



NEWS BRIEFS

Rural Development, Conservation, and Research Programs Suffer in Agriculture Spending Bill, Says Coalition

The agriculture spending bill for FY 2004, included in the omnibus package currently before Congress, reduces previously approved mandatory Farm Bill funding by \$527 million, says the Sustainable Agriculture Coalition. Rural development (cut 91 percent), conservation (cut 17 percent) and agricultural research (cut 73 percent) are “big losers,” while commodity subsidies, accounting for 75 percent of total spending, remain fully funded in the conference report from House–Senate negotiators. The Value-Added Grants program would be cut by 63 percent and the Wildlife Habitat Incentives program by 30 percent. On the plus side for conservation, the bill lifts a prior \$3.77 billion cap on the Conservation Security Program, thus restoring it to full entitlement status—a top priority for the Coalition and its allies—though FY 2004 spending is limited to \$41 million. More information (Nov. 25, Dec. 4) is online at www.msawg.org/press. House approval of the omnibus bill is expected in early December, while Senate approval may wait until January (E&E Daily, Nov. 26).

FDA Faces Criticism for Preliminary Conclusion on Safety of Cloned Animal Products

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration faces increasing criticism for its preliminary conclusion, announced October 31, that food products from cloned animals pose no special risks and “are likely to be as safe to eat” as food from their non-cloned counterparts, a claim that critics say is premature and scientifically unsupported (AP, Nov. 4; *Washington Post*, Nov. 5; InterPress Service, Nov. 11). Consumer advocates, animal welfare groups, and some scientists (including an independent veterinary advisory panel) have urged further studies, citing broader concerns for public health and animal welfare once highly uniform offspring from cloned animals enter the marketplace. FDA’s commissioner said the agency would consider the public’s ethical concerns regarding cloning, but that it would not require special labels for foods deemed safe (Reuters, Nov. 3, www.planetark.org). FDA’s press release and 12-page summary of the preliminary risk assessment are online at www.fda.gov; the full report seeking public comment is due in coming months.

Federal Court Rules Tyson Foods Shares Responsibility for Poultry Subcontractors’ Emissions

A federal judge ruled last month that Tyson Foods shares responsibility for emissions from its poultry subcontractor plants in western Kentucky (AP, Nov. 11; Greenwire, Nov. 12). The ruling stems from a lawsuit by the Sierra Club, which said 3 factory farms are exceeding ammonia thresholds under Superfund and community right-to-know laws. District Court Judge Joseph McKinley Jr. concluded that Tyson was indeed “an operator” of the farms and that all 16 to 24 chicken houses at each farm should be combined for purposes of compliance with federal laws. He wrote that Tyson owns the animals “throughout the production process,” governs the facility specifications and provides technical support, and its advisors “test ammonia levels in the house(s) and direct ventilation program(s) to exhaust ammonia into the environment.” While the ruling is legally binding only in the state’s Western District, a Sierra Club attorney said that it establishes under federal environmental laws that factory-scale operations must be viewed as “an integrated whole.”

Major GE Crops Designed for Better Pest Management Are Increasing Pesticide Use, Says New Study

The major genetically engineered crops in U.S. commercial use have “modestly increased” pesticide use, by 50 million pounds since 1996, concludes a new study. Chuck Benbrook of the Northwest Science & Environmental Policy Center used USDA data to calculate the difference between the average pounds of pesticide used on acres planted with GE corn, soybeans, or cotton, and similar non-GE crops. During 1996 to 1998, GE crops reduced pesticide use by about 25 million pounds, but during 2001 to 2003 about 73 million more pounds were applied on GE acreage. Bt corn and cotton continue to reduce insecticide use by 2 to 2.5 million pounds annually, the report finds. Yet this modest reduction is swamped by increased herbicide usage on herbicide-tolerant crops, since many farmers have sprayed incrementally more herbicides on the GE acres to keep up with harder-to-control weeds. “Impacts of Genetically Engineered Crops on Pesticide Use in the US: The First Eight Years” is online at www.biotech-info.net/Technical_Paper_6.pdf.

Poultry Breeding Practices Are Challenged by Animal Welfare Group in UK Court

Breeding practices to produce abundant supplies of genetically uniform, factory-farmed chicken meat include an added "hidden cost" paid by the chickens, writes Joyce d'Silva, director of Compassion in World Farming (www.ciwf.co.uk), in a commentary in *New Scientist* magazine (Nov. 15). Her organization has filed suit in a London court to end "extreme selective breeding" in broiler farming, claiming that breeding and rearing for extremely fast growth leads to lame birds with impaired skeletal and cardiovascular systems, which choose feed laced with painkillers to help them move normally. The legal challenge draws on a 1998 EU directive that stipulates no animal should be farmed "unless it can reasonably be expected on the basis of its genotype...that it can be kept without detrimental effect on its health or welfare."

