

OHIO'S LARGEST SUSTAINABLE FOOD AND FARM CONFERENCE



THE 42ND ANNUAL  
**OEFFA CONFERENCE**

OUR TIME: ESSENTIAL LINKS  
FOR A STRONG FOOD CHAIN

ONLINE FEBRUARY 10-15, 2021

**REGISTER EARLY AND SAVE!**

[www.oeffa.org/conference2021](http://www.oeffa.org/conference2021)



THE 42ND ANNUAL

# OEFFA CONFERENCE

## OUR TIME: ESSENTIAL LINKS FOR A STRONG FOOD CHAIN

ONLINE FEBRUARY 10 · 15, 2021

“Social distancing” has been the clarion call of 2020, but that’s keeping a physical distance. Through these challenging times, more than ever, we need to be socially close.

In that spirit, the way we gather for the 2021 OEFFA conference will be different, but with the same intent and result: sharing information so that we all can succeed, moving our food system toward greater resilience and equity, and forging a strong and dynamic community.

Our keynote speakers—Will Harris, Dr. Elaine Ingham, and Navina Khanna—reflect the inspiring response to a global pandemic and strength of alternative food systems, and together represent the three legs of the sustainability stool: economic profitability, environmental health, and social equity.

The OEFFA conference will be a time to learn, to celebrate, and to consider how we collectively move forward. Our time is now!

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# CONFERENCE SCHEDULE

## WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 10

- 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. :: Make More Money by Investing in Soil Health\*\*
- 10:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. :: Food and Farm School\*
- 7:00-8:30 p.m. :: Welcome, Keynote Address with Will Harris *Presented by Turner Farm*

## THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 11

- 1:00-2:00 p.m. :: Workshop Session I
- 2:00-3:00 p.m. :: Exhibit Hall Break
- 4:30-5:30 p.m. :: Workshop Session II
- 7:00-8:00 p.m. :: Members' Meeting

## FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 12

- 10:00-11:00 a.m. :: Workshop Session III
- 1:00-2:00 p.m. :: Workshop Session IV
- 2:00-3:00 p.m. :: Exhibit Hall Break
- 4:30-5:30 p.m. :: Debate *Presented by Earth Tools*
- 6:00-7:00 p.m. :: Mixing Craft Cocktails: An Educational Happy Hour *Presented by Western Reserve Distillery*
- 7:00-8:30 p.m. :: Organic Farming to Heal a Climate in Crisis with the Real Organic Project

## SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 13

- 10:00-11:00 a.m. :: Workshop Session V
- 1:00-2:00 p.m. :: Workshop Session VI
- 2:00-3:00 p.m. :: Exhibit Hall Break
- 4:30-5:30 p.m. :: Debate *Presented by Earth Tools*
- 5:30-6:30 p.m. :: Exhibit Hall Break
- 7:00-8:30 p.m. :: Announcements, Keynote Address with Dr. Elaine Ingham *Presented by Turner Farm*
- 8:30-9:30 p.m. :: OEFFA Open Mic Night

## SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 14

- 11:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. :: A Conversation About Faith, Food, and Race with Bp. Dinkins and Dr. Van Meter
- 1:00-2:00 p.m. :: Workshop Session VII
- 2:00-3:00 p.m. :: Exhibit Hall Break
- 4:30-5:30 p.m. :: Workshop Session VIII
- 5:30-7:00 p.m. :: Chefinar with Fest
- 7:00-8:30 p.m. :: Announcements, Keynote Address with Navina Khanna *Presented by Turner Farm*

## MONDAY, FEBRUARY 15

- 10:00-11:00 a.m. :: Our Time Is Now: Conversations About 2020 and the Road Ahead
- 1:00-2:00 p.m. :: OEFFA Strategic Plan Listening Session
- 4:30-5:30 p.m. :: Essential Conversations with OEFFA Changemakers

*Schedule is subject to change. All times Eastern. Watch [www.oeffa.org/conference2021](http://www.oeffa.org/conference2021) for additional information as we get closer to the big day!*

*\*Registration for the Food and Farm School classes and Chefinar must be purchased separately; they are not included in general registration.*

*\*\*OEFFA members are invited to attend the members' meeting and strategic listening session at no cost. The Make More Money by Investing in Soil Health workshop is also free, but registration is required. All other conference events require paid registration.*



## *Will Harris*

### **Regenerating Land with Livestock** **February 10 Keynote Address**

Will Harris is a fourth-generation cattleman at White Oak Pastures, recognized as a leader in humane animal husbandry and environmental sustainability.

White Oak Pastures is a 154-year-old family farm in Bluffton, Georgia raising a wide-range of livestock and certified organic vegetables. The farm is Certified Non-GMO, Certified Grassfed, Certified Humane, Certified EOV, and rated Step 4 in the Global Animal Partnership.

White Oak Pastures is committed to regenerative land management, humane animal husbandry, multi-species rotational grazing, and revitalizing

their local community. Their on-farm meat processing facilities allowed them to vertically integrate their production system, control the quality of their products, and hire 165 employees, making them the largest private employer in the county. The USDA-inspected beef abattoir, designed by Temple Grandin, is only the second of its kind in the United States, and the USDA-inspected poultry abattoir, is the only one in the region available for pastured poultry.

