

OEFFA's 37th Annual Conference: *Growing Right by Nature*
Weekend Workshops

	Sustainable Foundations	Gardening	Specialty Crops	Vegetable Crops	Field Crops	Large Livestock	Small Livestock	In the Home	Urban Agriculture	Business and Marketing	People and Policy	Potpourri	Living Well	Basics	Organic Certification
SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13															
Session IA 9:30-10:25 a.m. <i>pg. 1</i>	Balancing Soils and Interpreting Soil Test Results (Bill McKibben)	Practical Application of Biodynamics (David Chal)	Super Berry Production (Gary Gao)	Adding 1 to 5 Acres of Vegetable Crops to Your Farm (Mac Stone, Charles Griffin)	Growing Your Organic Grain Farm (Harold Wilken)	Trouble-shooting Milk Quality (Luciana da Costa)	Advanced Pastured Poultry (Casey Rogers)	Coppice and Coppice Craft (Howard Peller)	Creating Income From Your Urban Homestead (Sophia Buggs)	Designing an Excel-lent Inventory System (Chelsea Gandy)	What's Happening in Congress That's Affecting You (Lindsey Lusher Shute)	Does Agritourism Make Sense For You and Your Farm? (Val Jorgensen)	Implications of Diet and Gene Expression (Abed Alshahal, Alexis Joseph)	Introduction to Organic Transition (Julia Barton)	Crop Insurance Options for Organic Farmers (Jodie Tate)
Session IB 10:35-11:30 a.m. <i>pg. 3</i>		Build Sustainable, Organic Soils (Mary Lou Shaw)	Cucumber Beetle Management (Celeste Welty, Molly Dieterich)		Specialty Heritage Grains (M. Stutzman, M. Tipton, S. Weber)	Harvesting Quality Organic Dairy Hay (Dennis Wood)		Every Veggie Has Its Plate (Ben Bebenroth)		How to Attract, Nurture, and Keep Great Employees (Corinna Bench)	Beyond GMO Labeling: Messaging for a Regenerative Future (Elizabeth Kucinich)	The FSMA Preventative Controls Rule and What It Means for You (Fred Finney)	Pesticide Risk Assessment, Labeling, and Enforcement (Michele Colopy)	Aquaponics: Making Sense of Options (Barry Adler)	The Worldly View of Organic Markets (John Bobbe, Tim Boortz)
Session IIA 1:45-2:40 p.m. <i>pg. 5</i>	Advanced Cover Crops: Selection, Planting, and Termination (Jay Brandt)	Winter Vegetable Production in Low Tunnels (Cathy Rehmeyer)	Microbe-Containing Crop Stimulants (Matt Kleinhenz)	Greenhouse Production of Sweet Bell Peppers (Mike Anderson)	Striving for Successful Organic Grain Production (D. Bell, L. Miller, P. Schmitmeyer)	Pasture-Raised Pork: A Financial Perspective (Ami Gignac)	Marketing Value-Based Lamb (Laura DeYoung Mannig)	How I Created My Sustainable Homestead (Frank Greishop)	Can American Cities Feed Themselves? (Amy Fovargue)	Marketing Yourself to Retailers (Jill Moorhead)	Advancing Sustainable Agriculture Through Advocacy: What Really Works? (Sarah Hackney)	The FSMA Produce Rule and What It Means for You (Fred Finney)	Deep Sustainability (John Ikerd)	Small-Scale Grain for the Homestead (Jennifer and Lee Ruff)	Sound and Sensible Organic Certification (Miles McEvoy)
Session IIB 2:50-3:45 p.m. <i>pg. 7</i>			Biofertilizers Panel (B. Dilbone, G. Remington, J. Laudick)	Planning Your Post-Harvest Facility (Ben Shute)		Water Quality for Making Milk (Gustavo Schuenemann)	Non-GMO Feed for Your Pastured Broilers (Chad Bitler, Jonathan Gabis)	Fermenting Veggies Made Easy (Andy Reed)	Expanding Ethnic Crop Markets (Maggie Fitzpatrick, Jacqueline Kowalski)	Social Media Strategies (Subbu Kumarappan)		Pesticide Drift: It Could Happen to You (J. Trethewey, G. Cox, J. Shaffer)	Navigating the Regulations on Herbs and Related Products (Dawn Combs)		Organic Research in the U.S.: 2002-2014 and Future Directions (Deb Stinner)
	Sustainable Foundations	Gardening	Specialty Crops	Vegetable Crops	Field Crops	Large Livestock	Small Livestock	In the Home	Urban Agriculture	Business and Marketing	People and Policy	Potpourri	Living Well	Basics	Energy
SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14															
Session IIIA 9:30-10:25 a.m. <i>pg. 9</i>	The Active Organic Matter in Your Soil (Steve Culman)	What is a Plant? (Debra Knapke)	High Tunnel Red Raspberry Production (Ann and Daniel Trudel, Alyssa Zearly)	Growing for and Running a Successful Year-Round CSA (Jeremy Moghtader, Ellen Moje)	Marketing Your Organic Grain Rotation (John Bobbe, Tim Boortz)	Developing Your Organic Soil Fertility Plan (Bob Hendershot)	The Happy Goat: Management and Forages (Sasha Sigetic)	Cooking Rabbit, Quail, Squab, and Partridge (Alfonso Contrisciani)	Using Art, Gardening, and Food to Empower Communities (Kwodwo Ababio)	Product Handling, Branding, and Pricing for Market Success (Kate Cook)	Crop Insurance: The Next Big Issue for U.S. Farm and Food Policy (Paul Wolfe, Tom Nuessmeier)	The Bureaucracy of Beekeeping (Carson Combs)	Restorative Foods (Barbara Utendorf)	Know Your Enemy: The Basics of Plant Disease Identification (Cathy Rehmeyer)	Captured and Low-Pressure Water Systems for the Small-Scale Grazer (Shawn and Beth Dougherty)
Session IIIB 10:35-11:30 a.m. <i>pg. 11</i>	Grazing with Dung Beetles (Troyce Barnett)	Selection, Use, and Maintenance of Hand Garden Tools (Joel Dufour)			Chia as a New Midwest Field Crop (Tim Phillips)		Pastured Organic Poultry In a Multi-Year Rotation (Michael Lilbrun, Larry Phelan)	Permaculture While Renting (Don Abbott)	Best Practices for Growing and Selling Transplants (Joseph Swain, Rachel Tayse)		Practical, Radical Ideas for Restructuring Farming and Food Production Systems (John Ikerd)		Hacking Home Automation Systems to Automate Your Hoophouse (Jeff McCabe)	How to Start a Community Seed Library (Karen Findlay)	CSA Tips and Tactics for Your Farm (Matt Herbruck)
Session IV 1:30-2:30 p.m. <i>pg. 13</i>	Carbon Farming (Ryan Hottle)	Polycultures and Garden Guilds (Debra Knapke)	Pop Up Your Profits with Popcorn! (Melinda O'Briant)	Roll Out the Bale for Better Vegetables (Mick Luber)	Understanding Soil Biological Health and Testing (Larry Phelan)	Pastured Swine: Nutrition and Management (Casey Rogers)	Chemical-Free Beekeeping (Tom Cail)	Cooking for Farmers (Chelsea Gandy, Jesse Rickard)	Japanese Quail on the Small Farm and Urban Homestead (Jerah Pettibone)	Relationship Marketing: Why Connecting with Your Customer Matters (Corinna Bench)	Using SNAP Dollars for CSA Shares (Amy Bodiker Baskes)	Rooted in the Future: Gardening with Children at School (Lynn Gregor)	How to Perfect Hand Pollination (Jess Chadwell)	The Basics of Naturally Healthy Goats (Annie Warmke)	Preparing for Failure (Power Failure, That Is) (Tom Rapini)

