NOSB Materials Report
Fall 2016 Meeting in St. Louis, MO

Prepared by Johanna Mirenda, OMRI Technical Director

The National Organic Standards Board (NOSB) held its fall 2016 meeting November 16-18 in St. Louis, MO. See Appendix 1 for a complete tally of votes on proposals and petitions for materials on the National List. Recommendations from the NOSB are not enforceable by certifiers or material review organizations. The National Organic Program (NOP) must formalize the recommendations through rulemaking, which involves an additional opportunity for public comment.

Carrageenan to be removed from §205.605(a)

Various concerns were discussed regarding the eligibility for carrageenan to continue to be permitted as an ingredient in processed organic foods. Several scientific studies and many anecdotal claims raised concerns that carrageenan consumption leads to inflammation of the gastrointestinal tract. Although the NOSB Handling Subcommittee concluded that the full body of scientific evidence does not support claims of widespread negative human health impacts from consumption of carrageenan in processed foods, all NOSB members acknowledged the significant consumer demand that carrageenan be removed from food. Information from food manufacturers also indicated that equivalent forms of most products can be made without the use of carrageenan, or with permitted alternatives.

Legal Registration
Changes to OMRI Listing Information

By Kelsey McKee

The organic movement has both a local focus and a global reach, which is true for OMRI as well. At our office in Eugene, Oregon, we review input products that are manufactured across town and purchased by local farmers who market their bounty through Community Supported Agriculture programs. We also review input materials from halfway across the globe that may be used to grow such novelties as the tropical dragon fruit or mid-winter strawberry. In total, the OMRI Products List® contains products from over 30 countries, including Australia, India, and the U.S. – just to name a few. All OMRI Listed® products have been evaluated for compliance with the organic regulations; however, there are many other local regulations that may apply to products depending on where they are sold.
Long Range Plan

BY PEGGY MIARS

I wrote in my last column about OMRI’s humble beginnings in 1996. As we celebrate 20 years of serving the organic community, we are also preparing for OMRI’s role in the future growth of the organic industry. OMRI staff and board members have begun working on a long-range plan, one that lays the groundwork for us to continue growing our services for organic stakeholders. The long-range plan is based on current knowledge and assumptions about the future, and must remain flexible as OMRI and external forces change.

If we continue at the same recent rate of growth, our 10-year projections are staggering: 42,000 OMRI Listed products, and 142 OMRI employees. Are those numbers even feasible? Do we want to be that big of an organization? We don’t know if the future holds increased innovation, with more input products for organic producers and handlers, or whether the USDA National List of Allowed and Prohibited Materials will decrease in size. We don’t know what impact the incoming U.S. administration will have on organic standards, yet material review is an area that is still confusing even as organic products are being certified and sold in that country. We’re talking with stakeholders in Mexico to see how OMRI can support their process.

What does seem clear is that the work continues! We continually add new jobs to support the growing OMRI Products List and OMRI Canada Products List. Bilingual staff in particular will help us communicate with stakeholders in various regions of the world to support global organic growth. We are hiring experienced IT staff because OMRI is data driven, with our proprietary database containing more than 25,000 materials that have been reviewed for organic compliance. OMRI continues to be that unique nonprofit organization created by organic certifiers and stakeholders with a vision for a better future.

OMRI depends on our close relationships with stakeholders, including our dedicated Review Panel members who make product compliance decisions, our Advisory Council that evaluates and recommends OMRI standards, and our Board of Directors who guides our organization. We invite you to join us as we embark on our next 20 years. Apply for a job at OMRI, contribute comments to help improve our publications, or make a tax-deductible donation to support our education program. We want to hear from you so that we can provide the best service possible for organic certifiers, organic producers and handlers, government agencies, input suppliers, the public, and stakeholders all across the organic sector and around the globe.
NOSB continued from page 1

The NOSB ultimately determined that carrageenan no longer meets the criteria for use in organic processing as set by the Organic Foods Production Act, which require compatibility with organic principles and essentiality for organic handling. Carrageenan was recommended to be removed from §205.605(a) of the National List, pending NOP rulemaking. Once the NOP completes rulemaking to remove carrageenan from §205.605(a) of the National List, nonorganic forms of carrageenan will be prohibited. However, NOSB members highlighted the possibility for carrageenan to be produced and processed in accordance with the NOP regulations. Certified organic forms of carrageenan would be allowed as ingredients in organic processed foods.