Will has previously served as the Beef Director of the American Grassfed Association and president of the board of directors of Georgia Organics. He was named 2011 Georgia Business Person of the Year.

PRESENTED BY





## Dr. Elaine Ingham

### Soil vs. Dirt: Connecting Plant and Human Microbiomes February 13 Keynote Address

Dr. Elaine Ingham is founder and president of Soil Food Web and director of Soil Food Web School. For the past four decades, she has pioneered research in the field of soil biology and is widely recognized as the world's foremost soil biologist.

Her goal is to empower farmers to restore the ecological functions of living soils all over the world, ensuring healthy, strong plants and nutritious food, while eliminating soil erosion and the need for chemical inputs.

She has a master's in microbiology from Texas A&M University and a Ph.D. in microbiology from

Colorado State University. Elaine served as chief scientist at The Rodale Institute from 2011-2013. She has previously served as a professor of forest science, botany, and plant pathology at Oregon State University, affiliate professor of sustainable living at Maharishi University of Management, adjunct faculty at Southern Cross University, visiting professor at Melbourne University, and program chair of the Ecological Society of America.

She is author of the *USDA's Soil Biology Primer*, *The Compost Tea Brewing Manual*, *The Soil Foodweb*, and other publications.





## *Navina Khanna*

### **Rooted, Ready, and Resilient: Cultivating a Movement for Crisis-Proof Food Systems**

#### **February 14 Keynote Address**

Navina Khanna has dedicated more than 15 years to creating a just and sustainable world through transforming food systems.

She is Director of HEAL Food Alliance, which works to build collective power to create food and farm systems that are healthy for families, accessible and affordable to communities, and fair to the people who grow, distribute, prepare, and serve food.

With a background in sustainable agriculture and food justice, she's worked as an educator, community organizer, and policy advocate. Based in Oakland, California, Navina serves on the Board of Richmond's Urban Tilth, advises the Real Food Media Project, and organizes with #Asians4BlackLives.

A first-generation South Asian American, Navina's worldview is shaped by growing up and growing food in India and the U.S.

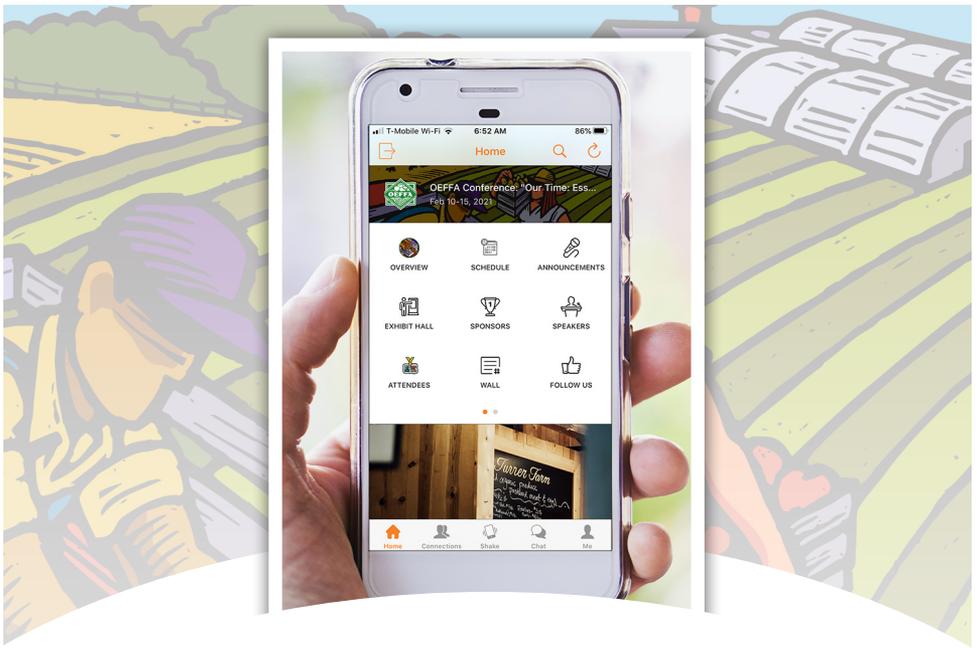
In 2011, she coordinated Food and Freedom Rides, traveling 3,000 miles across the country to honor the 50th anniversary of the civil rights movement's Freedom Rides and bring attention to food-related injustices.

She holds a master's in international agricultural development from the University of California at Davis.

In 2014, her work was recognized with a James Beard Leadership Award.

PRESENTED BY





## THE VIRTUAL CONFERENCE ENVIRONMENT

We are excited to host our conference on Socio. Socio is an app and online event platform that easily allows you to attend video sessions, organize your schedule, interact with vendors, and network with other attendees. Think of it as a private social media world that you enter for the duration of the conference. You can quickly create your own profile (with as much or as little information as you want) and use that profile to engage with other folks at the event.

Beyond of all the top-notch education this conference will provide, the online environment means you also have the option to:

- Create your own custom schedule and get reminders
- Join sessions from your computer or phone
- Send private messages to other attendees
- Share contact information easily with vendors and attendees
- Use the message board to engage others and share information
- Play games to score points and win prizes
- Re-watch recorded sessions until March 31!

