



A preview of PCO's new Website, coming soon at www.paorganic.org See article pg 8.

PCO Speaks Out to the National Organic Standards Board Origin of dairy livestock and poultry outdoor access hot topics.

By Leslie Zuck
Executive Director

We have been working with the National Organic Standards for more than a year now, and although many of the new requirements have caused changes in our certification program, none has come close to presenting the challenges we face regarding the "origin of dairy livestock" and "outdoor access" provisions. Essentially, the standards are confusing and leave various interpretations as to whether replacement dairy animals must be from certified organic sources. Outdoor access for all livestock is clearly required . . . or is it? Not only is there a question by some as to what outdoor access must consist of, some large commercial operations and some within the USDA do not think outdoor access is required for poultry.

After speaking to many PCO-producers, the standards committee and others, it became clear that PCO's views on these subjects should be communicated to the National Organic Standards Board (NOSB). So in May, I traveled to Austin, TX, to attend the NOSB's 3-day meeting and give them a piece of our collective minds. I have included excerpts of my testimony at the end of this article.

So what happened? What does all this mean? Although on October 22, 2002, PCO must enforce the National Organic Standards, it is still unclear what is allowed and what is required in some areas, particularly those mentioned.

...Continued on page 3

News Flash!

PCO is accredited by USDA

By Leslie Zuck
Executive Director

We are happy to inform you that Pennsylvania Certified Organic has been accredited to perform organic certification services for USDA's National Organic Program. The announcement was made on April 29, 2002. PCO was one of the first 28 private domestic certification organizations to be accredited by the USDA, along with 10 state departments of agriculture and 4 foreign certification agencies.



This is truly a milestone for PCO producers, board, staff and volunteers, who have worked hard over the past year and a half to fulfill the National Organic Program (NOP) requirements for accreditation. All certified organic farms, processors and handlers must be certified by an accredited certification agency by October 21, 2002. The full list of accredited certifiers can be viewed on the National Organic Program website: www.ams.usda.gov/nop.

In addition to NOP accreditation, PCO has also applied for accreditation under International Standards Organization (ISO) Guide 65, which will facilitate international marketing of PCO-certified organic products. We have met the initial application and site visit requirements and hope to have a final report on our ISO accreditation soon.

In June, PCO was visited by two USDA auditors. They spent two days in our office and spent a third day visiting farms with an inspector (and me) to verify PCO's inspection procedures. The purpose of the NOP audit is to make sure we are following proper certification procedures. They also performed an audit for our ISO Guide 65 accreditation, which involves checking (and cross-checking) our quality system policies and procedures.

As you might imagine, the emphasis during both audits was on documentation. Many of you have heard us say that we need certain information from you in writing

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MISSION STATEMENT

To assure the integrity of organic agricultural products through education, inspection and certification of growers, processors and handlers in Pennsylvania.

Standards Update

PCO speaks out to NOSB

...Continued from pg1. The NOSB will meet twice more before October 22 and we will also have meeting with the Organic Certifiers Council to try to resolve these "differences of opinion." The goal is to come up with a truly uniform standard that will be fair for all involved.

In the meantime, PCO requires organic replacement heifers; and poultry producers must provide outdoor access or plans for proposed outdoor access.

PCO speaks to the NOSB about cows and chickens

Excerpts from the testimony of Leslie Zuck, PCO Executive Director

As a newly accredited organic certification agency, PCO is proud to be a part of the National Organic Program. But as the October 21, 2002, implementation date approaches, we are becoming very concerned about uniform interpretation of the National Organic Standards.

Origin of dairy livestock

PCO standards have always required that once a dairy herd has been fully converted to organic, all dairy replacement animals must be managed organically from the last third of gestation. In some cases, if organic replacements of the type needed are not available, farmers are permitted to purchase non-organic heifers and transition them over one year, but only if they have demonstrated and documented efforts to find organic replacements. This exception has only been used a few times in PCO's five-year history.

We do not want to see a blanket allowance for transitioning conventionally produced heifers because it would:

- 1. result in a continually in-transition herd;
- 2. unfairly discriminate against farmers who raise their own replacement heifers;
- 3. put organic heifer operations out of business; and
- 4. unfortunately result in fewer replacement dairy animals being available for organic producers who prefer using organic heifers.