WORKSHOP DESCRIPTIONS

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Long Workshops (Session I, 9:30-11:30 a.m.)

Balancing Soils and Interpreting Soil Test Results

Bill McKibben

Soil can be as complicated as astrophysics, but knowing how to interpret a soil test and how to use basic balancing techniques can result in a more productive and healthier soil biology. Independent soil consultant, Logan Labs agronomist, and author of *The Art of Balancing Soil Nutrients*, Bill “Crop Doc” McKibben will help you get the most out of your soil tests and share strategies for balancing soils for optimum results. **[Advanced]**

Increasing Farm Income: Adding 1 to 5 Acres of Vegetable Crops to Your Farm

Mac Stone and Charles Griffin

[Description coming soon]

Advanced Pastured Poultry

Casey Rogers

Casey Rogers, a livestock and poultry specialist for Fertrell, takes advanced poultry producers through a wide variety of essential topics, including brooder care, pasture management, ration formulation, and flock health and wellness. Rogers has worked with hundreds of pastured and organic farms of all sizes, and will share what she has seen work best. **[Advanced]**

Creating Income From Your Urban Homestead

Sophia Buggs

[Description coming soon]

Short Workshops (Session IA, 9:30-10:25 a.m.)

Practical Application of Biodynamics

David Chal

Biodynamic agriculture is a meaningful way of enlivening our farms, while simultaneously deepening our perception and participation in the living world of nature. David Chal of the Greenacres Foundation explains biodynamic practices in an accessible way, and demonstrates basic skills for applying biodynamics effectively. Leave this workshop feeling confident and inspired, and ready to incorporate these principles on your farm this season.

Super Berry Production: Opportunities and Challenges

Gary Gao

Super fruits are trending. Take advantage of this opportunity to delve into those that can be grown right here in Ohio, like aronia, elderberries, and Chinese goji berries. Join Dr. Gary Gao, OSU Extension specialist and professor, for an informative session on the production, marketing, and uses of super berries. He will share the latest research results and his observations on the potential of these products.

Growing Your Organic Grain Farm

Harold Wilken

Need help identifying ways to grow your organic farm? In 2003, Harold Wilken transitioned 700 acres of land and continues to add acreage every year. Harold will share what unites organic landowners and farmers and how he grew his organic farm to 2,500 acres. Learn how to acquire more land and negotiate leases with landowners.

The Basics of Troubleshooting Milk Quality

Luciana da Costa

Every dairy farm aims to maximize the production of high quality milk. However, management practices and dairy herd health issues, like mastitis, can interfere with that plan. Join Dr. Luciana da Costa, an OSU Extension veterinarian, to discover how to identify risk factors and implement proper procedures to prevent conditions that can decrease milk quality. Da Costa will also discuss improving udder health and troubleshooting other issues.

Coppice and Coppice Craft

Howard Peller

Join Basket Farmer Howard Peller for a lesson in coppice and coppicing craft, an old world European tradition ready for your home, garden, and farm. Coppiced small trees are cut near ground level to encourage shoot growth, and can be used for building and craft materials or living fences. Howard will demonstrate how to use coppicing woody plants to grow a fence, make garden structures, and weave borders and baskets. He will share other related crafts from woody plants that you can grow and harvest in a sustainable way.

Designing an Excel-lent Inventory System

Chelsea Gandy

Inventory systems can be very expensive, but many farmers have most of the tools to build an inventory system from the ground up. In this session, Chelsea Gandy of Fox Hollow Farm will go over the design and implementation of her inventory system. She will cover what materials and formulas you'll need to get started. Come for the data, and stay for the hilarious math jokes.

