



EVERY SUNDAY IN  
**JANUARY**  
3-5pm EST

# REAL ORGANIC

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## VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM

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**Can Real Organic Farming Be Saved?**

A virtual series of talks and live panels with more than 50 prominent organic farmers, scientists, and climate activists.

# NOTEBOOK



# SESSION DESCRIPTIONS



**WEEK 1**

*Sunday, January 3, 3pm-5pm EST*



## WHAT IS THE REAL ORGANIC PROJECT?

It's not an ordinary certifying organization. Tractor rallies, protests, grassroots gatherings, and passionate voices are the heart of the Real Organic Project. It represents the farmers who want to provide food the right way. No cutting corners. It's a group of people who care about agricultural systems and are fighting to reclaim the word "Organic" -- a word that was stolen by lobbyists and big agricultural corporations. It's a movement to provide the transparency that we need.

This is our story.

**WEEK 2**

*Sunday, January 10, 3pm-5pm EST*



## WHAT IS SOIL HEALTH?

Soil is the source of life. It's home to a complex network of bacteria, viruses, minerals, fungi, worms, insects, and decaying organic matter, all of which work together to create an inexplicably nutrient-dense medium. It's the perfect elixir, forming the base of all terrestrial ecosystems' food webs. Just as energy passes through food chains, so do the minerals and micronutrients that are converted and mined by the subsurface biome -- signatures and gifts of the soil. What mysteries lie beneath the soil? Can soil be replaced by other mediums for growing food? How do we ensure that soil health is the center of agriculture?

# #REAL ORGANIC 2021



BREAKOUT PROMPTS  
(EMAILED EACH WEEK)

## BREAKOUT 1

## BREAKOUT 2

## NOTES

JAN 3

Is the National Organic Program doing it's job

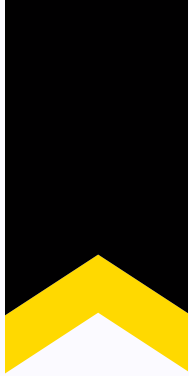
What can we do about the failing National Organic Program?

JAN 10

JAN 17

JAN 24

JAN 31



# REAL ORGANIC PROJECT

VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM 2021

WEEK 1: JANUARY 3RD



## QUOTES & INSPIRATION

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## READ, WATCH, LISTEN LATER

Eliot Coleman: *SAVE 35% with Code PWEB35*  
<https://www.chelseagreen.com/product/the-new-organic-grower-3rd-edition/>  
<https://www.chelseagreen.com/product/four-season-harvest/>  
<https://www.chelseagreen.com/product/the-winter-harvest-handbook/>

Jean-Martin Fortier:  
The Market Gardener, A Successful Grower's Handbook for Small-Scale Organic Farming

John Ikerd Paper "Reclaiming the Roots of Organic":  
<http://faculty.missouri.edu/ikerdj/papers/FloridaReclaimingtheRootsofOrganic.pdf>

Ronnie Cummins: *SAVE 35% with Code PWEB35*  
<https://www.chelseagreen.com/product/grassroots-rising/>

Frederick L. Kirschenmann:  
Cultivating an Ecological Conscience - Essays from a Farmer Philosopher

Cornucopia Institute:  
<https://www.cornucopia.org/>

## NOTES

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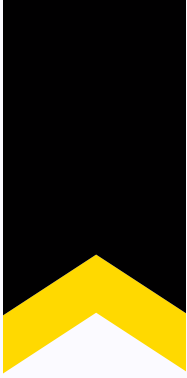
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# REAL ORGANIC PROJECT

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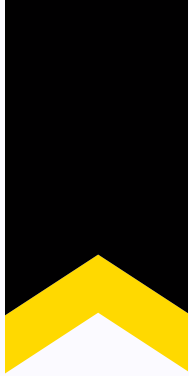
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# REAL ORGANIC PROJECT

VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM 2021

WEEK 2: JANUARY 10TH



## QUOTES & INSPIRATION

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## READ, WATCH, LISTEN LATER

Joan Gussow: SAVE 35% with Code PWEB35

<https://www.chelseagreen.com/product/this-organic-life/>

David Montgomery:

