FDA and USDA and their state counterparts have adequate rules already in place to address food safety. Keeping up with existing inspection protocols and enforcing violations that already exist will go a long way to ensure that our future food supply is safe.
- 5. Any new regulations should be based on scientific research and should target new research to the core issues. While it is important to look at the entire food production system when determining how to regulate food safety, research emphasis should be placed on areas where there is the most potential for contamination. For example, one area of research - that creating totally sterile farming and food production systems leads to improved food safety - has been called into question. Further research is necessary on this subject, and other research areas must be also be emphasized and pursued.
- 6. Lastly, organic production has 7 characteristics that make it unique and therefore, a good model for Congress to use when creating individual on-farm plans:
 - a. **OSP** all aspects of the farm are explained in the OSP and it proves to be a good tool

already in place for elaborating food safety protocols.

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- b. Traceability certified organic producers and processers can trace their products from point of sale back to the field of origin, and are required to keep extensive records on this aspect. Many of the traceability requirements in new legislation would not be necessary in an organic system, and would be so costly that they would put many small farmers out of business.
- c. Sanitation organic production permits anti-microbial steps to be used to lower pathogen contamination (pasteurization, equipment sanitation, steam sterilization are some examples).
- d. Manure and compost raw manure is not used in organic systems without an extended 90day or 120-day waiting period between application and harvest. Properly made compost increases microbial diversity in the soil, which leads to the soil's ability to "fight off" the bad microbes.
- e. Microbial balance beneficial microbes keep soil in balance, providing good nutrition to crops and keeping pathogens and bad microbes in check.
- f. **Biodiversity** creating a more diverse eco-system by adding



hedgerows, vegetative buffers and diversified cropping systems will improve microbial balance, water filtration and produce more nutritious food.

Advocacy

g. Livestock – Organic regulations do not allow confined feeding operations, considered to be one of the primary sources of E. coli 0157. Nor do they allow routine use of antibiotics that can lead to E. coli strains that are antibiotic resistant.

In addition to Congresswoman's Woolsey's support for our position, both Congressman Sam Farr (D-Salinas) and Congressman Dennis Cardoza (D-Modesto) did valiant work informing their colleagues about the important role farming has in America's economy as well as how food safety legislation needs to focus resources and efforts where they will be most effective and where they will not disproportionally impact small farmers. When the US Senate returned to Washington, DC in late August, they considered adding many "friendly" amendments to their Senate legislation. CCOF is grateful to the many members of Congress who continue to work with their constituents and it is our hope that these amendments will prove palatable to our members.

CCOF also works with the Organic Trade Association and with the National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition, both of whom have a presence in Washington, DC and continue to do great work on behalf of organic and sustainable farmers. For more information and updates on food safety regulations visit www.ccof.org/foodsafety.php.

Along with the work being done in the regulatory arena, many large scale specialty crop organizations such as Western Growers Association, Arizona Farm Bureau, California Farm Bureau, California Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement and others, submitted a draft marketing agreement to USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) requesting the establishment of a National Leafy Greens Marketing Agreement. CCOF recently participated in a webinar on this process and will continue our efforts to monitor the progress of this process. According to the webinar, it will take between

18 and 24 months for USDA to review the draft, schedule and hold public meetings (which CCOF will attend), release the draft regulations creating the agreement, respond to further public comment on the draft and finalize the regulations. More information on the draft agreement can be found at www.nlgma.com.

California State Organic Program (SOP) Update

CCOF continues to monitor the California State Organic Program's (SOP) efforts to respond to complaints made by registrants, certifiers and the National Organic Program (NOP). Currently, CCOF sits on the SOP Technical Planning Committee, which reviews all programs and processes of the SOP as well as provides recommendations to the California Organic Products Advisory Committee (COPAC). COPAC's role is to advise the Secretary



of California's Department of Food and Agriculture (CDFA) on his responsibilities under the California Organic Products Act of 2003 as well as under California's Health and Safety Code.

Though SOP reform is a slow and lengthy process, CCOF is pleased with the progress that the Technical Planning Committee and the SOP are making thus far in regards to changing their policies, streamlining the registration procedures, and redefining and implementing an effective spot inspection program.

SOP promulgated draft regulations as part of their reform effort this past spring. The regulations would have given certified organic operations the

ability to use their organic system plan (OSP) as a reference document for registration purposes, thus eliminating the need to duplicate information contained in the OSP on SOP registration forms. Registrants making \$5000 or less would still be required to submit the information requested. Unfortunately, because the information required on the registration forms is required in statute, CDFA's legal counsel rejected the proposed regulations and notified SOP that they must use the legislative process to streamline the registration process. CCOF remains ready to help in any way we can to make sure this happens.