Is DC Helping Sustainable Farmers? What's Happening in Congress That's Affecting You

Lindsey Lusher Shute

Policy has a huge impact on the success of family farms. Just ask Lindsey Lusher Shute with the National Young Farmers Coalition. In this workshop you will discover how you can make your voice heard and rally your community to increase support for young farmers on the federal level, improving access to land, capital, and credit. Learn how you can join the movement and help farmers with their student loan debt.

Does Agritourism Make Sense for You and Your Farm?

Valerie Jorgensen

Under the right circumstances, agritourism can make a great addition to your farm income. But hosting visitors profitably and sustainably comes with unique challenges. Val Jorgensen of Jorgensen Farms, one of Central Ohio's premier locations for on-farm events, will present a case study showing how her agritourism business has developed over the past 15 years. She will share lessons she has learned along the way and review considerations for farmers interested in agritourism.

New Wave Nutrition: Implications of Diet and Gene Expression

Abed Alshahal and Alexis Joseph

Learn how to prevent and fight chronic disease with your diet! Abed Alshahal of the Crest Gastropub and Alexis Joseph, a registered dietician and co-founder of Alchemy Juice Bar, will provide you with a general understanding of nutrition genomics and how foods with bioactive compounds can influence the expression of genes to prevent disease.

[Beginner]

Introduction to Organic Transition

Julia Barton

Having trouble figuring out the organic standards' legal speak? Julia Barton with OEFFA Certification will help you navigate the organic livestock and crop standards using OEFFA's new *Organic Transition Guide and Workbook*. These tools will guide new and experienced producers through creating an Organic System Plan and give you the tools to assess your existing operation for strengths and areas for improvement or change. Get in-depth answers to all of your organic transition and certification questions. **[Beginner]**

Crop Insurance Options for Organic Farmers

Jodie Tate

Jodie Tate of the USDA Risk Management Agency provides an overview of crop insurance options for organic farmers. She will review the expanded organic price elections and the use of contract price options for producers transitioning to certified organic. Learn about Whole-Farm Revenue Protection and the value and coverage it may provide to diverse crop and livestock producers.

Short Workshops (Session IB, 10:35-11:30 a.m.)

Working with Nature to Build Sustainable, Organic Soils

Mary Lou Shaw

Organic chemistry is all about carbon, so it isn't surprising that organic farming is also carbon-based. Author and homesteader Mary Lou Shaw explains why carbon is the backbone of life, and how plants and soil organisms work in synergy to create productive, carbon-rich soil. Learn specific techniques for encouraging this soil-system by creating compost and teas and using cover crops.

Cucumber Beetle Management in Organic Cantaloupe and Squash

Celeste Welty and Molly Dieterich

Cucumber beetles are the vectors of bacterial wilt disease that often kills cucurbit crops. Celeste Welty, OSU Extension entomologist, will share results from two recent projects that used extended-duration row covers, perimeter trap cropping, use of organic insecticides, strip tillage, and conservation of natural enemies. Graduate student Molly Dieterich will share findings from two years of field work on biocontrols.

Production Challenges and Market Opportunities for Specialty Heritage Grains

Monroe Stutzman, Mark Tipton, and Susan Weber

[Description coming soon]

Harvesting Quality Organic Dairy Hay

Dennis Wood

Dennis Wood shares his family's journey in building a 500 acre organic hay operation on their Indiana farm. Learn from their successful, experienced-based strategies as he discusses how to harvest and store organic dairy quality hay.

Every Veggie Has Its Plate

Ben Bebenroth

Do you have unusual vegetables cropping up in your fields? Ben Bebenroth, a well-known Cleveland chef and farmer, will give you simple and creative ideas for marketing and preparing unique ingredients like kohlrabi and daikon radish. He'll discuss recipe development, companion ingredients, and complementary flavor profiles. You'll walk away knowing how to better package and promote your less popular offerings to restaurant chefs and market

customers. This workshop includes a cooking demonstration.

The X Factor: How to Attract, Nurture, and Keep Great Employees

Corinna Bench

The people that you hire not only impact your bottom line, but also impact the personality and energy of your entire business. Corinna Bench, co-owner of Shared Legacy Farms, explores key principles to help you leverage the people and resources around you and create an organizational culture that proactively values and champions employees so they feel appreciated and give you their best. She will include many practical examples of ways to build a dynamic, nurturing working environment.

Beyond GMO Labeling: Messaging for a Regenerative Future

Elizabeth Kucinich

GMO labeling is an important step towards transparency and accountability in our food system. However, simply labeling GMOs insufficiently addresses the broader problems with our country's agricultural system. Regenerative agriculture holds tremendous promise to sequester carbon, combat climate change, and feed our communities, but broad adoption will require significant policy shifts. Rodale Institute board member Elizabeth Kucinich will share news from Congress, as well as conversations happening locally, nationally, and internationally. Learn how you can influence policy by reframing the way you communicate the mission and vision of the food movement and the potential of regenerative agriculture.

A Farmer's Perspective on the FSMA Preventative Controls Rule and What It Means for You

Fred Finney

The FDA released its final Preventative Controls Rule in October. While food processors and handlers have long been subject to strict state and federal food safety regulations, these standards expand the reach of food processing regulations and may even apply to some farms. Attend this session to learn more about which farms are exempt and what activities may trigger designation as a food facility and compliance with the preventive controls rule. Fred Finney of Moreland Fruit Farm follows the food safety rule creation process closely and is helping to develop training modules for growers. Join him for an introduction to the Preventative Controls Rule, who it applies to, and how it will be implemented.