For all of these reasons, opening the conventional replacement loophole degrades the integrity of organic dairy products. Therefore, PCO supports the NOSB Livestock Committee's proposed clarification of the National Organic Standards that would close that loophole and require organic replacements only.

Why do we need such a clarification ?

Nearly all certification agencies that certify dairy operations already interpret the National Organic Standards as requiring certified organic replacement heifers. However, one certification agency that does not require organic replacements, certifies a lot, if not most, of the organic dairy cows in the US.

Who is this "interpretation" a problem for?

It is a problem for the 7,000 organic or "in-transition"

...continued on next page.

PCO speaks out at National Organic Standards Board Meeting

...Cont from pg 2

dairy animals (and their farmers) in Pennsylvania because the rules are different depending on which agency certifies them. Clearly, this is not the goal of uniform national standards. The language of the rule is contradictory and confusing and it unintentionally allows for different interpretations. So we need a solution.

When there is a contradiction or question of interpretation of a law, it is important to look for the reason behind the rule. What was the intent of the law or regulation? In this case the preamble to the final rule clearly spells out that the intent of the rule is to require organic replacement animals whether raised on the farm or purchased from off the farm. Page 80570 of the Federal Register makes this very clear:

"The final rule requires that an entire, distinct dairy herd must be under organic management for 1 year prior to the production of organic milk."

"After the dairy operation has been certified, animals brought on to the operation must be organically raised from the last third of gestation."

"The conversion provision also rewards producers for raising their own replacement animals while still allowing for the introduction of animals from off the farm that were organically raised from the last third of gestation. This should protect existing markets for organically raised heifers while not discriminating against closed herd operations. Finally, the conversion provision cannot be used routinely to bring nonorganically raised animals onto an organic operation. It is a one-time opportunity for producers working with a certifying agent to implement a conversion strategy for an established, discrete dairy herd in conjunction with the land resources that sustain it."

These are not my words, these are the words of the people who wrote the rule.

A blanket allowance for transitioning conventionally produced heifers would discriminate against farmers who raise their own replacement animals. Not only should we encourage farmers to raise their own organic calves and heifers, the preamble clearly explains that the intent of the rule is to avoid such unnecessary discrimination.

It also becomes a problem for operations that specialize in raising certified organic heifers for other dairy producers. Allowing non-organic replacements would have a

huge economic impact on those heifer operations, many of whom are young farmers just getting started who hope to have their own organic dairy herd in the future, but can't afford the land or equipment needed for a full milking operation yet. It is in the

best interests of the entire organic dairy community to encourage these new farmers and it would be a great detriment to lose them. Allowing conventional replacement animals would have an impact as well on organic dairy farmers who rely on purchased replacement heifers. These farmers WANT to buy organic heifers; they don't want conventionally raised cows in their herd. But they won't have much of a choice if no one's raising organic heifers because they are no longer required.

Allowing a continuously "in-transition" herd, which is clearly not the intent of the rule, would be a recordkeeping nightmare for farmers, inspectors and certifiers; which could compromise the integrity of the entire certification program.

We believe that requiring organic replacement animals unless they are not commercially available would assure the integrity of organic dairy products and still be fair to producers in regions where organic heifers might not yet be available.

We believe that any other interpretation of 205.236(a)(2), unfairly discriminates against the small, family farmer who raises his or her own heifers, in favor of large, corporate farms that can afford to buy all their replacements.

And, most importantly, allowing conventional replacements is unnecessary and would dilute the "organicness" of the milk produced.

Outdoor access for poultry

PCO-certified poultry operations produce about 1.5 million organic broilers and about 75,000 organic turkeys annually. All of those birds have access to the outdoors, year-round in Pennsylvania (where it does get cold in the wintertime.) Not only do the birds have access to the outdoors year-round, they actually choose to go outside. In fact, most are given free access, which means the houses are open all the time and the birds can roam in or out as they please.

PCO-certified operations are home to more than

...continued on page 4.



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PCO speaks out to NOSB ...Cont from pg 3

100,000 egg laying chickens, only a fraction of which have year-round outdoor access. Operators who currently don't provide outdoor access are in the process of submitting outdoor access plans to PCO for approval.

Most of those layer operations will be able to comply with the outdoor access requirement, but have concerns with wild fowl migrating through our eastern flyways and rodent control. We've allowed them to address these concerns by providing roofed areas in the outside yard and wire to prevent rodent access. Nutrient management and groundwater protection are also of more concern to layer houses and are permitted to have non-natural surfaces. The roofed areas help considerably with runoff problems.