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SOP also recently worked with CCOF staff and other members of the Technical Planning Committee to review the spot inspection program and develop regulations that give the SOP authority to do a much better job in this area. The newly designed spot inspection will focus primarily, although not exclusively, on registrants making \$5000 and less,* with the recognition that certified organic operations are already inspected at least once a year by their certifier. SOP acknowledges that they are not certifiers and therefore do not need to duplicate those activities but instead fill the gaps.

CCOF continues to monitor SOP and participate actively in the California Organic Products Advisory Committee (COPAC) meetings, to stay informed and to watchdog the actions of the Department.

For additional information on SOP and COPAC visit:www.cdfa.ca.gov.

* The NOP regulations have an exemption clause that states that operations making \$5000 or less are not obliged/required to undergo the certification process. While many still do, others do not and are therefore not subject to inspection by certification agencies. So, it is particularly appropriate and beneficial to consumers and the industry for CDFA to be focusing their efforts in this area.

Events Calendar

7th Annual Chico Organic Farming and Food Conference

November 4, 2009, Chico, CA

This all day conference will include breakout sessions on water, energy, climate change, promoting local food marketing, local nutrition and food programs, organic pest management, holistic management approaches, tours of the Organic Farm and Dairy and more. For more information, contact Dr. Lee Altier at laltier@csuchico.edu.

Sustainable Agriculture Pest Management Conference



December 4-5, 2009, San Luis Obispo, CA Enhance your skills and earn continuing education credits at the

8th Annual Sustainable Agriculture Pest Management Conference. The conference will feature presentations on innovative pest management strategies as well as a keynote presentation from California Department of Food and Agriculture Secretary, AG Kawamura. Registration includes conference materials, PCA unit processing and meals. See details on page 23. For more information, visit www.ccof.org/pcaconference.php.

35th Winter Fancy Food Show



January 17-19, 2010 San Francisco, CA CCOF will exhibit at this premier specialty foods show featuring the latest new

products in the market. Find CCOF at booth #1664. For more information, visit www.specialtyfood.com.

30th Annual Eco-Farm Conference



January 20-23, 2010, Pacific Grove, CA Eco-Farm attracts a diverse group of attendees, distinguishing it as a place of

connection for farmers, consumers, processors, advocates, distributors, retailers, chefs, academics and policy makers. The conference celebrates its 30th year with the theme: Where the Future is Planted. With over 50 workshops on a variety of topics, the conference provides a forum for the discussion of current issues, trends and policies affecting our food systems. Attendees can find CCOF in the Exhibitor Marketplace, where they can purchase CCOF merchandise and talk to staff members. For more information, visit www.eco-farm.org.

CCOF Annual Convention

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CCOF's Education Conference: 'Healthy Soils, Healthy Food'



February 6-7, 2009, Chico, CA CCOF will be hosting an exciting 2-day educational conference at the CSU Chico Dairy Pavilion. Special keynote speaker Tim LaSalle, Executive Director of The Rodale Institute, will be discussing new research that shows the positive effects healthy soil can have on our environment. The conference will also include presentations and break out sessions aimed at helping participants understand the complex relationship between soil, inputs, resources, outputs and the food system. Day two will include farm tours, including a tour of La Rocca Vineyards, CSU Chico's vegetable farm and dairy. For more information, visit www. ccof.org/educationconference.php.

CCOF Annual Meeting

February 6, 2010, CSU Chico, CA CCOF's Annual Meeting will be preceded by day one of CCOF's Educational Conference. Contact ccof@ccof.org for additional information.





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Website Reviews

Learning about Pesticide Exposure

The Pesticide Action Network's new website, www.whatsonmyfood.org, provides a searchable database aimed at informing consumers about the risk of exposure to pesticide residue on their



food. Using figures from the USDA Pesticide Data Program and pesticide toxicology data from the EPA and other authorities,

What's On My Food? allows visitors to compare organic, conventional, imported and domestic food products in terms of their pesticide residues and toxicity. Visitors can search by food product or by pesticide and the database provides graphs and tables indicating the level of pesticide residue on each food item, in what combinations the residues are present and information on the associated health risks of the chemicals. The website was created to make public the problem of pesticide exposure and provide consumers with an opportunity to understand the health risks of pesticide exposure without needing to be an expert on the subject.

