

Grain, Pulse, and Oilseed Council Annual Report | 2021

The Organic Trade Association (OTA)'s Grain, Pulse, and Oilseed Council is made up of member companies with a role in the organic grain, pulse, and/or oilseed space that cover the entire supply chain from growers to processors to manufacturers. Council members are committed to ensuring the resilience and profitability of organic grain, pulse, and oilseed production in the United States, and work together to identify and overcome barriers to the growth of domestic organic grain acreage by understanding key challenges and providing recommendations for pre-competitive supply chain solutions.

Highlights from 2021:

- Welcomed new slate of council officers! Chair: Edward Fish (Bay State Milling Company), Vice Chair: Matt Leavitt (Albert Lea Seed), and Secretary: Tobi Strohan (Sunrise Foods International). Together these leaders represent the organic grain sector from seed, to feed, to food.
- Received technical policy briefings on critical international trade issues impacting U.S. supply of organic soybean meal. OTA's International Trade Director gave a special briefing to the council regarding the revocation of the National Organic Program's recognition agreement with India, as well updates on the anti-dumping investigation of organic soybean meal imports from India.
- Evaluated best practices for communicating priorities to the research community. Scientists from The Organic Center answered questions from council members about various methods of communication for getting the council's research priorities in front of the appropriate researchers and funders.
- Engaged in a series of member roundtable discussions on business and industry updates, inspirational organic moments, and impacts from covid on grain production and supply chain issues. Council members also discussed emerging USDA policy issues including support for organic transition and the NOP's Human Capital Capacity Building initiative.

Looking Ahead to 2022:

Members of the Grain, Pulse, and Oilseed Council will finalize their 2022 work plan. The council's goal is to have a succinct well-aligned work plan that addresses the highest priority topic areas for the organic grains sector, while also having a diverse mix of activities that can engage the interests of all council members. Areas of priority are expected to include: fraud prevention, climate change, organic transition, research, and data.

COUNCIL MEMBERS

MAD AGRICULTURE



MERCARIS

SUNRISE FOODS INTERNATIONAL



Ardent Mills
Nourishing what's next.®

Pilgrim's

Cargill

hfi healthy food ingredients



PERDUE
AgriBusiness

PETE And GERRY'S
ORGANIC EGGS
FROM SMALL FAMILY FARMS

SureSource
Commodities

VILICUS FARMS

General Mills

ALBERT LEA SEED
EST. 1923

Stonyfield
ORGANIC

Clarkson
grain company

ORGANIC VALLEY
FARMER-OWNED

PURIS

Kashi

GRAIN MILLERS

Edward Fish (Bay State Milling Company) serves as Chair of the Grains, Pulse and Oilseed Council, alongside Vice Chair Matt Leavitt (Albert Lea Seed), and Secretary Tobi Strahan (Sunrise Foods International). Their work is supported by OTA's Farm Policy Director, Johanna Miranda. If you're interested in joining the Grains Council, please contact Johanna Miranda (jmiranda@ota.com).

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trade association

Headquarters

444 N. Capitol St. NW, Suite 445A, Washington, DC 20001 (202) 403-8520
OTA.com | info@ota.com | @OrganicTrade

Locations

Washington, D.C. | Brattleboro, VT | Santa Cruz, CA | Corvallis, OR