PCO does support the National Organic Standards Board draft recommendation on poultry outdoor access, but would like the National Organic Program to consider separate standards for layers and broilers, with roofed areas allowed. We're very concerned about the part of the recommendation that reads: "Short-lived poultry such as broilers may spend their entire lives inside due to inclement weather and concern for livestock well-being."

This as a huge loophole for operators to avoid outdoor access for poultry altogether. Inclement weather and livestock well-being will mean different things to different people. We believe that outdoor access for poultry is imperative for preserving the integrity of the organic label.

Full transcripts and minutes of the 3-day meeting are available at: www.ams.usda.gov/nop; or by calling 202-205-7806.

Materials Update

By Sabine Carey
Certification Assistant

Materials currently allowed but not in compliance with the NOP starting October 21, 2002.

We are encountering materials that we currently allow, but that do not comply with the NOP National List. Producers will have the option to request a time period to phase-out the material. Requests for phase-out of materials must be in writing, with a description of the material, (and) its use and dosage and the reason you need the phase-out period.

New OMRI Lists

Everyone should have received the OMRI packets by now. If you are a PCO producer and have not received this, please contact our office. Packets consist of:

a. OMRI Brand Name Product List. This lists materials by category, brand name and also by supplier. This should be your first step when looking for an approved product, and contact information for all the suppliers is included.

b. OMRI Generic Materials List. A good start when trying to determine compliance of certain materials and inputs.

c. Salmon colored sheets listing those products previously listed but now removed from the OMRI lists. Several commonly used products are on this list. Some suppliers are re-formulating their products so that they will be in compliance by October 21, 2002, so don't panic yet. The Environmental Protection Agency will also re-classifying many inerts this summer, which could also affect the status of these products. We will keep you posted on the status of these products.


Keep all these lists in a safe place and consult them often!

The PCO Materials Team has been busy, as usual. We've put together a chart of materials we have reviewed so far, which will be mailed to certified and supporting members with this newsletter. If you are considering a material that has not been reviewed by OMRI or PCO, you should be hesitant to use it without checking with us first. Your certification could be at risk! Remember, we'll need the product name, contact information, label information, MSDS, the purpose for which you'll use it and your patience. Each product requires extensive research by our staff and we have many, many requests. Our research also depends on the cooperation of the product manufacturer. Often, we are awaiting information from them, or they simply do not wish to tell us what is in their product. We will honestly do our best and get you an answer as soon as we possibly can.

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Dealer Inquiries
Welcome

PCO is accredited by USDA

..Cont from page 1

so our office files will contain the proper documentation when they are audited. We were very pleased to learn that we passed our onsite audit easily, with only a few minor improvements needed. Thanks for your cooperation in getting your paperwork into us! The auditors will be visiting us annually, so keep it up!

We especially want to thank Wilmer and Arlene Newswanger and Mark and Maryann Nolt for having the USDA auditors present on their farms. We appreciate their graciousness in hosting us on such short notice. Our appreciation also goes out to organic inspector Al Johnson, who rearranged his schedule to accommodate the USDA inspections. The auditors found our inspection procedures to be completely in order with no noncompliances.

USDA and ISO accreditations are major accomplishments for a regional organization such as PCO. Although our staff worked long hours to organize all the needed information, it is the cooperation and high standards of our certified producers, inspectors and board members that truly make this organization shine. We appreciate your dedication to creating and maintaining an organic industry where we can be proud of our involvement. Keep doing what you best – growing and processing organic food with integrity – and we'll be here to protect that integrity to the best of our ability. 🌱

Vinegar as an herbicide?

Some home gardeners already use vinegar as a herbicide, and some garden stores sell vinegar pesticides. But no one has tested it scientifically until now. Agricultural Research Service scientists offer the first scientific evidence that it may be a potent weed-killer that is inexpensive and environmentally safe--perfect for organic farmers.

ARS researchers Jay Radhakrishnan, John R. Teasdale and Ben Coffman in Beltsville, Md., tested vinegar on major weeds--common lamb's-quarters, giant foxtail, velvetleaf, smooth pigweed and Canada thistle—in greenhouse and field studies.