Ivermectin to be removed from §205.603(a)

Ivermectin is currently listed at §205.603(a) of the National List for use in livestock production as a parasiticide. A petition was submitted for the removal of ivermectin from the National List due to concerns regarding the substance’s toxicity in the environment and its negative impact on dung beetles, which are critical for healthy pastures. There are alternative substances, both natural and synthetic, permitted for this use that do not pose a risk to environmental health.

The NOSB voted in favor of the petition, and ivermectin will be removed from §205.603(a) of the National List, pending NOP rulemaking. Once the NOP completes rulemaking to remove ivermectin from §205.603(a) of the National List, it will be prohibited for use in organic livestock production.

Excluded Methods

Products sold or represented as organic must not be produced with excluded methods as defined in the NOP regulations at §205.2. The NOSB approved a proposal developed by the Materials Subcommittee which includes three parts: 1) it established definitions of widely used terms relevant to excluded methods (e.g., Genetic Engineering, Genetically Modified Organism, Synthetic Biology); 2) it sets principles and criteria to be used by the NOSB when evaluating new technologies and terminologies; and 3) it includes a chart listing specific methods and types of genetic engineering techniques, and whether they are classified as excluded methods (e.g., gene silencing is an excluded method).

This proposal is the result of many rounds of discussion documents, proposals and public comments over the course of several years. The NOP plans to integrate the NOSB proposal on excluded methods terminology in a guidance document to be published in the NOP Program Handbook. The NOSB continues to deliberate other issues relating to this topic, such as detection and enforcement challenges for some types of excluded methods.

Appendix 1: Crop Materials

For Livestock and handling Materials, please see page 7.

Sunset materials are indicated with an asterisk (*).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Crop Material</th>
<th>Motion and Vote</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Copper sulfate*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listings from §205.601(a) [3] and [e][4]. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.601(a) [3] and [e][4].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ozone gas*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.601(a) [5]. Vote: 1 Yes, 12 No, 1 Abstain. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.601(a) [5].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peracetic acid*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listings from §205.601(a) [6] and [i][8]. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.601(a) [6] and [i][8].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EPA List 3 Inerts*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.601(m) [2]. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.601(m) [2].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium chloride*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.602(c). Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.602(c).</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aluminum sulfate</td>
<td>Motion: To add listing to §205.601. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Continues to be prohibited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Soy wax</td>
<td>Motion: To add listing to §205.601 for use in log grown mushroom production with the annotation, “Must be made from organic soybeans. Soy wax made from nonorganic soybeans produced without excluded methods may be used when soy wax from organic soybeans is not commercially available.” Vote: 4 Yes, 9 No, 1 Abstain. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Continues to be prohibited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1-methylcyclopropene [1-MCP]</td>
<td>Motion: To add listing to §205.601. Vote: 3 Yes, 11 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Continues to be prohibited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammonium citrate</td>
<td>Motion: To add listing to §205.601. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Continues to be prohibited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ammonium glycinate</td>
<td>Motion: To add listing to §205.601. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Continues to be prohibited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potassium cellulose glycolate</td>
<td>Motion: To add listing to §205.601. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Continues to be prohibited.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Proposals and petitions that did not result in a change to the National List

2018 Sunset Materials (Crops, Handling) – The NOSB completed its review of materials that were scheduled for sunset review this year. The NOSB voted to remove carrageenan from §205.605(a). The NOP voted to renew listings for copper sulfate, ozone gas, peracetic acid, EPA List 3 inerts and calcium chloride in crop production, as well as agar-agar, animal enzymes, calcium sulfate, glucono-delta lactone, tartaric acid, cellulose, potassium hydroxide, silicon dioxide, and beta-carotene extract color for use in processing and handling.

