

Farm Folk/City Folk Planning for Seed Project Final Report

April 1 2008

Introduction

FFCF and Stellar Seeds collaborated on this OSDP funded project to develop and implement an organic seed strategy for BC. The four specific goals:

1. To increase growers' knowledge and skills in seed production;
2. To provide detailed information regarding the economic viability of seed production for BC growers;
3. To expand and improve existing seed database;
4. To discuss how BC growers can work with their regional certification bodies, COABC and other partner organisation to develop a model for local seed production and distribution that meets the needs of farmers and consumers looking for certified organic seed

The projected deliverables of the project:

1. A manual outlining economically viable seed production methods and appropriate marketing strategies;
2. An improvement of the existing Seed and Plant Sanctuary database to include seed produced by growers across the province, and well as an augmentation of the information available on the database pertaining to seeds;
3. Summary papers outlining the main points of the presentations at a seed gathering-- a one-day seed growing educational workshop, held on Feb. 19th, 2006 in Victoria;
4. Recommendations to guide the development of a BC organic seed strategy

Results of the Project

The project has met its goals in the following areas:

1. A manual focussing on the economic and biological aspects of integrating seed growing into a mixed farm operation. Based largely on interviews conducted with successful, commercial organic seed growers in the US, plus relevant information like expected yields, seed storage, etc. This action completes deliverable #1, above
2. BC organic seed database, and website for organic seed info, was up and running in the early spring 2007, has received many visits and we think it will be even more popular this year, thus the desire to update it with 2008 seed listings that are current. This completes deliverable #2, above.
3. A one-day seed growing educational workshop, was held on Feb. 19th, in Victoria. There were 45 participants—the complete proceedings are also hosted at www.bcseeds.org; link to it from the homepage. This action completes deliverable #3, above.

4. Recommendations to guide in the development of a BC organic seed strategy are contained in the proceedings of the Victoria workshop. This action completes deliverable # 4, above.

Financial Report

Expenditure	Expenditure Budget			Expenditure Actual		
	Cash Budgeted	In-kind Budgeted	Total Budgeted	Total Actual Cash	Total Actual In-kind	Total Actual Cash & In-kind
Management/Coordination Labour	4,800	480	5,280	4,959	480	5,439
Contract Labour	13,000	2,100	15,100	11,302	2,100	13,402
Honorariums for workshop speakers	750	400	1,150	850	400	1,250
Travel/accommodation to cover workshop speakers	1,000	400	1,400	1,183	400	1,583
Food at workshop	600	120	720	575	120	695
Publishing/Printing	1,000	0	1,000	583	0	583
Facility rental	250	0	250	250	0	250
Administration (10% of budget)		2,140	2,140	990	2,140	3,130
	21,400	5,640	27,040	20,692	5,640	26,332

Income

Contribution Sources	Cash Budgeted	In kind Budgeted	Total Budgeted	Total Actual Cash	Total Actual In-kind	Total Actual Support
Sector Sources						
FarmFolk/CityFolk	2,500	3,100	5,600	2,883	3,100	5,983
Salt Spring Seed Sanctuary	1,000	900	1,900	0	0	0
Stellar Seeds		400	400	0	400	400
Glorious Garnish & Seasonal Salad Co.		1,000	1,000	0	1,000	1,000
Donated Food		120	120	0	120	120
sub total	3,500	5,520	9,020	2,883	4,620	7,503

Other Sources

Lunch fees	600	120	720	408	120	528
total	4,100	5,640	9,740	3,291	4,740	8,031
Organic Sector Development Program Request	17,300		17,300	12,975¹		12,975
	21,400	5,640	27,040	16,266	4,740	21,006

¹ The project is owed \$4,325 from the OSDP upon acceptance of this report.

Details of in-kind contribution

1. FF/CF contributed \$3,100 worth of in-kind administration and management support, donated by Heather Pritchard
2. Glorious Garnish and Seasonal Salad donated \$120 worth of food towards the workshop lunch
3. The workshop speakers donated \$800 worth of honorariums and travel costs
4. Stellar Seeds donated \$480 worth of contract labour

Variances from the original budget

1. Saltspring Seed Sanctuary dropped out of the project, leaving the project \$1,000 short of cash income. However, FFCF provided more income (than budgeted) towards the project.
2. Administration cash costs were higher than expected due to the cost of conference calls.
3. Printing did not cost as much as anticipated.

These variances were minor and did not affect the final outcomes of the project.

Conclusion

This is to confirm that Farm Folk/City Folk has met all of its obligations under its agreement with the Organic Sector Development Program for delivering project I-066 Planning for Seed Capacity.

Heather Pritchard