



The **National Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP)** supports transitioning and organic farmers with Market resources. In-person events will take the form of **Buyer/Seller** mixers or field walks, facilitating meaningful connections between organic sellers and buyers; and via **Market Development Workshops** with subject matter experts focused on specific market topics.

These events are designed for organic farmers, those transitioning, and those who are curious about organic production, and organic buyers. All sessions are free of charge.



For updated information, see <https://www.organictransition.org/region/national> or contact: Markets@RodaleInstitute.org

If you are a buyer, sign up [here](#) to stay updated with the latest information about how to participate.

Upcoming In-Person National TOPP Markets Sessions

NOFA-NJ Winter Conference Networking Happy Hour

@[NOFA NJ Annual Winter Conference](#)

Join us at the NOFA-NJ Winter Conference for a Networking Happy Hour on January 31, 2026 from 6-7 p.m. EST. Enjoy live music, local bites, mocktails from Locust Light farm and cocktails from 3br. Connect with Rodale Institute's crops marketing team, who will be on site to help introduce growers and buyers, give advice on finding premium market opportunities and help build organic supplier relationships.

This event is perfect for organic farmers, conventional farmers thinking of transitioning, organic food and beverage makers and all types of food buyers (grocery, restaurants, processors and others). Leave with new friends, new customers, and new suppliers.

January 31, 2026 | Asbury Park, New Jersey | **Buyer/Seller Discovery** |
[Register here](#)

Organic Markets Workshop

@ [2026 Organic Grain Conference with The Land Connection](#) at [iHotel Conference Center](#)

Join us at the 2026 Organic Grain Conference for an engaging **Organic Markets Workshop** designed to help producers, sourcing teams, processors, and food companies navigate the evolving organic marketplace. This interactive session will focus on **buyer–seller discovery**, emerging market opportunities, and strategies for building strong, transparent relationships across the supply chain.

Whether you're looking to broaden your network, explore new channels, or better understand what today's organic markets demand, this workshop will provide practical insights and meaningful connections to support your success.

Event location, timing, and participating vendors will be announced soon — stay tuned for more details.

February 4th, 2026 | Champaign, Illinois | **Buyer/Seller Discovery** | Stay tuned for more details

Buyer and Seller Meet-Up & Farmer Social

@ [MOFGA \(Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners\), Farmer to Farmer Conference](#)

MOFGA's Farmer to Farmer Conference is known for its intimacy, in-depth treatment of topics and profound discussions. The conference offerings are based on the idea that farmers learn best from their peers and other practitioners. Conference speakers include prominent and accessible university faculty, extension educators and other agricultural professionals.

Rodale will host a **Buyer and Seller Meet-up & Farmer Social, Saturday, February 7 at 2:30 p.m.**, Allagash Brewing Co., 50 Industrial Way, Portland, Maine. Join MOFGA and The Rodale Institute for a buyer and seller meet-up and networking event at Allagash, followed by a tour of the facility and a farmer social and drinks. Connect directly with local buyers and growers, learn from their real-world experience, and tap into resources that can boost your business. Farmers can explore new sales channels, buyers can discover trustworthy local suppliers, and everyone can build the relationships that keep our regional food system thriving.

February 7, 2026 | Portland, Maine | **Market Development Workshop & Buyer/Seller Discovery** |
[Learn more here](#)

Organic Buyers Showcase

@ [High Plains Organic Growers Conference](#)

Start the High Plains Organic Conference with connection! Our Buyers Showcase brings organic buyers to the front of the room to share who they are, what they source, and how they work with producers. With

time for questions and conversation, this session sets the tone for two days of relationship-building across the organic marketplace—from farmers and buyers to the partners who support them.

Feb 10, 2026 | Cheyenne, Wyoming | **Market Development Workshop** | [Register here](#)

Organic Market Opportunities in the Northwest

@[Oregon State University Small Farms Conference](#)

Small farmers in the Northwest grow an incredible diversity of produce, livestock, and grains—and the region is full of consumers who care deeply about how and what you grow. If you are ready to move beyond direct sales and explore partnerships with distributors or retailers, this session is designed for you.

We will begin with a panel discussion featuring 3–4 organic buyers, who will share insights on market trends, shifts in demand, and what it takes to build strong buyer relationships. Then, our Buyers Showcase opens the floor to all buyers in attendance, each sharing what they purchase and how they work with farmers. This unique format ensures that every producer has the chance to connect directly with multiple buyers. We will close with Q&A and networking to spark conversations that can lead to lasting opportunities across the organic value chain.