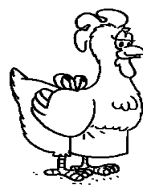
They hand-sprayed the weeds with various solutions of vinegar, uniformly coating the leaves. The researchers found that 5- and 10-percent concentrations killed the weeds during their first two weeks of life. Older plants required higher concentrations of vinegar to kill them. At the higher concentrations, vinegar had an 85- to 100-percent kill rate at all growth stages. A bottle of household vinegar is about a 5-percent concentration.

Canada thistle, one of the most tenacious weeds in the world, proved the most susceptible; the 5-percent concentration had a 100-percent kill rate of the perennial's top growth. The 20-percent concentration can do this in about 2 hours. The researchers use only vinegar made from fruits or grains, to conform to organic farming standards.

ARS is the U.S. Department of Agriculture's chief scientific research agency. 🌱

Dear Aggy

Dear Aggy:



Why do the new labeling standards have to be so complicated? I'm redesigning my packages but am at a loss as to what to put on them. I've heard that I have to identify PCO on my label but I'm confused as to the specifics. Can you help?

--Lacking a Label in Lancaster County

Dear Lacking:

You heard right—Section 205.303 of the National Organic Standards indicates that if you're certified by PCO you must have the statement "certified by" or a similar phrase followed by either the Pennsylvania Certified Organic logo or "Pennsylvania Certified Organic." This should be located on the information panel below the information identifying the handler or distributor of the product. You may also include the address or phone number of the certifier, but this is not required. The purpose of the labeling requirements is to allow consumers (and the USDA) to trace a product to the certifier. All organic ingredients must be identified in the ingredient statement as "organic" or by using a reference mark such as an asterisk. As to why the standards have to be so complicated... I'm pretty smart for a chicken, but even I don't know the answer to that one!

Dear Aggy:

I have more complaints than could fill even a log from an old growth redwood tree, but why on earth does PCO require a log full of complaints? Don't farmers have enough to do without getting into the timbering business?

--Complainy in Cumberland County

Dear Complainy:

Though I can understand your confusion, a "Complaint Log" doesn't actually have anything to do with a tree log. According to ISO Guide 65, Section 15, to fulfill this requirement you should have a piece of paper labeled "Complaint Log" with your records. On this piece of paper you should record any complaints you might get that relate to the organic status of your operation or products. For example, if the neighbors accused you of spraying with prohibited chemicals secretly in the dead of night you would record that in your complaint log along with what you did about it. The inspector will look at your log when he or she visits your farm. Most years you will show the inspector a blank sheet of paper, which is a good thing.

Got a question for Aggy? Mail to PCO—Dear Aggy, 1919 General Potter Hwy, Suite 1, Centre Hall, PA 16828 or fax to 814-364-4431.

What's organic about the new Farm Bill?

By Sabine Carey
Certification Assistant

On May 13, 2002, after much debate, President Bush signed a farm bill, known as The Farm Security and Rural Investment Act of 2002. The 2002 farm bill will spend around \$180 billion over the next decade, even though it is a six-year bill. The funding includes an additional \$82.5 billion over the previous farm program budget baseline. Of the new total, \$56.7 billion will go towards commodities programs. Conservation spending will get an additional \$17.1 billion over the next decade, an 80 % increase, and \$1 billion will go for rural development, including incentives to expand ethanol production. Total payment limitations were capped at \$360,000.

Organic Provisions in the Farm Bill:

Organic Certification Cost Share: establishes and provides \$5 million in funding, starting in 2002 and available until expended, to assist producers and handlers of agricultural products in obtaining certification under the National Organic Program established under the Organic Foods Production Act of 1990. The bill language allows a maximum federal cost share of 75% of certification costs up to a maximum of \$500.

Organic Marketing Order Check Off Program: Farmers who produce and market 100% organic products are exempt from paying an assessment under commodity promotion laws.

Organic Research Initiative: will provide \$15 million of mandatory funding to be spent at \$3 million a year for 5 years. It expands the organic agriculture research and extension initiative to include on-farm research and development for working organic farms, determination of desirable traits for organic commodities, and identification of marketing and policy constraints on the expansion of organic agriculture. The \$15 million dollars is truly unprecedented for organic agriculture but pales in comparison to the \$180 billion total estimated cost of the farm bill.

International Organic Research Collaboration: This sections states that the secretary, acting through ARS and ERS, shall facilitate access by research and extension professionals, farmers and other interested persons in the US to, and the use by those persons of, organic research conducted outside of the US.