Petitions (Crops) – The NOSB considered the following petitions:

- soy wax as a production aid in log grown mushroom production
- Ammonium citrate and ammonium glycinate as chelating agents in crop production
- 1-methylcyclopentene (1-MCP) as an excluded method

NOSB continued on page 6
How does OMRI differentiate between Livestock Feed Ingredient (LF) and Livestock Health Care (LH) products and thus decide which review policies to use?

The National Organic Program (NOP) regulations at 7 CFR Part 205 outline distinct standards for Livestock Feed at §205.237 and Livestock Health Care at §205.238. There is some overlap, and §205.238 includes the “[p]rovision of a feed ration sufficient to meet nutritional requirements” as a health care practice standard. Crucial to the review of products in both classes is the distinction between synthetic/nonsynthetic and agricultural/nonagricultural status of the ingredients. Beyond that similarity there are some clear differences.

OMRI differentiates an LF versus an LH product using the product label. The label for a product applying to the LH class must indicate a compliant health care use (i.e., non-routine use, administered at certain stages of life, prescriptive). These products include animal drugs, general use health care substances, internal and topical medications and biologics. The label for a product applying to the LF class does not have to include use instructions, but if it does, they must be consistent with use as an additive or supplement for livestock feed. Examples include, but are not limited to, a Guaranteed Analysis showing protein, fat and fiber; instructions to mix with other feed; or directions indicating quantities to be used per an amount of feed.

LF products can be further segmented by whether the label indicates it is a feed additive or feed supplement. The National List allows a limited number of synthetic substances in a feed additive, but provides no allowance for synthetic substances in a feed supplement. A feed additive is a substance or combination of substances added to the basic feed mix to fulfill a specific nutritional need, normally in micro-quantities. A feed

When does OMRI allow fertilizer manufacturers to use the term “organic” on the label?

OMRI strives to provide clear information to the organic industry. To that end OMRI closely examines the labels of input materials that are, or will become, OMRI Listed®. The OMRI Policy Manual® §2.7 indicates that the use of the term “organic” on input labels must not be misleading to organic certifiers, producers or handlers. According to the Organic Foods Production Act and the USDA organic regulations, the term “organic” or its variants on agricultural products is only permitted if the product is produced and handled in accordance with the National Organic Program (NOP) regulations (7 CFR §205.102). Put simply, if a material can be certified organic, then the label must not falsely make it appear as if the material is certified organic.

For example, picture an alfalfa-based fertilizer labeled as “organic alfalfa.” Being an agricultural product, alfalfa is eligible for organic certification; therefore if the alfalfa is not actually certified organic then that label claim would be considered by OMRI to be misleading. A revised product label without any misleading claims would be requested prior to the product becoming eligible to be OMRI Listed®.

On the other hand, a fertilizer made from calcium carbonate marketed as “organic limestone” is not considered by OMRI to be misleading because mined minerals are not eligible to be certified organic.

Syntax is crucial in determining whether a product label is misleading or not. In all cases, the phrases “for organic use” and “for organic production” are permitted, but not exhaustive. This is because these phrases are merely stating how the final product could be used, and they do not specifically reference an ingredient or material that is or could be certified organic. Returning to the above example of an alfalfa input, it would be misleading to market the product as an “organic alfalfa fertilizer,” because ‘organic’ explicitly refers to the alfalfa ingredient. Marketing the product as an “organic fertilizer with alfalfa,” or “alfalfa fertilizer for organic use,” does not specifically identify the alfalfa ingredient as certified organic; therefore the label is not considered by OMRI to be misleading.
Peracetic Acid

BY DANIEL NGUYEN

Why are there multiple categories for peracetic acid. What’s the difference?

