

TN Organic Production Network

Holeman Building, Ellington Agriculture Center, 440 Hogan Road, Nashville, TN 37204

2:00-4:00 PM Central Time, December 2, 2009

TN Organic Production Network initiative goals:

- 1. To support, promote and advance organics in TN through networking and partnerships*
- 2. To collaborate to address the critical issues in organic agriculture in Tennessee*

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| I. Welcome & Introductions | 2:00 PM |
| II. Presentation: Review of goals and highlights from 2009 | 2:05 PM |
| III. Program updates | |
| A. Producers & Industry—TOGA, Appalachian Harvest, others | 2:20 PM |
| 1. Update on organization and development of these grower groups | |
| 2. Review new and continuing needs, including infrastructure for market access? | |
| B. Policy & Legislative Issues at State and National Level—Legislators, TN Farm Bureau, Middle TN Food Security Partners, others | 2:40 PM |
| 1. Update on development of current policy and outlook for what is coming | |
| 2. Involvement and collaboration with local (town and county) governments? | |
| C. Department of Agriculture Programs—USDA NRCS, USDA FSA, TN Dept of Ag | 3:00 PM |
| 1. Updates on developments in NRCS EQIP and TDA funds for organic growers | |
| 2. What is the future of these funding programs (NRCS, TDA) and what do they need to reach more growers and be more effective? | |
| D. Organic Research—UT, TSU, TN Tech | 3:20 PM |
| 1. Updates on research and outreach projects | |
| 2. Extension outreach development- how can this be expanded to reach more growers/larger audience? | |
| IV. Next steps | 3:40 PM |
| A. Build and further develop collaborations & follow-up items | |
| B. Ideas for how to continue the conversation & how to develop the network? | |
| V. Adjourn | 4:00 PM |