The platform and app are easy to use! For those attendees less sure about navigating a virtual world, we will have easy-to-follow instructions, and someone standing by during the event should you experience any challenges.



# FOOD AND FARM SCHOOL CLASSES

Wednesday, February 10—10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. ET

## THE SOIL FOOD WEB: STRUCTURE AND FUNCTION



World renowned soil biologist **Dr. Elaine Ingham** will lead an in-depth, three-part exploration of the soil food web and strategies for making it work for you. The first part will lay the foundation by exploring how the correct soil biology can dramatically help desired plants, and the six benefits to plants from a healthy soil food web. In the second part of the class, Elaine will turn theory into practice you can use. She'll describe how to measure microbes, what makes plants healthy, and share techniques for getting your soil food web established and functioning. She'll conclude by giving real world examples showcasing the ways in which people learned what was wrong with their soil and how they managed to balance their soil organisms.

## HAPPY PIGS TASTE BETTER



What does it take to raise a happy pig? *Ethically* managing pigs requires an understanding of their natural behavior, including factors such as social grouping, mating, territory, housing, and, of course, their love of wallowing in the mud. *Successfully* managing pigs requires an understanding of what hogs need in their diet to grow and thrive, the role pasturing plays in hog nutrition and welfare, and how to keep hogs healthy without resorting to synthetic medications. This workshop led by hog farmer and Fedco Seeds Organic Growers Supply division manager **Alice Percy** provides an in-depth introduction to raising happy pigs.

## RAW MILK RISK MANAGEMENT



Raw milk produced for the processor is different from raw milk for the people. Raw milk intended for direct human consumption must be produced with careful intention in order to be a healthy, safe food which benefits both the consumers and the farmers.

This **Raw Milk Institute** (RAWMI) training day focuses on the benefits of raw milk, grass-to-glass identification of risks, development of a risk management plan, and lessons learned from other raw milk dairies. This training has been shown to reduce outbreaks and illnesses, increase safety, and lower insurance costs.

Speakers include Mark McAfee, RAWMI Chairman and Owner of Organic Pastures Dairy in California; Sarah Smith, RAWMI Director and Board Secretary; Joseph Heckman, PhD, RAWMI Director and Professor of Soil Science at Rutgers University; and Edwin Shank, owner of The Family Cow dairy in Pennsylvania.

# OUR SPONSORS



**Central State  
University**  
EXTENSION

**edible**  
Columbus, Indy, and Kentucky  
Magazines



**Brownfield Ag News  
Earth Tools**

**Johnny's Selected Seeds  
Real Organic Project**

**The Andersons  
High Mowing Seeds  
Farm and Dairy  
The Fertrell Company  
KULT Kress**

**Mercaris  
Michigan Organic Food and Farm Alliance  
Organic Valley CROPP Cooperative  
Super Gro of Iowa**

**Agroecosystems Management Program (AMP), CFAES, OSU  
Initiative for Food and AgriCultural Transformation (InFACT)**

**Eban's Bakehouse  
Kevin Morgan Studio  
Nature's Path Foods  
OEFFA Grain Growers Chapter**

**Plant Talk Radio  
Treffler Man@Machine  
Western Reserve Distillers**

**Dayton Urban Green  
Dayton Urban Grown  
Nourse Farms  
Organic Materials Review Institute (OMRI)  
OSU AgrAbility Program**

**Rosebud's Real Food  
Snowville Creamery  
Stauf's Coffee Roasters  
Weston A. Price Foundation**

## TAKE THE COMMUNITY ONLINE!

Be part of the conversation before and during the conference, and get the latest event updates.  
Use #oeffaconference2021 and follow:



@ohioecologicalfoodandfarmassociation



@ohioecological



@oeffa

FEBRUARY 10-15 ONLINE

## FEATURED CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

### Jo Ann Baumgartner



Jo Ann Baumgartner is the executive director of Wild Farm Alliance (WFA). She is the author of many publications on biodiversity conservation and agriculture, covering topics like beneficial birds, conservation mandates within the National Organic Program, and the co-management of food safety and conservation. Before joining WFA in 2001, she was an organic farmer and senior research editor for a book on California's rare wildlife species.

### Dave Dowling

Dave Dowling helps advise cut flower growers across the country as a sales representative at Ednie Flower Bulb. He has more than 20 years experience as a cut flower farmer in Maryland, selling year-round at farmers markets, grocery stores, florists, and designers. An experienced workshop presenter, Dave has served as President, Industry Liaison, and Mid-Atlantic Regional Director for the Association of Specialty Cut Flower Growers.



### Kamyar Enshayan



In the early days of OEFFA, member Kamyar Enshayan wrote the beloved "Ask Dr. Head-in-the Sand Twisted" column for OEFFA's newsletter. He now lives in north-east Iowa where he works to strengthen the region's local food economy. He is an agricultural engineer by training and helps his students understand why we need food system transformation everywhere, but especially in the Midwest.

### Joel Gruver

Dr. Joel Gruver is an Associate Professor of Soil Science and Sustainable Agriculture at Western Illinois University (WIU). He is the Director of the WIU Organic Research Program and conducts large scale replicated field experiments each year at the WIU Organic Research Farm, where he examines cover crops, nutrient sources, crop genetics, weed control practices, and solar corridors in organic cropping systems.



