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!

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.

The MOA Acting Board of Directors is:
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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. Duané 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-Crabbtree
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

Breakout Sessions “B”
Green Manure/Soil Building (State Room)
(Dryland Cropping)
Moderator: Margaret Scales
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

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

3:30 PM 3:30 PM 3:30 PM
Vendor Area open (Natatorium)

Post Session (Lewis Room)

5:30 PM “National Organic Issues and Opportunities,” (State/Capitol Room)
David 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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Meeting Agenda continued...

Sunday Morning
7:30 AM Breakfast (Ballroom), Registration (Lobby), Vendor Area open (Natatorium)
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
AKRO
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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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  ___________________________________________________________________
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State Senator Jon Tester  ___________________________________________________________________
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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.

__________________________________________________________________________________

__________________________________________________________________________________

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

__________________________________________________________________________________

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Visit Ron Schlecht, Crop Production Manager, at the MT Organic Conference, February 4-6, 2005, Helena, MT!

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