peracetic acid is a synthetic material which appears at both 7 CFR §205.605(b) of the USDA National Organic Program (NOP) National List and Table 7.3 of CAN/CGSB-32.311-2015 under the Canada Organic Regime (COR) standards. In organic processing and handling, solutions of peracetic acid are used as sanitizers and disinfectants on a wide variety of surfaces, and are also used in processing and wash waters. Solutions of peracetic acid are produced commercially through the reaction of acetic acid and hydrogen peroxide. In addition to residual acetic acid and hydrogen peroxide, peracetic acid solutions may also contain other materials such as stabilizers. These additional ingredients can result in different use restrictions for different peracetic acid solutions.

Under the NOP standards, the §205.605(b) listing for peracetic acid carries the annotation “for use in wash and/or rinse water according to FDA limitations. For use as a sanitizer on food contact surfaces.” For the purposes of an OMRI review under the NOP regulations, OMRI divides peracetic acid products into three separate groups.

The first group consists of “Allowed” products which may make direct food contact, including use in wash or flume water. For a product to be allowed to make direct food contact, OMRI verifies that the formulation is either identified for direct food contact in the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulations (at 21 CFR), or has a company-specific Food Contact Notification (FCN). Peracetic acid products are evaluated against the formulations described in the 2016 NOP Technical Evaluation Report (TR) to determine if the product’s formulation meets the standards of identity described in the FDA regulations.

The second group includes products which are “Allowed with Restrictions” as food contact surface sanitizers, but that do not require an intervening event between use of the product and food contact. The label for a product applying to the LH class must indicate a compliant health care use.

supplement is used along with another feed to improve the nutrient balance or performance of the total feed ration. It may be fed undiluted as a supplement to other feeds, Q&A Livestock continued on page 7

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In Remembrance

Honoring Gary Libman

We appreciate Gary’s many contributions to OMRI and the organic industry. He was a lively collaborator who brought essential expertise around farming inputs and EPA requirements. Gary will be missed.

Yvonne Frost can be remembered as one of our great influential pioneers in organic processing certification. With a sharp business mind and passion for organic, Yvonne was one of the main supporters of starting Oregon Tilth Certified Organic (OTCO), a nonprofit certifier, educator and advocate for organic agriculture that helped form OMRI. Yvonne volunteered to take on OTCO’s certification program in 1980 and worked over the next decade with several other committed individuals to build OTCO into one of the national’s most respected programs. Yvonne’s vision was to make organic food available on the shelves of every supermarket across the country. OMRI extends our infinite gratitude for all that Yvonne did to help shape the success of the organic sector we work in.

Legal continued from page 1

Acknowledging the global reach of the National Organic Program (NOP) and the Canada Organic Regime (COR), as well as the widespread use of OMRI Listed products, OMRI recently changed its review criteria for products subject to registration as a pesticide. Specifically, OMRI certifies no longer identify products that are not registered for use as pesticides in the U.S. or Canada. Most products that aren’t registered are not intended for sale in that country, and therefore are not subject to registration requirements.

Even inputs that are registered at the federal level in the U.S. or Canada may be further regulated by the state, province, county or city where they are sold and used. For example, the city of Vancouver, British Columbia has established bylaws to further restrict pesticide use within its local community. Each of the 30 countries where OMRI Listed products are manufactured may have a similar hierarchy of regulatory requirements. And that’s just for pesticides! Crop fertilizers and livestock feed additives may also be subject to additional regulations based on where they are sold and how they are used.

OMRI is not an authority concerning the specific registration requirements that may apply to the more than 4,000 OMRI Listed products in the marketplace. Input suppliers are responsible for complying with the regulations that apply to their products wherever they are sold. The OMRI Standards Manuals® and OMRI Policy Manual© define the scope of OMRI’s review, which is limited to OMRI policies and standards as based on the NOP or COR standards. For compliance with the organic regulations, OMRI Listed products must be used according to their use class, listing category, and applicable restrictions, and use must be approved by an accredited organic certifier. In addition, certified operators are responsible for using OMRI Listed products in a legal manner, consistent with label use instructions and in compliance with applicable governmental regulations.