Pesticide Risk Assessment, Labeling, and Enforcement

Michele Colopy

Michele Colopy with the Pollinator Stewardship Council, will review the pesticide registration and review process and shed some light on mitigating the risk for non-target organisms, such as honey bees. Learn more about the implications of pesticide drift, residual toxicities, and cumulative toxicities that can result from the use of pesticides, how to report pesticide incidents, and how you can provide input to the EPA concerning pesticides.

[Beginner]

Aquaponics: Making Sense of Options

Barry Adler

Experienced aquaponic farmer Barry Adler will provide a basic overview of aquaponics with an in-depth review of his experience working with five different systems at his farm, RainFresh

Harvests. Barry has spent the last 10 years developing sustainable growing practices using renewable energy from the sun and wind.

[Beginner]

The Worldly View of Organic Markets: The International Market and How It Affects Us

John Bobbe and Tim Boortz

[Description coming soon]

Long Workshops (Session II, 1:45-3:45 p.m.)

Advanced Cover Crops: Selection, Planting, and Termination

Jay Brandt

Farmer and seed dealer Jay Brandt of Walnut Creek Seeds will describe the benefits of particular cover crops and suggest how to make an appropriate selection based on agronomic practice and crop rotation. Learn how multi-species mixes can be particularly beneficial. He will discuss common and alternate methods of cover crop planting and termination, as well as appropriate timing.

Garden Under Cover: Winter Vegetable Production in Low Tunnels

Cathy Rehmeyer

Fresh vegetable harvests don't have to end with the arrival of frost! Cathy Rehmeyer of Four Petal Farm shares her experience offering a winter community supported agriculture program in eastern Kentucky, successfully growing through some of the coldest winters on record, by using low tunnels, an inexpensive, simple alternative to high tunnels or greenhouses. Learn about low tunnel construction and management, planting calendars and formulas, and the most cold-tolerant and tasty vegetable varieties for winter harvest.

Striving For Successful Organic Grain Production

David Bell, Lonnie Miller, and Paul Schmitmeyer

[Description coming soon]

Advancing Sustainable Agriculture Through Advocacy: What Really Works?

Sarah Hackney

[Description coming soon]

Small-Scale Grain for the Homestead

Jennifer and Lee Ruff

With as little space as 100 square feet, you can grow your own grain this season! Jennifer and Lee Ruff point out why even first timers should not feel intimidated: Grains are much easier to grow than most of the vegetables you already raise successfully, and they have a short harvest time. Learn everything you need to know, from choosing a grain, to bed preparation and seeding, to harvest—plus pests, fertility, storage, purchase options, simple tools to make, and the health benefits of using your own freshly ground grains! **[Beginner]**

Short Workshops (Session IIA, 1:45-2:40 p.m.)

Microbe-Containing Crop Stimulants in Vegetable Production: Facts, Experiences, Hopes

Matt Kleinhenz

OSU Extension specialist Matt Kleinhenz reviews the types of microbe-containing crop stimulants available and their effectiveness. Learn how to better select, use, and evaluate these products more effectively in your vegetable production.

Greenhouse Production of Sweet Bell Peppers

Mike Anderson

Most sweet bell peppers sold in grocery stores today are coming from greenhouse production

systems, which result in extremely high quality fruit. Mike Anderson will describe strategies for the required systematic pruning and trellising it takes to make plants remain productive throughout an extended growing season. He will also discuss nutrient and pest management practices. **[Advanced]**

Bring Home the Bacon with Pasture-Raised Pork: A Financial Perspective

Ami Gignac

When Ami Gignac's partner surprised her with three Berkshire feeder pigs in 2013, the first thing she did was grab her laptop and open a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet. She will share her experience, along with the finances of growing pasture-raised pork, through stories, photos, and spreadsheets. Learn about start up considerations, operational expenses, marketing, sales, and contingency planning. This session is for those considering raising hogs or current producers who just can't seem to bring home the bacon! **[Beginner]**

Northcoast Lamb Co-Op: Marketing Value-Based Lamb

Laura DeYoung Mannig

The Northcoast Lamb Co-Op was created with the support of a SARE grant to meet the growing demand for consistent, high quality lamb for local restaurants and groceries. Laura DeYoung Mannig, the Executive Director of Urban Shepherd, explains how the project makes carcass scanning—a procedure that can identify and reduce excess fat and inconsistent quality—available and affordable to local producers, in order to create better meat quality, and ultimately, greater profitability and competitiveness. **[Beginner]**

How I Created My Sustainable Homestead

Frank Grieshop

Longtime western Ohio homesteader and farmer Frank Grieshop will share his path to a sustainable lifestyle on Chem Free Farm. Join him for a look at how he developed his homestead, constructed his house from scratch, built a sun-powered tractor, and manages livestock and crops for a self-reliant, high quality life. Frank will share tools, techniques, and strategies for living life without petrochemicals and pharmaceuticals.

Can American Cities Feed Themselves?

Amy Fovargue

Amy Fovargue, OSU Extension program assistant for local foods in Franklin County, will explore the potential to produce food in urban areas. She will examine barriers, policies, community benefits, and trends affecting the growth of urban agriculture in Ohio and beyond.

Marketing Yourself to Retailers

Jill Moorhead

[Description coming soon]

A Farmer's Perspective on the FSMA Produce Rule and What It Means for You

Fred Finney

The FDA released its final Produce Rule in November. These detailed regulations represent a significant change in the federal regulatory framework for produce growers. Even if your farm falls under an exemption, portions of these rules will apply to you if you sell raw produce for human consumption. Fred Finney of Moreland Fruit Farm follows the food safety process closely and is helping to develop training modules for growers. Join him for an introduction to the Produce Rule from a farmer's perspective. Fred will highlight some of

the important points—like the water standards, compost and manure standards, and exemptions—and discuss the enforcement framework and timeline.

