

carolina farm  
stewardship association

# Organic Commodities & Livestock Conference

A TRAINING EVENT FOR COMMERCIAL-SCALE GROWERS



NC STATE UNIVERSITY



Carolina Farm Stewardship Association  
PO Box 448 Pittsboro, NC 27312

## 3 Ways to Register

1. [carolinafarmstewards.org](http://carolinafarmstewards.org)
2. Call the CFSa office at (919) 542-2402
3. Mail this form and payment to CFSa, PO Box 448 Pittsboro, NC 27312

## ATTENDEE INFORMATION

Names: \_\_\_\_\_

Farm/Business Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

## Organic Commodities & Livestock Conference

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### REGISTRATION FORM

Thursday, February 7, 2019	Cost	# of People	Totals
Members	\$50		\$
Non-Members	\$60		\$
<b>TOTAL: \$</b>			

Registration is open January 3 - February 5, 2019

### PAYMENT OPTIONS

☐ Check to CFSa endorsed ☐ Visa/Master Card/American Express/Discover

Account Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ CW / Security Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Name on Card (if different from attendee address above): \_\_\_\_\_

Billing Address: \_\_\_\_\_



# Organic Commodities & Livestock Conference

A TRAINING EVENT FOR COMMERCIAL-SCALE GROWERS



Thursday, Feb. 7, 2019 · 8 am – 4:30 pm

Ready to earn more per acre, reduce your input costs, and tap into emerging markets in sustainable commodity farming? The Organic Commodities and Livestock Conference is the place to learn about improving the productivity and profitability of your commercial-scale farm.

## LOCATION

**NC State University** | The McKimmon Conference & Training Center  
1101 Gorman Street, Raleigh, NC 27606

**REGISTRATION** \$50 members · \$60 non-members

Cost includes light breakfast, lunch, plus exhibit hall and a special networking session! On-site registration available for a fee.

## KEYNOTE SPEAKERS

### Denise O'Brien, Rolling Acres Farm

O'Brien has farmed in Iowa for 42 years. With her husband, she produces turkeys and chickens for meat and eggs, as well as organic fruit and vegetables on 17 acres. O'Brien serves as Cass County Assistant Soil and Water Commissioner. She is a founder of Women Food and Agriculture Network and was also a 2001-2003 Food & Society Fellow, a W.K. Kellogg funded program. She currently serves as president of the board of the Pest Action Network and is co-chair of the Sustainable Iowa Land Trust. In 2012, O'Brien was an agriculture adviser with the USDA in Afghanistan.

### Faylene Whitaker, Whitaker Farms

Located in Climax, NC, Whitaker Farms has 650 acres in crop rotation, including 240 acres of organic tobacco, 30 acres of tomatoes, flowers, strawberries, and organic sweet corn. Whitaker is serving a five-year appointment to the NC Board of Agriculture and had held numerous roles in agricultural leadership in the state. In 2015, the Whitakers were named the Tobacco Growers Association of North Carolina's "Tobacco Farm Family of the Year."

## A WORKSHOP PREVIEW

### Organic Sweet Potato Production: Disease Management & Impact of Emergent Nematodes

*Lina Quesada, Vegetable Pathology Specialist, NCSU*

This session will provide updated information for field and postharvest disease control in sweet potato organic production for domestic markets and exports. New information regarding emergent diseases and their potential impacts in national trade will also be covered.

### Industrial Hemp Discussion Panel

*Keith Edmisten, Cotton and Industrial Hemp Extension Specialist, NCSU; Phil Wilson, Industrial Hemp Program Manager, NCSU; Chase Werner Founding Partner, Triangle Hemp.*

Legalization of industrial hemp production has generated increasing interest among NC farmers as a new source of farm revenue. This discussion panel will cover the basics of hemp production, regulations, and address questions or issues that face growers interested in producing hemp.

### Organic Tobacco Management

*Matthew Vann, Tobacco Extension Specialist, NCSU*

Commercial production of certified organic flue-cured tobacco has greatly expanded. To address questions and concerns proposed by producers and industry, NCSU has initiated a number of agronomic greenhouse and field trials. This presentation will cover some of the recent findings as they pertain to nitrogen application, transplant production, and sucker control.

### Organic Disease Management Options for Tobacco

*Yara Rosado, Tobacco Pathology Technician, NCSU*

Organic tobacco producers are tasked with managing diseases with non-persistent pesticides and cultural practices. New organic chemistries and biologicals are available for managing diseases of tobacco. Learn what treatments and management techniques are effective from trials conducted by NCSU.

### Organic Certification for Crops and Pasture

*Karen McSwain, Farm Services and Food Systems Director, CFSA*

Come learn the ins and outs of organic certification for crops and pasture. This session will help you understand the step-by-step process of certification, the rules and regulations, required record keeping, and resources available to farmers transitioning to organic certification. Whether you're growing conventionally and considering transitioning to organic or already using organic practices and want to become certified, this workshop is for you.

### Small Grains: Key Diseases and Management

*Christina Cowger, Plant Pathologist, USDA-ARS*

What are the main yield- and quality-robbing diseases of wheat and barley in this region, and how can they be managed? We'll discuss powdery mildew, leaf rust, and Fusarium head blight. Variety selection and cultural practices will be covered.

### Organic Insect Management in Tobacco

*Hannah Burrack, Extension Specialist, NCSU*

This session will cover best management practices for insects in organic tobacco. Topics will include integrating biological control and organically acceptable pesticides as well as how best to utilize biopesticides in this crop.

### Organic Weed Management Practices

*Chris Reberg-Horton, Organic Cropping Systems, NCSU*

From cultivators to flammers, we will discuss the many weed management options available for today's organic growers. We will focus on sweet potatoes, tobacco, corn, soybeans, and wheat.

### What is "Soil Health"?

*Alex Woodley, Sustainable and Organic Soil Fertility, NCSU*

We will discuss the concept of soil health, how it relates to soil fertility and what field practices can be implemented to improve soil health and system resilience in a North Carolinian context. Topics will also include progress made towards soil health testing and the link between soil health and crop yields.

### Management Strategies for Pasture-Based Livestock Systems

*Miguel Castillo, Forage Specialist, NCSU*

Diverse environmental conditions allow us to grow a variety of forages in NC that have high potential to positively impact animal responses. Forage quality is ultimately determined by animal responses; however, it is the management that ultimately determines whether a potentially good forage will actually be a good. In this workshop session, we will discuss strategies and provide examples of how management impacts pasture and animal responses for NC's pasture-based livestock systems — including dairy, beef, goats, and sheep.

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