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British
Columbia
Certified
Organic

OFC

COABC Representative: Rebecca Kneen

Rebecca Kneen has recently been elected as COABC's director for the OFC. She is the co-founder (with her partner, Brian MacIsaac) of Left Fields and Crannog Ales. Crannog Ales is Canada's first certified organic on-farm microbrewery, now in its 17th year in Sorrento BC. Left Fields is a diversified certified organic farm, growing hops, fruit and berries for the brewery as well as a small sheep flock for meat and wool, laying chickens, market garden and feeder hogs. The farm is now run by a cooperative, which is also doing value-added processing on-site.

Rebecca fell in love with farming at age three, when her family moved to a Nova Scotia farm. After university, Rebecca worked her way from farm to farm across the country, ending up in BC where she spent the next 10 years working on social justice and food access issues, including several years with FarmFolk/CityFolk. She started Canada's first organic hopyards, and has spent 14 years developing organic hops production in BC.

Rebecca served on the Board of COABC for PACS and NOOA, the Standards sub-committee of the Board, and did layout and design for the BCOG, as well as spending four years co-coordinating the annual COABC conference. She has served as the COABC's representative to the Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada's Advisory Committee. She is currently a member of NOOA's CC. She is committed to organic agriculture and to keeping it true to its radical roots and out of the hands of agri-

Important Reminder!

Benefits - Health Insurance

If you would like to sign up for the associations Benefits Plan and have any questions regarding it, please contact Travis Forman as soon as possible.

tforman@harbourfrontwealth.com or
604.560.8266.

Organic Week

September 16-24, 2017

Organic week celebrates the organic sector across Canada and is in its eighth year. COABC had two successful Organic Week Road shows within BC, and would like to organize a third this year. If you are hosting an event during Organic Week, or would like to co-host, please contact the COABC office. We have space in the enews to promote events throughout the year!





Standards Interpretation Committee
 New public comment period –
 June 5 to July 5 2017

Below are questions raised by organic stakeholders, regarding the National Standards for Organic Agriculture.

- If culinary oils are harvested from an on-farm tree plantation, aka blocks of trees planted on a farm for this specific purpose, should these oils be certified under 'Crop production' (clause 5) or 'Wild crops' (clause 7.6) of the Canada Organic Standards? If the same culinary oils are harvested from private wood lots, or from Crown land timber which clause in the standards is applicable? (341)
- Can wild harvest sites be located less than one kilometre from potential sources of environmental contamination such as golf courses etc, if it is demonstrated that the wild crops are completely isolated from contact with prohibited substances by a clearly defined buffer, in accordance with section 7.6.4? (343a)
- What is the definition of “fish farm waste” used in the listing of “Fish meal, fish powder, fish waste, hydrosylate, emulsions and solubles” in Table 4.2? Does it need to be composted? (333)
- What is the status of a crop on which a pesticide was applied containing an active ingredient listed in table 4.3 of the PSL but also a formulant from List 3 of PMRA? (326a)

For more questions and the proposed responses go to the OFC website.

Kale Breeding
 with Laurie McKenzie of the
 Organic Seed Alliance

Date and Time: June 14; 9:00 am - 4:00 pm

Location: Cowichan Green Community, 360 Duncan St, Duncan BC V9L 3W4 (Note: The afternoon field session will be held in Cobble Hill).

Cost: \$25.00

Registration and more information found on Eventbrite.

Workshop outline:

Morning Session - Classroom (Duncan)

- Introductions
- Working with Dazzling Blue
- Brassica genetics
- Kale characteristics
- General breeding plan: years 1-2

Afternoon Session - Field (Cobble Hill)

- Roguing and selection
- Bud pollination (Selfing)
- Layout and design
- Observing physical traits

NOOA Farm Tour

Farm tour and potluck at Tasty Acres Farm in Salmon Arm.

Date and Time: Sunday, July 9, 3:00pm - 8:00pm.

Location: 4360 30 St. NE, Salmon Arm

More information: go to the NOOA Facebook page.

BCFSN Annual Gathering

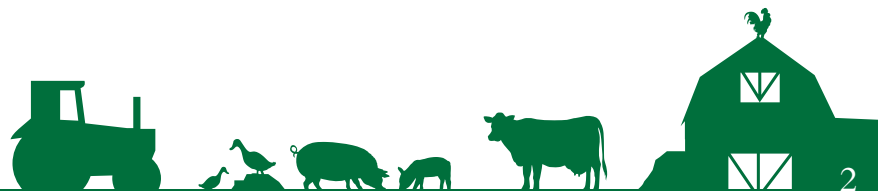
The 19th Annual Gathering of the BC Food Systems Network will be held July 14-16 at UBC Farm and on University of BC campus, located on unceded ancestral Musqueam territory.

Date and Time: July 14-16th, 2017

Location: UBC Farm, Vancouver

More information: <http://bcfsn.org/annual-gathering/>

Registration: eventbrite.ca





The Canadian Organic Grower Magazine Launches Brand New Website with New Resources for Canadian Farmers and Gardeners

Canadian Organic Growers is pleased to announce the launch of a brand new website for The Canadian Organic Grower (TCOG) magazine.

Whether you're a new or experienced grower, the new website is an online resource to find information on organic farming, gardening and research. The new website is loaded with information on a vast range of subjects – from vegetable, field crop and livestock growing tips from experienced organic growers to current trends in organic research.

The website will be updated regularly with new digital content to keep readers informed between print issues (print issues are published three times a year).

REMINDERS

BCCO 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 www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/programs/cor.php.

For complaints against an interprovincial traded product see the COO complaint form at certifiedorganic.bc.ca/programs/cor.php "www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/programs/cor.php".

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

Planning a move?

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 the BC Organic Grower and other materials.

Newsletter Links

BC Agriculture Council
COABC is a member under the
Community Agriculture seat:

<http://www.bcac.bc.ca/>

OFC info-bio:

www.organicfederation.ca/newsletter

BCSPCA:

<http://www.sPCA.bc.ca/>

Organic Questions?

Try CYBER-HELP!

www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/rcbtoa/index

