

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

June 24, 2010

**ORGANIC LIVESTOCK FEED CROPS FIELD DAY  
TO BE HELD IN RICEVILLE, IA, JULY 15, 2010**

SPRING VALLEY, WI – A farm field day on producing organic feed crops for organic livestock will be held July 15, 1:00 to 4:00 pm at the John Koschmeder Farm in Riceville, IA. The free event is organized by the Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service (MOSES).

Farmers wishing to learn more about organic production of field crops and livestock feed, as well as soil preparation, will find this field day invaluable.

Organic corn, soybeans, oats and clover have been successfully grown for many years in rotation on the Koschmeder Farm, which will be toured during the event. Bob Yanda, of Midwestern Bio-Ag will discuss soil balancing, timing of soil preparation, adding amendments, planting, cultivating and harvesting; each of which contributes to a successful organic growing year.

“The organic market is growing, offering a great opportunity to those who want to transition to organic,” says Harriet Behar, MOSES organic specialist. “While growing organic can be challenging -- what farming isn’t? -- balancing soil fertility and building organic matter are the foundations for producing good yields and high quality crops in an organic system.”

Also featured will be information on the Natural Resource Conservation Service’s Environmental Quality Incentives Program that provides cost share payments for farmers to adopt or improve conservation practices on their farms. Eligible practices include diversification of crop rotations, use of cover crops, protection of stream riparian areas, and planting windbreaks, among others. These payments are available to producers in the Cedar Creek watershed and across the state of Iowa.

The field day is sponsored by MOSES, with partial funding from the North Central Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education.

Based in Spring Valley, WI, MOSES works with farmers, farming organizations, and government agencies to organize its organic farm field days. Sessions are free and open to all farmers, ag professionals and those 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 Koschmeder 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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