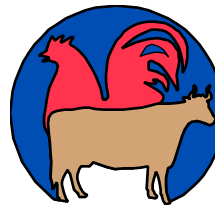
Report on Producers and Handlers of Organic Agricultural Production: No later than one year after funds are made available to carry out this section, the secretary shall submit to congress a report that describes and evaluates production and handling of organic production and programs that directly benefit organic producers and handlers.

Organic Production and Market Data Initiative: Includes the production and marketing data of organic agricultural products to be included in the baseline of agricultural data collection.

Swiss study conclusive about the benefits of Organic Agriculture

Organic farming results in a smaller yield than conventional agriculture, but is far more energy efficient and better for the land. That might sound intuitive to many organic advocates, but it took a 21-year study by Swiss scientists to prove it. Research published in the most recent issue of Science showed that organic farming is a viable alternative to conventional methods -- i.e., those that are heavily reliant on pesticides and other chemical treatments. The findings are based on a study begun in 1978, in which scientists compared potatoes, barley, winter wheat, beets, and grass clover grown using different methods. The organic fields averaged 20 percent less yield, but used between 34 and 53 percent less fertilizer and energy, and 97 percent fewer pesticides. Per unit of energy, the organic systems produced more food, and the organic soils housed a larger and more diverse con

...said they hoped t
would encour-
age farmers to
consider
switching to
organic agricul-
ture. BBC
News, Alex
Kirby, 30 May
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Carey & Cathy Christ—Sunnyside Farm
Lauren Churchill & Daniel Torrison—Rabbit's Run
Robert, L. Copenhaver
Hubert Derstine
Jack & Dale Duff—Blackberry Meadows
Doug Eversmeyer—E's Berries
Amos L. Fisher
Charles Poultry Co, Inc.
Marlin R. Grimes—Power Gourmet Concepts II
Sherman W. Haas
Jim and Lucinda Hess—Pride of the Pantry Farm
Hilary F Hoffman—Sun-Hil Organic Farm
Jan P. Holland—Holland Farms, Inc.
Jere Hull—Sunsprout of Lancaster County
Richard Hunter—Hunter Farms
Bob and Joy Jack—Breezy Acres
David Jackson—Kiwi Korners
Steven L. Kanagy
Daniel S. King
Edwin D. Kinsinger
Nyron L. Ligo—Green Supreme Inc.
Jacob L Miller
Mike Noll—Keene Family Organic Farms & D Bar J
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Phyllis Seidl & Sharon D'Agostino—Wild Isadora's
Farm
Dwayne W. Reed—Cedar Springs Farm
Tony Ricci—Green Heron Farm
Mik & Maggie Robertson—M & M Robertson Farms
Carl Schmidt—Schmidt Family Farm
Amos M. Stoltzfus—Sunny Crest Farm
Lori Timmerman
Dan Verdelli—Verdelli Farms
Bonnie B. Wilson —Highland Acres

What's up with the organic certi- fication fee cost-share program?

The Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture has renewed the organic cost-share program for 2002. Organic crops and/or livestock producers in Pennsylvania who are certified or re-certified during 2002 are eligible to apply. If you did not receive an application form or have any questions about the program, contact Martha Melton at PDA:717-787-8354. 🌻

Job Opening at PCO

Certification Assistant/Newsletter Editor requires knowledge of organic standards and regulations; familiarity with certification procedures; good organizational, communication, computer and writing skills. Approx. 20 hours per week (flexible) at the PCO office in Centre Hall, PA. Full job description available upon request.

Send resume to:
Penny Sandoval, PCO
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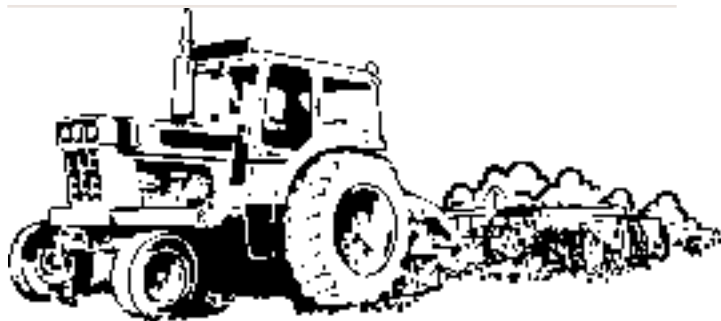
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Certification Update

Thank you to all of you who have submitted your applications on time. The vast majority of your annual updates have arrived timely and complete. We really, really appreciate the time and effort you put into the yearly certification paperwork. PCO producers are definitely tops in that department. On-time and complete applications are the major factor in keeping everything else running smoothly (. . . and the PCO staff working happily!)