February 21, 2026 | Corvallis, Oregon | **Buyer/Seller Discovery** | [Register here](#)

Grain Fair at Rodale Institute

@ [2026 Mid-Atlantic Grains Conference and Fair](#)

Join farmers, millers, maltsters, bakers, brewers, distillers, cooks, and consumers for two days of practical learning, community connection, and inspiration — from soil to sourdough, malt to market, and everything in between. Programming for the 2026 conference is coming together — with hands-on sessions, a pre-conference Grain Fair, family-friendly offerings, a new evening tasting event, and buyer-seller mixers.

The 2026 Grain Fair, March 15, will be hosted at the Rodale Institute, the fair is a free, family-friendly event for food enthusiasts and community members passionate about local agriculture. The Showcase features vendors offering foods and beverages made with Mid-Atlantic grains alongside demonstrators leading hands-on activities, talks, and displays. With farm tours and a festive marketplace atmosphere, the Grain Fair offers a dynamic entry point into the regional grain movement—bringing the seed-to-table journey to life and connecting community members with the people and products building a resilient Mid-Atlantic food system.

March 15-16, 2026 | Kutztown, Pennsylvania | **Market Development Workshop & Buyer/Seller Discovery** | [Register here](#)

Organics Markets Workshop

@ Florida Organic Growers Summit

Spring 2026 | Tallahassee, Florida | **Buyer/Seller Discovery** | Stay tuned for more details

Organics Markets Workshop

@Colorado Meat Summit

June 2026 | Fort Collins, Colorado | Market Development Workshop | Stay tuned for more details

Organics Markets Workshop

@Midwest Meat Summit

Summer 2026 | Des Moines, Iowa | Market Development Workshop | Stay tuned for more details

Past Events

Farmer – Distiller Organic Grain Connections

@ [Cow Creek Organic Farm](#) and [Silver Tree Spirits](#)

Join OGRAIN, Artisan Grain Collaborative, The Land Connection, IDEA Farm Network and Rodale Institute for this unique field day tailored for both farmers and distillers to learn in the field and at the distillery. Dallas and Will Glazik will lead us as we tour organic fields and discuss proper organic food-grade grain handling at Cow Creek Organic Farm. We'll transition to Silver Tree Spirits for lunch featuring a farmer & distiller panel followed by organic buyer/seller networking time. We will wrap up the day with a distillery tour, grain quality talk, and optional off-flavor tasting.

Have lingering questions or want to spend more time enjoying this great group of folks? Stick around the distillery to keep the conversation going. Come out to explore and network across the grain chain.

August 27, 2025 | Paxton, Illinois | **Buyer/Seller Discovery** | [Register here](#)

No Till Organic Corn Field Walk & Buyer Tour

@ [Prairie Creek Barn](#)

Join us in Grand Island, Nebraska for a field walk focused on no till organic crop production and a buyer tour. Participants will have the opportunity to tour fields of organic corn no tilled into living alfalfa. Additionally, Ben Miller (North Platte, NE) will share his learnings from over 10 years of experience with the system. Other growers experimenting with the technique will be present to discuss and share.

Engage with key players in organic supply chains at this buyer tour, crafted to connect buyers with transitioning and established organic farmers. Expect to cultivate valuable partnerships with potential buyers and farmers and enjoy lunch featuring Nebraska-grown organic ingredients.

September 10, 2025 | Cairo, Nebraska | **Buyer/Seller Discovery** | [Register here](#)

From Soil to Market: An Organic Farming Networking Event

@ [Meadow Barn at Country Orchards](#)

Join us for "From Soil to Market," a networking event hosted in collaboration with the South Dakota Specialty Producers Association. This event will provide valuable insights into the market challenges and

opportunities of organic transition, market demand for organic food, feed, and personal care ingredients, and sourcing regenerative and organic products.

Hear firsthand experiences from certified organic farmers and farmers transitioning to organic production, engage with organic buyers and traders seeking high-quality organic and regenerative ingredients, and network with industry experts over a farm-fresh organic lunch and an organic ice cream social. Additionally, vendors will be available to share resources on the transition to organic farming, certification, and regenerative organic agriculture best practices.

