Vermont Organic Dairy Producers Conference

Wednesday, March 11, 2015
9 am to 4 pm

Vermont Technical College, Judd Gymnasium
Randolph Center, VT

Offered in collaboration with NOFA Vermont’s Dairy Technical Assistance Program

UVM Extension’s Northwest Crops & Soils Program and NOFA Vermont’s Organic Dairy and Livestock Technical Assistance Program invite you to the 5th Annual Vermont Organic Dairy Producers Conference!

This year, we are trying something a bit new based on your feedback. We have invited several certified organic farmers to share their challenges and successes on a number of timely topics; we’re calling these farmer-to-farmer sessions, “The Real Deal.” We’ll hear from farmers about robotic milking systems on their organic pasture-based farms, and transitioning to no grain feeding.

We are thrilled to have two top-notch keynote speakers. Dr. Roger Moon, a veterinary entomologist at the University of Minnesota, will address his research on fly management in the organic dairy herd, along with other insect pests that might be bugging your livestock.

Dr. Guy Jodarski, staff veterinarian for Organic Valley, CROPP Cooperative, will also provide a keynote address. He will share ideas and tools developed by organic dairy farmers to solve common livestock health, nutrition and management challenges.

Our own Dr. Heather Darby will close the conference with a presentation on recent research evaluating on-farm precision feed management and connections between soil fertility, feed quality, and milk quality.
The conference will be held at the Judd Gymnasium on the Vermont Technical College campus in Randolph Center, Vermont. To get there, take I-89 to Exit 4. Turn east on Rte 66 and head up hill to intersection. Continue straight, park in the lot on the right and follow signs to the Judd Gymnasium.

Register online at: uvm.edu/extension/organicdairy

Questions?

Please email Deb Heleba at debra.heleba@uvm.edu or call Susan Brouillette at 802.524.6501 with questions about the conference. To request a disability-related accommodation to participate in the program, contact Deb or Susan by February 25, 2015 so we may assist you.
GUy CHOINiERE and his family transitioned their 100-acre Highgate farm to certified organic in 2002; they milk about 90 head. They are in their first year of transition to grass milk.

BREnT BEIDLiER and his wife, Regina, have been operating their 145-acre farm in Randolph Center since 1998; it has been certified organic since 2000. Their 35-cow milking herd has been fed an all forage diet for about 10 years.

JEnnIFER BRREEN and her father, Louis Hall, operate their 462-acre grass based dairy farm in Orwell; they transitioned to certified organic in 2007 and installed robotic milkers in 2011.

HEAThER DaRBy is an agronomist with UVM Extension where she leads the Northwest Crops & Soils Program. She conducts on-farm research on organic dairy cropping systems including grains and other annual forages, cover crops, and more.

SaRaH FlACK is a consultant specializing in providing practical grazing and organic farm management education to farmers, organizations, institutions and individuals.

GUy JoDARSKi, DVM, is a staff veterinarian for Organic Valley, CROPP Cooperative and is based in Neillsville, WI. Dr. Jodarski was an owner and partner of a large animal practice in central Wisconsin for 12 years and has also worked as a staff veterinarian for companies that supply nutritional supplements and livestock health aids. He has been a staff veterinarian at Organic Valley since 2007 and works with farmer members to keep their animals healthy without the use of antibiotics, synthetic hormones or chemicals.

RoGER MOoN is a veterinary entomologist at the University of Minnesota in St. Paul, Minnesota. His research interests have included the biology, ecology, and management of muscid flies, mosquitoes, lice, true bugs, and mites associated with animals and humans. Dr. Moon is currently involved with a multi-year USDA NIFA grant looking at management options for filth flies on organic dairies.
VERMONT ORGANIC DAIRY PRODUCERS CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

Name/s__________________________________
Farm/org_________________________________
Address__________________________________
Town/St/Zip_______________________________
Phone____________________________________
Email____________________________________

REGISTRATION FEE
(includes materials and lunch)
$25 per person x _____(# attending) = _______
Total enclosed = _______

Please make check payable to: University of Vermont.

ABOUT CONFERENCE REGISTRATION
Please register early for the conference as space is limited. To guarantee a lunch at the conference, please register by no later than March 4, 2015.

The fee is $25 per person and includes conference materials and lunch.

HOW TO REGISTER
This year, you may register for the conference either online or by mail.

REGISTER ONLINE AT:
UVM.EDU/EXTENSION/ORGANICDAIRY

REGISTER BY MAIL:
Please complete the registration form and send with a check, made payable to “University of Vermont” to:

UVM Extension
ATTN: Organic Dairy Conference
278 South Main Street, Suite 2
St. Albans, VT 05478