

Welcome to...

Exploring Organic Frontiers

Montana Organic Association

2nd Annual Conference

February 4 - 6, 2005

Red Lion Colonial Hotel
Helena, Montana

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Welcome to the 2nd Annual Conference of the Montana Organic Association.

The Conference Committee worked hard to bring together knowledgeable speakers and meaningful workshops. We hope you find the conference educational and fun. We are grateful for support from Montana's organic community and many of these supporters are listed in this brochure. Please thank these folks if you get the chance and take time to visit the vendors' exhibits.

In this program we have offered you an opportunity to let us know how we did in planning the conference. Please take a few minutes before you leave us to fill it out. We want to continue bringing you the most relevant topics and speakers in future conferences. Your feedback can help us to that.

If you are not yet a member, please consider joining MOA as we grow in Montana.

Thank you for coming.

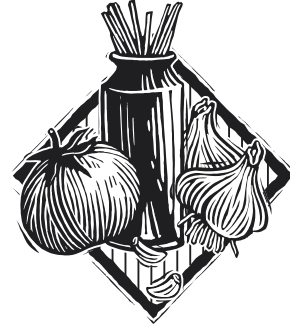
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Conference Agenda

Friday Evening

- 3:00 PM Registration (Lobby)
- 5:00 PM Social Hour
- 6:00 PM Dinner (Ballroom)
- 7:00 PM "Organic Frontiers-History and Possibilities at 4 Levels: International, National, State, and My Farm"
- Keynote Speaker Bob Quinn, Kamut International
Bob Quinn of Big Sandy, Montana is a farmer; plant researcher; founder of Montana Flour and Grains; and a founding NOSB member. He developed kamut grain production and marketing. Bob is also a recipient of Montana SBA's Small Business Exporter of the Year.
- 8:15 PM Socializing & Entertainment

Saturday Morning

- 7:30 AM Breakfast (Ballroom), Registration (Lobby), Vendor area open (Natatorium)
- 9:00 AM Welcome - Judy Owsowitz, MOA Chair (State/Capitol Room)

- 9:30 AM "Expanding the Boundaries of our Community" (State/Capitol Room)
Keynote Speaker Fred Kirschenmann
Fred Kirschenmann is Director of the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture at Iowa State; an organic/biodynamic farmer in North Dakota; founder of NPSAS and the certification agency ICS; a philosopher; and founding National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) member.

10:45 AM Refreshment Break

continued on page 5...



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Conference Agenda, continued...

Saturday Morning, continued...

10:55 AM Breakout Sessions "A"

Transitioning to Organic-Producers who've made the leap (Capitol Room)

Moderator: Jonda Crosby, AERO

Laura Garber (Vegetable Production)

Jess Alger (Dryland Cropping)

Dave Anderson (Beef)

Jonda Crosby (Poultry)

Matthew Johnson (Grain & Ranch)

Gary Smith (Irrigated Grain & Hay)

How can MSU research and extension help organic producers? (Lewis Room)

Moderator: Helen Atthowe

Dr. Duane Johnson, MSU

Perry Miller, MSU

Fred Pollnac & Kristin Harbuck representing

Dr. Bruce Maxwell and Dr. Fabian Menalled

Bob Quinn, Kamut International

Does Organic Food Really Cost More? (State Room)

Moderator: Debra Beaver, AERO

Judy Owsowitz, Terrapin Farm

Anna Jones-Crabtree

John Hoffland, Real Food Market & Deli

Pam Clevenger, Good Food Store

Linda McKinney, MT Dept. of Agriculture

11:55 AM Lunch (Ballroom)

Saturday Afternoon

1:30 PM **The Future of Organic Agriculture in Montana and where it fits in our programs** (State/Capitol Room)

Moderator: Jonda Crosby, AERO

Nancy Peterson, Director, Montana

Department of Agriculture

Dr. Jeff Jacobsen, Dean of MSU College of Agriculture

Jon Tester, Montana Senate President

2:15 PM Break

2:30 PM Breakout Sessions "B"

Green Manure/Soil Building (State Room)
(Dryland Cropping)

Moderator: Margaret Scoles

Herb Sand

David Oien, Timeless Seeds

Bob Quinn, Kamut International

Jess Alger, Prairie Natural Meats

Buyers Panel (Capitol Room)
(vegetables, fruits, specialty crops)

Moderator: Judy Owsowitz

Grant McGuire, Community Food Co-op

John Hoffland, Real Food Market & Deli

Sandi Shanks, Third Street Market

Cheryl Gannon, Mountain Valley Foods

Policy Panel- What would you like to tell your legislators? (Lewis Room)

Moderator: Jim Barngrover

Nancy Peterson, Director, Montana

Department of Agriculture

Senator John Tester

Chris Christiaens, Farmers' Union

Cody Ferguson, NPRC

3:30 PM Breakout Sessions "C"

Green Manure/Soil Building (State Room)
(Irrigated Cropping)

Moderator: Helen Atthowe

Helen Atthowe, USDA Researcher

Judy Owsowitz, Terrapin Farm

Wes Henthorne

Steve Elliott, Lifeline Farm

Buyers Panel (Capitol Room)
(grains, legumes, and oilseeds, specialty crops)

Moderator: Bob Quinn

David Oien, Timeless Seeds

Andre Giles, Montana Flour and Grain

Gordon Svenby, Montana Specialty Mills

Ron Schlecht, SK Food International, Inc.