September 30, 2025 | West Harrisburg, South Dakota | **Market Development Workshop** | [Register here](#)

Farm-to-Institution Organic Symposium

@ [University of Virginia](#)

Join us for a one-day immersive symposium convening institutional leaders and food systems innovators to explore farm-to-institution models as powerful levers for change, especially through the organic marketplace. From universities and healthcare systems to food hubs and farmers, we are bringing together the people rethinking how land, procurement, and public health intersect. If you are an institutional leader, food procurement team, sustainability professional, farmer, researcher, or advocate, this event is for you!

October 9, 2025 | Charlottesville, Virginia | [Register here](#)

Gather & Grow: Cultivating Organic Farmer & Buyer Connections

@ [Thistlerock Mead Co.](#) and [Wayflowering](#)

Join us for an inspiring day of education and connection at [Thistlerock Mead Co.](#) and [Wayflowering](#)—a regenerative flower farm, apiary and meadery nestled in the heart of Virginia’s foodshed. This two-part event, supported by the USDA’s [Transition to Organic Partnership Program \(TOPP\)](#), is designed to empower current and transitioning organic farmers, buyers, institutional procurement leaders, gardeners, food systems enthusiasts, and those who are curious about organic production methods.

October 10, 2025 | Charlottesville, Virginia | **Buyer/Seller Discovery** | [Register here](#)

Organic Field Day & Buyer Tour at Starwalker Organic Farms

@ [Starwalker Organic Farm](#)

The demand for Regenerative Organic Certified® (ROC) food is growing fast — driven by consumers and buyers who want meat that is both nutrient-dense and raised with integrity. Yet supply is still far behind. That’s why Rodale Institute, the Regenerative Organic Alliance, and StarWalker Organic Farms are coming together to host this Field Day — an opportunity for farmers and ranchers to learn, connect, and explore what it means to join a growing network of Partner Producers.

StarWalker Organic Farms, the first ROC beef and pork producer in the U.S., is leading this effort to scale regenerative protein supply. We invite you to join us as Partner Producers and help build a supply chain that regenerates soil, respects animals, and nourishes people with the highest-quality food.

Hosted by Kristina and Jason Walker, you will get an insider look at their partnership program, hear from certification experts about pasture, feed, and livestock requirements, and learn directly from buyers what they are seeking in today's market.

October 22-23, 2025 | Fort Jones, California | **Market Development Workshop** | Stay tuned for more details

Tilth Conference Mixer

November 12, 2025 | | Buyer/Seller Discovery

Wild Hope Farm Tour & Organic Grower-Buyer Meet and Greet

@ [Wild Hope Farm](#)

Join us for a special series of events during the **Carolina Farm Stewardship Association's Sustainable Agriculture Conference (SAC)** this November. The events are designed to build strong connections between organic buyers and producers in the Carolinas.

Start your SAC weekend with a tour of Wild Hope Farm's certified organic operation. Learn firsthand about scaling up organic production, equipment use, and soil health strategies for diversified wholesale markets. We'll also explore on-farm packaging, cold storage, and what it really takes to meet organic buyer requirements from the field to the loading dock. Your attendance is vital to help bridge the gap between growers and markets by offering real-time insights that can shape successful partnerships and strengthen the regional organic supply chain.

After the tour, we will gather at Columbia Craft Brewery for a grower/buyer mixer for casual conversation, new connections, great beer and yummy tapas prepared with local farm products.

November 14, 2025 | Chester, South Carolina | **Buyer/Seller Discovery** | [Register here](#)

Organic Buyer-Farmer Mixer at the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association – Sustainable Agriculture Conference

@ [Columbia Craft Brewing Company](#)

Join us for a special series of events during the **Carolina Farm Stewardship Association's Sustainable Agriculture Conference (SAC)** this November. The events are designed to build strong connections between organic buyers and producers in the Carolinas.

We will be hosting a casual, catered mixer designed to foster new relationships between organic farmers and buyers through conversations focused on organic market opportunities, particularly in fruits and vegetables. Even if you are not attending SAC, you are still welcome to join us for this event. It is a perfect way to connect with growers and fellow buyers while helping to strengthen the regional organic market.

November 14, 2025 | Columbia, South Carolina | **Buyer/Seller Discovery** | [Register here](#)

Organic Market Access Workshop at the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association – Sustainable Agriculture Conference

@ [Columbia Metropolitan Convention Center](#)

Join us for a special series of events during the **Carolina Farm Stewardship Association's Sustainable Agriculture Conference (SAC)** this November. The events are designed to build strong connections between organic buyers and producers in the Carolinas.