New Online Green Winegrowing Handbook

With a variety of innovative practices emerging within the wine industry, understanding what's what can be quite a task. Fortunately Paul Dolan Vineyards along with CCOF Certified Parducci Wine Cellars have published the Green Wine Handbook, an online reference book that provides a comprehensive explanation of organic, sustainable and biodynamic grape growing and winemaking practices. Principles of organic wine grape grow-

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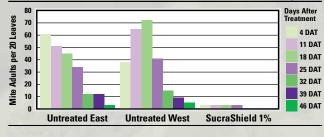


ing, information on allowed and prohibited substances in organic, the process of certification and how to read organic wine labels are clearly outlined and discussed. In addition to sections on various grape growing practices, the handbook provides a glossary that clearly explains various agriculture

terms as well as information on associated certification organizations and related acronyms. To access the Green Winegrowing Handbook, visit www. pauldolanwine.com.

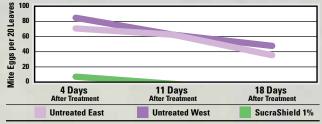


Effects of SucraShield on Pacific Mite Adults on Grapes*



NATURALFORCES

Effects of SucraShield on Pacific Mite Eggs*



*WECO – Crop Production Research, Galt, CA. Applied July 18, 2008 Complete study available for download at: www.naturalforcesllc.com

For more information visit our website at naturalforcesllc.com. PO Box 2601, Davidson, NC 28036-2601 • 866.532.4737 • Fax 704.973.7777

Member News Continued from page 5

Saracina Receives EQIP Grant

Certified member Saracina Vineyards received an Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) grant to convert some of their last uncertified land to organic as well as to implement conservation practices and planning over the next four years. "This award will offer us the chance to bring life back to some troubled acreage," says David Huebel, Saracina's Ranch Operations Manager. David has also offered to answer questions from any growers who are interested in obtaining more information about his experiences in securing this funding. Please contact David via email at dhuebel@ saracina.com. For more information on funding for organic, visit www. ccof.org/classifieds.php#funding.

Earthbound Farm Switches to 100% PCR PET

In honor of the company's 25th anniversary, Earthbound Farm announced it would shift 100% of its clamshell packages to post-consumer recycled polyethylene terephthalate (PCR PET). PCR PET is made from recycled plastic products such as water and soda



bottles. Virgin PET is produced with natural gas feedstock. The conversion saves 68,000 gallons of water and eliminates 16,000 tons of CO2 annually. The PET clamshells are shatter resistant, recyclable, and light. This shift emphasizes Earthbound Farm's commitment to the environment as America's largest grower of organic produce.

Azomite Mineral Products, Inc Names New Managers

CCOF Supporting Member, Azomite Mineral Products, Inc., named James Phillips as their Production Manager, responsible for overseeing quality control and all levels of production at their Utah location. In addition, Azomite announced Thetis Sammons as Western Region Director, charged with developing sales and distributorships from the Santa Barbara, CA area.

UC Santa Cruz and UC Berkeley Listed as "Eco-Enlightened"

The UC Santa Cruz Farm and Garden's Center for Agroecology and Sustainable Food Systems (CASFS) placed in the



top 20 on the Sierra Club's third annual list of "Most Eco-Enlightened U.S. Universities." UC Berkeley was also listed as their primary food service provider was the first to be certified organic in the United States.

Sustainable Producers Chosen to Present at Investor Conference

Marrone Bio Innovations has been chosen as part of a group of eight



producers to present at the first investor conference to be devoted to sustainable agriculture. The 'Agriculture 2.0' conference organizers searched through over 50 companies to find the best representatives in the sector. Speakers at the New York City conference include: Bruce Kahn, of Deutsche Bank, Grayson Hoberg, former CFO of Earthlink and Tod Murphy, President and CEO of The Farmers Diner.

Remembering Kathryn Kennedy

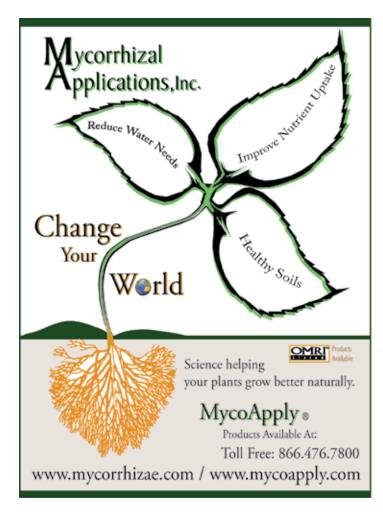
CCOF certified member Kathryn Kennedy passed away last August at the age of 82. Kathryn began growing grapes in 1973 in the Santa Cruz Mountains after attending the University of California, Davis. The vineyard is renowned for producing full bodied and award winning organic cabernet wines. She will be greatly missed.