If you are a PCO-certified operator or a supporting member, you should have received our new Certification Manual including the National Organic Standards and PCO's certification policies and procedures. You should also have received the OMRI generic and brand names lists separately. Please contact the PCO office if you have not received these documents. If you are not a member and would like to receive these materials, contact PCO for membership and ordering information. ☀



www.paorganic.org
slowly but surely...

By Sabine Carey

Certification Assistant

We are still working on getting www.paorganic.org up and running. This project was put aside briefly so that we could focus our energies on the accreditation site visit and processing of spring applications, but we are back on track. Our new website will provide basic certification information, the PCO newsletter – Organic Matters, an event calendar, a searchable PCO producer database, classifieds and much more. In the future there will also be sponsorship and advertising opportunities, and we will let you know when these become available. We are still looking for suitable quality photos of PCO-certified farms and products to showcase the variety and quality of Pennsylvania's organic products, so if you have any, please let us know at the office. We can use either digital or original photos. Since we will have a "Organic Links" page, make sure we have your website address if you have one.

Any materials or questions for the site can be sent to bina@paorganic.org ☀

Introducing... PCO's new inspectors!

You may have already met some of PCO's new inspectors because they're already out and on the job, working on our spring inspections. This influx of new inspectors is due to the Inspector Training that was held in Millersburg, PA in August, 2001. The training, put on by the International Organic Inspectors Association, brought trainees from around the country, including several from right here in Pennsylvania. And this spring these Pennsylvania trainees are completing their required apprentice inspections with experienced inspectors and starting to do their own inspections. One of them may pay your operation a visit in the coming year!

Melanie Wertz

Melanie hails from Mechanicsburg where she is the Watershed Assistance Environmental Planner for the Department of Environmental Protection. She attended the crop and livestock inspector training and plans to begin inspecting on her own in 2002.

Bob Vernon

Bob is used to spending time with farmers as part of his work shoeing horses in Centre County. He attended both the crop and the livestock inspector training, has completed his apprentice inspections, and will soon be out on his own.

Nell Hanssen

You may have talked to Nell on the phone, as she is a Certification Assistant with PCO. She attended the crop and livestock inspector training and began inspecting PCO farms last fall.

For information on upcoming inspector trainings, go to www.ioia.org or call (406) 436-2031.



A new opportunity from Rodale

The Rodale Institute, partnering with other agricultural organizations, has received a grant to provide training, consultation and startup assistance for farmers interested in exploring computer and internet resources to facilitate better farm management, marketing and overall farm performance. The goal is to increase farm profits through web-based direct marketing.

If you are interested in participating in this project, contact Kristi at 610-683-14000.

Summer 2002 Calendar

July 18th, 3:00, supper at 6:00

West Virginia University Organic Research Farm

The Field Day will include a wagon tour of research and demonstration plots emphasizing transitional practices for growers considering converting from conventional to organic farming as well as several demonstrations of organic practices. For more information, call Dr. Jim Kotcon at 304-293-3911 ext. 2230 or visit: www.caf.wvu.edu/plsc/organic

July 19th, 9:30-4:30

Penn State High Tunnel Research and Education Facility, Rock Springs, PA

One in a series of workshops dedicated to production of vegetables, herbs, small fruit, and cut flowers in high tunnels. The registration fee for this workshop is \$10.00 and will be used to provide lunch and beverage as well as printed materials. Please send a check made out to "Penn State University" to the attention of Lisa White, 112 Tyson Building, University Park, PA 16802. 814-865-5587, email ldw112@psu.edu

July 26, 2002

Cedar Meadow Farm, PA

"Enhancing and Sustaining Small Family Farms and Water Quality in Pennsylvania through Regenerative Agriculture." Part of the Rodale Institutes 2002 Training Activities. 610-683-1400.

August 7, 2002

Just-A-Jersey Farm, Lancaster Co.

This PASA field day, which PCO is co-sponsoring, will feature organic crop and dairy production of a farm run by PCO certified Enos Hoover. Features his innovative crop and pasture rotation system as well as his intensive composting methods. Kate Francis, PASA (814) 349-9856 ext 6.

