

La version française suit

February 2012 – Février 2012

OFC AGM in Winnipeg About funding the revision of the Canadian Organic Standards

OFC has initiated a dialogue within the sector, to explore a sector-driven solution to the problem of funding the revision of the Canadian Organic Standards.

This important topic will be taken up at the Federation's upcoming AGM, scheduled February 24th, from 8:30 am to 4 pm CST, at the Ambassador D meeting room of the Canad Inns Destination Centre Fort Garry Hotel, 1824 Pembina Hwy, Winnipeg, MB
More information to come!

Canadian researchers are supportive of organic agriculture



“There are a lot of family-run and medium size companies very much interested in organic agriculture, dealing with organic food and making a living doing it”, says Martin Entz, researcher at the University of Manitoba, who is interested in organic agriculture “because of the wonder of nature; there are so many interesting things we can learn from!”

Many AAFC and University researchers show interest in organic agriculture. Eight of them have been interviewed on an OFC/OACC communication project.*

“My first interest was to reduce the impact to the environment. Pesticides don't only kill pathogens, they destroy the good fungi of the soil that are very important in recycling nutrients

and they may reach the water systems, such as streams and wells,” says Gordon Braun, a Nova Scotia AAFC researcher interviewed by Nicole Boudreau.

Many of these scientists will be present at the [COSC in Winnipeg](#). Be there to convince them about your needs! A full-day consultation will be held February 23rd, where scientists and growers and stakeholders will exchange about how to have better organic production.

*The complete interviews are here: [Martin Entz and Martine Dorais](#), [Rod MacRae](#), the other five will be available at the conference and will be posted soon on diverse media.

The Canadian Organic Science Conference Final Registration Deadline is February 7, 2012

To register at the COSC: [click here](#). The registration deadline to attend the Canadian Organic Science Conference (COSC) is February 7th. The tentative excellent program (below) can also be found on [OACC website](#).

An OFC meeting will be held during the COSC

OFC will meet with farmers and producers at

the COSC to discuss aspects of their work, and how well the system is working. Are the standards and regulations clear? Are the regulations supporting organic farming? Do you know where to find information that you are looking for? What are your main challenges and expectations for a better practice and a good life? This meeting will be held at 5:30 CST Wednesday 22nd at the Canad Inns. Stay tuned for more information.

*

*

*

*

L'AGA de la FBC à Winnipeg sur l'enjeu du financement de la révision de la Norme biologique du Canada

La FBC lance la discussion pour explorer une solution qui serait créée par le secteur biologique pour financer la révision de la Norme biologique du Canada.

Cet enjeu important sera à l'ordre du jour de l'Assemblée générale annuelle de la Fédération, qui aura lieu le 24 février 2012, de 8 h 30 à 16 h HNC à la salle Ambassador D de l'hôtel Canad Inns Destination Centre Fort Garry, 1824 Pembina Hwy, Winnipeg, MB
Plus d'information à venir!

Les chercheurs canadiens soutiennent l'agriculture biologique



« Il y a un grand nombre de compagnies familiales ou de grandeur moyenne qui sont très intéressées à l'agriculture biologique, qui vendent des produits biologiques et en font un gagne-pain » dit Martin Entz, chercheur à l'Université du Manitoba, impliqué en agriculture biologique depuis 1990. « Parce que la nature est merveilleuse, répond-il, il y a tant de choses intéressantes que nous pouvons apprendre! »

De nombreux chercheurs d'Agriculture et Agroalimentaire Canada et des universités canadiennes s'intéressent à l'agriculture biologique. Huit d'entre eux ont été interviewés dans le cadre d'un projet FBC/CABC.

« Mon intérêt premier était de réduire l'impact environnemental lié aux pesticides. Les pesticides ne tuent pas seulement les agents pathogènes, ils détruisent les champignons utiles du sol qui sont très importants dans le recyclage des nutriments et ils peuvent atteindre les réseaux hydrographiques, comme les ruisseaux et les puits », explique Gordon Braun, un chercheur d'AAC basé en Nouvelle-Écosse interviewé par Nicole Boudreau.

Plusieurs parmi ces chercheurs seront présents à la [Conférence scientifique canadienne sur l'agriculture biologique](#) de Winnipeg (CSCAB). Soyez-y pour les convaincre de vos besoins! La consultation aura lieu le 23 février où les chercheurs, producteurs et exploitants échangeront sur les moyens d'améliorer la production biologique.

*les liens pour lire les entrevues : [Martin Entz et Martine Dorais](#), [Rod MacRae](#); les autres entrevues seront disponibles à la conférence et seront bientôt publiées sur divers sites.

La Conférence scientifique canadienne sur l'agriculture biologique (CSCAB)

La date butoir pour l'inscription est le 7 février 2012

La date butoir pour assister à Conférence scientifique canadienne sur l'agriculture biologique est le 7 février.

Le programme provisoire (ci-bas) peut aussi être consulté sur le [site du CABC](#) (en anglais seulement).