Deep Sustainability: Deeper Than Reducing, Reusing, Recycling, and Renewing

John Ikerd

Author, retired professor, and agricultural economics expert John Ikerd explores the philosophical, ethical, and spiritual roots of sustainability. Often, changes to support sustainable agriculture rarely go any deeper than making more efficient use of natural resources, changing planting and fertilizing practices, and substituting solar energy for fossil energy. However, if the sustainable agricultural movement is to succeed, we must do the “right things” for the “right reasons,” with a deep commitment rooted in ethics, morality, and spirituality.

Sound and Sensible Organic Certification: USDA Support for Organic Agriculture

Miles McEvoy

Join USDA Deputy Administrator of the National Organic Program (NOP) Miles McEvoy for an overview of new USDA resources to support sound and sensible organic certification. Organic market news, crop insurance, certification cost-share, and conservation programs will be discussed. Finally, he will share updates on the NOP standards, including animal welfare.

Short Workshops (Session IIB, 2:50-3:45 p.m.)

Biofertilizers Panel: Farmer Perspectives from the Field

Ben Dilbone, George Remington, and Julie Laudick

Bring your questions about biofertilizers to this panel discussion with two experienced farmers. George Remington runs Morningside Farm and applies biofertilizers in the greenhouse and the field, as both soil amendments and foliar sprays, to increase plant vigor, reduce plant stress, and improve pest and disease resistance. Ben Dilbone of Sunbeam Family Farm began using biofertilizers to restore biological life to the soil as he transitioned previously conventional land to organic vegetable production. He continues to use them to build organic matter, balance nutrients, and reduce dependence on purchased fertilizer inputs. The discussion will be moderated by Julie Laudick, a graduate student at OSU conducting research on biofertilizers in organic farming systems.

Planning Your Post-Harvest Facility: Lessons from Our Farm

Ben Shute

Ben Shute of Hearty Roots Farm recently designed and built a new post-harvest facility for its 900 member CSA program. He will discuss how the facility was planned with efficiency, food safety, and produce quality in mind. He will include details on costs, and explain how the facility was financed through a Farm Service Agency Farm Storage Facility Loan. He will also discuss and show photos of innovations seen at other farms' wash and pack facilities.

Water Quality for Making Milk

Gustavo Schuenemann

Management of dairy cows in the weeks before and after calving is key to avoid health disorders in early lactation under certified organic management. Since water may influence the mineral composition of the cow's diet, it is important to assess water quality at the farm. Dr. Gustavo Schuenemann, OSU Extension veterinarian and professor, will discuss strategies for assessing and correcting water quality.

Transitioning to Non-GMO Feed for Your Pastured Broilers

Chad Bitler and Jonathan Gabis

Consumer demand for non-GMO food is increasing, so many pastured poultry producers are considering transitioning from conventional to non-GMO rations. Chad Bitler and Jonathan Gabis of the Greenacres Foundation reflect on important questions they asked themselves through their process—whether it would be profitable, whether suppliers could guarantee that no GMOs are in the feed, and whether non-GMO provides the consumer a healthier product. Hear about their outcomes and ways you can determine whether the transition is right for you.

Fermenting Veggies Made Easy

Andy Reed

[Description coming soon]

Expanding Ethnic Crop Markets with Cleveland's Refugee Communities

Maggie Fitzpatrick and Jacqueline Kowalski

[Description coming soon]

Social Media Strategies

Subbu Kumarappan

How can you increase customer engagement through social media platforms like Facebook? How can you get your existing customers to buy more and bring their friends? OSU business educator Subbu Kumarappan leads an exploration of social media marketing strategies and how to create targeted advertising for Facebook and other social media sources. Bring your smart phone or laptop for an interactive session. Receive a ready-to-use guide to help increase customer engagement with your product and business.

Pesticide Drift: It Could Happen to You

Jake Trethewey, Gary Cox, and Jared Shaffer

Learn what steps you can take to reduce your risk of falling victim to pesticide drift. Jake Trethewey, certified organic produce grower, will relate his recent experience with pesticide drift on his organic farm, and the steps he took to document that incident. Jared Shaffer of the ODA Sensitive Crop Registry will demonstrate how to register your property so pesticide applicators can be aware prior to spraying. Gary Cox, Attorney at Law, who has represented several pesticide drift victims, will contribute a lawyer's perspective to the discussion and answer questions.

Navigating the Regulations on Herbs and Related Value-Added Products

Dawn Combs

Many locally produced herbal products on store shelves and at farmers' markets do not comply with state and federal laws, because few people are aware of them. Ignorance of the regulations, unfortunately, won't protect you when inspectors decide to take notice, as Dawn Combs of Mockingbird Meadows can attest. She will explain what you need to know and lead an

open discussion on what is required to make safe, dependable products and, in the case of government overreach, what we can do to effect change.

Organic Research in the U.S.: 2002-2014 and Future Directions

Deborah Stinner

The Organic Farming Research Foundation (OFRF) lobbied Congress to create funding for two national organic research programs in 2002. Deborah Stinner, retired OSU research scientist and OFRF board member, relates what has been happening in organic research across the country since implementation of the National Organic Program, based on a recent evaluation. Stinner asks for your feedback and input on future research needs.

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

Long Workshops (Session III, 9:30-11:30 a.m.)