Forward-Looking Nebraska Farmers Choose Dryland Crops, See Water Levels Rise

This past summer a group of "forward-looking" farmers in western Nebraska converted their irrigated acres to dryland crops by growing wheat and oats rather than corn and alfalfa. According to an *Omaha World Herald* editorial (Nov. 8), "what came from their good sense and restraint was a four-inch increase...in groundwater levels" in the Sidney area, "the only portion of the South Platte Natural Resources District where groundwater levels actually went up." The Sidney Draw and nearby areas have suffered a 4-year drought and declining water levels, along with "lawsuits, heated arguments, water metering and restrictions on well-drilling" in some areas. The conservation measures, taken voluntarily by Sidney Draw producers in a 'good faith' contract with the NRD board, resulted in a 66 percent drop in irrigated acres and an estimated 17 percent reduction in water consumption, the paper reported (Nov. 6).

Fresh Produce Emerges as Important Cause of Food-Borne Illness, Media Reports

Food-borne illness from fresh fruits and vegetables is on the rise, according to U.S. government data compiled by the Center for Science in the Public Interest and to scientists and government officials cited in news stories last month. CSPI's analysis shows that in 2000 there were 4,025 illnesses linked to contaminated meat, seafood, and eggs, while 3,981 people were made ill by contaminated produce (*New York Times*, Nov. 23). Cases of food-borne illness from fruits and vegetables have risen 20-fold over the past 30 years, and produce has caused one-third of all food-borne illnesses in the past 5 years, according to Center for Disease Control data (*Boston Herald*, Nov. 30). "[I]llnesses have risen sharply because people are eating more fresh produce and wanting it year-round, leading to an increase in imports from countries with less stringent sanitary standards," the *Times* wrote.

International Negotiators Fail To Agree on Increased Methyl Bromide Use by U.S.

Negotiators from the European Union and Latin American nations refused last month to exempt the U.S. from a requirement to phase out methyl bromide, a pesticide and ozone-depleting chemical due to be banned by 2005 under the Montreal Protocol, instead postponing a decision to March 2004 (*New York Times*, Nov. 14; UNEP, Nov. 14, www.unep.org; London's *Financial Times*, Nov. 18). The U.S. has so far complied with the treaty by cutting its production to 30 percent of 1991 levels, but the Bush Administration seeks "critical use exemptions" to increase production to 38 percent in 2005 and 37 percent in 2006. Strawberry, melon, pepper, and tomato farmers in the U.S. have argued that alternatives to methyl bromide are too costly or otherwise inadequate. The U.S. delegate denied that efforts to secure wide-ranging exemptions would breach the protocol, but some observers say the U.S. stance could undermine poor countries' willingness to phase out the chemical, or could doom the treaty entirely.

"A Better Choice of Choice" in Economic Policy Is Urged by British Think Tank

Government should give people more options on issues such as clean air and sustainable agricultural practices, says a report from the Fabian Society, a left-wing British think tank (*Environmental Science & Technology*, Nov. 1). "A Better Choice of Choice," written for the UK's Sustainable Development Commission, challenges society's unquestioning support for greater consumer choice, arguing that focusing on increasing economic growth and consumption often deprives people of alternatives that would leave them better off. "Government policies for sustainable development have been mainly aimed at increasing the 'resource productivity' or 'eco-efficiency' of the economy through technological innovation. But improvements in eco-efficiency are being cancelled out by economic growth," says principal author Roger Levett. The report is available for purchase from www.fabian-society.org.uk, or write to bookshop@fabian-society.org.uk.

FARM AND RANCH PRODUCTION

■ **Biodiversity and the Ecosystem Approach in Agriculture, Forestry, and Fisheries** (312 pgs), including 16 case studies of organic systems from 10 countries, from UN Food and Agriculture Organization's October 2002 conference, US\$36 from World Bank Info Shop, (202) 458-4500; www.worldbankinfoshop.org.

■ **Compost Tea Brewing Manual** (4th edition), guide to making and assessing compost teas for plant nutritional needs, \$25 plus S/H from Soil Foodweb Inc., (541) 752-5066; info@soilfoodweb.com.