- Growing A Revolution
- The Hidden Half Of Nature **Co-Authored with Anne Biklé**
- Dirt: The Erosion of Civilizations

Didi Pershous & Walter Jehne Soil Sponge & Water Cycles

Presentation:

<https://youtu.be/123y7jDdbfY>

Kris Nichols Interview on Green Dreamer Podcast:

<https://greendreamer.com/podcast/kris-nichols-pachaterrae>

Jennifer Taylor Organic Cover Cropping Soil Health & Impacts:

Courtesy of SouthernSARE: <https://youtu.be/FAMKc88Hop8>

Symphony Of The Soil Vimeo Rental:

<https://vimeo.com/ondemand/symphonyofthesoil/64662202>

## NOTES

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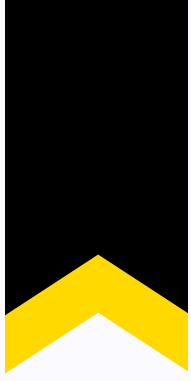
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# REAL ORGANIC PROJECT

#REALORGANIC2020



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# SESSION DESCRIPTIONS



**WEEK 3**

*Sunday, January 17, 3pm-5pm EST*



## FARMING AND CLIMATE

Humans have been farming for over 10,000 years, but some studies say that we only have 60 years of farmable soil left on the planet. The topsoil is being killed on a large scale by the forces of deforestation and chemical-laden agriculture. As the amount of living soil decreases on Earth, so does the potential for carbon sequestration via photosynthesis. The fate of life and soils are intimately intertwined. Thankfully, there is a straightforward way to both reverse the effects of climate change and restore our soils. The answer? Decreased carbon emissions paired with real organic farming. Yep, even the real organic beef and dairy farms are good for the climate.

**WEEK 4**

*Sunday, January 24, 3pm-5pm EST*

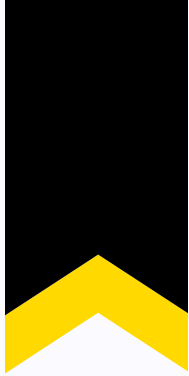


## HEALTH AND NUTRITION

Stuart McMillan of Legend Organic Farm once said, "Organic agriculture is more than simply the presence or absence of pesticides." While the elimination of toxic pesticides and herbicides from food is certainly a step in the right direction, there's more to the equation when it comes to consumers' health. Let's take the example of an egg. An egg from a bird with limited outdoor access and an all-grain diet differs from a truly organic egg in more ways than just taste and appearance. The concentration of healthy cholesterol and omega-3's is also much higher in a truly pasture-raised bird.

Our health depends upon knowing the difference.





# REAL ORGANIC PROJECT

VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM 2021

WEEK 3: JANUARY 17TH



## QUOTES & INSPIRATION

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## READ, WATCH, LISTEN LATER

David Grinspoon:  
Earth in Human Hands: Shaping Our Planet's Future

Walter Jehne Presentation (2hrs)  
Courtesy of Didi Persehouse: <https://youtu.be/3nC6j80sLZo>

Bill McKibben:  
<http://billmckibben.com/books.html>

Paul Hawken:  
<https://drawdown.org/>

Ronnie Cummins: SAVE 35% with Code PWEB35  
<https://www.chelseagreen.com/product/grassroots-rising/>

Allan Savory Ted Talk:  
<https://tinyurl.com/AllanTED>

## NOTES

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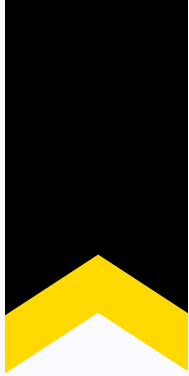
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# REAL ORGANIC PROJECT

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## NOTES

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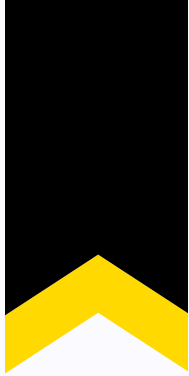
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# REAL ORGANIC PROJECT

VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM 2021

WEEK 4: JANUARY 24TH



## QUOTES & INSPIRATION

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## READ, WATCH, LISTEN LATER

