

April 6, 2006 Organic Network Call 8:30

Connected: Paul Porter, Bill Wilke, Bud Markhart (scribe), John Beckwith, Helene (host) Murray, Jim Riddle, Carmen Fernholtz, Meg Moynihan, Paulene Nickel

Jim

Spoke at U of T symposium on sustainable.  
April 18 deadline for call for papers for IFOAM Conference on Livestock  
Still looking for local field trip options  
Organic Website, launch next Friday  
OATF meeting: Commissioner attended, discussed farm bill  
Jim is preparing proposal for transition \$\$\$  
Mung Gardening Project

Carmen

Working on MOFIE / mentor website  
Updating mailing list on organics (from Lamberton)  
Research project with Agron faculty: \$650,000 organic rotations, soybean/rye, alfalfa management

Paulene

Grant exists that is not a rumor, but can't talk about.  
Wed June 28, Organic Field Day: Jerry DeWitt, Ken Mieter are keynote speakers. Field tours, row crops and horticulture crops. Bud in field.  
Meg will call Paulene later today. Vegetable garden will expand to include Mung cultural garden, commercial vegetable garden, and more.....

John:

Dealing mostly with flood and water. Other Mung projects. NRCS website, under technical note on with buffer strips and butterflies will be up soon, other technical notes are related to organics and could be very useful.

Bud:

Class trip to Iceland and Germany: Confirmed visit to IFOAM headquarters in Bonn. Student Organic Farm: Planting, Looking for small hoop house, FFA tour/talk. Grant to evaluate organic fish based fertilizer. Talk at Chanhassen, lots of interest, especially organic turf management. Dream for Wild Health: Corn seeds from elders.

Onida Corn for Homeny.

<http://www.pdf4free.com>

Meg:

OATF recommendations to the commissioner on the Farm Bill

Organic Farm Directory Project: 150 responses. Free to growers.

Organic Food and Management Project 65 projects enrolled. Exceeded expectations.

Center for Farm Financial Management: Economics of Transition.

Going to All Things Organic in Chicago.

Next Meeting May 4, 2006: Meg will host: Carmen will Scribe