Certified Olive Oils Receive Big Awards

A number of CCOF certified members received special recognition at the 2009 LA International Olive Oil Competition. Pacific Sun Olive Oil received Best in Show for their Extra Virgin Olive Oil. Apollo Olive Oil won a Best of Class Gold Medal for their Organic Sacramento Valley Blends Mistral. Olivas de Oro, Cliff Family Farm, Stone



Edge Vineyard and Harris Ranch Napa Valley received Silver Medals while Embry Family Farms and Figueroa Farms were both awarded bronze medals for their various organic olive oils.





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Member Listings

NEW CERTIFIED MEMBERS

All State Packers Inc

Isaac Wilson Lodi, CA isaac@rivermaid.com Gift Baskets, Packing, Pears 209-369-3586

Alvie Snow Farms

Ron Snow, Ricky Snow, & Beverly Rogers Wasco, CA bsnowfarms@aol.com Almonds 661-758-3917

American River Ag, Inc.

Craig Walker, Paul Rushing, & Misty McFalls El Dorado Hills, CA craig@americanriverag.com Handling, Storage www.americanriverag.com 916-869-9000

Ametjian Farms (Dinuba Ranch)

Dean Paul Vlazakis & Paula C. Ametjian & Emmanuel Vlazakis Tulare, CA Grapes (Raisin) 559-686-5473

Ancient Organics

Matthew 'Matteo' Girard Maxon Berkeley, CA ancientorganics@me.com Ghee www.ancientorganics.com 510-847-5565

Anomaly Vineyards

Mark Porembski St. Helena, CA mark@anomalyvineyards.com Grapes www.anomalyvineyards.com 707-967-8448

Aulakh Farms, Inc.

Abrasham S. Aulakh Kerman, CA aulakh89@gmail.com Grapes (Raisin), Raisins 559-288-6622

Bad Dog Farms

Bradley Zeve Carmel, CA bradley@mcweekly.com Fruit, Mixed Vegetables 831-601-5678

Ball Tagawa Growers Stephen Sapone, David Pruitt,

Laura Wulff Pismo Beach, CA steve@twcg.com Greenhouse Cut Flowers or Greens 805-481-7526

Bardessono

Noel Lopreore Yountville, CA noel.lopreore@bardessono.com Mixed Vegetables www.bardessono.com 707-204-6034

Barista Espresso

Scott Hill Colorado Springs, CO baristaesp@yahoo.com Coffee (Roasted) rebelroaster.com 719-578-1185

Billy Grissom Fertilizer Spreading LLC

Billy Grissom Hilmar, CA Corn (Fresh), Pasture 209-632-6055

Bio Farm

Leonard & Judith Diggs Kelseyville, CA biofarm@rocketmail.com Mixed Fruits & Vegetables 707-695-8983

Blue Heron Farms, Inc.

Scot Monckton & Bruce Dennis Knights Landing, CA smonckton@aol.com Rice, Safflower, Wheat 916-207-6580

Bokisch Ranches, LLC dba Bokisch Vineyards

Markus Bokisch Victor , CA markus@bokischranches.com Grapes, Grapes (Grenache), Grapes (Syrah) www.bokischvineyards.com 209-614-4600

Brandon Silveira Farms

Brandon Silveira Hanford, CA brandon@lemoorenet.com Alfalfa, Tomatoes (Processing) 559-582-5644

Brar Farms

lqbal (Bob) S. and Shavinder K. Brar Fowler, CA Pomegranates 559-834-5656

California Seed Production,

Inc. Robert Bassi Gilroy, CA robert@calseed.com Seed Multiplication, Seeds 408-427-6805

Canihan Vineyards

William S. Canihan San Francisco, CA bcanihan@pacbell.net Grapes (Wine) www.canihanwines.com 415-929-8190

Capay Satsuma Mandarins

Dawit Zeleke Orland, CA info@sweetmandarins.com Mandarins, Mandarin Orange www.sweetmandarins.com 530-865-2578

Chenoweth Vineyards Inc.