High Tunnel Red Raspberry Production

Daniel Trudel, Ann Trudel, and Alyssa Zearley

Ann and Dan Trudel of Ann's Raspberry Farm found keeping red raspberries healthy and productive in the field without chemicals quickly became a challenge. The introduction of high tunnel production methods nearly six years ago helped them maximize limited space on their 5 acre farm. Today, they produce red raspberries in three productive high tunnels. Join the Trudels and their intern Alyssa Zearley as they share lessons from ten years of raspberry production. Topics will include plant layout, harvest, labor, irrigation, fertilization, and insect and disease management. **[Beginner]**

Keep those Veggies Coming: Growing for and Running a Successful Year-Round CSA

Jeremy Moghtader and Ellen Moje

Imagine providing CSA members with fresh produce through the winter and well into springtime. Jeremy Moghtader and Ellen Moje of the Michigan State University Organic Farmer Training Program and Student Organic Farm have been doing just that for 12+ years. They will share important information about succession planting of winter crops in hoopouses, storage crop production, handling for winter and spring distribution, and other tips for managing a year-round CSA. **[Advanced]**

Developing Your Organic Soil Fertility Plan

Bob Hendershot

Organic farmers should strive to build healthy soil to create the best conditions for healthy plants to grow. Join soil scientist Bob Hendershot for a workshop to improve your understanding of soil health and soil nutrient management. Bring your current soil test to develop your own personalized soil fertility management plan. **[Advanced]**

Put Your Best Table Forward: Product Handling, Branding, Marketing, and Pricing

Kate Cook

You can grow the food, yes? Now get it sold! Kate Cook, Garden Manager at Carriage House Farm will share tips on product handling, pricing, branding, and marketing to help you get your goods to the consumer. Kate will present valuable ideas for the small to medium-scale grower looking to improve their farmers' market presence, or to sell directly to restaurants or small retailers.

Short Workshops (Session IIIA, 9:30-10:25 a.m.)

The Active Organic Matter in Your Soil

Steve Culman

Organic matter plays a vital role in providing nutrients to crops, especially the rapidly cycled active fraction of organic matter. Join OSU professor Steve Culman to learn more about what active organic matter is, why it's important in your soils, and how it is measured in soil tests. Steve will also highlight some related research at OSU and provide information about enrolling in a research project to have your soil tested for free.

What is a Plant?

Debra Knapke

Author, teacher, and gardener Debra Knapke offers two interrelated sessions focused on better garden design based on a fuller understanding of nature. In this first session, Debra takes you on a whirlwind tour of life from a plant's point of view. Learn how biology, anatomy, physiology, and ecology determine how plants move, communicate, eat, and protect themselves while stuck in one spot.

[Beginner]

Marketing Your Organic Crop Rotation

John Bobbe and Tim Boortz

[Description coming soon]

The Happy Goat: Management and Forages for Optimal Performance

Sasha Sigetic

Sasha Sigetic of Black Locust Livestock and Herbal discusses proper goat management and nutrition requirements using permaculture design techniques. Learn how to use optimal forage and paddock rotation to improve health, increase milk yield, and reduce the need for external inputs.

Alternative Sources of Proteins: Rabbit, Quail, Squab, and Partridge

Alfonso Contrisciani

[Description coming soon]

Using Art, Gardening, and Food to Engage, Educate, and Empower Communities

Kwodwo Ababio

Gain new perspectives on neighborhood revitalization and learn outreach techniques that combine gardening and art to empower community residents. Kwodwo Ababio, Executive Director of New Harvest Urban Arts Center and Urban Farm, has more than 20 years of community organizing experience and will share his methods on how to engage, educate, and empower residents in your community.

Crop Insurance: The Next Big Issue for U.S. Farm and Food Policy

Paul Wolfe and Tom Nuessmeier

The National Sustainable Agriculture Coalition (NSAC) and its member organizations are undertaking a major federal crop insurance reform campaign in advance of the next Farm Bill. Come hear NSAC policy specialist Paul Wolfe and organic farmer and Land Stewardship Project organizer Tom Nuessmeier talk about the big substantive and strategic issues for a crop insurance reform campaign, and efforts to ensure that it supports a more sustainable agriculture. **[Beginner]**

The Bureaucracy of Beekeeping

Carson Combs

Your local farmers' market is probably filled with many different honey bee-based products, but are they being properly produced? Carson Combs, co-owner of Mockingbird Meadows, will help you cut through the red tape of state and federal regulations for honey and value-added products. Hear about one farm's experience

and the growing challenges facing value-added beekeeping.

Restorative Foods

Barbara Utendorf

In nutritional media and literature, many foods are being touted as “superfoods,” because of their high nutrient density and important role in restoring health. While many of the beneficial foods reported in the media are not native to our area, others can be grown in the Midwest, and some of these foods have yet to receive the publicity they deserve. Doctor of naturopathy, author, and health and wellness teacher Barbara Utendorf reviews some of these superfoods. **[Beginner]**

Know Your Enemy: The Basics of Plant Disease Identification

Cathy Rehmeyer

Don't panic when plant disease strikes your farm or garden. Knowledge is power, and award-winning garden blogger Cathy Rehmeyer can teach you the basics of plant disease identification so that you can assess a problem and act quickly. Learn to recognize the patterns that distinguish bacterial, fungal, and viral pathogens, along with the nutritional deficiencies, insect pests, and environmental stressors that can mimic them, and how to successfully manage outbreaks. **[Beginner]**

Captured and Low-Pressure Water Systems for the Small-Scale Grazer

Shawn and Beth Dougherty

Shawn and Beth Dougherty will explain how they use non-electric captured livestock water systems in intensive grazing and food production. Through diagrams, photographs, and discussion, they will examine low-tech methods for utilizing roof water and runoff, developing springs and seeps, and accessing

pond and streams for in-paddock stock water, and for pasture and garden irrigation. Walk away with the confidence to implement non-electric and captured-water use on your own farm or homestead.

