



GROWING ORGANIC EXPERTISE IN IOWA

Tuesday, February 2, 2021

Via Zoom (focus on Seymour, Wayne, Lucas and surrounding counties)

AGENDA

- 12:00-12:15 Welcome and Introductions**
Olga Reding, IOA Education and Outreach Coordinator
- 12:15-12:45 USDA Organic History and Background**
Olga Reding, IOA Education and Outreach Coordinator
- 12:45-1:15 Organic Regulations and Certification Overview**
Katie Hyde, IDALS Organic Handler Specialist
(organic regulations and production considerations for crop production including nutrient management, pest/weed management, rotations, buffers, land transition, and natural resources/biodiversity)
- 1:15-1:30 BREAK**
- 1:30-2:00 Organic Agronomics/OGRAIN COMPASS financial tool**
Jim Munsch & John Hendrickson, OGRAIN
- Jim Munsch** is a grass-fed beef producer, business consultant to farms, non-profits and businesses in the organic, conservation and sustainable sectors.
- John Hendrickson** is the Outreach Program Manager for the Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems with University of Wisconsin-Madison. Both Jim and John discussed the OGRAIN Compass Tool. OGRAIN Compass version 2.0 is available via the [Organic Grain Research and information Network \(OGRAIN\) website](#). A new version (3.0) is planned to be released in late 2021. The new version will offer expanded capacity to plan grain crop rotations by farm field as well as expanded capacity to explore various scenarios in terms of yield and price for each crop over time.
- 2:00-3:00 Organic Producer Panel**
(producers describe their operation, why they farm organically, challenges, opportunities, and open Q&A)
- Bryce Irlbeck, Manning
 - Kyle Schnell, Newton

Bryce Irlbeck is a fifth-generation farmer and entrepreneur with a passion for rethinking farm production methods. He owns and operates a 4,000 acre organic farm in Iowa with a focus on row crops. He graduated from Iowa State University in Agronomy and Agribusiness, and is the co-founder of Agrisecure.

Kyle Schnell is an organic farmer out of Newton, Iowa. Kyle is a 6th generation farmer, that has been farming since 2012 after he graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Agricultural Studies. Kyle made the transition to organic to most of his acres in 2019. He currently has 700 organic acres, and 300 conventional acres. His organic rotation includes, corn, soybeans, alfalfa, rye and oats. Kyle's main focus is on soil biology and becoming a low cost producer.

3:00

Adjourn