### Alice Percy



For 10 years, Alice Percy operated a commercial hog operation, becoming the largest certified hog producer in Maine. Alice has mentored hog farmers through the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association (MOFGA), presented workshops on organic hog husbandry at MOFGA events and the annual Northeast Organic Farmers Association summer conference, and served on the MOFGA board. She currently works as the manager of the Organic Growers Supply division at Fedco Seeds.

## FEATURED CONFERENCE SPEAKERS

### Holly Ripon-Butler

As the National Young Farmer Coalition's Land Access Director, Holly Ripon-Butler works to ensure that current and future generations of farmers have access to land on which they can support a career in agriculture. Holly grew up on her family's multi-generation dairy and beef farm in upstate New York, where she continues to farm with her parents.



### Mark Schultz



For 32 years, Mark Schultz has led numerous successful farm and rural organizing campaigns at the Land Stewardship Project, including development, passage, and implementation of the Conservation Stewardship Program and the Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program. He has been a leader in building the power of Minnesota's progressive movement and served in key roles with national racial, economic, and environmental justice organizations.

### Erin Silva

Dr. Erin Silva is an Associate Professor in the Plant Pathology Department at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. Her work focuses on sustainable and organic cropping systems, including cover crops, no-till production, variety selection, and the impact of organic management on the soil. Erin has launched an organic grain training program, OGRAIN, for farmers in the upper Midwest and serves on the Wisconsin Organic Advisory Council.



*Now more than ever, we know our food system needs to change...and this change must include justice for farmers, as well as workers. AJP's fight for farmers includes:*



-  On time payments
-  Transparent agreements
-  Fair pricing for farmers that covers fair farm family income, fair wages for workers, & all costs of production

We provide farmers with tools, resources & fair labor & trade certification & we educate eaters to be informed.

[www.agriculturaljusticeproject.org](http://www.agriculturaljusticeproject.org)

 @AgJusticeProject  @FoodJusticeCert

 @AgriculturalJusticeProject

THURSDAY

I

FEBRUARY 11

**Workshop Session I: 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET****Advocating for Organic**—Patty Lovera, *Organic Farmers Association***Three Practical Strategies to Improve Access to Fruits and Vegetables Among Vulnerable Populations**—Kamyar Enshayan, *University of Northern Iowa***Proven Strategies for Profitable Urban Agriculture**—Lisa Helm Hancock, *Dayton Urban Grown Cooperative***Setting Up an Efficient Seed Starting Workspace**—George Mertz, *Patchwork Gardens***Utilizing Side-Dressed Swine Manure in Organic Corn**—Eric Richer and Glen Arnold, *The Ohio State University Extension***Poultry Disease Diagnosis**—Mohamed El-Gazzar, *Iowa State University***When Your Cows are Tired of Hearing About It: Addressing Farmer Mental Health**—Kelly Cabral, *The Ohio State University***Growing and Thriving on E-Commerce for Farmers Markets**—Ross Olsen and Liz Sites, *Ohio Farmers Market Network*

THURSDAY

II

FEBRUARY 11

**Workshop Session II: 4:30-5:30 p.m. ET****Creating Fair, Democratic Workplaces: Walking Our Talk**—Liz Henderson, *Agricultural Justice Project***Tips and Tools for On-Farm Research**—Cassy Brown and Elizabeth Hawkins, *The Ohio State University***Soil Lead: Myths and Facts**—Alyssa Zearley, *The Ohio State University***Pivoting from Tillage to No-Till Practices in Vegetable Production**—Matt Herbruck, *Birdsong Farm***Farming with the Grain**—Mark Dobson, *reMARKable Farms***Live Question and Answer with Will Harris**—Will Harris, *White Oak Pastures***Practical Biogas Systems for Home and Small Farms**—Matt Steiman, *Dickinson College Farm***COVID and Organic Agriculture: One Year Later**—Kellee James and Megan Thomas, *Mercaris*

Workshops are subject to change.  
Workshop descriptions will be available this winter at [www.oeffa.org/conference2021](http://www.oeffa.org/conference2021).

FRIDAY

III

FEBRUARY 12

**Workshop Session III: 10:00-11:00 a.m. ET****Opportunity in Crisis: Building Power for a Sustainable and Just Food System in Ohio**—Tevis Foreman, *Produce Perks Midwest*, Jaime Hadji, *Ohio Farmers Market Network*, Amalie Lipstreu, *OEFFA*, Amy Bodiker Baskes, *Ohio Food Policy Network*, Brian Estabrook, *Franklin County Economic Development and Planning***Organic Machinery for No-Till and Weed Control**—Jos Pelgröm, *Treffler Man@Machine***Reliable, Restorative Harvests: Securing Supply with Easy-to-Grow, Nutritious Foods and Herbs**—Barbara Utendorf, *Wilmington College***Successful Succession Planting and Planning for the Flower Holidays**—Dave Dowling, *Ednie Flower Bulbs***Organic Perennial Grain Crops for Grain and Forage**—Steve Culman, *The Ohio State University Extension***Pasture-Based Livestock: Advancing Ecological, Economic, and Emotional Resilience**—Paul Dorrance, *Pastured Providence***Ohio AgrAbility: Assistive Technology to Keep you Farming**—Laura Akgerman and Rachel Jarman, *Ohio AgrAbility***Do Private Carbon Markets Make Sense for Farmers or the Climate?**—Colin Mitchell, *National Center for Appropriate Technology*, Tara Ritter, *Institute for Agriculture and Trade Policy*

