



# Organic Intensives

**MOFFA ORGANIC INTENSIVES** is a day-long, concentrated learning experience for farmers and serious gardeners. As participants in the plethora of Michigan conferences, as well as hosting our own conference for many years, we believed that if we could channel our resources into a day of intensive coverage of a limited number of specific topics we could fill a need that currently was not being met. In addition this would allow us, as a volunteer-run non-profit organization, to maximize our resources in a realistic manner.

MOFFA held its first Organic Intensives in March, 2015, and those who attended found the sessions to be of greater than expected value. Thus we will continue to offer to current and future farmers, as well as serious gardeners, an opportunity to focus intensely on subjects for which there is substantial interest and a desire to reach a level of deep understanding.

For 2016, MOFFA has extended an invitation to individuals who are recognized experts and educators in one of three topic areas:

- Wild Edibles and Herbs
- Organic Certification for Field Crops
- Saving Seed

Check [www.moffa.net/OI-2016.html](http://www.moffa.net/OI-2016.html) for more information as it becomes available.

## Sessions for 2016



### Wild Edibles and Herbs as Part of the Good Food Solution

Lisa Rose of Grand Rapids, author of *Midwest Foraging*, will guide us through methods, ethics and sustainability of foraging in urban, farm and natural areas for local plants for food and herbal health.



### Save Seed, Save Genetic Diversity, Save Money

Suzanne Ashworth, author of *Seed to Seed*, will be joined by Michigan farmers Amy Newday and John Edgerton, who share her passion for saving seed. The presenters will discuss both why and how to successfully save seed and preserve genetic diversity.



### Organic Certification for Field Crops Farmers

This Intensive features Michigan's most experienced and knowledgeable field crop producers, researchers, educators and industry professionals. They will share their practical knowledge as it applies to soil health and how they use compost and organic fertilizers in their cropping systems. Organic options for weed control and pest management will be covered, as well as tips on marketing your organic crops. The session will also address the key parts of organic certification, including suggestions on how to implement the organic audit trail.



## Dates & Places

This year's Organic Intensives will be held on March 10, 2016, at Brody Hall on the MSU campus, during ANR week at MSU.

Registration begins at 8:30 am. Classes begin at 9:00 and last until 5:00, with a one-hour break for lunch at the Brody Cafe, as well as smaller breaks during the morning and afternoon sessions.

The Organic Reporting Session takes place on Friday, March 11. We encourage everyone to stay for what promises to be another enlightening learning opportunity.

A limited number of hotel rooms have been reserved at the Kellogg Center, directly across the street from Brody Hall, at a special rate of \$110 per night, but rooms must be reserved before Tuesday, February 9. When you contact the Kellogg Center, mention group code 1603MIORGA to register at the group rate.

The cost for the full day of Organic Intensives is \$75 for MOFFA members and \$85 for non-members—but only until February 9. After that date, the registration fee will be \$95 for both members and non-members.



## About MOFFA

The Michigan Organic Food and Farm Alliance (MOFFA) was organized in 1992 as a non-profit organization with the mission of promoting organic agriculture and the development and support of food systems that revitalize and sustain local communities. MOFFA was one of the first organizations in Michigan and in the nation to actively promote these principles.

MOFFA welcomes new members to join us and get involved in creating a better food system for Michigan. Our members include organic and other farmers, food coops, educators, environmentalists, food businesses, food and farm activists and concerned citizens throughout Michigan and elsewhere.

This past year MOFFA has sponsored and/or exhibited at eight major conferences and festivals in Michigan, which allowed us to reach many more individuals with our limited resources. We participated in a grant in conjunction with MSU to study methods of organic fruit production in high tunnels; we also provide assistance to our members and the public at large in matters pertaining to sustainable agriculture, and publish a quarterly newsletter.

All of this activity is made possible by the contributions of our members. If you haven't joined for 2016, we hope you will take a few minutes to lend your support.

## MOFFA

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## MOFFA Organic Intensives 2016

March 10, 2016  
East Lansing, MI