



# GROWING ORGANIC EXPERTISE IN IOWA

**Tuesday, February 16, 2021**

**Via Zoom (focus on Kalona, Washington, Iowa and surrounding counties)**

## **AGENDA**

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| <b>12:00-12:15</b> | <b>Welcome and Introductions</b><br>Olga Reding, IOA Organic Field Coordinator<br>Roz Lehman, IOA Executive Director   |
| <b>12:15-12:45</b> | <b>USDA Organic History and Background</b><br>Olga Reding, IOA Organic Field Coordinator   |
| <b>12:45-1:15</b>  | <b>Organic Regulations and Certification Overview</b><br>Jamey Meyer, IDALS Organic Inspector<br><i>(organic regulations and production considerations for crop production including nutrient management, pest/weed management, rotations, buffers, land transition, and natural resources/biodiversity)</i> |
| <b>1:15-1:30</b>   | <b>BREAK</b>   |
| <b>1:30-2:00</b>   | <b>Organic Agronomics from Mercaris</b><br>Megan Thomas, Mercaris Economist  |
| <b>2:00-3:00</b>   | <b>Organic Producer Panel</b><br><i>(producers describe their operation, why they farm organically, challenges, opportunities, and open Q&amp;A)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Kim Andersen, Brighton</li><li>- Nelson Smith, Brighton</li></ul>   |
| <b>3:00</b>        | <b>Adjourn</b>   |