

## REGISTRATION FORM

First, Last Name

Farm/Business Name

Street Address

City, State, Zip

Telephone

Email

Number of registrations,  
2-day Conference, \$80 each

Total amount enclosed

Full names of additional attendees:

Mail this form and a check made to **University of Wisconsin**, postmarked no later than January 20, to:  
UW Plant Pathology, 1630 Linden Drive,  
Madison, WI 53706

OR register online at  
[ograin.triforce.cals.wisc.edu](http://ograin.triforce.cals.wisc.edu)

Questions? Contact Harriet Behar,  
[harriet.organic@gmail.com](mailto:harriet.organic@gmail.com)

608-872-2164

## Event Facility

The OGRAIN Winter Conference will be at the UW-Madison Gordon Dining and Event Center, in downtown Madison at 770 W Dayton St, Madison, Wis., 50715.

A limited number of hotel rooms are available at a discounted rate at the **Hampton Inn & Suites** - 440 W. Johnson St, (608-255-0360, mention OGRAIN) and **Double Tree by Hilton** - 525 W. Johnson St. (608-251-5511, OG1 reference code). Reserve your room by December 26.

## Conference Sponsors

Over 20 event sponsors will be hosting information tables at the event. Plan to visit them to explore how their products and services can support your organic success. For more information visit [ograin.triforce.cals.wisc.edu](http://ograin.triforce.cals.wisc.edu)

*This conference is made possible by a grant from the USDA Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program. OGRAIN is a collaborative effort of the UW-Madison/UWEX Organic and Sustainable Cropping Systems lab, UW-Madison Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems (CIAS), Farm and Industry Short Course (FISC), and Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service (MOSES).*



## 2018 Organic Grain Winter Conference

Friday and Saturday,  
January 26 and 27, 2018

UW Madison

Learning opportunities to improve organic row crop and small grain operations, from 10 to 10,000 acres

For beginning and experienced organic growers, as well as those considering transition to organic

[ograin.triforce.cals.wisc.edu](http://ograin.triforce.cals.wisc.edu)



## Conference Schedule

### Friday January 26, 2018

- 7:30 AM Registration and light breakfast  
8:00-8:15 Welcome, Erin Silva, OGRAIN  
8:15-9:30 **Soil Fertility-Organic Choices and Solutions**  
9:45-11:15 **Marketing Organic Grains and Rotation Crops**  
11:15-12:15 **Cover Crops and No-till in an Organic Cash Grain Rotation**  
12:15-1:15 Lunch and sponsor table visits  
1:15-2:00 **Keynote: Diversity Builds Resilience** Klaas Martens  
2:15-3:15 *Choose one workshop*  
**Getting Started in Small Grains**  
(Transitioning session)  
**Unique Small Grains for Food or Feed**  
(Experienced session)  
3:30-4:30 *Choose one workshop*  
**Navigating Organic Certification**  
(Transitioning session)  
**Integrating Livestock into Grain Operations**  
(Experienced session)  
4:30-6:30 Reception: snacks, cash bar, sponsor table visits  
Supper on your own, a list of nearby restaurants will be available

### Saturday January 27, 2018

- 7:30 AM Light breakfast  
8:00-9:30 *Choose one workshop*  
**Transitioning to Organic Panel**  
(Transitioning session)  
**Managing Crop Pests and Diseases**  
(Experienced session)  
9:45-11:00 *Choose one workshop*  
**Mechanical Weed Management**  
(Transitioning session)  
**Ecological Weed Management**  
(Experienced session)  
11:15-12:15 **Post Harvest Handling and Storage**  
12:15-1:00 Lunch and sponsor table visits  
1:00-2:15 **Farm Financials and Crop Insurance**  
2:30-4:00 **Farmer Panel-Keys to Organic Farm Success**  
4:00 Wrap up and evaluation

## Workshops & Speakers

### FRIDAY

8:15-9:30 **Soil Fertility – Organic Choices and Solutions**  
A basic overview of soil health assessment and soil tests, including options for improving crop vigor and nutrition through soil building and nutrient strategies.  
*Jamie Patton was Soil Science faculty at NW MO State University before joining UW-Extension.*

9:45-11:15 **Marketing Organic Grains and Rotation Crops**  
*Tim Boortz, National Farmers (NFO) Field Representative*, explains how to seek out and build relationships in the diverse organic market by utilizing marketing co-ops, brokers, and feed mills, and selling direct to artisan grain millers and organic livestock producers.