Une rencontre de la FBC à la CSCAB

La FBC organise une rencontre avec les fermiers et les exploitants pour échanger

sur les nombreux aspects de leur travail et sur le bon fonctionnement du système. Est-ce que la norme et le règlement biologiques sont clairs? Est-ce que le règlement soutient l'agriculture biologique? Est-ce que vous trouvez toute l'information dont vous avez besoin? Quels sont les principaux défis et attentes pour de meilleures pratiques agricoles et une vie agréable? Cette rencontre aura lieu à 17 h 30, HNC, le mercredi 22 février au [Canad Inns](#). Plus d'information à venir.

Nicole Boudreau

OFC/FBC Coordinator

514-488-6192

info@organicfederation.ca

www.organicfederation.ca

TENTATIVE PROGRAM - CANADIAN ORGANIC SCIENCE CONFERENCE

Tuesday, February 21		
8:00	Registration	
8:30	Opening Remarks by Martin Entz & Andy Hammermeister, Conference Co-Chairs	
8:40	Invited Speaker: Ralph Martin, University of Guelph - Organic research in Canada: Still small but roaring	
9:00	Keynote Address by Urs Niggli, FiBL Switzerland - Is Organic Agriculture Fit for the Challenges of the Future?	
9:45	Questions & Discussion	
10:00	Refreshment Break with Poster Viewing and/or Set-up	
	Soil Fertility, Quality and Health	Livestock Productivity, Health and Welfare
10:30	Drivers of Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi Communities in Canadian Wheat Fields - Chantal Hamel	Dairy Cow-Based Measures of Welfare on Organic and Conventional Dairy Farms in Southern Ontario - Anita Tucker
10:45	Soil Phosphorus Pools and Sorption Capacity in Long-term Organic and Conventional Management Systems - Tandra Fraser	Organic Dairy Case Study: Strategies for Somatic Cell Count Management from 38 Quebec Dairy Farms - François Labelle
11:00	Is Plant-Available Phosphorus Limiting in Organic Farm Soils? What We Know and Where to Go - Kim Schneider	Pathogen Identification and Incidence Rates of Mastitis on Organic and Conventional Dairy Farms in Southern Ontario - Lena Levison
11:15	Comparison and Screening of Phosphate Solubilizing Microorganisms	Risk for Johne's Disease in Organic and Conventional Dairy Herds in Ontario - Laura

	for Plant Growth Promotion of Apple Seedlings - Molly Thurston	Pieper
11:30	Soil Health After 19 Years Under Organic and Conventional Agriculture Management - Sarah Braman	Effect of Mannan-Oligosaccharides on Innate Immune Response of Broiler Chickens Fed Organic Diet and Challenged with <i>Clostridium perfringens</i> - Juan C. Rodriguez-Lecompte
11:45	Crop Nitrogen Status and N Use of Potato Cultivars in Organic Farming under Cool Temperate Climate Conditions - Thorsten Haase	Exploring the Unique Role of Hairy Vetch in Grazed Green Manure Systems - Joanne Thiessen Martens
12:00	Lunch	
	Greenhouse Production	Food, Sustainability and Organic Systems
1:15	Organic Greenhouse Cluster Research Activities: An Overview - Martine Dorais	Biodiversity as Affected by Farming Systems and Landscape: A Study of Different Trophic Levels - Invited Speaker Céline Boutin , Environment Canada
1:45	Comparison of Two Cooling and Dehumidifying Methods for a Semi-Closed Organic Tomato Greenhouse - Marise Vallières	
2:00	Optimizing Fertilisation for Organic Tomatoes and Peppers Grown in High Tunnels - Jean Duval	Productivity and Environmental Benefits of Organic Farming Systems - Balancing the Tradeoffs - Invited Speaker Derek Lynch , Nova Scotia Agricultural College
2:15	Organic Greenhouse Tomato Production in a Closed System - Valérie Gravel	
2:30	Postharvest Infection of Organically Grown Greenhouse Tomatoes Caused by a Range of Fungi in British Columbia - Andrew Wylie	Tools for Geospatial and Agent Based Modelling to Evaluate Climate Change in an Agricultural Watershed in Transition to Organic Agriculture - Alireza Ghaffari
2:45	Remote Sensing of Nitrogen and Water Status on Boston Lettuce Transplants in a Greenhouse Environment - Nicolas Tremblay	The Economics of Various Organic Potato Rotations in Atlantic Canada - Mohammad Khakbazan
3:00	Biochar Used in Combination with Organic Fertilization for Potted Plants: Its Effect on Growth and Pythium Colonization - Valérie Gravel	Investigating Soil NO ₃ ⁻ and Plant N Uptake when Green Manures are Grazed - Harun Cicek
3:15	Ornamental Potted Plants: Production under Organic Fertilization - Valérie Gravel	Relationships between Forage Productivity, Quality, Legume Fixed Nitrogen and Soil Phosphorus Fertility on Organic Dairy Farms - Mike Main
3:30	Break with Poster Viewing, Authors Present	
4:15	Plenary Address by Kathleen Delate, Iowa State University - The Long-Term Agroecological Research (LTAR) Experiment in Iowa: Benefits of Longer Organic Crop Rotations in Terms of Crop Production, Soil Quality and Economic Performance	