Joan Gussow:  
Growing, Older: A Chronicle of Death, Life, and Vegetables

Mark Schatzker:  
The Dorito Effect: The Surprising Truth About Food and Flavor  
Steak: One Man's Search for the World's Tastiest Piece of Meat

Dan Barber:  
Third Plate Chicago Ideas Week Talk: <https://youtu.be/B-uR69bJ8Lg>  
Book: The Third Plate - Field Notes on the Future of Food

The Organic Medicinal Herb Farmer:  
SAVE 35% with Code PWEB35  
<https://www.chelseagreen.com/product/the-organic-medicinal-herb-farmer/>

Happy Pigs Taste Better: SAVE 35% with Code PWEB35  
<https://www.chelseagreen.com/product/happy-pigs-taste-better/>

Growing The Table (Kat Taylor Initiative):  
<https://www.growingthetable.org/>

## NOTES

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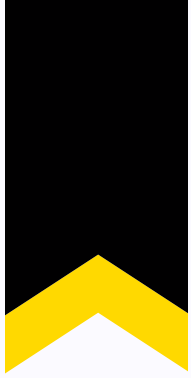
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# REAL ORGANIC PROJECT

#REALORGANIC2020



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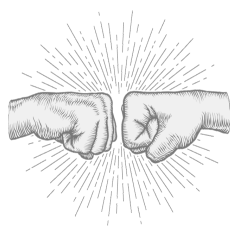
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## WHAT CAN WE DO?

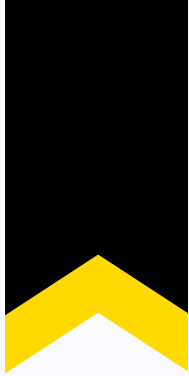
Farmers and eaters throughout the United States and beyond are pushing to create transparency within a disjointed food system. But what are the most important steps for us to take moving forward? Where do you contribute? How do we hold each other accountable?

Healthy Food • Healthy Soil • Healthy Climate



## OTHER UPCOMING EVENTS WE RECOMMEND:

- **PASA: Jan 19 - Feb 5**  
(<https://conference.oeffa.org/>)
- **EcoFarm Conference: Jan 20 - 23**  
(<https://eco-farm.org/conference/2021/schedule>)
- **OEFFA: Feb 10 - 15**  
(<https://conference.oeffa.org/>)
- **Living Soils Symposium: Feb 22 - 26**  
(<https://livingsoilssymposium.ca/en/>)
- **MOSES Conference: Feb 22 - 27**  
(<https://mosesorganic.org/conference/>)



# REAL ORGANIC PROJECT

VIRTUAL SYMPOSIUM 2021

WEEK 5: JANUARY 31ST



## QUOTES & INSPIRATION

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## READ, WATCH, LISTEN LATER

Assorted Authors (Joan Gussow, featured):  
Letters to a Young Farmer: On Food, Farming, and Our Future

Michael Kilpatrick:  
<https://www.thrivingfarmerpodcast.com/>  
<https://www.thrivingfarmersummit.com/>

Vincent Stanley:  
The Responsible Company -  
What We've Learned From Patagonia's First 40 Years

Seth Godin:  
Podcast: <https://www.akimbo.link/>  
Blog/Appearances/Books: <https://seths.blog/more/>

Leah Penniman: SAVE 35% with Code PWEB35  
<https://www.chelseagreen.com/product/farming-while-black/>

Vandana Shiva: SAVE 35% with Code PWEB35  
<https://www.chelseagreen.com/product/oneness-vs-the-1/>

Clara Coleman's Agrarian Resource Collaborative Farming:  
TedX Talk: <https://youtu.be/SusuQ8hX7zw>

Woody Tasch: SAVE 35% with Code PWEB35  
<https://www.chelseagreen.com/product/this-organic-life/>

Farming on the Wild Side: SAVE 35% with Code PWEB35  
<https://www.chelseagreen.com/product/farming-on-the-wild-side/>

## NOTES

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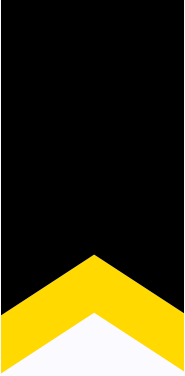
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# REAL ORGANIC PROJECT