Amy Chenoweth Graton, CA amy@chenowethvineyards.com Apples www.chenowethvineyards.com 707-829-3367

Clif Bar Family Winery & Farm, LLC dba Clif Family

Farm Brad & Kathleen Crawford, Nancy Abreu, Gary Erickson St. Helena, CA Fallow, Mixed Fruits & Vegetables, Olives www.cliffamilywinery.com 707-968-0625

Cooper-Garrod Estate Vineyards

Bill Cooper & Jan Garrod Saratoga, CA organic@cgv.com Grapes (Cabernet Sauvignon), Grapes (Pinot Noir), Wine, Wine Making www.cgv.com 408-867-7116

Cornett Vineyard/ Rosetti Vineyards

Lachlann McCracken & Terry Rosetti Hopland, CA lachlann@farmecologylabs.com Grapes (Cabernet Sauvignon), Grapes (Chardonnay) 707-328-0084

Dan Baldi Dan Baldi Sebastopol, CA Apple Trees 707-829-9685

Darren & Darlene Mora

Darren and Darlene Mora Watsonville, CA dlou44@aol.com Apples, Hops 831-761-2130

Darren & Karen Hansen

Darren & Karen Hansen Ferndale, CA woodies@frontiernet.net Corn (Dry), Hay and Pasture 707-786-4232

Davis Drive Organics

Charles A. Sawyer and Peter Chevalier Ukiah, CA Grapes (Chardonnay), Grapes (Muscat), Grapes (Viognier) 707-463-0138

Diageo Chateau & Estate Wines Co. dba Beaulieu Vineyard

Domenica Totty Rutherford, CA domenica.totty@diageo.com Wine www.bwvines.com 707-967-5200

Diener Walnut Ranch

George Diener Kelseyville, CA geodiener@sbcglobal.net Walnuts 707-279-4323

Don Warkentin

Don & Jeanette Warkentin Dinuba, CA Corn (Dry), Corn (Fresh), Sweet corn 559-591-7341

Elk Mountain Vineyards

Dana DiRicco & Glenn Benjamin Upper Lake, CA mddcdmdx@att.net Grapes (Wine) 707-275-3500

Elk Ridge Almonds, Inc.

William Pitman, Jane Pitman, and John Campbell Madera, CA organic@elkridgealmonds.com Almond Processing, Almonds www.elkridgealmonds.com 559-664-0800

Elkfield Vineyards

Nadiem Hanna Khoury Ukiah, CA elkfield@aol.com Grapes (Wine), Olives 707-293-4781

Emery Estate Vineyard and Winery, LLC

John Emery & Derek Irwin John Emery & Derek Irwin Sonoma, CA silveremo@emerywines.com Grapes (Wine) 707-933-9921

Estrella River Ranch

Kraig Sayler & Beth Sayler Paso Robles, CA sayco12@netzero.net Grapes (Wine) 805-591-9139

E-Z Does It Farms/ Nash's

Olive Oil Nash and Dellene Dweik Corning, CA nashsoli@nasholiveoil.com Grapes, Hay, Olives nashsoliveoil.com 530-824-5187

Feingold Vineyards

Stanley Feingold Glenn Ellen, CA stanfeingold@gmail.com Grapes (Wine) feingoldvineyards.com 707-576-7775

Filice Farms, L.P.

Mark Wright Hollister, CA markw@filicefarms.com Peppers 831-637-3200

Flood Plain Produce

Melvin, Hollis, Helena, & Carl Kreb Scotia, CA floodplain@asis.com Artichokes, Beans (Fresh), Beets, Carrots, Corn (Fresh), Cucumbers, Eggplant, Fennel, Flowers, Garlic, Lettuces, Melons, Onions, Peppers, Potatoes, Pumpkins, Squash, Tomatoes (Fresh Market) 707-722-4330

G Star Farms

Grace and Daniel Santos Merced, CA gstarsantos@aol.com Fallow, Tomatoes (Cherry) 209-819-9887

Galens Way

Matthew Persico Sebastopol, CA matthew@galensway.com Extracts www.galensway.com 707-479-1555



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Gasto Farms

Chris Ellen & Phil Christensen Kingsburg, CA ellenvineyards@comcast.net Grapes (Colombard) 559-281-0379

George Ulitin

George Ulitin Napa, CA georgeulitin@sbcglobal.net Grapes (Sauvignon Blanc) 707-255-2005

Giulieri Ranch Corporation

Lane Giulieri Ferndale , CA Hay, Pasture 707-725-3701

Golden Gate Confections, LLC

Dolores & Danny Noonan Montara, CA Cookies 800-849-9458

Gravelly Ford Ranch

Steven M. Emmert Madera, CA emmert6@aol.com Grapes (Grenache), Grapes (Juice), Grapes (Raisin), Grapes (Ruby Cabernet), Grapes (Wine), Grapes (Zinfandel) 559-674-6594