FRIDAY

IV

FEBRUARY 12

**Workshop Session IV: 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET****The Right to Grow: Working at the Local Level to Expand Urban Agriculture**—Brittany Jones, *University of Toledo***Compost Quest for Glory: Exploring Newly Developed Methods**—Nathan Rutz, *Rust Belt Riders Composting***Heritage Meat Rabbits for the Homestead and Small Farm**—Jerah Pettibone, *Pettibone Urban Game***Irrigation System Design for Organic Production**—Evan Axelbaum, *Front Axle Farm***Organic Grain Market Outlook**—Megan Thomas, *Mercaris***Forage Grasses and the Impact on Birdsfoot Trefoil**—Nathan Blake, *West Virginia University***Civic Agriculture in a Food Desert: Healthy Living in Bronzville**—Julialynne Walker, *Bronzville Growers Market***E-Commerce Solutions for Direct-Marketing Farms**—Michael Parker, *National Young Farmers Coalition*

SATURDAY **V** FEBRUARY 13**Workshop Session V: 10:00-11:00 a.m. ET**

**A Bigger Food Movement: Building and Maintaining Broader Coalitions**—Brennan Grayson, *Cincinnati Interfaith Workers Center and the Good Food Cincinnati Coalition*

**Organic Seeds and You: Insights from the Seed World**—Daniel Eggert, *High Mowing Organic Seeds*

**Incorporating Native Plants in Your Landscapes**—Dianne Kadonaga, *Sunny Glen Garden*

**Using Shade Cloth and Sprinklers to Mitigate Summer Heat for Leafy Greens**—Michelle Nowak, *Franklinton Farms*, Tim McDermott, *The Ohio State University Extension*

**Intensifying Cover Crops in Organic Grain Systems through Interseeding**—Erin Silva, *University of Wisconsin—Madison*

**Happy Pigs Taste Better**—Alice Percy, *Fedco Seeds*

**Clothing Grown and Made Locally within Our Fibershed**—Namita Patel, *Dayton Fibershed*

**Marketing Organic Products in Ohio**—Monica Bongue-Bartelsman, *Muddy Fork Farm*

SATURDAY **VI** FEBRUARY 13**Workshop Session VI: 1:00-2:00 p.m. ET**

**Building OEFFA's Impact on the Food and Farm System**—Mark Schultz

**Life in the Soil: The Soil Food Web's Five Over-Arching Principles**—Elaine Ingham, *Soil Food Web*

**Foraging: It's Not Just for the Wilderness**—Alexis Nikole Nelson, *Black Forager*

**Growing Late Season Tomatoes Using Suckers vs. Seeds**—Guy and Sandy Ashmore, *That Guy's Family Farm*

**Crop Rotation: Evolving, Not Revolving, for Improved Management**—Joel Gruver, *Western Illinois University*

**How Dairy Farms Can Thrive in Our Changing World**—Mark McAfee, *Organic Pastures Dairy*

**Mulberry: An Easy Fruit and Forage Crop for Any Farm**—Weston Lombard, *Solid Ground Farm*

**What's Your Break Even Price?**—Ellen Polishuk, *Plant to Profit*

SUNDAY **VII** FEBRUARY 14**Workshop Session VII: 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. ET**

**Get Your Hands Dirty: How to Fight Polluting Energy Projects in Our Communities**—Rose Monahan and Lauren Ketcham, *Friends of Perry State Forest*

**Supporting Beneficial Birds and Managing Pest Birds**—Jo Ann Baumgartner, *Wild Farm Alliance*

**Gardening: Where to Start, Where to Finish**—Deb Knapke, *GardenComm*

**Successional Plantings in High Tunnels**—Dana Hilfinger, *Central State University*

**Integrating Steel and Ecology for Better Weed Management**—Joel Gruver, *Western Illinois University*

**Adding Livestock Guardian Dogs to Your Farm: Things to Know**—Keba Hitzeman, *Innisfree on the Stillwater*

**Natural Building/Remodeling Home Tour**—Nick Leone

**Diversify Smarter, Not Harder**—Alexis Dragovich, *Muddy Fork Farm*, Chelsea Gandy, *Fox Hollow Farm*

SUNDAY **VIII** FEBRUARY 14**Workshop Session VIII: 4:30-5:30 p.m. ET**

**Land Access: Advocacy Tools You Can Use**—Holly Rippon-Butler, *National Young Farmers Coalition*

**Tips and Tricks for Being Carbon Conscious**—Theresa Isemann, *Mission of Mary Cooperative*

**Pesticides Wintering in Your Hives**—Michele Colopy, *LEAD for Pollinators*

**Growing Organic Gourmet Garlic in Midwest Climates**—Rod and Jennifer Sharpnack, *Family Roots Farm*

**Soil Health Economics in an Organic System**—Jim Hoorman, *Hoorman Soil Health Services*

**Expanding Appalachia Ohio's Artisanal Meat Production**—Leslie Schaller, *ACEnet*

**Achieving Personal Food Sovereignty through Community**—Sherry Chen, *Andelain Fields*

**Online and Social Media Marketing: Where Do You Belong?**—Angela Blatt, *OSU InFACT*, Lyndsey and Seth Teter, *Six Buckets Farm*