August 13, 2002

PCO Board of Directors Meeting

Time and location to be announced.

August 20, 21, 22, 2002

Penn State's Ag Progress Days at Rock Springs

Visit the PCO table in Exhibit tent 1

August 22, 2002

Sustainable fruit production in small farming systems

Organized by PASA and Slippery Rock University. Contact Kate Francis at PASA at 814-349-9856 ext 6.

September 26, 2002

Keswick Creamery, Cumberland Co.

Features cheesemaking and pastured pig production. Contact Kate Francis at PASA at 814-349-9856 ext 6.

October 3-6, 2002

Natural Products Expo, East,

Washington Convention Center, Washington DC
PCO will be represented by 12 certified organic producers' displaying mushrooms, dairy products, poultry products, baked goods, fresh produce, snack foods, frozen vegetables, livestock feed, soil amendments and more.

October 15, 2002

Beech Grove Farm Small Group Tours

Get a close look at Anne and Eric Nordell's intensive cover cropping systems, tillage and cultivation techniques and organic vegetable farm in Lycoming County.

Contact Kate Francis, Farm Based Education Coordinator at PASA to reserve a spot. 814-349-9856 or email kate@pasafarming.org

Wednesday, August 14, 2002, 9:30 AM-4:30 PM

At the farms of Klaas and Mary-Howell Martens and their neighbors, Penn Yan, NY

Klaas and Mary-Howell Martens grow 1300 acres of organic grain along with processing vegetables on the western shore of Seneca Lake near Penn Yan, New York. They have also started a value-added feed mill and seed cleaning business to process local organically-grown crops and increase markets. They and their neighbors share expertise to grow nearly 8,000 acres of certified organic grain production in Yates County. There will be a \$15 fee for the field day and pre-registration is required. Call Maxine Welcome at 607-255-5439 to pre-register.

For more information, please call Brian Caldwell at 607-564-1060 or visit the NEON website at <http://www.neon.cornell.edu/>

September 16-18, 2002

National Organic Standards Board Meetings, Washington DC

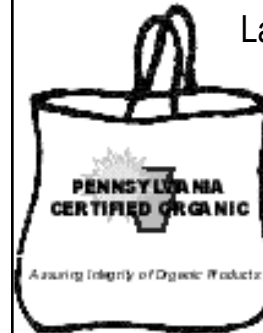
Call 202-205-7806 for details.

October 17-19, 2002

National Organic Standards Board Meetings, Washington, DC.

Call 202-205-7806 for details.

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Large, durable, canvas bags
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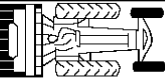
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FOR SALE: Corn, oats, spelt, barley, soybeans, buckwheat, alfalfa, red clover, and mixed hay. Midwest Organic Farmers Coop. Call Kevin Brussell (217) 723-2702.

600 BU PCO CERTIFIED organic soybeans for sale @ \$11.00 Bu. Call (570) 966-1658 or (570) 452-2202 or e-mail presboop@csrlink.net

BARLEY, BEANS AND WHEAT for sale. PCO certified, cleaned and bagged. Landisdale Farms (717) 865-6220.

WANTED: Transitional corn, soybeans or small grains either immediately or 2001 crop. Contact Klaas and Mary-Howell Martens, Lakeview Organic Grain, Penn Yan, NY (315) 536-9879 kandmhfarm@sprintmail.com

MIXED HAY for sale—big square bales. Barley for sale—new crop. Delivery available. Contact Frank L. Reed (717) 665-2442.

BALEAGE in round bales and small square bales (dry). Mostly grass. Call 570-324-3075.

ORGANIC TIMOTHY hay from Snyder County. 600-700 lb round bales. Call 570-374-8750.

Livestock

PASTURED POULTRY FEED for sale. Certified organic. Fertrell minerals used. Also certified corn and soybeans for sale. Call Bucky Ziegler (570) 437-2156 or email at pvppfarm@aol.com

CERTIFIED ORGANIC cross-bred cows for sale. Contact Mark Nolt (717) 776-3417.

WILL RAISE your organic replacement dairy heifers on my certified farm. Contact Ray Ingalls at 570-324-3075.

Employment & Business

ALTERNATIVE HOMESTEADERS looking for kindred spirit(s) to rent mobile home, share organic garden space in rural southeastern York County. Beautiful hiking trails and Susquehanna River nearby. (717) 862-1737.