11:15- 12:15 **Cover Crops and No-till in an Organic Cash Grain Rotation**  
*Erin Silva and Léa Vereecke and Matt Ruark, UW-Madison* consider a diversity of opportunities to utilize cover crops for increased organic matter, beneficial insect habitat, lowered compaction, weed control and more. Rolled mulch crops under soybeans (organic no-till) will also be discussed.

1:15-2:00 **KEYNOTE: Diversity Builds Resilience**  
*Klaas Martens of Lakeview Organic Grains* continually works to further develop resilient systems on the family's 1,600 certified organic acres in Upper New York state. Double cropping, winter and spring plantings, diverse rotations, integration of livestock and a strong environmental ethic result in short and long-term farm sustainability.

2:15-3:15 **Getting Started in Small Grains**  
*Bruce Roskens, Director of Crop Sciences, Grain Millers Inc.*, discusses seed varieties, fertility needs, rotation planning, and pest and disease management while successfully integrating oats, barley or wheat in a corn/soybean rotation.

2:15-3:15 **Unique Small Grains for Feed or Food**  
*Klaas Martens* explores the unique crop production needs of spelt, kernal, emmer, einkorn, hybrid rye and other artisan food grade grains and livestock feeds.

3:30-4:30 **Navigating Organic Certification**  
*Harriet Behar, member of the National Organic Standards Board*, explains how a practical approach to organic certification leads to a successful organic production system. A short virtual inspection will help take the mystery out of organic law requirements.



3:30-4:30 **Integrating Livestock into a Cash Grain Operation**  
*Jack Erisman*, farming 2,000 acres of corn, beans, small grains, forage and beef cattle in Central Illinois, discusses how livestock can add value as well as challenges to management and infrastructure as various species are incorporated on farms.

### SATURDAY

8:00-9:30 **Transitioning to Organic Panel**  
Practical strategies for rotations, soil management, markets and tips for developing an economically successful organic production system discussed by a panel of newly transitioned farmers and a long-time transition mentor. *Sandy Syburg and others.*

8:00-9:30 **Managing Crop Pests and Diseases: Practices not Products**  
*Klaas Martens of Lakeview Organic Grains* shows how increasing biodiversity both in the field and the surrounding ecosystem builds long-term resiliency resulting in healthy crop yields.

9:45-11:00 **Mechanical Weed Management**  
Discussing a diversity of weed management strategies, methods and types of equipment, *Joel Gruver, Associate Professor of Soil Science and Sustainable Agriculture at W. Illinois University* will help those new to organic methods gain a strong foundation for understanding mechanical weed management.

9:45-11:00 **Ecological Weed Management**  
*Matt Liebman, Henry A. Wallace Chair for Sustainable Agriculture at IA State University* takes a life-history approach to targeting weeds in annual field crops, exploring seed seedbank ecology and new tactic efficacy.

11:15-12:15 **Post-Harvest Handling and Storage**  
*Craig Tomera, Identity Preserved Crop Specialist at Grain Millers, Inc.*, discusses protecting quality through harvest, pre-storage and in storage by cleaning, setting and running the combine, swathing, bin cleaning techniques, effective use of diatomaceous earth and more.

1:00-2:15 **Basic Farm Financial Planning and Crop Insurance**  
Presenting in an easy-to-understand format, *Rich Ritter of Flannigan State Bank* looks at cash flow and crop insurance strategies most favorable to both transitioning and existing organic farmers.

2:30-4:00 **Farmer Panel- Keys to Organic Success**  
A panel of new to organic and long term successful organic farmers, *Jack Erisman, Mark Doudlah and Klaas Martens*, will share strategies for building resiliency in organic fields leading to stable economic returns.