



PEI ADAPT Council Agri-Newsletter

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In This Issue:

Last Call for PEI ADAPT Council Annual General Meeting/Conference
Learn to Make and Apply High Quality Compost Tea
Producer Biofuel Information Meeting
Atlantic Agricultural Leadership Program Fund Raising Dinner
PEI ADAPT Council Agri-Newsletters Archives

Last Call:

PEI ADAPT Council Annual General Meeting/Conference: “What Does Local Really Mean?”

Over the years the PEI AGM/Conference has grown to be one of the Island’s most anticipated agricultural events of the year; sure to present progressive ideas, leadership values and new, positive directions in response to emerging issues and opportunities for the agriculture and food sectors.

This year, the conference will prove to be more than a discussion. It will be a real opportunity to network and make the kind of connections that may transform the way many farmers market what they produce. The PEI ADAPT Council invites you to our combined annual general meeting and conference on Friday March, 16, 2006 at the Slemon Park Convention Centre, Summerside, Prince Edward Island.

This year’s theme ‘What Does Local Really Mean?’ will highlight special keynote speaker, Mark Winne, of the Community Food Security Coalition, New Mexico Governor’s Anti-Hunger Task Force, the New Mexico Food and Agriculture Policy Council, and the Southwest Grass-fed Livestock Alliance plus other invited guest speakers including:

Chantale Courcy, Director, Adaptation Division, AAFC
Patrick O’Neill and David MacKay, Agri-food Value Chain Consultants
Diana Linder, Historic Maplethorpe Bed and Breakfast
Laurie Jennings, Masstown Market, Nova Scotia
Marc and Christa Schurman, Spring Valley Farm Market, PEI and
Chris Moreland, Food and Beverage Manager, Delta Prince Edward Hotel

The format will include a formal, yet brief, early morning business meeting followed by stimulating presentations and discussions on getting down to business with local jobs, sales and economic development.

Once again, we are planning a mid day showcase which will highlight a few projects

ADAPT has provided financial support to over the past year. We are also inviting farmers who sell to local/regional markets to set-up a display featuring the products coming directly from the farm. This will be an excellent opportunity to network with chefs, buyers and other local producers and to help bring forth a new vision of our agricultural future. If you would like to set-up a booth please notify us as soon as possible.

REGISTRATION IS FREE and is open to anyone with an interest in the future of the Island's agriculture and agri-food production.

To register call: (902) 368-2005 or email: adapt@pei.aibn.com

Learn to Make and Apply High Quality Compost Tea

Dr. Elaine Ingham is the founder of the Soil Foodweb approach, which provides the scientific basis for compost tea and for this workshop. What is compost tea? Compost tea is a liquid rich in microbes beneficial to plants. It is brewed from high quality compost or worm compost.

Why should I know more about it? If you are a commercial grower or turf manager, you can use compost tea to fine-tune the ecosystem in your soil (known as the soil foodweb). This fine-tuning, in combination with other good soil management practices, can greatly decrease disease and pest pressure and increase yield – at the same time as it allows you to reduce and eventually eliminate commercial fertilizer and pesticides. This has been demonstrated over and over again in many parts of the world.

The Presenters Dr. Jason Hofman and Glenn Munroe are the Lab Director and Communications Director of Soil Foodweb Canada East (SFCE) Ltd., based in Halifax. SFCE is an affiliate lab in the international network created by Dr. Elaine Ingham of Oregon. SFCE specializes in the testing of soil, compost, and compost tea, as well as in providing advice and training to growers wishing to incorporate this approach. Who should use it? All commercial growers, such as farmers and market gardeners, and turf managers, such as golf-course superintendents, landscapers, and municipal parks people.

How can I apply it? You can use standard spraying equipment.

How can I make it? Any commercial grower can make their own tea on-site after a bit of instruction. This instruction will be provided at the workshop.

When: Thursday, March 29, 2007, 8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Where: Howard Johnson Dutch Inn, Highway 1 (TransCanada),
Cornwall, Prince Edward Island.

Cost: \$125, taxes included (lunch and refreshments provided) – Group rates available – visit our website www.sfce.ca for details.

To register: Phone 1-877-333-5696 or email us at info@sfce.ca

Producer Biofuel Information Meeting

Producers are invited to an information meeting on the potential of developing a Biofuel Energy Co-operative in the province of Prince Edward Island. The meeting is an initial investigation on the needs of producers in participating in the biofuel economy and the local market use of biofuels produced.

Date: Wednesday March 21, 2007

Time 7:30 p.m.

Location: Farm Centre 420 University Avenue
Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island

For more information contact: Fred Martens 902-628-3339

Atlantic Agricultural Leadership Program Fund Raising Dinner

Class 7 of the Atlantic Agricultural Leadership Program invites you to a fund raiser dinner and auction in Sussex, N.B. On Thursday, May 3, 2007

Location: Sussex Golf and Curling Club, Picadilly, N.B.

Time: Reception: 6:30pm Dinner: 7:00pm

Guest speaker :Jacques Laforge, President of Dairy Farmer's of Canada

Topic: Dairy Industry in the next 10 to 15 years relative to W.T.O. trends and negotiations.

Meal catered by Timberland : Prime Rib Roast beef Dinner with Yorkshire Pudding, fresh mushrooms, mashed potatoes and garden fresh vegetables
Desert: New Brunswick delight (vanilla ice cream topped with pure maple syrup, amaretto liqueur and walnuts) or chocolate mousse

Tickets: \$50/person available from Janice Tait work 506-432-1630 or home 506-432-6624 and Jennifer Vanoord 506-463-8357

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<http://www.gov.pe.ca/af/agweb/index.php3?number=69584&lang=E>