Short Workshops (Session IIIB, 10:35-11:30 a.m.)

Grazing with Dung Beetles

Troyce Barnett

Discover how to use dung beetles to recycle valuable nutrients and improve pastures to meet the needs of your grazing operation. Troyce Barnett, NRCS grazing and grassland specialist, will teach the benefits of using dung beetles in the grazing management system to improve forage production, soil health, and the overall profits for most grazing operations.

Tools of the Trade: Proper Selection, Use, and Maintenance of Hand Garden Tools

Joel Dufour

Tired of garden tools that wear out (or wear YOU out) too quickly? Are you using the right tool for the job? Are you caring for your tools properly? Joel Dufour of Earth Tools will teach you how to identify, select, properly use, and maintain high-quality hand tools, to keep gardening as fun as possible.

Development of Chia as a New Field Crop: Production Issues

Tim Phillips

Chia was an important crop for the Aztecs at the time of the Spanish Conquest, and recently, it has emerged as a healthy new source of omega-3 oil. University of Kentucky forage grass breeder Tim Phillips has worked to develop long day length flowering chia, and is currently figuring out how to produce this crop in Kentucky and surrounding states. This new chia

variety can be included in Midwest grain rotations without investing in specialized equipment.

Incorporating Pastured Organic Poultry into a Multi-Year Organic Rotation

Michael Lilburn and Larry Phelan

Working in collaboration with a small group of organic farmers, Mike Lilburn and Larry Phelan of OSU OARDC explored a whole farm approach to incorporating pasture-raised poultry and the cereal grain naked oats into a multi-year organic rotation. Join them for a look at poultry nutrition, rearing broilers on pasture, and the effect of poultry on subsequent crops and weeds. They will share management approaches for pasturing birds and methods of using poultry to extend your crop rotation.

Permaculture While Renting

Don Abbott

Renting doesn't have to put a damper on your permaculture aspirations. Don Abbott, experienced gardener, educator, and permaculture practitioner, will teach you how to bloom and grow food where you are planted. Gather resources and inspiration from the permaculture techniques used on Snarky Acres to create your own productive food system.

[Beginner]

Seedling Success: Best Practices for Growing and Selling Transplants

Joseph Swain and Rachel Tayse

Growing transplants to sell to farmers and at farmers' markets and retail outlets can add significant spring revenue to your farm. Swainway Urban Farm has successfully grown, marketed, and sold organic seedlings for seven seasons. In this workshop, they will share proven methods and strategies for adding transplant sales to your operation. **[Advanced]**

Practical, Radical Ideas for Restructuring Farming and Food Production Systems

John Ikerd

While practical ideas are often thought of as modest changes to existing practices or systems, modest changes are not actually "practical" in cases where radical changes are essential. John Ikerd, a well-known, passionate, and insightful sustainable agriculture advocate and author explains how, in a society where consumers are increasingly rejecting industrial farming, the sustainable food movement is booming, and food retailing is changing dramatically, modest changes, such as "scaling-up" organic and local food systems, are simply not practical. Instead, John will explore why we should seek the radical changes that are both essential and possible.

Hacking Home Automation Systems to Automate Your Hoophouse

Jeff McCabe

Low cost, cloud-based automation systems for sensing conditions, notifying the grower, and controlling devices can help busy farmers focus their attention and effort. Jeff McCabe, co-founder of Selma Cafe and the Tilian Farm Development Center, will demonstrate a variety of devices and explain how to create a system that can automate farm work, like irrigation and hoophouse ventilation.

How to Start A Community Seed Library

Karen Findlay

Librarian Karen Findlay discusses how libraries are finding opportunities to serve communities that are increasingly interested in healthier eating, local food sourcing, saving money, and experiencing traditional life. Learn how the Huber Heights branch of the Dayton Metropolitan Library has developed a Seed

Library and Huber Heights Grows, along with their successes and challenges. **[Beginner]**

CSA Tips and Tactics for Your Farm

Matt Herbruck

Matt Herbruck of Birdsong Farm will speak from his 20 years experience as an organic farmer on the potential of CSAs. Learn about logistics such as scale, cost, and practical approaches to distribution, as well as growing techniques, variety selection, timing, and seasonality.

When the Power Goes Out: Building Your Own Solar Generator

Jay Warmke

Wouldn't you love to have a back-up power system that is noiseless, has no fumes, and costs less than \$300? If you answered "Yes," then join homesteader Jay Warmke for a fun hour of learning the basics of how to build a solar generator. He will also argue for why farmers need solar energy and why the unstable electric grid requires a back up plan.

Short Workshops (Session IV, 1:30-2:30 a.m.)

Carbon Farming: Climate Change Impacts and Opportunities for Regenerative Agriculture

Ryan Hottle

OSU lecturer Ryan Hottle explains the science behind climate change and some of the regenerative practices that could be used to transform agriculture from being a major source of emissions to being part of the solution. Learn why practices like reduced tillage, cover cropping, agroforestry, and rotational grazing are likely to provide the most benefits by reducing emissions and pulling carbon out of the atmosphere and into crops, soil, and trees.

Polycultures and Garden Guilds: A Framework for Functional Garden Design

Debra Knapke

Author, teacher, and gardener Debra Knapke offers two interrelated sessions focused on better garden design based on a fuller understanding of nature. In this second session, Debra discusses creating functional gardens that work within nature's own model, known as polycultures, companion planting, or garden guilds. Learn how an understanding of bacterial-fungal-plant-animal-ecological webs can help you create the garden that works best for you and Mother Nature.

