

ORGANIC PRODUCTION Conference

All Activities at the Savannah International Trade & Convention Center (SITCC) unless otherwise noted.

THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2009

- 8:00 - 5:00 p.m. **EXHIBITOR REGISTRATION OPEN**
Riverview Concourse
Exhibitor and Poster Set-Up
- 1:30 p.m. **GFGVA BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - SITCC**
- 4:00 p.m. **GFGVA ANNUAL MEETING - SITCC**

FRIDAY, JANUARY 9, 2009

- 7:00 - 5:00 p.m. **ATTENDEE REGISTRATION OPEN**
Riverview Concourse
- 7:00 - 10:00 a.m. **EXHIBITOR MOVE IN**
Exhibitors must be in place by 9:00 a.m.
- 8:00 - 9:40 a.m. **ORGANIC SESSION I**
ORGANIC BLUEBERRY UPDATE FROM FARMS AND RESEARCH STATIONS
Moderator: James Clark, Appling County Extension Coordinator, Baxley, GA
- 8:00 a.m. **The 2008 Farm Bill in Relation To Organic Production**
Dr. E. Greg Fonsah, University of Georgia, Tifton, GA
- 8:20 a.m. **Cultivar Selection Considerations in Organic Production**
Dr. Gerard Krewer and Dr. Harald Scherm, University of Georgia, Tifton and Athens, GA
- 8:40 a.m. **Effect of Mulches on the Establishment of Organically Grown 'Brightwell' Blueberry**
Dr. Moukaram Tertuliano, University of Florida, Quincy, FL
- 9:00 a.m. **Budget for Organic Rabbiteye Production in Georgia**
Ms. Kristy Plattner and Dr. E. Greg Fonsah, University of Georgia, Athens and Tifton, GA
- 9:20 a.m. **Evaluation of High Tunnels for Organic Southern Highbush Production in South Georgia**
Dr. Gerard Krewer, University of Georgia, Tifton, GA
- 9:40 a.m. **BREAK**
- 9:50 - 11:00 a.m. **ORGANIC SESSION II**
THE EXPANDING BENEFITS OF ORGANIC FOOD AND FARMING
Moderator: Terry Hollifield, Georgia Crop Improvement Association, Athens, GA
Jim Riddle, University of Minnesota and Organic Independents, Winona, MN

Jim Riddle, former chair of the USDA's National Organic Standards Board and a leading voice for organic agriculture, presents research findings, regulatory requirements, survey results and inspiring slides to document the benefits of organic food and farming

- 10:00 - 6:00 pm **TRADE SHOW OPEN**
- 11:00 - 12:00 p.m. **FOOD SAFETY FORUM**
- 12:00 - 1:30 p.m. **LUNCH in the Trade Show**
(Lunch provided for Three Day and Friday Only Registrants)
- 1:30 - 3:00 p.m. **ORGANIC SESSION III**
ESTABLISHING AN ORGANIC VEGETABLE ENTERPRISE ON YOUR FARM - CHALLENGES AND PROBLEM SOLVING
Moderator: Dr. George Boyhan, University of Georgia, Statesboro, GA
Jim Riddle, Organic Independents, Winona, MN
Co-author of the International Organic Inspection Manual will discuss the USDA requirements for organic vegetable farming, challenges for commercial farmers, and viable approaches to solve the problems of dual operations.
- 3:00 p.m. **BREAK**
- 3:15- 4:45 p.m. **ORGANIC SESSION IV**
CONNECTING FARMERS TO LOCAL FOOD SYSTEMS
Moderator: Ray Hicks, Screven County Extension Coordinator, Sylvania, GA
Daron "Farmer D" Joffee, Farmer D Organics, Savannah, GA
Daron Joffee will present information about the new Green Market at Trustees Garden in Savannah and other efforts to provide opportunities for farmers to sell produce to buyers in their own region.
- 4:45 p.m. **WELCOME RECEPTION - TRADE SHOW AREA**
(Open to all registered attendees)
- 5:45 p.m. **LIVE AUCTION IN EXHIBIT HALL**
- 6:00 p.m. **TRADE SHOW CLOSES**
- Evening **DINNER ON YOUR OWN**

Please review other Conference Agendas for additional educational sessions, trade show events, spouse activities and entertainment opportunities during the Saturday and Sunday programs that you don't want to miss.