



# GROWING ORGANIC EXPERTISE IN IOWA

**Tuesday, January 26th, 2021**

**Via Zoom (focus on Sioux City, Woodbury, Plymouth and surrounding counties)**

## **AGENDA**

- 12:00-12:15      Welcome and Introductions**  
Olga Reding, IOA Organic Field Coordinator  
Roz Lehman, IOA Executive Director
- 12:15-12:45      USDA Organic History and Background**  
Roz Lehman, IOA Executive Director
- 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)*
- Scott Ausborn, Ida Grove
  - Paul Mugge, Sutherland

**Scott Ausborn** is an organic farmer who grew up on a small diversified farm near Ida Grove, IA. Along with row crops, his family also raises beef cattle and sheep. Scott graduated from Iowa State University with a degree in Environmental Science, focusing on soil and water conservation. Scott is the Business Development Manager for Blue River Hybrids Organic Seed, working with organic producers across the nation.

**Paul Mugge** is an organic farmer as well as a winner of the Spencer Award and Master Researcher Award in Iowa. He grew up on the farm where he now lives and works. Paul attended Iowa State University and worked as an engineer before returning to the family farm in 1976. He is a life-long environmentalist and his farm management has been a progression from conventional, to sustainable, to completely organic since 2001.

3:00

**Adjourn**