## *Organic Farming to Heal a Climate in Crisis*

with the Real Organic Project

**Friday, February 12—7:00-8:30 p.m. ET**

Organic farming is one of the most powerful tools we have for building a prosperous future in the face of the climate crisis. That future demands a food system rooted in the soil and based on integrity and transparency. In this very special presentation, the Real Organic Project's Linley Dixon and Dave Chapman will use excerpts from the Real Organic Symposium to seed a lively discussion with OEFFA attendees. The pre-recorded excerpts feature our movement's brightest minds and most passionate advocates reflecting on the organic movement's beginnings, and the connections between organic farming and addressing climate change. Add your voice to the conversation!



## OPEN MIC NIGHT

**Saturday, February 13—8:30-9:30 p.m. ET**

Share your artistic side with your OEFFA family during a very special virtual open mic night. Songs, poems, stories, and skits are welcome; please share whatever moves you. Once the conference begins, attendees will be able to sign up for spots on a first-come, first-served basis until all the spaces are filled.

## A COMMUNITY DAY FOR REFLECTION, REGENERATION, AND ACTION

**Monday, February 15**

The final day of conference reserves time for reflection and action. Hear one-on-one interviews with OEFFA changemakers and essential conversations with diverse voices in the food system about their experiences this year and what they are doing to prepare for 2021. You'll also have the opportunity to share your feedback and ideas for building collective strength and developing a new strategic plan to guide OEFFA's work.



EARTH TOOLS

**Friday, February 12—4:30-5:30 p.m. ET**

**Saturday, February 13—4:30-5:30 p.m. ET**

OEFFA is excitedly crafting two special Oxford-style debates on major issues facing the food movement. Presented by Earth Tools, OEFFA is recruiting leading experts with opposing views so that we can offer substantive, thoughtful debates.



MIXING CRAFT

COCKTAILS

AN EDUCATIONAL HAPPY HOUR

with the Western Reserve Distillery

**Friday, February 12—6:00-7:00 p.m. ET**

Looking to shake things up this Valentine's Day?! Hand crafting a cocktail for that special someone is a great way to show them how much they mean to you. Western Reserve Distillers, Ohio's only certified organic distillery, is hosting a mixology lesson in which you will learn about distilled spirits and make two shaken cocktails. Meet organic farmer Dean McIlvaine of Twin Parks Organic Farm, who supplies meat proteins for the distillery's onsite restaurant.

You'll receive a link you can use to purchase your complete cocktail kit online and have it shipped to you before the mixology lesson, or just show up to enjoy the company of others after a day of learning and networking.



**Sunday, February 14—5:30-7:00 p.m. ET**

Prepare dinner in your kitchen with a Michelin star-rated chef! This live, interactive virtual cooking class led by Fēst's exceptional chefs, including Chef Tiffany Swan, will guide participants through a three-course meal. Ask questions, hear stories, observe preparation techniques, and savor this unique opportunity learning from and cooking with an expert. Enjoy a lovely meal you prepare for yourself (with leftovers!), have the family cook together, or prepare a special meal for your Valentine. The ingredient list will be shared ahead of time, so you can gather everything and be ready to cook! Learn more about Fēst at [www.festcooking.com](http://www.festcooking.com).

MEMBERS' MEETING

**Thursday, February 11—7:00 p.m. ET**

Join us for OEFFA's annual membership meeting, the time each year when our members come together to hear the latest about OEFFA and share their own thoughts. This is YOUR organization. Please come to listen, learn, and share as we vote for Trustees and kick off strategic planning.

**Quest 4 Points Game**

**eBan's**  
BAKEHOUSE

Racking up points playing the OEFFA Conference Quest 4 Points Game can literally earn you bread—and cookies, and other baked good deliciousness! Five winners will get a \$100 certificate to the Eban's Bakehouse online store! All of Eban's products are made from quality ingredients, and because they are delicious and gluten free, everyone will enjoy them!





# For In Row Harrowing and Clean Fields



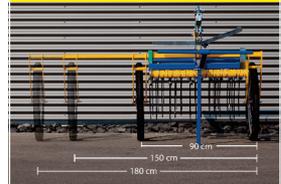
The Treffler tine harrow is unrivalled in mechanical weed control for all vegetable and field crops regardless of the crop stage.

Harrowing is all about timing. Treffler's precision, adjustable tension is the widest range on the market, together with the patented tine suspension, you can begin very early in the season, in shallow-rooted weeds (100-500 gr) to ensure you're ahead of weed pressure. Later in the season, you can increase up to 5000 gr for more aggressive harrowing. No chemical inputs required.

The tines follow the contour of your field, potato ridge, or raised bed, while the downward pressure remains constant. Precise weed control for all vegetable crops, transplants, and can be used to break a crust. In field-crops, you can rely on the same Treffler precision for blind cultivation in two-leaf corn, soy or grain. Guaranteed that the entire field will be worked evenly.



The TINY is effective throughout the growing season in greenhouses or small enterprises in vegetable production or seed propagation



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**FREE!** Make More Money by Investing in Soil Health

Wednesday, February 10—9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. ET

Healthier soils can make farmers more money. This free, half-day workshop will provide farmers with real world data on the benefits of soil health practices and field-tested methods to improve your farm's bottom line and the soil.