#REALORGANIC2020



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# SPEAKERS & FARMERS

BY FIRST NAME. A - J

NAME	WEBSITE	INSTAGRAM	TWITTER
Al Gore	<a href="https://www.algore.com/">https://www.algore.com/</a>	@algore	@algore
Alan Lewis	<a href="https://www.naturespath.com/">https://www.naturespath.com/</a>	@alan__lewis	@APLewis
Alice Waters	<a href="https://www.chezpanisse.com/">https://www.chezpanisse.com/</a>	@alicelouisewaters	@AliceWaters
Allan Savory	<a href="https://savory.global/">https://savory.global/</a>	@allansavory	@AllanRSavory
Anais Beddard	<a href="https://www.ladymoonfarms.com/">https://www.ladymoonfarms.com/</a>	@ladymoonfarms	N/A
Anne Bikle	<a href="https://www.dig2grow.com/">https://www.dig2grow.com/</a>	N/A	@dig2grow
Anne Ross	<a href="https://www.cornucopia.org/">https://www.cornucopia.org/</a>	@cornucopiainstitute	@Cornucopia_Inst
Annelise Orleck	<a href="https://wgs.dartmouth.edu/people/annelise-orleck">https://wgs.dartmouth.edu/people/annelise-orleck</a>	N/A	@AnneliseOrleck1
Arran Stephens	<a href="https://www.naturespath.com/en-us/">https://www.naturespath.com/en-us/</a>	@naturespathorganic	@NaturesPath
Barbara Damrosch	<a href="http://fourseasonfarm.com/">http://fourseasonfarm.com/</a>	@fourseasonfarm	N/A
Ben Dobson	<a href="https://www.hudsoncarbon.com/">https://www.hudsoncarbon.com/</a>	@hudsoncarbon	@hudsoncarbon
Benina Montes	<a href="https://www.burroughsfamilyfarms.com/">https://www.burroughsfamilyfarms.com/</a>	@burroughs.family.farms	N/A
Bill McKibben	<a href="http://billmckibben.com/">http://billmckibben.com/</a>	@350org	@billmckibben
Chellie Pingree	<a href="https://pingree.house.gov/">https://pingree.house.gov/</a>	@chelliepingree	@chelliepingree
Christa Alexander	<a href="http://www.jerichosettlersfarm.com/">http://www.jerichosettlersfarm.com/</a>	@jerichosettlersfarm	N/A
Clara Coleman	<a href="http://fourseasonfarm.com/">http://fourseasonfarm.com/</a>	@fourseasonfarm	N/A
Conor Crickmore	<a href="https://www.neversinkfarm.com/">https://www.neversinkfarm.com/</a>	@neversinkfarm	N/A
Dag Falck	<a href="https://www.naturespath.com/">https://www.naturespath.com/</a>	@naturespathorganic	@naturespath
Dan Barber	<a href="https://www.bluehillfarm.com/">https://www.bluehillfarm.com/</a>	@chefdanbarber	@DanBarber
Dan Hobbs	<a href="https://farmdirectseed.com/">https://farmdirectseed.com/</a>	N/A	@longwindfarm
Dave Chapman	<a href="https://www.longwindfarm.com/">https://www.longwindfarm.com/</a>	N/A	@agsciences
Dave Mortensen	N/A	N/A	"@david_bronner
David Bronner	<a href="https://www.drbronner.com/">https://www.drbronner.com/</a>	N/A	@DrBronner"
David Grinspoon	<a href="http://www.funkyscience.net/old/life.html">http://www.funkyscience.net/old/life.html</a>	N/A	@DrFunkySpoon
