



British
Columbia
**Certified
Organic**

Prairie partnership to achieve resiliency in the organic grain sector

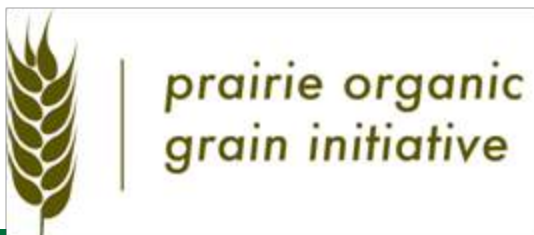
The Prairie Organic Grains Initiative is a four-year program dedicated to achieving resiliency and stability in the prairie organic sector by focusing on increasing the quantity and quality of organic grains, and developing relationships across organic market value chains.

The Pivot brand launched to support new and transitioning grain producers. This program includes an 'Ask an Organic Expert' toll free number and comprehensive website: Pivotandgrow.com that provides resources on production, transitioning and marketing, as well as events such as conferences, field days, and workshops across the prairies.

Diverse activities and programs will support the goal to increase quality and quantity of organic grains alongside new market development. This includes:

- **Enviro-Scan:** This project was commissioned to gather together all the research on organic grains across the Prairies over the last 25 years
- **Green Manure Manual:** The Organic Agriculture Centre of Canada is working with the Initiative to collect and disseminate the latest research and on-farm success stories on managing green manures, the backbone to soil fertility for organic grain producers.
- **On-Farm Nutrient Management** consultation program for organic prairie farmers.
- **Organic Agronomy Training** and field days, transition workshops and mentorship program
- **1-800-245-8341:** Organic experts are available at no charge to answer your questions on organic grain production

The Initiative is a partnership with several industry stakeholders across the value chain, including Organic Alberta, SaskOrganics, Manitoba Organic Alliance, COABC, as well as COTA, OACC, and The Bauta Family Initiative on Canadian Seed Security. Other Industry Stakeholders include Organic Processors, Brokers, Buyers and Certification Bodies. For more information, contact Info@prairieorganicgrain.org or call 587-521-2400





Events

Review of the Canadian Organic Standards

The Canadian Organic Standards will be amended

After the publication of the revised Canadian Organic Standards on November 25th 2016, the Canadian General Standards Board has agreed to launch an amendment process in order to reassess section 7.5 (Greenhouse Crops) and the conformity of substances permitted as cleaners, disinfectants and sanitizers (7.1.3 – Permitted Substances Lists).

A public comment period will be launched in order to allow the organic sector to comment on the modifications that will be proposed. Stay tuned!

Organic Aquaculture Standards will soon be revised

The OFC recently launched a blog about the introduction of aquaponic production systems under the organic regulations. You can submit your comment by going to the following link - ofcfbc.wordpress.com

Organic | ORGANIC FEDERATION OF CANADA
Inputs.ca

Organic Week 2016

17 -25 September, 2016

COABC Road show

The COABC Road show will be in the following communities this year, speakers and locations below. For event details please go to the COABC Facebook page or certifiedorganic.bc.ca

Sept. 17

Cara Nunn, Kamloops

Sept. 17

Dr. Blair and Dr. Bejaei, UBC

Sept. 21

Chris Bodnar, Langley

Sept. 22

Candice Appleby, Cumberland

Sept. 23

Christina Prevost, Pemberton

Sept. 25

Transition Panel:
 Robert Dixon, Dr. Tirso Gonzales and John Wells.
 Moderator: Bob McCoubrey
 Organic Okanagan Festival, Kelowna

TBD: *Penticton*

Organic Week 2016

Northern Tour - COABC Road show

In partnership with Beyond the Market

Organic certification and transitioning to organics with **Rochelle Eisen** in the following communities:

Sept. 17 - Prince George

Sept. 18 - Dunster

Sept. 19 - Fort St. James

- Vanderhoof

Sept. 20 - Smithers

Sept. 21 - Terrace

Resetting the Table

Food Secure Canada's 9th Assembly

When: Oct 13-16 2016

In Toronto in partnership with Ryerson University, Toronto Food Policy Council, Sustain Ontario, FoodShare Toronto, Community Food Centre Canada.

More information:
foodsecurecanada.org





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".

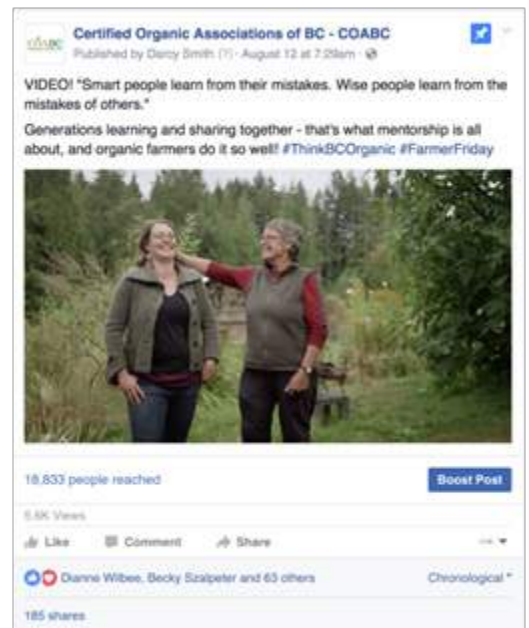
Complaints on this form are to be directed to the Canada Organic Office directly mail to: OPR.RPB@inspection.gc.ca




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.

Meanwhile, on social media...

Mentorship is a hot topic! Our Growing Farmers video, shot on BCCO farms and at the COABC conference, reached 18,800 people, was viewed 5.6k times, and shared by 185 people. Watch it here: <https://youtu.be/SBynXEUWu0A>



-  [/CertifiedOrganicAssociationsBC](https://www.facebook.com/CertifiedOrganicAssociationsBC)
-  [@coabccanada](https://twitter.com/coabccanada)
-  [@coabccanada](https://www.instagram.com/coabccanada)

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.spc.bc.ca/>

Organic Questions?

Try CYBER-HELP!

www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/rcbtoa/index