■ **Energy-Efficient Grass-Based Meat and Veal Production and Marketing Manual** (54 pgs), www.cadefarms.org/publications.htm; or contact Center for Agricultural Development & Entrepreneurship, 250 Main St., Oneonta, NY 13820; (607) 431-6034; khodne@cadefarms.org.

■ **The Hoophouse Handbook: Growing Produce & Flowers in Hoophouses & High Tunnels** (60-pg manual), \$15 plus S/H from Growing for Market, Fairplains Publications, PO Box 3747, Law-

rence, KS 66046; (785) 748-0605; www.growingformarket.com.

■ **The New Ranch at Work**, proceedings from 2002 conference, \$10 plus \$3.50 S/H from Quivira Coalition, 1413 Second St. #1, Santa Fe, NM 87505; (505) 820-2544; www.quiviracoalition.org.

■ **Pesticide-Free Production (PFPTM)**, cropping system using non-GM crops without in-crop pesticides, developed by Manitoba farmers and Canadian researchers, www.pfpcanada.com; for information including certification program and farmers' cooperative, contact PFP, Univ. of Manitoba, Agriculture Bldg. Rm. 222, Winnipeg, MB, Canada R3T 2N2; schoofsa@ms.umanitoba.ca.

■ **Planning for Whole Farm Management: Lessons from Midwest Farmers** (40 pgs), from Minnesota Project and Great Lakes Whole Farm Planning Network, highlighting North Central Region SARE research projects on whole farm planning, is free from Minnesota Project, 1885 University Ave. W, Suite 315, St. Paul, MN 55104; (651) 645-6159.

ORGANIC AGRICULTURE

■ **Growing Organic Winegrapes: An Introductory Handbook for Growers** (64 pgs), \$25 (includes tax, shipping) from L. Ann Thrupp, Manager of Organic Development, Fetzer Vineyards, PO Box 611, Hopland, CA 95449; (707) 744-7600; www.fetzer.com.

■ **An Interactive Approach to Policy Assessment for Organic Farms in Europe** (200 pgs), Volume 10 in "Organic Farming in Europe: Economics and Policy" series, 26 Euro from Universitat Hohenheim, Institute 410A, D-70593 Stuttgart, Germany; ofeuropa@uni.hohenheim.de; www.uni-hohenheim.de/~i410a/ofeurope.

■ **Opportunities in Agriculture: Transitioning to Organic Production**, 32-pg color bulletin, from Sustainable Agriculture Network for USDA-SARE program, www.sare.org/bulletin/organic/organic2003.pdf; for free print copies or publications list, contact

(301) 504-5236; san_assoc@sare.org; or Sustainable Agriculture Publs., Univ. of Vermont, 210 Hills Bldg., Burlington, VT 05405.

■ **Organic Agriculture Symposium 2003**, proceedings from ASA-CSSA-SSSA Annual Meetings held November 2003, www.misa.umn.edu (see forum section); for free CD, contact Minnesota Institute for Sustainable Agriculture, University of Minnesota, (612) 625-8235; misamail@umn.edu.

■ **Organic Agriculture Worldwide 2004**, 88-pg directory of members and associates, from Intl. Federation of Organic Agriculture Movements, 16 Euro (nonmembers) from IFOAM Head Office, Oekozentrum Imsbach, 66636 Tholey-Theley, Germany; fax +49 (0) 6853 / 919899; headoffice@ifoam.org; www.ifoam.org/neu_index.html.

ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY

■ **Confronting Climate Change in the Great Lakes Region: Impacts on Our Communities and Ecosystems** (92 pgs), from Union of Concerned Scientists and Ecological Society of America, www.ucsusa.org/greatlakes/glchallengereport.html; print copy is \$20 plus S/H from UCS Publications, (617) 547-5552.

■ **Designing a Clean Energy Future: A Resource Manual**, 100-pg workbook with 30 case studies, from Minnesota Project, Univ. of Minnesota's Regional Sustainable Development Partnerships, and Minnesota Dept. of Commerce, www.mnproject.org; print copy is free from MDC's Energy Information Center, (651) 296-5175.

■ **EPA's Draft Report on the Environment 2003** (167 pgs, #260R02006), www.epa.gov/indicators/roe/index.htm; single print copy is free from National Service Ctr. for Environmental Publs., PO Box 42419, Cincinnati, OH 45242-2419, 1-800-490-9198.

