Impact 2016

Highlights of our work to ensure the success of farmers who grow using organic and sustainable practices

Education

MOSES Organic Farming Conference
More than 3,600 people attended the 27th MOSES Conference from all around the country and the globe to gather fresh ideas to put in practice to help their farms thrive. “The MOSES Conference is a goldmine! There is no better forum to learn—for transitioning to experienced organic farmers.” ~S.M., Dixon, Ill.

Steve Pincus and Beth Kazmar received the 2016 MOSES Organic Farmers of the Year award. These longtime organic farmers, owners of Tipi Produce, are known for growing sweet carrots and other produce sold at food co-ops in Madison and Milwaukee, and through a 500-box-a-week CSA. Steve and Beth are well known for their farming wisdom and their willingness to teach others.

Organic Field Days
864 farmers learned about organic and sustainable farming practices at our 13 field days. We also reached 52 women landowners to connect them with conservation resources and land management planning through our Rural Women’s Project-led 3 Women Caring for the Land events.

New Farmer U
We launched this 2-day training project to boost the field and financial skills of new farmers. The first event last October drew 129 people to Lanesboro, Minnesota. We manage this project with Renewing the Countryside under a Beginning Farmer & Rancher Development Program grant.

Farmer-to-Farmer Mentoring Program
58 farmers were involved in this program where experienced organic farmers share their expertise to encourage the success of farmers who are either launching a new farming scope or transitioning to organic. The goal is to build strong organic relationships throughout our region.

Resources

Website: mosesorganic.org
Traffic on our website grew by more than 16% in the past year, with 330,188 individuals accessing information for a total of 407,617 views.

Guidebook for Organic Certification
We introduced a revamped Guidebook in the fall of 2016 that illustrates the certification process and rules for organic production.

Midwest Organic Resource Directory
Our searchable online directory of suppliers, buyers, and certification agencies was used 1,757 times.

Organic Fact Sheets
Farmers picked up hundreds of our fact sheets at events, plus another 2,314 online. We introduced 2 new topics this year: Farm Safety for Children, and Whole Farm Revenue Protection for Specialty Crop Growers.

Organic Broadcaster Newspaper
This popular newspaper features production advice, research updates, farmer profiles, book reviews, and other news about the organic sector. Circulation topped 12,500.

Practical Advice

We connected with farmers at 20 events, aside from the MOSES Conference and our field days, to answer questions about organic practices and certification. We fielded more than 500 farmer calls on our Organic Answer Line. We also handled 225 queries from farmers through our Ask a Specialist webpage, which farmers consulted 2,159 times for answers to FAQs.

Our mission is to educate inspire empower farmers to thrive in a sustainable, organic system of agriculture.

Photo: Harmony Valley Farm, Viroqua, Wis.

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2016 Financial Highlights
Midwest Organic & Sustainable Education Service (MOSES)

Financial Summary
Expense and Asset numbers are from audited financial statements for the MOSES Fiscal Year (Sept. 1, 2015 to Aug. 31, 2016). MOSES follows generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) for nonprofits.

Income Allocations
- Conference: $817,117
- Grow Organic Programs: 252,190
- Operating Support: 112,466
- Sales/Goods Sold: 76,935
- In-kind Contributions: 42,697
- Special Projects: 186,835
Total Income: $1,488,240

Expense Allocations
- Programs: $1,114,206
- Conference: 589,603
- Projects & Services: 504,867
- In-kind Donations: 47,736
- Management/Administration: 253,417
Total Expenses: $1,428,230

Net Assets
- Operating Funds: $246,111
- Board-Restricted Funds: 291,296
- Grant-Restricted Funds: 87,492
Total Net Assets: $624,899

Supporters
Thanks to these Major Funders and Engaged Supporters for helping us provide training, guidance, and practical advice to encourage farmers' success. We are grateful, also, to the 504 businesses and individuals who supported organic farming by donating to MOSES.

Major Funders
- Albers/Kuhn Family Foundation
- Annie's, Inc.
- Blooming Prairie Foundation
- Ceres Trust
- Ciranda
- Cliff Bar Family Foundation
- Farm Aid
- Frontier Natural Products Co-op
- Harry Chapin Foundation
- Lakewinds Organic Field Fund
- Marshfield Clinic Foundation
- McKnight Foundation
- Sustainable Ag Research & Education
- United Natural Foods Foundation
- USDA Beginning Farmer & Rancher Development Program
- USDA Conservation Innovation
- USDA Farm Service Agency
- USDA Risk Management Agency
- Wisconsin Specialty Crop
- Wisconsin Farmers Union

Engaged Supporters
- Alden Ponds Foundation
- Amy Alpine
- Jay Arneson
- Gail Barber
- Bay Shore Sales
- Lisa Bean
- Katherine Betz
- Hans & Katie Bishop
- Blue River Hybrids
- Robert Cain, SeaAgri Inc.
- Dave & Mary Campbell
- Darlene & Dan Coehoorn
- Crystal Creek Inc.
- Andrew & Melissa Dunham
- Kathleen & Jim Dyreby
- Everbest Organics
- Joyce Ford & Jim Riddle
- Mary Gale
- James Greenberg
- Emilie Haigh
- Steve & Ann Hansen
- Jeanne Helzer
- Jane Henner
- Jim Herold & Audrey Alwel
- Daryl Hinderman
- Bruce Johnson
- Faye Jones
- Michael Lorentz, Lorentz meats
- Marsha Mason
- Mint N More Farms
- Tom & Cathy Morgan
- Mountain Rose Herbs
- Nature's Organic Grist, LLC
- Doug Nopar & Joann Thomas
- David Olson
- Alice Percy, FeCo Seeds
- John & Laurel Shea
- Jane Siemon
- Margaret Smith & Doug Alert
- Laura Sova
- Lori Taurin & Renee Tierney
- Craig Tomera, Grain Millers Inc.
- Kent Velde
- Kari Wenger & Peter Henry
- Harold Wilken
- Whole Foods Co-op, Duluth
- Dale & Ann Woodbeck

Funding Sources
- Government Grants 12%
- Business Grants 20%
- Individual Donations 21%
- Earned Income 40%
- In-kind Contributions 3%
- Sales 5%

Photo: Genuine Faux Farm, Tripoli, Iowa

Board of Directors:
- David Abazs
  Round River Farm
  Finland, Minnesota
- Mike Bollinger
  River Root Farm
  Decorah, Iowa
- Sylvia Burgos Toftness
  Bull Brook Keep
  Clear Lake, Wisconsin
- Dave Campbell
  Lily Lake Organic Farm
  Maple Park, Illinois
- Dena Ends
  Scotch Hill Farm
  Brodhead, Wisconsin
- Carmen Fernholz
  A-Frame Farm
  Madison, Minnesota
- Melinda Hemmelgarn
  Food Sleuth
  Columbia, Missouri
- David Perkins
  Vermont Valley Community Farm
  Blue Mounds, Wisconsin
- Molly Rockamann
  EarthDance Organic Farm School
  Ferguson, Missouri
- Darin Von Ruden
  Von Ruden Family Farm
  Westby, Wisconsin
- Carla Wright
  Savanna Hill Farm
  Cross Plains, Wisconsin