Harmon Family Vineyard

John & Teresa Harmon Santa Ynez, CA teri.harmon@verizon.net Grapes (Wine) 805-688-1334

Healthverve Food Manufacturing Usa, Inc Zaini Yanto Sjafrudin (IAN)

Rancho Cucamonga, CA yanto@healthverve.com Chicken Broth, Processing www.healthverve.com 909-481-7514

Hobe Ranch (Organic)

Steven Emmert & Matt Hobe Fresno, CA Grapes (Raisin), Grapes (Wine) 559-226-1522

Howard K. Albano dba Cuyama Orchards Byron Albano North Hollywood, CA

North Hollywood, CA appleguy@mpowercom.net Apples, Apples (Fuji), Apples (Gala) 818-764-8682

Jack Neal & Son/ McCarthy

Mark Neal St. Helena , CA mneal@jacknealandson.com Grapes (Wine) 707-963-7303 ext. 118

Jack Neal & Son/ Tucker Vineyards Patrick Riggs St. Helena, CA priggs@jacknealandson.com Grapes (Wine)

Jack Neal & Son/ Warner

707-963-7303 ext.118

Vineyards Mark Neal St. Helena , CA mneal@jacknealandson.com Grapes (Wine) 707-963-7303 ext. 118

Jack Neal & Son/Ackerman Vineyards Mark Neal St. Helena , CA mneal@jacknealandson.com Grapes (Wine)

Jackson Family Wines, Inc. dba Cardinale Winery

Ed Farver Oakville, CA ed.farver@kjmail.com Wine 707-948-1950

707-963-7303 ext. 118

JBH Farms

Joseph Hughes Oroville, CA cowkidz@sbcglobal.net Rice 530-693-2537

JCP Farming Co.

Peter & Jode Chevalier Calpella, CA petercvm@comcast.net Grapes (Sauvignon Blanc) 707-485-0640

Jelich Ranch

Skip Parod, Phil White and Terence Welch, Portola Valley, CA terencewelch@yahoo.com Fruit and Nut Trees www.jelichranch.com 831-435-8733

Joe Green Ranch

Chris Frieders Courtland, CA jgr@citilink.net Pears 916-775-4000

Joe Kosareff Farms

Joe Kosareff Buttonwillow, CA jko661@hotmail.com Fallow 661-201-2661

Kenneth Alles

Kenneth Alles Fresno, CA klalles@msn.com Grapes (Raisin) 559-351-1194

Kitehawk Farm

Denise & Charles Schryver Atascadero, CA Charles.Schryver@onemain.com Olives 805-461-0496

Kosher Gourmet Dog Bakery

Julien Bohbot, Janice Jacobson, & Lola Costello Los Angeles, CA delice8583@yahoo.com Dog Treats 310-600-2823

Larabee Ranch

Jack L. Rice Woodland, CA jayellarr@yahoo.com Alfalfa, Pasture, Pasture & Rangeland 707-499-7423

Larry Esajian

Larry Esajian Kingsburg, CA eshog24@sbcglobal.net Peaches 559-897-7608

Lilli J Ranch, LLC

Jonathan Flyer Eureka, CA jsflyer@sbcglobal.net Hay www.lillijranch.com 707-499-1630

Lonjevitea Kombucha LLC

Michaela Biaggi & Mollie Sitkin Petaluma, CA michaela@lonjeviteakombucha. com Kombucha www.lonjeviteakombucha.com 707-849-4480

Lorenzi Vineyards

Ken & Harry Lorenzi Ukiah, CA nickelcreeknursery@msn.com Grapes (Cabernet Sauvignon), Grapes (Merlot), Grapes (Zinfandel) 707-485-1961

Luis E Miranda dba

Wholeness Farm Luis Miranda San Francisco, CA lumilio@yahoo.com Mixed Vegetables, Vegetables www.wholenessfarm.com 415-269-5607

Marthedal Farms

Eric Marthedal, Kristy Vasquez, & Veronica Perez Fresno, CA Cooling, Packing, Shipping, Sorting, Storage www.marthedalfarms.com 559-834-2844

Medoil, LLC

Dayan K. Peck, Tony Fultz, & Ron Sheetz Franklin OH dpeck@valdolivausa.com Olive Oil www.valdolivausa.com 937-401-0821

Mike Cauzza Farms

Mike Cauzza Arvin, CA Wheat 661-854-3319

Monterey Peninsula Farming, LLC Rick Emmett

Rick Emmett Hanford, CA remmett@skfoods.com Fallow, Tomatoes (Processing) 559-288-6303

National Organic Packing Co.