■ **An Introduction and User's Guide to Wetland Restoration, Creation, and Enhancement** (92 pgs), from Interagency Workgroup on Wetland Restoration, www.nmfs.noaa.gov/habitat/habitatconservation/publications; print copy is free from Office of Habitat Restoration, NOAA Fisheries, (301) 713-2325.

■ **National Environmental Scorecard 2002**, 52-pg complete scorecard or 8-pg summary, facts on environmental voting records of U.S. Congress, www.lcv.org/scorecard/scorecardmain.cfm; for more information including 2003 scorecard availability, contact League of Conservation Voters, (202) 785-8683.

■ **The Role of Agriculture in Maintaining Open Spaces in Wyoming**, 6-pg brochure, www.uwyo.edu/openspaces/content.html, print copy is free from Wyoming Open Spaces Initiative, Univ. of Wyoming, (307) 766-5080; iern@uwyo.edu.

LOCAL MARKETING, SMALL FARMS

- **Bringing Kentucky's Food and Farm Economy Home** (52 pgs), from Community Farm Alliance, available at www.foodroutes.org/doclib/cfa_kentucky.pdf; or contact CFA, (606) 223-3655; cfa@kin.net.
- **Bringing Local Food to Local People: A Resource Guide for Farm-to-School and Farm-to-Institution Programs** (28 pgs), <http://attra.ncat.org/attra-pub/PDF/farmtoschool.pdf>; for free print copy or fall 2003 publications list, contact Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas, 1-800-346-9140.
- **Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Resources for Farmers or Producers**, www.nal.usda.gov/afsic/csa/csa_farmer.htm; or contact Alternative Farming Systems Information Center, National Agricultural Library, (301) 504-6559.
- **The Eat Well Guide**, directory of organic, hormone-free, and other sustainably raised animal foods, with 1200 producer and retailer listings, from Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy and Global Resource Action Center for the Environment, www.eatwellguide.org/search.cfm; or contact GRACE, (212) 726-9161.
- **Ecolabel Value Assessment: Consumer and Food Business**

CONCENTRATION, COMPETITION

- **Every Farm a Factory: The Industrial Ideal in American Agriculture** (242 pgs), by Deborah Fitzgerald, Yale Agrarian Studies Series, \$45 plus S/H from Yale University Press, 1-800-405-1619; www.yale.edu/yup or other book sellers.
- **Farm Crisis, Bigger Farms, and the Myths of 'Competition' and 'Efficiency'** (33 pgs), from Canada's National Farmers Union, www.nfu.ca; or contact NFU National Office, 2717 Wentz Ave., Saskatoon, SK, Canada S7K 4B6; (306) 652-9465; qualman@nfu.ca.

COMMUNITY, SOCIAL JUSTICE

- **The Essential Agrarian Reader: The Future of Culture, Community, and the Land** (296 pgs), collection of 17 essays by farmers, scientists, philosophers, and environmentalists, \$27 plus S/H from University Press of Kentucky, 1-800-839-6855, www.kentuckypress.com, or other book sellers.
- **Farms, Communities, and Collaboration: A Guide to Resolving Farm-Neighbor Conflict**, 40 pg-manual from USDA-SARE funded project, www.cardi.cornell.edu/cd-toolbox/AgrEconomicDev/fcandc.pdf; limited number of print copies are available from David Kay, Dept. of Applied Economics and Management, Cornell University, (607) 255-2123; dlk2@cornell.edu.
- **"For I Was Hungry and You Gave Me Food" (Mt. 25:35): Catholic Reflections on Food, Farmers, and Farmworkers** (24

Perceptions of Local Foods (106 pgs), from Iowa State University's Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture and ISU Business Analysis Laboratory, www.ag.iastate.edu/centers/leopold/; or contact Leopold Center, (515) 294-1854.

- **Fresh, Organic & Native Foods of the Four Corners: A Directory of Ecoregional Food Sustainability** (20 pgs, 3rd edition), www.environment.nau.edu/publications/FoodDirectory/index.htm; print copy is free from Center for Sustainable Environments, Northern Arizona University, (928) 523-0637.
- **Oklahoma Farm-to-School Report** (41 pgs) and **Oklahoma Food Connection** (57-pg directory), from Oklahoma Food Policy Council and Kerr Center for Sustainable Agriculture, www.kerrcenter.com; print copies are \$2 each (\$3 for both) from Kerr Center, (918) 647-9123.
- **Tilth Producers Directory: A Washington Guide to Organic and Sustainable Growers, Food and Farm Suppliers and Resources** (56 pgs, 2003-2004 edition), www.tilthproducers.org/directory/tpdirportal.htm; print copy is \$3 from Tilth Producers, (206) 442-7620; nancy@tilthproducers.org.

