

E-News

September 2012

ORGANIC WEEK

www.organicweek.ca

WHAT'S NEW

ORGANIC WEEK SEPT 22-29, 2012

Kick off Organic week in BC and attend an event in your area. Here are just a few.

Courtney: September 22, 2012

The Comox Valley Growers will be launching their new "organically grown in the Comox Valley" logo featuring the BC Certified Organic Checkmark at the Courtney Farmers Market.

Kamloops: September 22, 2012

The Organic vendors at the Kamloops Regional Farmers Market are hosting a Great Organic Give-away. Win gift certificates to vendors stalls by answering an organic question. Come test your Organic knowledge and win.

Qualicum Beach: September 22, 2012

The Qualicum Beach town crier will be present to kick off organic week at the QB farmer's market.

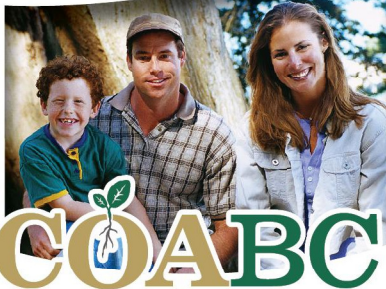
Kelowna: September 23, 2012

The Organic Okanagan Festival Celebrates the apple this year! Attractions include stations with organic apple tastings, organic apple pie making demos, an organic apple juice bar, organic orchardists' forums, apple art and much more!

Watch for press releases from the Organic Federation of Canada during organic week and check www.organicweek.ca to view full event listings. If you want to get your event listed let us know. Organic Week is a great opportunity to promote your business and talk to customers about the value in organics. Contact admin@certifiedorganic.bc.ca to get your event listed on the organic week website.

GMO APPLE PANEL

For the Organic Okanagan Festival, COABC will be co-hosting a panel regarding the "Arctic Apple". The panel will feature experts like Dag Falck of Nature's Path, Fred Danenhower of Similkameen Organic Tree Fruit Growers and Jim Wood of



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Old Meadow Organic Farm. The panel will discuss the threat posed by the introduction of a GMO apple and will address questions from the audience. Come, participate and take action. See Events section for details on the Festival.

ORGANIC RESEARCH SERVES ALL PRODUCERS!

From the OFC Newsletter:

Up to 75% of organic food consumed in Canada is imported and global demand for organic continues to rise. Production of organic food in Canada is not keeping pace with demand in this country or around the world. As the organic sector is relatively young in Canada, there are many challenges and opportunities for growth that need to be addressed.

The [Organic Agriculture Center of Canada](#) and the [Organic Federation of Canada](#) are partnering to strengthen the ties between researchers, industry, extension personnel and the organic community, in an effort to create the research projects that are embarked upon have meaningful impact.

For more information, visit the OACC website where a whole section is dedicated to the [Organic Science Cluster II](#).

ONGOING

NEWSLETTERS FROM SUPPORTING ORGANIZATIONS

Every month the COABC receives newsletters from organizations with related interests or with whom we are members. So as not to repeat everything written, take a moment to read their newsletters.

- **BC Agriculture Council** COABC is a member under the Community Agriculture seat. <http://us2.campaign-archive2.com/?u=f79d2a33b823f8c549069c39b&id=5768dac289&e=3525e11d04>
- **BCSPCA** http://support.spca.bc.ca/site/MessageViewer?em_id=6322.0&dlv_id=19281
- **OFC** <http://www.organicfederation.ca/newsletter>
- **Shared Harvest** <http://www.sharedharvestbc.blogspot.ca/>
- **NEW! OACC Organic friends E-zine** <http://www.oacc.info/FriendsE-zines/august2012.asp>

BC CERTIFIED ORGANIC CHECKMARK LOGO

ISO operators are fortunate to be able to use the Canada Organic label AND the BC Checkmark side by side.

The logo of the BC Certified Organic program is a key tool to identify certified organic products in BC. It is important that the symbol is used correctly; here is a quick reminder, especially for websites and the exclusion zone (white space.)

The Program Symbol is enclosed by a black border. The border ensures that the appropriate white space or exclusion zone is provided around the composite mark. The Program Symbol must be enclosed by the border if the Symbol is applied against colored or complex backgrounds. However, if the background is white or off-white, it may be desirable to omit the border while ensuring the appropriate exclusion zone.

COMPLAINTS SUBMISSION FORM

Canada Organic Office complaint submission form can be found at <http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/programs/cor.php>.

For complaints against an interprovincial traded product see the COO complaint form at

<http://certifiedorganic.bc.ca/programs/cor.php>.

Complaints on this form are to be directed to the Canada Organic Office directly OPR.RPB@inspection.gc.ca .

INTERESTING

ARDCORP WEBSITE



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ARDCorp has redesigned their website, www.ardcorp.ca. Browsers are now able to easily see all programs with ARDCorp, news and success stories, and updated contact information.

THE FOOD INNOVATION CENTRE OF BC (FICBC)

FICBC opened for business in the fall of 2011 as a hub for the agri-food industry, a conduit between producers and processors, researchers, government, colleges and suppliers.

Based in Chilliwack, FICBC serves all of BC. They provide

- technical and advisory services
- business service referrals (marketing, SRED, etc.)
- technical training courses
- networking and information services
- searchable databases, and
- mentorship and coaching services.

Find more information at <http://www.foodinnovationcentre.ca/>

EVENTS

GROWING FOR MARKET

Date: September 25 -27, 2012

Location: Foxglove Farm, Salt Spring Island, BC

Cost: \$295 + HST (includes lunch and dinner on Wed & Thurs)

Join veteran farmers **David Colhmeyer, Josh Volk, and Michael Ableman** for a two-day intensive workshop on growing fruits and vegetables for market. The first part of the workshop will focus on production, from soil fertility and preparation, to seed selection and propagation, through harvest and post-harvest. The second part of the workshop will be devoted entirely to marketing, with sessions on region specific market planning, farmers markets, CSA, displays, and restaurant and wholesale sales. This is a nuts and bolts workshop which will cover a range of both perennial and annual crops and enable participants to learn some of the specific techniques and strategies of a successful market farmer.

ORGANIC OKANAGAN FESTIVAL

Date: September 23, 2012

Time: 11:00 am – 5:00 pm

Location: Summerhill Pyramid Winery, 4870 Chute Lake Road, Kelowna, BC

The theme for the 2012 Organic Okanagan Festival is "Love the Apple – NO GMO". Contamination from GM apples threatens the future of our apples, and the farmers who grow them. The OOF vision of celebrating organic apples includes stations with organic apple tastings, organic apple pie making demos, an organic apple juice bar, organic orchardists' forums, apple art and much more!



REMEMBER...

Got an Organic Question? Try **Cyber-help** <http://www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/rcbtoa/index.html>

If you change your address or contact information send it to your CB office as soon as possible so that you don't miss out on receiving a BCOG and other materials.