**Brian Brandt** of the American Farmland Trust, with three participating farmers, will share the results of their case studies quantifying the financial and ecological impacts of soil health practices on real working farms. To help Ohio farmers achieve these benefits on their own farms, nationally recognized Ohio no-till farmer **David Brandt**, cover crop specialist and seed dealer **Ann Brandt**, and Muskingum County Soil and Water Conservation District Agricultural Resource Specialist **Van Slack** will share agronomist recommendations on best practices and compare those to their current practice, yields, and profitability per acre using an input worksheet.

## EXHIBIT HALL

*Exhibit Hall Hours*

Open throughout conference!

Dedicated exhibit hall hours:

Thursday-Sunday 2-3 p.m. ET

Saturday 5:30-6:30 p.m. ET

Visiting exhibitors is easier than ever! Just click on the online trade show to find a diversity of vendors, offering you a one-stop shopping experience. You'll find businesses that can help you find your market, products that you can use on your farm or in your backyard, services that will help your farm or homestead succeed, quality locally-produced merchandise for your pantry and home, and useful information from knowledgeable nonprofit and educational institutions.

The online experience makes it simple to send an instant request for more information, and you can even sort the exhibitor list if you are searching for specific goods or services. Grab informational handouts, watch educational videos, and connect to online stores. Talk directly with representatives through meet ups, demonstrations, phone, or electronic messaging.

**ORGANIC CERTIFICATION ASSISTANCE**

Are you certified organic or considering certification? OEFFA Certification welcomes your questions and wants to help you with your paperwork! Visit the OEFFA Certification booth in the exhibit hall. Staff will answer questions about the organic certification process, standards, and guidelines, and provide one-on-one assistance as needed. Aluminum "No Spray" and other signs and organic logo stickers are available for sale on the OEFFA online store at [www.oeffa.org/oeffastore](http://www.oeffa.org/oeffastore).



**EXTENSION**

1890 LAND-GRANT INSTITUTION



[centralstate.edu/csuextension](http://centralstate.edu/csuextension)

**Central State University Extension has statewide programming in agriculture and natural resources:**

- Beginning Farmers
- Beekeeping
- Soil Health
- Oak Regeneration
- Hemp and Natural Products
- Women Owning Woodlands
- Aquaponics
- And more!

Visit our website at [centralstate.edu/csuextension](http://centralstate.edu/csuextension) or Facebook page for information and events in the four program areas: Agriculture and Natural Resources, 4-H Youth Development, Family and Consumer Science, and Community Economic Development.



United States Department of Agriculture  
National Institute of Food and Agriculture

*Central State University is an Equal Opportunity/ Affirmative Action institution or EO/AA.*



## CLOZTALK®

Getting your hands on OEFFA swag is now easier than ever, just in time for the holidays and in anticipation of OEFFA's first online conference!

CLOZTALK, an online merchandise business set up to help raise not-for-profit awareness, selected OEFFA as one of its charities. A wide selection of branded clothing—t-shirts, hoodies, trucker baseball caps, and much more—is available. Shopping and delivery are made easy, and OEFFA receives 20 percent of CLOZTALK's net profits. Find OEFFA's profile and available items at <https://cloztalk.com/collections/ohio-ecological-food-and-farm-association>.



### ACRES USA Bookstore

We know the OEFFA book table is a big part of the annual conference trade show experience, and this year OEFFA is excited to still bring you a comprehensive selection of books right at your fingertips...virtually! OEFFA is partnering with Acres USA to offer books from Chelsea Green Publishing and many others, so you'll be able to order many of the same great farming and food-related titles. Watch for a special conference bookstore webpage to open this winter!



### Children's Activities

The OEFFA conference is for kids too! OEFFA's Youth Agricultural Education Chapter is organizing activities for our youngest farmers and foodies. Children do not need to register separately to attend. Watch for more details soon!

### Mini-NCR-SARE Farmers Forum



OEFFA is proud to host a mini North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (NCR-SARE) Farmers Forum! Workshops

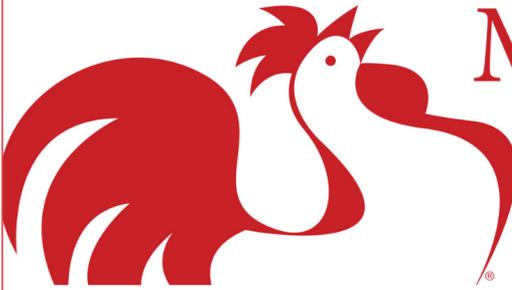
describing projects funded by the NCR-SARE Program are found throughout the conference workshop schedule, featuring topics like meat rabbits, using suckers for late season tomatoes, value-added processing for meat, and mulberry production.

### Chapter Meet Ups

During conference, you can easily find a list of your fellow OEFFA chapter members attending the event using the filter feature of our conference app. Watch for more information on chapter meet ups at conference—and remember you can join more than one chapter to stay engaged with community discussions, activities, and learning opportunities all year long! For more information about OEFFA's chapters, visit [www.oeffa.org/chapters](http://www.oeffa.org/chapters). To change your chapter affiliations, contact Kristy Yonyon at (614) 947-1611 or [kristy@oeffa.org](mailto:kristy@oeffa.org).