Espie Estrada Riverside, CA espiebb@yahoo.com Citrus Packing

951-686-2422

Naughty Boy Vineyards dba Nbv

Jim Scott Potter Valley, CA naughtyboyvineyards@yahoo.com Grapes (Pinot Noir) www.naughtyboyvineyards.com 707-743-2868

New Fragrance Continental Inc. dba Lanatura

Sabina & Alejandro Chazanas Los Angeles, CA Body Oil www.lanatura.com 323-766-0060

NHK Laboratories, Inc.

Fareed Ansari, Uma Rajendran, Waffae Taha, Sam Biggs and Elisha Oguri Santa Fe Springs, CA Dietary Supplement, Processing 562-944-5400

Nielsen Ranch

Dale Dylan Nielsen Eureka, CA Hay, Mixed Fruits & Vegetables 707-496-6960

NK Development

Johnny Starling Hanford, CA jstarling@nicholsfarms.com Pistachios 559-584-6811

Nonella Livestock

Tom & Darla Nonella Klamath Falls OR dnonella@aol.com Cattle (Slaughter), Pasture 541-883-7129

North Valley Farms

DeNeane Ashcraft Cottonwood, CA dashcraft@snowcrest.net Pasture www.northvalleyfarms.com 530-347-7151

Oakridge Warehouse

Danny O[']Daniel, Jr. & Thomas Harrington Oakdale, CA kodiakexpress1@aol.com Storage 209-602-0080

Oakville Ranch Vineyards LLC

Mary Miner Napa, CA paula@oakvilleranch.com Fallow, Grapes, Grapes (Cabernet Sauvignon), Grapes (Chardonnay), Grapes (Petit Syrah), Grapes (Zinfandel) www.oakvilleranch.com 707-994-9665

Outfitter Properties, LLC

Erich Vaden and Lannie L. Johnson Palo Alto, CA Hay 530-336-5707

Partridge Cellars, LLC

Richard & Cristina Partridge Cerritos, CA dick@rfpartridge.com Grapes www.richardpartridge.com 562-802-7345 Continued on page 39





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Member Listings Continued from page 37

Continued from page 37

Pflug Packaging & Fulfillment

Judy Jardine Lathrop, CA jjardine@pflugpackaging.com Storage 209-679-4975

Pioneer Farming

Dennis M. Serpa Oakdale, CA dmserpa@cwnet.com Alfalfa, Almonds, Pasture 209-531-5175

Ranchito Paraíso

Marc and Denise Kraft Soquel, CA Lemons www.pacificsail.com 831-818-7725

Real Live Foods, Inc. dba Leaf Organics

Ray Gonzales Los Angeles, CA ray@leaforganics.com Crackers, Desserts, Dip, Dressing, Entrees, Meals, Salad, Snack Foods www.leaforganics.com 323-780-8407

Robert Bollens & Cynthia Bollens

Robert & Cynthia Bollens Ukiah, CA bollensc@pacific.net Grapes (Cabernet Sauvignon) 707-463-2978

Round River Farm

Erica Lundquist Witter Springs , CA elundquist@wildblue.net Walnuts 707-275-3335

S. W. Emmert Steven Wyatt Emmert Madera, CA Grapes (Raisin) 559-675-1298

Sacramento River Ranch II LLC

Dominic Bruno West Sacramento, CA dominic.bruno@sacramentorr.com Clover, Fallow, Forage, Mixed Vegetables, Oats, Ryegrass, Sudan grass, Walnuts 916-374-9426

Salem Ranch

Hui Yeon Yoon & Seung Uh Lee Lucerne Valley, CA yoon103@gmail.com Fruit 760-248-2643

San Benito Farms, LLC (DSA)

Daniel Balbas Aromas, CA DBalbas@berry.net Blackberries 831-763-7204

Shooting Star CSA

Lily Schneider & Matthew McCue Fairfield, CA shootingstarcsa@gmail.com Mixed Vegetables www.shootingstarcsa.com 707-207-0548

Silver State Meats LLC

Josh McKown, Joe Lafleur, & Sandy Fuentes Denver, CO josh@silverstatemeats.com Beef, Pet Food, Processing 303-291-5555

Smiling Sun Farms

Martha White & Alice McNair Sebastopol, CA smilingsunfarms@gmail.com Mixed Fruits & Vegetables 707-824-9241

