



GROWING ORGANIC EXPERTISE IN IOWA

Thursday, February 6, 2020
Oakwood Road Community Center, Ames

AGENDA

- 9:00-9:15 **Welcome and Introductions**
All attendees
- 9:15-10:15 **What is “Organic”?**
Kristine Lang, Rodale Institute/Midwest Organic Center
(history of National Organic Program, basic steps to certification, benefits and challenges of organic, trends, and resources)
- 10:15-10:30 **BREAK**
- 10:30-11:45 **Organic Regulations and Production Overview**
Maury Wills, IDALS Bureau Chief
(organic regulations and production considerations for crop production including nutrient management, pest/weed management, rotations, buffers, land transition, and natural resources/biodiversity)
- 11:45-12:00 **Organic Resources in Iowa**
Roz Lehman, Iowa Organic Association
- 12:00-12:45 BREAK FOR LUNCH**
- 12:45-1:45 **Organic Seed Production and Systems Overview**
Matt Leavitt, Albert Lea Seed House
- 1:45-2:00 **BREAK**
- 2:00-4:00 **Organic Producer Panel**
(producers describe their operation, why they farm organically, challenges, opportunities, and open Q&A)
- Aaron Lehman, Polk City
- Craig Fleishman, Minburn
- Scott Ausborn, Ida Grove
- 4:00 **Adjourn**