David Montgomery	<a href="https://www.dig2grow.com/">https://www.dig2grow.com/</a>	N/A	@dig2grow
David Zuckerman	<a href="http://www.fullmoonfarminc.com/">http://www.fullmoonfarminc.com/</a>	N/A	@DaveZuckermanVT
Didi Pershouse	<a href="https://www.didipershouse.com/">https://www.didipershouse.com/</a>	@didipershouse	@didipershouse
Dru Rivers	<a href="http://fullbellyfarm.com/">http://fullbellyfarm.com/</a>	@Full_belly_farm	@FullBellyFarm
Eliot Coleman	<a href="http://fourseasonfarm.com/">http://fourseasonfarm.com/</a>	@fourseasonfarm	N/A
Emily Oakley	<a href="http://www.threespringsfarm.com/index.html">http://www.threespringsfarm.com/index.html</a>	@threespringsfarmers	N/A
Eric Sideman	N/A	N/A	N/A
Francis Thicke	N/A	N/A	@FrancisThicke
Fred Kirschenmann	<a href="https://www.leopold.iastate.edu/content/writings-fred-kirschenmann">https://www.leopold.iastate.edu/content/writings-fred-kirschenmann</a>	N/A	N/A
Fred Provenza	<a href="https://www.chelseagreen.com/writer/fred-provenza/">https://www.chelseagreen.com/writer/fred-provenza/</a>	N/A	N/A
Glenn Elzinga	<a href="https://www.alderspring.com/">https://www.alderspring.com/</a>	@alderspring_ranch	N/A
Haley Wepking	<a href="https://www.meadowlarkorganics.com/">https://www.meadowlarkorganics.com/</a>	@meadowlark_organics	N/A
Hannah Smith-Brubaker	<a href="https://pasafarming.org/staff/hannah-smith-brubaker/">https://pasafarming.org/staff/hannah-smith-brubaker/</a>	@pasafarming	N/A
Helen Kees	N/A	@wheatfieldhillorganics	@WheatfieldHill
Hugh Kent	<a href="http://www.kinggrove.com/wholesale.html">http://www.kinggrove.com/wholesale.html</a>	@kinggroveorganicfarm	N/A
Javier Zamora	<a href="https://www.jsmorganics.com/">https://www.jsmorganics.com/</a>	@jsmorganics	N/A
Jay Feldman	<a href="https://www.beyondpesticides.org/about/staff">https://www.beyondpesticides.org/about/staff</a>	N/A	@beyondpesticides
Jean-Paul Courtens	<a href="https://www.roxburyfarm.com/roxbury-agriculture-institute-at-philia-farm">https://www.roxburyfarm.com/roxbury-agriculture-institute-at-philia-farm</a>	@roxburyfarmcsa	N/A
Jennifer Taylor	N/A	N/A	N/A
Jesse Buie	<a href="http://www.olebrookorganics.com/">http://www.olebrookorganics.com/</a>	N/A	N/A
Jim Durst	<a href="https://www.durstorganicgrowers.com/">https://www.durstorganicgrowers.com/</a>	@durstorganicgrowers	N/A
JM Fortier	<a href="https://www.themarketgardener.com/">https://www.themarketgardener.com/</a>	@jeanmartinfortier	@jm_fortier
Joan Dye Gussow	<a href="http://joansgarden.org/writings.html">http://joansgarden.org/writings.html</a>	N/A	N/A
John Ikerd	<a href="https://www.johnikerd.com/blog">https://www.johnikerd.com/blog</a>	N/A	@john_ikerd
Julie Rawson	<a href="https://manyhandssustainabilitycenter.org/">https://manyhandssustainabilitycenter.org/</a>	N/A	N/A