Sonoma Mission Farms

Garrett Mertle Sonoma, CA garrett@sonomamissionfarms.com Grapes (Cabernet Sauvignon), Grapes (Pinot Noir), Olives 707-996-6009

Spa de Soleil

Rena Revivo Sun Valley, CA rena@spadesoleil.com Manufacturing 818-504-3200

Spring Valley Ranch

Mathew Ringel Yankee Hill , CA Basil, Blackberries, Blueberries, Borage, Boysenberries, Carrots, Celery, Chives, Cilantro, Corn (Fresh), Cucumbers, Currants, Dill, Eggplant, Goji Berries, Gooseberries, Grapes, Lavender, Melons, Onions, Parsley, Peppers, Potatoes, Raspberries, Rhubarb, Sage, Strawberries , Tomatoes (Fresh Market) 530-534-1229

Sundale Cold Storage

Mike Tamouzian & Eric R. Lewis Tulare, CA Cold Storage, Grapes 559-687-8787

Sun-Maid Growers, Inc.

Mike Moriyama, Blake Cuadros, & Rick Stark Kingsburg, CA mmoriyam@sunmaid.com Grapes (Raisin) 559-897-6355

Sunny's Garden

Miguel Crisantes & Ines Crisantes Nogales, AZ miguelcrisantes@mac.com Alfalfa, Bell Peppers, Cantaloupe, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Fallow, Melons (Honeydew), Peppers, Sorghum, Tomatoes (Fresh Market), Watermelon, Zucchini 520-281-2213

Sycamore Hollow Farms

Johnnie Siliznoff Kerman, CA jorlsiliz@kermantel.net Almonds, Grapes 559-970-4010

Terra Bella Family Farm

Shawn R. Seufert Pleasanton, CA shawn@terrabellafamilyfarm.com Apple Trees, Basil, Beans (Fresh), Beets, Borage, Broccoli, Brussel sprouts, Carrots, Chard, Cilantro, Cucumbers, Eggplant, Garlic, Grape Vines, Green Beans, Kale, Melons, Mint, Onions, Oregano, Peppers, Plum Trees, Pomegranates, Pumpkins, Radish, Raspberries, Shallots, Squash, Sunflower, Tomatillos, Tomatoes (Fresh Market) 925-202-8020

Tony's Fine Foods dba California Cold Logistics

David Apling, Javier Ruiz, & Allen Holder Yuba City, CA Storage 530-673-5627

Tres Osos Olive Oil

Dean Griggs Carmel, CA deanattresosos@yahoo.com Olives, Olive Oil 831-659-2431

Truchard Vineyards

Anthony M. Truchard Napa, CA Grapes 707-253-7153

Usibelli Ranch & Game

Salvador Rios St. Helena, CA salvadorrios02@sbcglobal.net Grapes (Cabernet Sauvignon) www.usibellivineyards.com 707-963-9142

Valley Farm Management

Dale McFall Corning, CA Prunes 530-200-0575

Victor P. Bringetto

Victor Bringetto Fresno, CA vbringetto@gmail.com Grapes (Raisin) 559-266-2135

Viriditas Farm- Vreseis

Limited dba Sally V. Fox Sally Fox Guinda, CA sally@vreseis.com Cotton, Hay, Peas (Blackeyed), Rangeland, Spelt, Wheat www.vreseis.com 530-796-3388

Wally Macomber

Wally Macomber Kelseyville, CA ageqiupserv@yahoo.com Walnuts 707-263-7623

Waters Ranches

James Andy and Josh Waters Moorpark, CA farmerwaters@aol.com Avocados, Lemons 805-532-2019

West Coast Acquisition Company dba Simpson Meadow Winery

Andrea Beltran, Danielle Connolly, and Garrick Miyamoto Ceres, CA Wine 209-538-3131

White Road Farms

Don Traynham Arbuckle, CA dtraynham@sunvalleyrice.com Rice, Safflower 530-682-9889

Wild Hare Vineyard

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Green Penguin

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Individual

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North Coast Opportunities Patty Bruder Willits, CA

Karolyn Minaya Jamaica, NY

Angela Paige Miller Santa Cruz, CA

Napa Valley Grapegrowers Jennifer K. Putnam Napa, CA

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Jerry Shaffer Paso Robles, CA

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Classified Ad Submission

CCOF certified members and supporting members may run classified ads for free online and in Certified Organic, the CCOF Magazine, as space permits. To submit your ad please email ccof@ccof.org or fax your ad to CCOF at (831) 423-4528 with a subject line of "CCOF member classified ad".

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