Pop Up Your Profits with Popcorn!

Melinda O'Briant

Popcorn can be a great addition to your farmers' market table. It is relatively pest free (even the raccoons don't bother this corn!), most of the work is done in the fall and winter, and it gives you something to sell in the early spring. Long time organic farmer Melinda O'Briant of Turner Farm will share how to grow, harvest, shell, dry, test, and sell this profitable crop.

Roll Out the Bale for Better Vegetables

Mick Luber

Longtime organic farmer Mick Luber has developed a system using round hay bales to produce potatoes, tomatoes, and melons. By rolling out hay bales to cover a bed or run in between beds, growers can create an effective mulch layer that helps manage weeds and allows him to "rob" potatoes without harvesting the whole row. Join Mick for a practical look at how he employs this technique on his farm and ways to successfully replicate it.

Understanding Soil Biological Health and Testing of Organic Soils

Larry Phelan

The first principle of organic agriculture is that a healthy, biologically active soil produces healthy crops. Soil communities differ substantially between organic and conventional farming systems and impact all aspects of crop production: yield, competition with weeds, susceptibility to insects and disease, and even nutritional quality. This workshop will introduce attendees to the key organisms that make up the complex soil food-web. Recent research will be discussed that shows how plants actively recruit members of this community, the ecological services they provide, and how our management practices impact microbially mediated crop health.

Pastured Swine: Nutrition and Management

Casey Rogers

Take an in-depth look at the nutritional requirements of swine and what role pasture can truly play in development. Casey Rogers, Fertrell livestock and poultry specialist, will examine the hot topics in pastured pork today, including no-soy diets, the role of milk and whey, and spent brewers grains in swine rations. **[Advanced]**

Chemical-Free Beekeeping

Tom Cail

Learn how to raise bees without chemical treatments. Tom Cail is a certified organic farmer that has 15 years of experience raising bees. In this workshop he will explain how the practices used by many large scale beekeepers are negatively affecting honey bees and how planting a nectar source like alsike clover can improve honey bee survival without chemical treatments.

Cooking for Farmers

Chelsea Gandy and Jesse Rickard

Like most farmers, Chelsea Gandy of Fox Hollow Farm often finds herself rich in ingredients but poor in time. She will share her tips and time-saving techniques that can help busy farmers efficiently create healthy and energizing meals. She will also demonstrate braising. Come curious; leave full! **[Beginner]**

Yard Birds: Japanese Quail on the Small Farm and Urban Homestead

Jerah Pettibone

Get a crash-course on keeping these productive, quiet, beautiful birds on your farm or homestead. Jerah Pettibone of Pettibone Urban Game will share specifics on breeding, housing, nutrition, incubation, processing, and cooking. Leave with an understanding of how these birds can work for you, either as an addition or alternative to more common poultry species. A background in other types of poultry may be helpful but is not necessary. **[Beginner]**

Relationship Marketing: Why Connecting with Your Customer Matters

Corinna Bench

In a reaction to “Big Ag,” where consumers are disconnected from their food’s back-story, many shoppers are looking for great produce AND a relationship with their grower. Corinna Bench, co-owner of Shared Legacy Farms, discusses specific mechanisms and tools to nurture that relationship in order to build loyalty, catapult your farm’s legacy, and ultimately add value to your customers’ lives.

Expanding Healthy Food Access: Using SNAP Dollars for CSA Shares

Amy Bodiker Baskes

Participants in the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) spend close to \$3

billion annually on food in Ohio, but only \$225,000 of that is spent on local food. Amy Bodiker Baskes of the Veggie SNAPS Farmers' Market Incentive Program, will explore an innovative effort that incentivizes SNAP customers to purchase healthy fruits and vegetables at farmers' markets and CSAs. Join her to learn more about how your farm can get involved.

Rooted in the Future: Gardening with Children at School

Lynn Gregor

Learn the benefits of gardening with children, who increasingly have limited access to the outdoors and fewer direct experiences with nature's cycles. Lynn explores successful school gardens and provides insight on how to find funding sources, engage teachers, and meet education standards. Leave inspired!

How to Perfect Hand Pollination: The Thrill of Victory, the Agony of Defeat

Jess Chadwell

Hand pollination is an important tool for seed breeders to keep their varieties pure. Community Food Initiatives coordinates Southeast Ohio Seed Savers (SOSS), a network of gardeners, farmers, and plant breeders working together to secure our agricultural heritage and seed diversity. SOSS developer Jess Chadwell will lead you through a hands-on training in hand pollination techniques and other strategies for developing true-to-type seeds. Learn about the importance of strengthening our regional seed supply and leave with skills to better steward your own varieties.

Goat Herding 101: The Basics of Naturally Healthy Goats

Annie Warmke

Goats get a bad rap, yet they are amazing livestock that produce milk, meat, more goats, hides, and compostable manure. Join goat herder and author Annie Warmke to learn the basics (including some psychology) of why goats are great partners in a homestead. Learn how to help goats do the things they do naturally, plus how to use sustainable methods for maintaining their health. **[Beginner]**

Preparing for Failure (Power Failure, That Is)

Tom Rapini

You don't need to believe in conspiracy theories or terrorist threats to be concerned about a disruption to your home's energy supply—simple human error could leave you in the dark! Tom Rapini offers alternatives to the polluting, unreliable fossil fuel powered generator including solar electricity, batteries, solar water heating, biofuels, and even human power. In addition, learn strategies for growing and storing refrigeration-free food.