

## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Organic Soil Fertility and Conservation Field Day to be held in Belgrade, MN, June 15, 2010

A free organic soil fertility and conservation farm field day will be held on Tuesday, June 15, 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm at the Joe Borgerding Farm in Belgrade, MN, organized by the Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service (MOSES).

“If you’re a producer interested in building and conserving your soil fertility using organic and biological techniques, this field day will be of special interest to you,” said Jeff Gunderson, of MOSES.

Participants will tour the farm’s pastures to learn about the importance of soil biology, fertility and conservation. Karl Dallefeld of Prairie Creek Seed will lead the field walk along with Jeff Gunderson of MOSES and Travis Mathison of Midwestern Bio-Ag. These leaders will discuss pasture management strategies, fertility inputs, and how healthy pastures help reduce weed and pest pressures and maintain healthy herds.

The field day program also will teach how to evaluate soil health and quality, and how to use a refractometer to monitor crop health.

Representatives from the Stearns County NRCS will be on hand to discuss conservation projects implemented on the Borgerding farm with the help of the Environmental Quality Incentives. Information about the special organic sign up for EQIP cost sharing will be covered.

Borgerding has 400 acres of organic cropland with 80 in pasture. He milks 160 cows and is a supplier for Organic Valley.

The field day is being jointly sponsored by MOSES, the Sustainable Farming Association, the Stearns County Natural Resources Conservation Service and the Stearns County Soil and Water Conservation District.

Based in Spring Valley, WI, MOSES works with farmers, farming organizations, and government agencies to organize its organic farm field days. These sessions are free and open to all farmers and agricultural professionals who are interested in organic and sustainable farming practices. Free resources on organic production will be available to all attendees and refreshments will be served.

To pre-register and for directions to the Borgerding Farm call or email the MOSES office at 715-778-5775 or [info@mosesorganic.org](mailto:info@mosesorganic.org). For more information, you can also go to the MOSES web site at [www.mosesorganic.org](http://www.mosesorganic.org) and click on our calendar of events.

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