Sam Schmidt, Montana Milling/Montana

Merchandising

4:30 PM **Vendor Area open** (Natorium)
Poster Session (Lewis Room)

5:30 PM **"National Organic Issues and Opportunities,"** (State/Capitol Room)

Dave Carter, Member of the National Organic Standards Board

6:00 PM **Dinner** (Ballroom)

7:00 PM **"Economic Opportunities in Organic Agriculture- Montana's Bright Frontier,"** (Ballroom)

Keynote Speaker State Senator Jon Tester

Jon Tester of Big Sandy, Montana is State Senate President, an organic farmer, and a leader in establishing MT Department of Agriculture's organic certification program.

7:30 PM **Entertainment, Auction, etc** (Ballroom)

Continued on page 7...

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Conference Agenda continued...

Sunday Morning

- 7:30 AM **Breakfast** (Ballroom), **Registration** (Lobby),
Vendor Area open (Nataatorium)
- 9:00 AM **Welcome**-Judy Owsowitz (State/Capitol Room)
- 9:15 AM **Meet the Certifiers** (State/Capitol Room)
- 9:30 AM **Breakout Sessions "D"**-
Biodiversity and Conservation-What does it look like and what are the benefits for farmers? (Lewis Room)
Moderator: Helen Atthowe
Helen Atthowe, USDA Researcher
Becky Weed, Thirteen Mile Lamb & Wool Company
Jeff Schahczenski, WSAWG
Dave White, State Director, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- Organic Standards-Gray Areas and Complex Issues** (Capitol Room)
Moderator: David Oien, Montana Organic Certification Advisory Council
Doug Crabtree, Certification Program Manager, MT Department of Agriculture
Margaret Scoles, Organic Inspector: Executive Director, Independent Organic Inspectors Association
Bob Herdegen, Organic Inspector
Nancy Matheson, Certified Producer and Handler; member, Montana Organic Certification Advisory Council
Dave Carter, member, NOSB
- Where and How to Buy Organic Food** (State Room)
Wendy Paulsen, Healing Garden AERO
Judy Owsowitz, Terrapin Farm
John Hoffland, Real Food Market & Deli
- 10:30 AM **Annual MOA Business Meeting** (State/Capitol Room)

Sunday Afternoon

- 12:30 PM **Lunch** (Ballroom)
- 1:30 PM **Breakout Sessions "E"**-
Organic Beef Production (Capitol Room)
Moderator: Margaret Scoles
Clay McAlpine, McAlpine Ranch Beef & Pork
Wes Henthorne, B Bar Ranch
Dr. Steve Atchley, Mesquite Organic Beef

Vinegar for Weed Control -Does it work and it is OK? (State Room)

Moderator: Rob Knotts

David Rise, EPA

Doug Crabtree, Montana Department of Agriculture Organic Program

Helen Atthowe, USDA Researcher

Bob Boettcher, OFARM

2:30 PM **Breakout Sessions "F"** -

Buyers Panel (Livestock) (Capitol Room)

Moderator: Wes Henthorne

Karalee Bancroft, Caroline Ranch

Scott Lively, Dakota Beef Company

Dr. Steve Atchley, Mesquite Organic Beef

Allen Moody, Organic Valley

Martha Galecki, Wholesome Harvest

Organic Meat

Del Straub, Real Food Market & Deli

Tips on How to Complete Certification Forms (State Room)

Moderator: Doug Crabtree

David Oien, Timeless Seeds, Certified Grain Handler

Judy Owsowitz, Terrapin Farm, Certified Vegetable Producer

Albert Silva, Certified Fruit Producer

Rob Knotts, Organic Inspector

Robert Boettcher, Certified Grain Producer

Crop Rotation for Vegetable Production (Lewis Room)

Josh Slotnik, Garden City Farm & PEAS Program

Averil Heath, Springhill Garden

Julian Cunningham, Swallow Crest Farm

Steve Elliott, Lifeline Farms

3:30 PM **Adjourn**

3:30-5:30 **MOA Board Meeting** (State Room)

Monday Morning MOA Legislative Outreach



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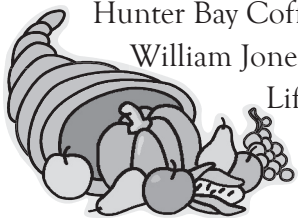
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Montana Organic Association 2nd Annual Conference Participant Survey

How did you hear about the conference? _____

Did you get what you expected from the conference? _____

Which days did you attend? _____

Was this a good time of year to hold the conference? _____

Was the length of the conference appropriate? _____

Which panels did you attend? How would you rate them? Excellent to poor

Panel 1: _____

Panel 2: _____

Panel 3: _____

Panel 4: _____

Panel 5: _____

Panel 6: _____

Would you care to elaborate on why you thought the panel(s) were good or bad? _____

How would you rate the food? _____

How would you rate the facility? _____

How would you rate the speakers? Excellent to Poor

Bob Quinn, Kamut International _____

Fred Kirschenmann _____

State Senator Jon Tester _____

Would you be interested in helping to plan the next conference?

Where do you think the next conference should be held? And when?

Would you be interested in being a presenter or panelist at the next conference? Know someone who should be? If yes, please tell us their (your) name and area of expertise.

What subjects would you like to have covered in the next conference? _____

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The Alternative Energy Resource Organization (AERO) is a grassroots nonprofit organization dedicated to solutions that promote resource conservation and local economic vitality. AERO nurtures individual and community self-reliance through programs supporting sustainable agriculture, renewable energy, and environmental quality.



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