Supplies & Equipment

DRIP IRRIGATION supplies and equipment—Free Catalog showing our extensive line of quality components for farms, landscape, orchards, residences. Our design service will ensure that you'll receive the right equipment. Fast, friendly service, low prices, save water and grow better quality and larger crops. Rubber or Poly Pond Liners available—free samples, free shipping, free quotes. Call for free 64 page color catalog. Dripworks, 800 616-8321. www.dripworksusa.com.

SOYBEAN EXPELLER for sale. Anderson model 33 Duo Expeller. Reconditioned with 40 hp motor. 700 lb/hr output. In excellent condition for immediate delivery. Two Model 33 Duo Expellers and ancillary equipment also available for reconditioning or spare parts. Photos available. David Singsank, American Health and Nutrition, 800-992-1818, ext. 14.

Organic & Natural Products

ORGANIC BEEF for sale: Certified organic beef available, wholesale and retail. Danda Farms, 603 Lititz Road, Manheim, PA 17545. Call for brochure and more information (717) 627-7840. Store hours: Tues 9-5, Fri 9-5, Sat 9-3.

ORGANIC LAMB: Whole or half custom-processed to your specifications. Available in August. Common Ground Organic Farm, 176 Zuck Road, Spring Mills, PA 16875; (814) 364-9171; fax (814) 364-2330; CommonGro@aol.com.

Organic Matters Ad Rates & Policy

Advertising Inquiries: Please contact the PCO office for a full advertising package and rate card.

Display Ad Rates: Full page—\$300, Half page—\$175, Quarter page—\$100, Eighth page—\$60. All rates refer to purchase of an ad for one issue. A 15% discount is available for the purchase of an ad for 4 issues. To receive discount, entire package must be paid for in advance.

Deadline Schedule: Closing dates: Spring—March 1, Summer—June 1, Fall—September 1, Winter—December 1. Mailing dates: Spring—April, Summer—July, Fall—October, Winter—January

Design Services: Display ad layout and design services are available for additional fees. Allow time for ad completion.

Classified Ads: \$6 for the first 30 words, .25 per word over 30. PCO members receive one free 30-word ad per issue.

Advertising Disclaimer: All advertising is subject to PCO's approval. PCO reserves the right to reject or cancel any advertising for any reason at any time. PCO neither investigates nor endorses the products or claims made by advertisers. *The appearance of an advertised product in Organic Matters does not guarantee its approval for use in an organic system.*

2002 PCO Order Form

Procedure for new applicants

When we receive your new application form (below) and check, we will send out your application packet with the materials described below. You must then complete the application and send it to us along with all related documents and certification fee to start the certification process. Membership is not required for certification. If you are applying for certification and do not wish to be a member, check the box on the form below.

2002 Certification Schedule

Application Due Dates	Approximate Inspection Date	Estimated Completion Date
March 15	May-June	July 31
May 15	July-August	October 31
July 15	September-November	December 31

NEW APPLICANT FORM

YES, I would like to apply for certification in 2002 in the following category(ies):

- Crops/produce
- Dairy/livestock
- Poultry
- On-Farm Processing/handling
- Processor/handler
- Broker/handler
- Mushrooms
- Maple Products
- Other

I am not applying for certification in 2002 but would like to join PCO as:

an Associate Member \$35

Includes Organic Matters newsletter, meeting and workshop notices, discounts on PCO materials and invitations to meetings.

an Supporting Member \$50

Includes Associate Member benefits and you may vote on PCO standards and policies. You may also request a free copy of the PCO Certification Manual, Materials List and Record-Keeping system, a \$50 value. The cost of a Supporting membership will be credited towards the certification fee if applying for 2002 certification.

Volunteer!

- I would like to join a committee.
- I would like to help out with PCO projects & events.
- Please contact me with information.

#	Item	Price	Total
	Associate Membership	\$35	
	Supporting Membership	\$50	
	* Certification Manual	\$25	
	* Materials List	\$25	
	* Record-Keeping System	\$10	
	List of Certified Operations	\$5	
	PCO Organic Cotton Tote Bag	\$16.95	
		Total \$ Enclosed	

* Available free by request with Supporting membership. Cost of materials will be credited towards certification fee if applying for 2002 certification.

If you prefer **NOT** to be a member, check here.

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