
2012 OFFER Summit Meeting
The Direction of Organic Agriculture:
Future Growth, Challenges, & Research Needs

9:00-9:50 **Registration & poster setup**

Introductions and Opening Remarks

9:50 Welcome
Brian McSpadden Gardener, OFFER
Steve Slack, Director OARDC

I. Direction of organics: Markets & economic trends

10:00 What is the economic future of organic farming? market forces, demand trends,
specific areas of growth and decline
Laura Batcha (Organic Trade Association)

II. What are the primary research needs to advance organic farming into the future?

A. National perspective

11:00 2012 Land Grant Assessment, farmer surveys
Maureen Wilmot (Organic Farming Research Foundation)

12:00 Lunch & view posters

B. Regional and state perspectives

1:00 Regional perspective
Brian Snyder (Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture)

1:30 State perspective
Mike Anderson (Ohio Ecological Food & Farm Association)

III. What are the future prospects for funding organic research?

2:00 OREI: Prospects for successful funding
Deborah Stinner (2012 USDA- OREI Panel Manager)

2:30 Organic Research and Promotion Program Initiative
Laura Batcha (Organic Trade Association)

IV. Where do we go from here?

3:00 Round Table Discussion/ Q&A
All speakers

Closing & wrap-up

3:30 Adjourn