- **Food Inc.: Corporate Concentration from Farm to Consumer** (92 pgs), from UK Food Group, www.ukfg.org.uk/docs/UKFG-Foodinc-Nov03.pdf; or contact UK Food Group, PO Box 100, London, SE1 7RT; phone 020 7523 2369; ukfg@ukfg.org.uk.
- **Hog Competition Fund and Cattlemen's Competitive Market Project**, initiatives aimed at restoring competition in livestock industry, contact Steve Cady, Organization for Competitive Markets, PO Box 6486, Lincoln, NE 68506; (402) 792-0041; ocm@competitivemarkets.com; www.competitivemarkets.com.

pgs), from U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops, www.nccbuscc.org/bishops/agricultural.htm; print copy (English or Spanish) is \$3.95 plus S/H from USCCB, 3211 Fourth St. NE, Washington, DC 20017-1194; 1-800-235-8722.

- **Raising a Stink: The Struggle over Hog Farms in Nebraska** (181 pgs), Our Sustainable Future Series, is \$21.95 plus S/H from University of Nebraska Press, 1-800-755-1105; www.nebraska.press.unl.edu, or other book sellers.
- **Toward Social Justice and Economic Equity in the Food System: A Call for Social Stewardship Standards in Sustainable and Organic Agriculture** (40 pgs, Oct. 2003 final draft), www.rafusa.org/pubs/Social_Justice_Standards.pdf; or contact Just Food Program, RAFI-USA, PO Box 640, Pittsboro, NC 27312; (919) 542-1396; or Michael Sligh, msligh@rafusa.org.

WALLACE CENTER/WINROCK NEWS

Marking the Wallace Center's 20th Anniversary— from Director Kate Clancy

In March 1983 the first board meeting of the Institute for Alternative Agriculture was held—Garth Youngberg, founder and executive director, presiding. Two decades later we look back with pride at the many accomplishments of what is now the Wallace Center at Winrock International. We added Henry A. Wallace's name in 1993 to honor his manifold contributions to agriculture and rural life, as well as to recognize the longstanding and steadfast support from the Wallace Genetic Foundation. In 2000 we joined Winrock to expand our capabilities, and to bring a stronger domestic and policy element to Winrock's mainly international work in sustainable development.

The original purpose of the Institute was to develop and disseminate scientifically credible information about, and to be a full-time voice in Washington for, alternative agriculture. Sixteen volumes of the *American Journal of Alternative Agriculture*, our still avidly read *Alternative Agriculture News*, and numerous policy studies reports have ably fulfilled the first purpose. Our old Capitol Hill office and continuous involvement with the National Campaign for Sustainable Agriculture (and the Dialogue, its predecessor), along with multiple policy recommendations starting with the Low-Input Sustainable Agriculture program (LISA, now known as SARE), answer the second. We've made major contributions to the national organic rule, 'green payments' policies, debates on biotechnology, and programs to assist small-scale and minority farmers. We've also had the privilege and joy of working with the hundreds of leaders and organizations in the sustainable agriculture community who share our goals.

Despite the struggles we still face in improving the lot of farmers, the land, and rural communities, and the again-difficult political scene in Washington, the Center remains strongly committed to the values that drive our work—economic fairness, environmental soundness, and social justice. In the coming years we do intend, as Henry Wallace said, to continue "working with the forces of nature to remake the world nearer to [our] heart's desire."

Workshop Report Explores University-Industry Relationships in Agricultural Biotechnology Research

Relationships between universities and industry have emerged as a key force in the development and commercialization of agricultural biotechnology, as a growing number of firms provide financial and other resources in return for research and product testing performed by academic scientists. Some believe that such partnerships encourage innovation and early application of new technologies to benefit agriculture, consumers, and the environment; while others raise concerns, including whether the relationships divert scientists away from work that may have significant public benefit but little commercial potential.

Identifying salient areas of research needed to shed light on the long-term impacts of university-industry relationships (UIRs), to guide policymaking for maximum social benefit, was the goal of a workshop held in 2002 and attended by key representatives from universities, industry, nonprofits, and government. The workshop proceedings, issued last month, urge the development of a "better baseline" to inform all interested parties about the range and scope of UIRs in agricultural biotechnology and aid in measuring their influence, and advise closer examination of their impacts on academic research agendas and intellectual property and technology transfer issues. "University-Industry Relationships: Framing the Issues for Academic Research in Agricultural Biotechnology," available online at <http://pewagbiotech.org/research/UIR.pdf>, was prepared by a research team led by David Ervin of Portland State University and including Kate Clancy of the Wallace Center. More information on the project is online at www.agro-biotech.pdx.edu.