Whether you are on a farm packing boxes of produce for the local community, or at a facility processing organic products for export across the globe, you can rely on the OMRI seal to identify compliant materials. But depending on where you are, the regulations that apply to the use of OMRI Listed products may be different. Read labels carefully and check in with the applicable governmental authorities with any questions about legal uses for OMRI Listed products.

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- potassium cellulose glycylate for use in crop production as a water filtration aid, and as an inert in combination with liquid fertilizers
- aluminum sulfate, sodium bisulfate, and acid-activated bentonite as livestock bedding treatments for ammonia control

In all cases the board voted against the petitions because the substances do not appear to be essential, and nonsynthetic alternatives and permitted synthetic alternatives exist. These materials continue to be prohibited in organic crop production.

Chlorine dioxide gas (Handling) – The NOSB considered a petition to allow sodium chlorite in generating chlorine dioxide gas for use as a sanitizer in organic processing and handling. Issues raised about this substance included the conditional EPA registration status of the petitioned product, concern about worker safety, and questions regarding the allowance of other precursors used to generate the final substance. The NOSB referred the issue back to the subcommittee for further consideration.

Oat protein concentrate (Handling) – The NOSB considered a petition to allow nonorganic oat protein concentrate in organic processing and handling when organic forms are not commercially available. The NOSB voted against the petition because organic forms are commercially available. Oat protein concentrate continues to be required in organic form.

Tocopherols (Handling) – The NOSB considered two proposals regarding the tocopherols used in organic processing and handling. One proposal was to amend the existing listing of allowed synthetic tocopherols at §205.605(b) to remove the preference for rosemary extracts. The other proposal was to add a listing for tocopherols to §205.605(a) to indicate that nonsynthetic forms are permitted.
Several questions were raised during the consideration of these proposals regarding the agricultural status and the classification of some forms of tocopherols as synthetic or nonsynthetic. The NOSB referred both proposals back to the subcommittee for further consideration.

Appendix 1: Vote Tally
The NOSB is composed of 15 members.

Appendix 1: Livestock and Handling Materials

Sunset materials are indicated with an asterisk (*)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Livestock Material</th>
<th>Motion and Vote</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ivermectin</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.603[a]. Vote: 14 Yes, 0 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Will be removed from §205.603[a].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aluminum sulfate</td>
<td>Motion: To add listing to §205.603. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Continues to be prohibited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium bisulfate</td>
<td>Motion: To add listing to §205.603. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Continues to be prohibited.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Acid-activated bentonite</td>
<td>Motion: To add listing to §205.603. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Continues to be prohibited.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Handling Material</th>
<th>Motion and Vote</th>
<th>Outcome</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Agar-agar*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.605[a]. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.605[a].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Animal enzymes*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.605[a]. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.605[a].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Calcium sulfate*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.605[a]. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.605[a].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Carrageenan*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.605[a]. Vote: 10 Yes, 3 No, 1 Abstain. Motion passes.</td>
<td>Will be removed from §205.605[a].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Glucono delta-lactone*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.605[a]. Vote: 0 Yes, 13 No, 1 Abstain. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.605[a].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tartaric acid*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.605[a]. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.605[a].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cellulose*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.605[b]. Vote: 2 Yes, 11 No, 1 Abstain. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.605[b].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Potassium hydroxide*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.605[b]. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.605[b].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silicon dioxide*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.605[b]. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.605[b].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beta-carotene extract color*</td>
<td>Motion: To remove listing from §205.606. Vote: 6 Yes, 8 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Remains listed at §205.605[b].</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oat protein concentrate</td>
<td>Motion: To add oat protein concentrate to §205.606. Vote: 0 Yes, 14 No. Motion fails.</td>
<td>Continues to be reviewed in organic form.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sodium nitrate for generation of chlorine dioxide gas</td>
<td>Motion: To refer proposal back to subcommittee. Vote: 14 Yes, 0 No. Motion passes.</td>
<td>Referred back to subcommittee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tocopherols – additional listing at §205.605[a]</td>
<td>Motion: To refer proposal back to subcommittee. Vote: 14 Yes, 0 No. Motion passes.</td>
<td>Referred back to subcommittee.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tocopherols – annotation change at §205.605[b]</td>
<td>Motion: To refer proposal back to subcommittee. Vote: 14 Yes, 0 No. Motion passes.</td>
<td>Referred back to subcommittee.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Q&A Processing continued from page 5

