

**Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance (NODPA)
Fifth Annual Summer Field Days Event**

Friday and Saturday, August 12th and 13th, 2005 in Nichols NY, just west of Binghamton, NY.

The Field Days will include 2 field trips to organic dairies in Nichols, NY, a producers' meeting and banquet, a trade show, workshops on Saturday and plenty of time to enjoy conversation and excellent, local organic food.

This year, the Field Days Event is being sponsored by **Horizon Organic Dairy, Stonyfield Farm Inc. and Organic Valley Family of Farms**. The event is hosted by **Englebert Farm** (Kevin, Lisa, Kris, Joe and John) and will include a field trip to the Englebert Farm and to **Moore Farms**, owned and operated by Rob and Pam Moore.

The Field Days will start at 1:00 p. m. on Friday, August 12th with a field trip to the Englebert Farm to look at organic corn, soy and hay production and walk their pastures. The Friday night producers' meeting and banquet will be held at the **Creamery** in Nichols. It will start with a social hour at 4:30 p.m. followed by dinner of fine local organic food at 5:30 p.m. At 6:45 p.m., NRCS grassland specialist **Darrell Emmick** will give the key note address on organic pasture management. This will be followed by a producers and NODPA members' meeting which will include an update on the NOP rule changes, an opportunity for producers to discuss their priorities for the next year and exchange ideas on issues related to pay price and parity.

The Saturday morning proceedings will be opened by Steve Morrison, NODPA's President, followed by "Measuring The Health of your Soil": **Janice Degni**, and **Fay Benson** of **Cornell's South Central NY Dairy and Field Crop Team** will use some of the practices that have been discussed in their winter soil health meetings to show farmers how to measure the health of their farm soils. **Klaas Martens** will then lead a workshop on soil fertility management. **Jim and Nancy Gardiner** will talk about medicinal and nutritional uses of medicinal herbs as part of a workshop on livestock health care. At 12:30 we will have lunch where the raffle of a calf donated by Pam and Rob Moore and door prizes will take place. At 2:00 p.m. we will take a field trip to **Moore Farms** to look at milking parlor design in their New Zealand style swing parlor, grazing management with a seasonal dairy herd raising calves on cows, once a day milking and strategies for reducing grain feeding. Dale Emmick will participate in the farm walk and lead a discussion on pasture management. There will also be many opportunities for farmers to visit the trade show, network with one another, and meet resource people in the organic dairy industry. For more information and registration details go to www.nodpa.com, or call 413-772-0444.

The mission of NODPA is to **enable organic dairy family farmers, situated across an extensive area, to have informed discussion about matters critical to the well being of the organic dairy industry as a whole.**

Our Field Day Sponsors



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