Join Rodale Institute, TOPP partners, Growers and Buyers for a practical workshop to help transitioning and certified organic farmers assess market readiness, understand buyer requirements, and build effective marketing strategies. As a buyer, your insights are invaluable, and your presence helps shape the future of organic supply chains across the Southeast.

November 15, 2025 | Columbia, South Carolina | **Market Development Workshop** | [Register here](#)

Organic Markets Workshop & Organic Grower-Buyer Mixer

@ [Ohio State University Organic Grains Conference](#) at [Kalahari Resort](#)

Join **Ohio State University** and the **Rodale Institute** for the **Organic Grower–Buyer Mixer**, a dedicated space for meaningful buyer/seller discovery. This mixer brings together growers, sourcing teams, processors, and food and grain companies to connect, explore new partnerships, and discover high-quality organic ingredients.

Whether you're looking to expand your network, meet potential collaborators, or gain insight into today's organic marketplace, this event offers valuable opportunities to build relationships and foster collaboration.

January 7-8, 2026 | Sandusky, Ohio | **Market Development Workshop & Buyer/Seller Discovery** | Stay tuned for more details

Organic Markets Workshop & Organic Grower-Buyer Mixer

@ [Virginia Biological Farming Conference](#) at [The Hotel Roanoke and Conference Center](#)

Join the Virginia Association for Biological Farming (VABF), the Rodale Institute, and the Roanoke Foodshed Network (RFN) for a regional Buyer/Grower Expo as part of the 2026 VABF Conference on January 10th, 2026 (event schedule below). This event connects farmers, food producers, distributors, restaurants, institutions, and retailers who are passionate about sourcing and supplying local, sustainable food.

Learn from buyers who procure locally and growers who sell to wholesale markets. Meet face-to-face with regional buyers and growers, build new market relationships, and discover resources to support your business growth. Whether you're a farmer looking to expand sales or a buyer seeking

reliable local suppliers, this event provides a space to make meaningful connections that strengthen our regional food network.

January 10, 2026 | Roanoke, Virginia | **Market Development Workshop & Buyer/Seller Discovery** | [Register here](#)

Sustainable Paths – Strengthening the Organic Supply Chain Pre-Conference

@[EcoFarm](#)

The organic produce sector is growing rapidly—but so are the complexities of maintaining a supply chain that is transparent, resilient, and true to organic principles. This workshop will focus on strengthening the organic produce supply chain from grower to consumer. We'll explore practical strategies for building trusted relationships between farmers, aggregators, distributors, retailers, and certifiers while navigating challenges like labor, seasonality, pricing, perishability, and scale. Participants will explore best practices for maintaining organic integrity, improving traceability, supporting fair and equitable partnerships, and increasing supply chain efficiency without compromising organic values.

Participants will hear from experienced producers, farmers, supply chain coordinators, and market specialists who are developing innovative, regional, and cooperative models to shorten supply chains and increase access to fresh, organic fruits and vegetables. Whether you're a farmer seeking better market access, a buyer looking to deepen your sourcing standards, or a stakeholder working to improve equity and sustainability, this session offers valuable tools and inspiration.

January 21, 2026 | Pacific Grove, California | **Buyer/Seller Discovery** | [Learn more here](#)

Organics Markets Grower-Buyer Mixer

@ [OGRain Winter Conference](#)

Join **OGRain**, the **Artisan Grain Collaborative**, and the **Rodale Institute** for an engaging evening designed to spark new connections and strengthen relationships across the organic supply chain. This mixer brings together the people who help organic agriculture thrive — growers, sourcing teams, food companies, millers, processors, and many others shaping our regional food system.

Enjoy the relaxed atmosphere of **Giant Jones Brewery** along with delicious **pizza and desserts from ORiGiN Breads**. Come meet new partners, reconnect with colleagues, discover sourcing opportunities, and share ideas that inspire a stronger, more transparent marketplace for organic ingredients.

We're excited to gather with those who grow, source, craft, and champion organic products — and to build the collaborations that move our industry forward. We hope to see you there!

January 23, 2026 | Madison, Wisconsin | **Buyer/Seller Discovery** | Stay tuned for more details

See In-Person National TOPP Markets Sessions from 2024 and 2025 at organictransition.org.

This program is supported through the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Transition to Organic Partnership Program (TOPP). TOPP is a program of the USDA Organic Transition Initiative and is administered by the USDA Agricultural Marketing Service (AMS) National Organic Program (NOP).

United States Department of Agriculture
Agricultural Marketing Service
National Organic Program
Transition to Organic Partnership Program