5:00	End
6:30	Mix and Mingle
7:00	Banquet: Mingle with a drink and then sit down to tantalize your taste buds and mind with a delicious organic banquet, with locally supplied organic food from Fresh Option, and informative guest speaker Laura Rance at the Canad Inns Destination Centre Fort Garry. The cash bar will open at 6:30 pm, and the banquet will begin at 7:00 pm

Wednesday, February 22		
8:30	Keynote by invited speaker Gunta Vitins	
9:15	Plenary by Eric Gallandt, University of Maine - Many Little Hammers: An Ecological Approach to Weed Management	
10:00	Break with Poster Viewing	
	Fruit & Vegetable Field Crops	Cereal-based Cropping Systems
10:30	High Tunnel Production of Organic Strawberry – Effects of Fertilization Management on three Cultivars - Linda Gaudreau	Multi-criteria Analysis of the Glenlea Organic Rotation: The First 19 Years - Martin Entz
10:45	Fertility Management of Establishing Organic Blackcurrants (<i>Ribes nigrum</i> L.) - David Hobson	Wheat Cultivar Development: Selection for Adaptation to Organic Production Systems - Stephen Fox
11:00	Health Benefit and Horticultural Potential of Wild Blueberry Ecotypes of Northwestern Ontario - Azim Mallik	Participatory Wheat Breeding on the Prairies - Iris Vaisman
11:15	Management Strategies for Control of the Rosy Apple Aphid, <i>Dysaphis plantaginaea</i> (Passerini) (Homoptera: Aphididae) in Organic Apple Orchards in British Columbia - Tamara Richardson	Using Mulches to Reduce Tillage in Organic Grain Production in Western Canada - Caroline Halde
11:30	Assessment of Carrot (<i>Daucus carota</i>) and Leek (<i>Allium porrum</i>) as Companion Organic Crops: Can they Benefit Each Other? - Maxime Lefebvre	Integration of Cultural and Mechanical Weed Control Strategies Enhance Weed Control in Organic Cropping Systems - Dilshan Benaragama
11:45	Organic and Integrated	Potential of Various Amendments and

	Approaches to European Wireworm Control in Atlantic Canada - Karen Nelson	Management Practices in Preventing Nutrient Deficiencies and Improving Yields for Sustainable Organic Crop Production - Sukhdev Singh Malhi
12:00	Canada's Organic Science Cluster, Activity D.1: Agroecosystem Management for Pest Control in Organic Vegetable Production - Maryse Leblanc	Nitrogen Dynamics of various Organic Amendments on Cereal Crop Production within Organic Systems in Southern Ontario - Alex Woodley
12:15	Lunch	
	Extension of Organic Research	Social Science and Organic Agriculture
1:30	Overview of Extension services in Canada - Keri Sharpe	1:30 Innovation Shared is Resilience Built: Farmer-to-Farmer Learning and Adaptation To Climate Change - Hannah Roessler
2:00	Overview of Extension Models in the US - Frank Kutka	1:50 Participatory Approaches to Organic Certification – Experiences from Mexico - Erin Nelson 2:10 Globalizing Organics: Trade Regulations and the Changing Meaning of Organic - Lisa Clark 2:30 To be Announced
3 :00	Break with Poster Viewing	
3 :30	Panel Discussion - Innovation in Organic Extension	

Thursday, February 23rd

Organic Science Cluster Strategic Meetings

8:30	Opening remarks: Purpose & Overview of Science Cluster Initiative
8:45	AAFC Growing Forward 2 presentation (To be Confirmed)
9:05	International Panel with Derek Lynch, Urs Niggli and Derek Lynch and Eric Gallant (To be Confirmed)
10:30	Breakout session - What should the priorities be for Canadian Organic Research?
Separate into groups based on sub-sectors ((soils/fertility management, cereal and oilseed cropping systems, fruits, vegetables inc. greenhouse, livestock, sustainability, economics and social sciences, food processing and value adding) to explore the following:	
What are the key barriers the sub-sectors faces that can be addressed by research and innovation? Identify specific research questions that can address these barriers.	
What are the key opportunities the sub-sector faces that can be addressed by research and innovation? Identify specific research questions that can address these opportunities.	
What are the key threats the sub-sector faces that can be addressed by research and innovation? Identify specific research questions that can address these threats.	
Rate the economic impact, environmental impact, cost, likelihood of success and years to	

	completion of each research question.
	What industry partners are most likely to fund this research?
12:00	Lunch
1:00	Breakout session continued
2:00	Strategic directions & priorities
3:25	Closing remarks
3:30	Adjourn