

NODPA NEWS

Northeast Organic Dairy Producers Alliance

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Organic Industry News

SAVE THE DATE
NODPA's 7th Annual
Field Days Event and
Annual Producer Meeting
August 17 & 18, 2007
Freund's Farm Market
324 Norfolk Road
East Canaan, Connecticut

By Ed Maltby

This year's NODPA Field Days will take you through two states and many different years of experience in organic dairying. The event will be hosted by Rick Segalla and Morvan Allen who farm on either side of the Connecticut/Massachusetts border and will take place in the Freund family dairy farm store and greenhouse.

NODPA's Field Days are a great place to re-connect with friends and with what is going on in the organic dairy world. Friday afternoon will feature a tour of Rick Segalla's farm in Canaan CT where he can share the many years of organic production experience he and his family have accumulated. Friday evening will feature a banquet of local foods and organic meat starting at 6:00 pm and a producer meeting starting at 7:30 pm. The annual producer meeting will be an opportunity for NODPA farmer members to be updated on the previous year's work and set the priorities for the NODPA work in 2008.

As usual, we will have a trade show for both days and on Saturday we will have a number of workshops including a pres-

entation by Lynn Clarkson (invited) and a panel of retail and consumer representatives. Saturday afternoon will feature a farm tour of newly transitioned organic dairy farmer Morvan Allen. Morvan's farm is located in Sheffield, Massachusetts, and he completed his transition early in 2007. There will be an article on his farm in the August edition of NODPA News. There will also be many opportunities for farmers to visit the trade show, network with one another, learn about trends in the industry, and meet resource people who will be on hand.

Freund Dairy is a conventional dairy that makes full use of its location with its farm store and finds multiple values for manure. They capture the methane from decomposing manure liquids to heat the farm house and the hot water supply for their dairy barn. And they're making "cow pots" for starting seeds out of some of their manure solids.

Save the date and watch the mail for a brochure on the event; remember to check out the August NODPA News and occasionally check out the NODPA website for further details as they develop. If you are interested in sponsoring this event, or making a donation to support it and NODPA's great work, please contact Ed Maltby by June 15th in order to be included in the 3,000 brochures that will be mailed out. If you want to be an exhibitor and promote your product at the tradeshow, contact Ed Maltby quickly before the limited space disappears. For more information contact Ed Maltby by phone: 413-772-0444 or email: emaltby@comcast.net. ♦