Good morning, Jody,

We hope you can attend the upcoming "Growing Organic Expertise in Iowa," workshop in Pottawattamie County at the Council Bluffs Public Library on Tuesday, Feb 18, from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. RSVP by Feb 14.

As the \$50B organic market continues to grow, Iowa producers, landowners and businesses are looking for opportunities to participate in this movement, and the technical expertise and resources to support organic growth in Iowa. This workshop introduces organic and some of the opportunities and resources available to support a growing interest in organic production.

The Iowa Organic Association (IOA) and regional partners will provide information about the National Organic Program, organic certification and transition, organic standards and production practices and insight into current organic market trends and demands. <u>AGENDA</u>

We are seeking a diverse, target audience that includes NRCS, Extension, IDALS, FSA, SWCD, RC&D, County Conservation, crop insurance agents, farm lenders, farming organizations, farmers, agriculture educators and students, and others interested in learning more about organic opportunities and how to support those interested in transition or expansion.

To register, visit https://www.iowaorganic.org/calendar or call 515-608-8622. There is a \$20 fee to participate, and lunch will be included.

The dates for the February workshop are:

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Tuesday, Feb 4 -- Mason City Public Library, Mason City – <u>AGENDA</u> – RSVP by Jan 31
Thursday, Feb 6 -- Oakwood Road Community Center, Ames – <u>AGENDA</u> – RSVP by Feb 3
Tuesday, Feb 11 -- Fairfield Public Library, Fairfield – <u>AGENDA</u> – RSVP by Feb 7
Tuesday, Feb 18 -- Council Bluffs Public Library, Council Bluffs – <u>AGENDA</u> – RSVP by Feb 14
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IOA's "Growing Organic Expertise in Iowa" workshop training series is made possible with grant support from the Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education program (SARE).

Please let me know if you have questions or need additional information and, please share within in your networks with individuals who might be interested in learning more about organic or connecting with lowa's organic community. Thank you!

Sincerely, Roz

Rosalyn Lehman

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