CALENDAR

January 2004

15-17: "Ranching in Nature's Image: Fostering Social and Environmental Health in the West," Quivira Coalition's 3rd Annual Conference, in Albuquerque, NM; contact QC, (505) 820-2544; admin@quiviracoalition.org; www.quiviracoalition.org.

15 to April 22: Agriventure 2004 CADE workshop series supporting successful farming ventures (business planning, farmers' markets, accounting), in Oneonta, NY; contact CADE, 250 Main St., Oneonta, NY 13850; (607) 431-6034; khodne@cadefarms.org; www.cadefarms.org/workshops.htm.

20-22: "Energy/Agricultural Industry Conference on Greenhouse Gas Mitigation via Agriculture and Its Soils," national forum being planned, in College Station, TX; contact Consortium for Agricultural Soil Mitigation of Greenhouse Gases (CASMGs), www.casmgs.colostate.edu or http://agecon.tamu.edu/faculty/tbuttcasm/casmgs_conference.htm.

22-25: "Building Sustainable Economies," 23rd Annual Guelph Organic Conference, including First Canadian Organic Research Workshop (Jan. 22), in Guelph, Ontario; contact Guelph Organic Conference, Box 116, Collingwood, ON, Canada L9Y 4Z4; (519) 824-4120 ext. 56205; www.guelphorganicconf.ca/.

23-24: Minnesota Organic and Grazing Conference, in St Cloud, MN; contact meg.moyhihan@state.mn.us; or Mary Hanks, 651-296-1277; Mary.Hanks@state.mn.us.

24: NOFA-Massachusetts Chapter's Annual Winter Conference, in Barre, MA; contact Northeast Organic Farming Assoc./Mass., (978) 355-2853; www.nofamass.org/conferences/index.php.

29-30: "Water for a Sustainable and Secure Future," 4th National Conference on Science, Policy, and the Environment, sponsored by National Council for Science and the Environment, in Washington, DC; contact Craig Schiffries, (202) 530-5810; conference@NCSEonline.org; www.NCSEonline.org.

30: Paper submission deadline for "Riparian Ecosystems and Buffers: Multi-Scale Structure, Function, and Management," American Water Resources Association's summer specialty conference, June 28-30, 2004, in Olympic Valley, CA; www.awra.org/meetings/Olympic2004/abstracts.html.

30-31: "Enhancing Profit on the Farm," 6th Annual Midwest Value Added Conference, in Eau Claire, WI; contact Heather Amundson, River Country RC&D Council, (715) 834-9672; heather.amundson@wi.usda.gov; www.rivercountryrcd.org/valadagenda.htm.

30-31: "Soil Biology and the Soil Foodweb Workshop," co-sponsored by Soil Foodweb Inc. advisors, in San Mateo, CA; contact Alane Weber, (650) 341-2094 or Sanda Everette, (650) 574-7154; sanda@greensolutions.org; www.communi-tea.org.

30-31: Virginia Association for Biological Farming Conference, in Wakefield, VA; contact Andy Hankins, (804) 524-5962; ahankins@wvu.edu; www.vabf.org/conf2004.php.

30-February 1: "Making Local Food a Reality," Northeast Organic Farming Association of New York's 22nd Annual Winter Conference with pre-conference workshops, in Syracuse, NY; contact NOFA-NY, (518) 734-5495; office@nofany.org; www.nofany.org.

February 2004

1: Title submission deadline for presentations to American Forage and Grassland Council's 2004 Conference, June 12-16, 2004, in Roanoke, VA; contact Ken Cassida, (304) 256-2956; kcassida@afsrc.ars.usda.gov; www.conted.vt.edu/afgc/papers.html.

1-3: "The IPM Matrix," Association of Applied IPM Ecologists 2004 Conference, in Napa, CA; contact AAIE, phone/fax (707) 265-9349; director@aaie.net; http://aaie.net/expand_control.cfm.

3: Submission deadline for Graduate Student Proposals to fund research projects, from USDA North Central SARE program; www.sare.org/ncrsare; questions may be directed to Bill Wilcke, Regional Coordinator, (612) 625-8205; wilck001@umn.edu.



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