The final group of products is “Allowed with Restrictions” provided that an intervening event prevents residues from contacting organic products. This group is reserved for peracetic acid formulations that do not meet an FDA standard of identity for peracetic acid. For a product to be included in this group, OMRI verifies that the label use instructions contain an effective removal event which prevents contact of the peracetic acid product with organic products. OMRI reviewers may request additional documentation which substantiates the efficacy of the removal event.
February 2-4  Organicology, Portland, OR  Organicology offers a curriculum designed to advance trade knowledge across a broad front that includes seed producers, farmers, distributors and retailers, researchers and educators, chefs, and food policy activists. www.organicology.org *

February 9-11  Ohio Ecological Food & Farm Association Conference, Dayton, OH  The theme for this year’s 38th annual conference is “Growing Today, Transforming Tomorrow.” The popular event attracts farmers, backyard growers, home cooks, homesteaders, and others committed to local food, sustainable agriculture, and green living, and features dozens of speakers who cover a wide range of subjects. www.oeffa.org/events.php

February 14-16  World Ag Expo, Tulare, CA  The world’s largest annual agriculture exposition celebrates its 50th anniversary this year. The expo features over 1,500 exhibitors on 2.6 million square feet of space, and in 2016 there were 106,349 attendees. Come visit the OMRI booth at this colossal event! www.worldagexpo.com *

February 15-18  BIOFACH 2017, Nuremberg, Germany  BIOFACH is a place where people share their passionate interest in organic food, get to know each other, exchange views, and discuss trends and technology. In 2016, there were 2,325 exhibitors and 48,533 trade visitors from 130 countries. www.biofach.de *

February 23-25  MOSES Organic Farming Conference, La Crosse, WI  MOSES is the largest event in the U.S. for organic and sustainable farming, and attracts more than 3,000 farmers, advocates, educators and students. This farmer-focused conference is celebrated as the foremost educational and networking event for the organic farming community. www.mosesorganic.org/conference *

February 24-26  COABC (Certified Organic Associations of BC), Nanaimo, British Columbia  This year’s conference theme is “Relationships in Transition: Land, Livestock, Waterways, and Community.” Highlights include an organic certification workshop, silent auction, Saturday feast, seed swap and more. www.certifiedorganic.bc.ca/infonews/conference2017 *

March 5-8  Natural Products Expo West, Anaheim, CA  This is the world’s largest natural, organic and healthy products trade show, attracting a record-breaking 77,000 attendees in 2016. It is co-located with Engredea and Fresh Ideas Organic Marketplace. www.expowest.com *

* OMRI staff will attend, present, or exhibit at this event.

We welcome emails in advance to share our booth location and make meeting arrangements. Email to marketing@omri.org.

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**Organicology**

The Study of a Sustainable Food Future

**February 2-4, 2017**

Hilton Portland Downtown | Portland, Oregon

An Interactive Educational Format Designed to Meet the Diverse Needs of the Organic Trade

**KEYNOTES**

Eric Holt-Gimenez • Food First / Institute for Food Development Policy  
Nikki Silvestri • Silvestri Strategies | Mas Masumoto • Masumoto Family Farm

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Transition & Organic Demand • Business Resilience through Sustainability

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