

Media Contact:
Eric Hatling
715-778-5775
eric@mosesorganic.org

PO Box 339
Spring Valley, WI 54767
www.mosesorganic.org

MIDWEST ORGANIC & SUSTAINABLE EDUCATION SERVICE

NEWS RELEASE

Release date: 6/24/2011

Integrated Pest Management for the Organic Orchard Training – July 16

Management strategies, monitoring systems & controls for diseases and insects

The Midwest Organic & Sustainable Education Service (MOSES) announces that an organic farming training on Integrated Pest Management for the Organic Orchard will be held 9am to 4pm on Saturday, July 16, at the Hoch Organic Orchard near La Crescent, MN. The training will be held rain or shine.

This IPM training will focus on pest monitoring and control strategies. Organic growers interested in improving fruit quality, and low-input conventional growers looking to take their IPM to the next level, should attend this field day. Although the IPM practices will focus on organic principles, many of the techniques discussed can be integrated into a conventional orchard. Topics include: enhancing the environment and promoting beneficial insects; multiple zone monitoring and apple maggot trap out; use of kaolin clay, liquid lime sulfur, micronized sulfur, neem, fish oils, and soft insecticides; post infection apple scab control.

For those individuals not interested in the in-depth discussion of bugs and diseases, Hoch Organic Orchard will offer concurrent walking tours of the farm. These will be informal walks through the areas of the farm not related to pest control including: berry plantings, vineyard, plum and apricot orchards, high tunnels, fruit processing facility, Freedom Ranger chickens, Old Spot Orchard pigs, and more. A local food lunch, most of it coming from Hoch Orchard and Gardens, will be served and rustic camping spots will be available to spend the night.

Featured presenters will be Dr. Matt Grieshop who will talk about current pest issues and lead an orchard walk identifying pests and beneficial insects; Tammy Hinman, Agricultural Specialist with The National Center for Appropriate Technology, will discuss the recent ATTRA publication *Apples: Organic Production Guide*; Joe Pedretti of MOSES will give an overview of certifying your organic orchard and Harry Hoch will explain the IPM program used on Hoch Orchard and lead an orchard walk looking at insect monitoring and control using traps.

This is a professional session promoting advanced agricultural practices. Young adults interested in farming are welcome but bringing children is discouraged.

This training is sponsored by the Midwest Organic & Sustainable Education Service (MOSES), University of WI Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems (CIAS) and the Organic Tree Fruit Association (OTFA).

Cost: \$30 per farm- includes one lunch, one information packet, unlimited attendees

\$10 for each additional lunch

\$10 discount toward registration for OTFA members

\$15 late registration fee after July 5th.

For directions, more information and to register: contact MOSES at (715) 778-5775 or email angie@mosesorganic.org.

Please RSVP by July 13th

MOSES is a non-profit education and resource organization based in Spring Valley, WI, that works with farmers, farming organizations, and government agencies to organize its organic farming trainings and field days. Sessions are open to all farmers, agriculture professionals, and those interested in organic and sustainable farming practices. MOSES provides free information and resources to attendees of its field days, trainings and farm events.

#