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# CONFERENCE REGISTRATION

## Registration Pricing at a Glance

Sliding scale payment options and scholarships available!

	Members	Non-Members
<b>General Registration</b> Sliding scale for members begins at \$60, through January 25	<b>\$150.00</b> (suggested)	<b>\$175.00</b>
<b>NOFA-NY Conference Special*</b> Details below	<b>\$250.00</b>	<b>\$250.00</b>
<b>Students</b> Sliding scale for members begins at \$60, Become a student member for \$10!	<b>\$70.00</b> (suggested)	<b>\$95.00</b>
<b>Food and Farm School</b>	<b>\$50.00</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>
<b>Chefinar</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>	<b>\$35.00</b>

## \* NOFA-NY CONFERENCE SPECIAL

We know 2020 has been a tough year, tougher for some. If you can make it possible for someone else to come to the OEFFA conference, you will be thanked with a complimentary registration to the Northeast Organic Farm Association-New York (NOFA-NY) conference online January 16-23!



Here's the special give-and-get deal: For \$250, you can register for both the OEFFA and NOFA-NY conferences and donate an OEFFA conference scholarship to someone else! And, like the OEFFA conference, if you can't attend all the NOFA-NY sessions live, you can watch the videos on demand.

## HOW TO REGISTER

When you register yourself and others, you're not only supporting OEFFA as we boldly go where no OEFFA conference has ever gone before, you also get access to dozens of hours of educational video sessions and the Socio virtual conference environment (see pg. 7).

As is the case with an in-person conference, it is essential that individuals register if they plan to participate in part or all of conference. OEFFA will have a better attendee count and support; those that attend will have their own profile to organize their schedule, interact with vendors, and network with other attendees.

Register at [www.oeffa.org/conference2021](http://www.oeffa.org/conference2021).

If you have registration questions, please contact Milo Petruziello or Kristy Yonyon at (614) 421-2022 or [milo@oeffa.org](mailto:milo@oeffa.org) or [kristy@oeffa.org](mailto:kristy@oeffa.org).

## FLEXIBLE PRICING FOR OEFFA MEMBERS

Because this year has been hard on many people, OEFFA is offering a sliding scale for conference registration to our members. Members who can't afford the full registration price of \$150 can pay what they can, from as little as \$60, through January 25. We want everyone who wants to attend to be able to attend! Contact Renee at (614) 947-1642 or [renee@oeffa.org](mailto:renee@oeffa.org) if you can't afford the sliding scale price and don't qualify to apply for a beginning farmer or diversity conference scholarship.

**Policy of Inclusiveness and Participation:** All are welcome here. OEFFA values diversity within our organization and at our annual conference. Like in ecological agriculture, diversity plays an important role in cultivating symbiotic and sustainable relationships between both plants and humans. A community that embraces everyone regardless of race, nationality, creed, political belief, gender identity, sexual orientation, age, or ability braves the harshest season and bears the sweetest fruit.

We ask that all participants exercise kindness, patience, and respect. OEFFA reserves the right to revoke conference platform access or remove content if community codes of conduct are broken.

# Need Help Complying with New Produce Safety Rules?



**Ohio Department  
of Agriculture**

Is Offering Produce Safety Training at  
No Charge for Ohio Produce Growers.

Contact: Matt Fout at 614-600-4272  
or visit [agri.ohio.gov](http://agri.ohio.gov) and search Produce Safety

Funding made possible, in part, by the Food and Drug Administration  
through Grant PAR-16-137.

# CONFERENCE SCHOLARSHIPS



## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR PERSONS OF COLOR



Thanks to generous funds from the Initiative for Food and AgriCultural Transformation (InFACT) and others, OEFFA is able to offer scholarships to increase the diversity of conference attendees, with particular focus on underrepresented participants such as Black,

Indigenous, and Latinx people who are or want to be in food system work, for example as farmers, farmworkers, food preparation and service workers, food nutrition and food system advocates, or food and farm educators. Award priority will be given to Ohio residents who have not previously attended the conference. To apply, go to [www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021OEFFAconfdiversity](http://www.surveymonkey.com/r/2021OEFFAconfdiversity), or call Renee Hunt at (614) 947-1642. Scholarships will be awarded beginning the week of January 4.

## SCHOLARSHIPS FOR BEGINNING FARMERS

To support beginning farmers with a financial need, OEFFA will again offer scholarships to help farmers start or improve their operations. To see if you're eligible or to apply for a scholarship, go to <https://beginfarming.oeffa.org/conference-scholarship> or contact Rachel Taysé at (614) 947-1633. The deadline to apply is January 6.

Begin Farming scholarships are made possible by funding from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Institute of Food and Agriculture Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development Program.



# ROOTED IN RESILIENCE

NOFA-NY's 39th Annual Winter Conference  
Online January 16 - 23, 2021



See OEFFA's registration special to attend for free!

Keynote Speaker:  
Laura Lengnick



60+

workshops, demos,  
discussion groups, and  
networking events

10+

workshops within the  
Northeast Organic  
Seed Conference

100+

farmers, homesteaders,  
experts, and advocates  
to learn from

[nofany.org/conference](http://nofany.org/conference)



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