

E-NEWS

MARCH 2018
VOLUME 6
ISSUE 3

THIS ISSUE

Small-Scale Meat Producer's Association
ALR Revitalization
Organic Science Magazine
Food Products as Biopesticides List
April Events



British
Columbia
Certified
Organic

SMALL-SCALE MEAT PRODUCER'S ASSOCIATION

Small-scale meat producers need a seat at this table, so they're forming a new organization called the Small-Scale Meat Producers Association to help bring their collective voices to the industry and government. If you're producing meat commercially on small/medium scale in BC and would like to be involved, please visit them at facebook.com/smallscalemeat.

The BC government is currently consulting with small abattoirs and other stakeholders for feedback and suggestions on how to improve rural abattoir licensing in B.C.

ALR REVITALIZATION

If you haven't weighed in on the ALR review, there's still time! An advisory committee is currently leading a review of the Agricultural Land Reserve (ALR). Make sure your voice is heard on important ALR issues - you can provide written feedback in several ways:

Read the Discussion Paper and complete the online survey: engage.gov.bc.ca/agriculturallandreserve/

Email the Advisory Committee at ALR_ALCRevitalization@gov.bc.ca

Send your submission by mail to:
Minister's Advisory Committee
Revitalization of ALR and ALC
C/o Ministry of Agriculture
PO Box 9120
Stn. Prov. Govt.
Victoria BC V8W 9B4

Comments must be in by April 30, 2018

ORGANIC SCIENCE CANADA MAGAZINE

The Organic Federation of Canada and the Organic Agriculture Center of Canada have recently released Organic Science Canada, a magazine that describes in everyday language the 37 research activities performed under the Organic Science Cluster II. Each activity is summarized with the background, methodology and results on one page.

The new magazine offers an amazing opportunity to learn about the latest research in pest management in grain storage, effective sanitation for organic sprouts, and the best use of green manures in organic grain production, as well as other interesting issues in

organic production systems.

Read the Organic Science magazine here: cdn.dal.ca/content/dam/dalhousie/pdf/faculty/agriculture/oacc/en/osc2/EN_OrganicScienceCanadaMagazine_Issue1_2018_COMPRESSED.pdf

OFC STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSION

Jim Robbins, President of OFC, led a strategic planning session at the 1.5-day in-person OFC meeting in Abbotsford, February 26-27, 2018. BC's representative, Rebecca Kneen, and her fellow directors asked the critical question of 'What Should the Organic Federation of Canada do in the next five years?'

The answers were clear: OFC will continue fulfilling its mandate—maintaining and reviewing the Canadian Organic Standards and managing the Organic Science Clusters, while looking for stable funding for its member organizations. Maintaining/advancing synergy with other national organizations—COG, COTA, OACC—was also underlined as a key factor for developing the Canadian organic industry.



OFC FBC

ORGANIC
FEDERATION
OF CANADA

FÉDÉRATION
BIOLOGIQUE
DU CANADA

EVENTS



THE USE OF FOOD PRODUCTS AS BIOPESTICIDES IN ORGANIC PRODUCTION

The organic sector often uses non-conventional products to control pest, such as food products to control disease, weeds and insects. For example, pepper, cinnamon, mustard, even beer are used to control pest.

But these products are not officially registered as pest control agents and to use them legally, we need to have them listed as acceptable under PMRA. The process to register the 'food on food' pest control is in place, and having you all submitting the products you use (or would like to use) is the last step.

Please go to the link to add what should be registered as acceptable pest control agents: docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/12OglV9Sx-ApKPi8h5rHb7-1VaN5SGqHUfPDY4vbDMaQ/edit#gid=0

NEW LINK FOR FILING A COMPLAINT ON CFIA WEBSITE

The Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA) has added a section to the website of the Canada Organic Regime OR Standards:

File a complaint related to the Canada Organic Regime (COR): inspection.gc.ca/food/organic-products/file-a-complaint/eng/1518546270126/1518546271092

For any product sold in Canada with a suspected fraudulent organic claim, complaints can be filed against the operator (company) holding certification under the COR scope, CFIA-designated Conformity Verification Bodies (CVB), CFIA-accredited Certification Bodies (CB), and the Canada Organic Regime (COR) team.

ORGANIC FEDERATION OF CANADA AGM

When: Apr 4, 2018 | 1-2:30 pm EST
Where: Teleconference, toll-free from anywhere in Canada

Agenda and phone number will be circulated to the COABC listserv soon! More info: organicfederation.ca/sites/documents/180313%20Info%20Bio%20inv%20AGM.pdf

ORGANIC VEGETABLE SEED PRODUCTION COURSE

When: Apr 9-Nov 2, 2018
Where: Online

Canada's only intermediate-level Organic Vegetable Seed Production e-learning certificate, with two expert instructors and successful organic seed producers, Mary Brittain of The Cottage Gardener and Patrick Steiner of Stellar Seeds. More info: cog.ca/our-services/seedproductioncourse/

SEED ECONOMICS WEBINAR

When: Apr 18, 2018 | 10-11:30am
Where: Online

This webinar by FarmFolk CityFolk will walk you through seed production budget templates that will help you better understand the economics of integrating

seed production into your farm. More info: eventbrite.ca/e/seed-economics-webinar-tickets-43774076441

GREENHOUSE PEST & DISEASE MANAGEMENT

When: Apr 21, 2018 | 1-5pm
Where: Surrey BioPods

This workshop provides detailed information on how to prevent and manage weeds, pests, and diseases in organic greenhouse crops, as well as the principles of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs). More info: ufv.ca/ace/events-and-activities/

JEAN MARTIN FORTIER

When: Apr 28-29, 2018
Where: Bullock Lake Farm, Saltspring Island

In this two-day workshop Jean Martin (JM) will show you the many tools to his success, including both physical techniques and management practices that enliven his agro-ecological approach to market gardening. More info: bullocklakefarm.com/event/two-day-seminar-with-jm-fortier-organic-market-gardener/





COABC YOUTUBE VIDEOS

COABC has some awesome videos up on our YouTube channel. Watch, share, and spread a little organic inspiration! As we eagerly await spring, our current favourite is all about seeds: “Watching seeds sprout is pure magic,” says Arzeena Hamir, one of the growers who shared their love of seeds with us for this video. Check out *Seeds of Knowledge* and other videos featuring BC Organic farmers here: youtube.com/watch?v=DUCBF_L0Bg



-  /CertifiedOrganicAssociationsBC
-  @coabccanada
-  @coabccanada

REMINDERS

BCCO LOGO

COR 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 Regime complaint submission form can be found at www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/programs/cor.php.

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

Complaints on this form are to be directed to the Canada Organic Regime 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
www.bcac.bc.ca/

OFC info-bio:
[www.organicfederation.ca/
newsletter](http://www.organicfederation.ca/newsletter)

BCSPCA:
www.spca.bc.ca/

CYBER HELP

Cyberhelp for Farmers is currently being redeveloped.