# SPEAKERS & FARMERS

BY FIRST NAME. K - Z

NAME	WEBSITE	INSTAGRAM	TWITTER
Karen Washington	<a href="https://www.karenthefarmer.com/about">https://www.karenthefarmer.com/about</a>	@karwasher	@karwasher
Kat Taylor	<a href="https://tomkatranch.org/">https://tomkatranch.org/</a>	@tomkat_ranch	@tomkat_ranch
Kevin & Lisa Engelbert	<a href="https://www.engelbertfarms.com/">https://www.engelbertfarms.com/</a>	N/A	N/A
Kris Nichols	<a href="http://kris-systems.com/about-kris">http://kris-systems.com/about-kris</a>	N/A	@glomalin
Leah Penniman	<a href="https://www.soulfirefarm.org/">https://www.soulfirefarm.org/</a>	@leahpenniman	@soulfirefarm
Linley Dixon	<a href="http://www.adobehousefarm.com/">http://www.adobehousefarm.com/</a>	@adobehousefarm	N/A
Lisa Stokke	<a href="https://www.next7.org/">https://www.next7.org/</a>	@next7org	@lisa_stokke
Liz Graznak	<a href="https://www.happyhollowfarm-mo.com/">https://www.happyhollowfarm-mo.com/</a>	@happyhollowfarm	N/A
Mark Schatzker	<a href="http://www.markschatzker.com/new-page">http://www.markschatzker.com/new-page</a>	N/A	@MarkSchatzker
Michael Kilpatrick	<a href="https://www.michaelkilpatrick.com/home02">https://www.michaelkilpatrick.com/home02</a>	@thekilpatrickfam	@mkilpatrick21
Mike Brownback	<a href="https://www.spiralpathfarm.com/">https://www.spiralpathfarm.com/</a>	@spiralpathfarm	N/A
Milkhouse	<a href="http://www.mainemilkhouse.com/">http://www.mainemilkhouse.com/</a>	@mainemilkhouse	N/A
Nora Taleb	<a href="https://www.naturland.de/en/">https://www.naturland.de/en/</a>	@naturland_official	@naturland_ev
Nuri Icgoren	<a href="https://www.urbansproutfarms.com/our-story">https://www.urbansproutfarms.com/our-story</a>	@urbansproutfarms	@urbansproutfarm
Onika Abraham	<a href="http://www.farmschoolnyc.org/">http://www.farmschoolnyc.org/</a>	@farmschool_nyc	@farmschoolnyc
Paul Hawken	<a href="http://www.paulhawken.com/">http://www.paulhawken.com/</a>	@paulhawken	@ProjectDrawdown
Paul Holmbeck	<a href="https://paulholmbeck.com/about/">https://paulholmbeck.com/about/</a>	N/A	@organicdenmark
Paul Muller	<a href="http://fullbellyfarm.com/">http://fullbellyfarm.com/</a>	@Full_belly_farm	@FullBellyFarm
Pete Johnson	<a href="https://www.petesgreens.com/">https://www.petesgreens.com/</a>	@petes.greens	@PetesGreens
Peter Whoriskey	<a href="https://www.washingtonpost.com/people/peter-whoriskey/">https://www.washingtonpost.com/people/peter-whoriskey/</a>		@peterwhoriskey
Ronnie Cummins	<a href="https://www.organicconsumers.org/">https://www.organicconsumers.org/</a>	@organicconsumers	@ronnie_cummins
Rose Burroughs	<a href="https://www.burroughsfamilyfarms.com/">https://www.burroughsfamilyfarms.com/</a>	@burroughs.family.farms	N/A
Savannah Flynn	<a href="http://flynnfarmsbellingham.com/">http://flynnfarmsbellingham.com/</a>	@flynnfarms	N/A
Scott Park	<a href="https://parkfarmingorganics.com/">https://parkfarmingorganics.com/</a>	N/A	N/A
Seth Godin	<a href="https://seths.blog/more/">https://seths.blog/more/</a>	@sethgodin	@thisissethsblog
Steve Ela	<a href="https://elafamilyfarms.com/">https://elafamilyfarms.com/</a>	@elafamilyfarms	N/A
Stuart Hill	<a href="http://www.stuarthill.com/">http://www.stuarthill.com/</a>	N/A	N/A
Taylor Mendell	<a href="https://www.footprintfarmvt.com/">https://www.footprintfarmvt.com/</a>	@footprintfarm	NA
Walter Jehne	<a href="https://www.healthysouils.com.au/Research-1">https://www.healthysouils.com.au/Research-1</a>	N/A	@soils_healthy
Will Allen	<a href="https://cedarcirclefarm.org/links/will-allen">https://cedarcirclefarm.org/links/will-allen</a>	@cedarcirclefarm	@cedarcirclefarm
Zach Wolf	<a href="https://www.caneyforkfarms.com/thefarmers">https://www.caneyforkfarms.com/thefarmers</a>	@caneyforkfarms	N/A

A CLICKABLE SPEAKER LIST INCLUDING FACEBOOK PAGES CAN BE FOUND AT: [tinyurl.com/rop2021](https://tinyurl.com/rop2021)

INTERESTED IN BEING REAL ORGANIC CERTIFIED? VISIT: <https://www.realorganicproject.org/faqs/>

A FULL LIST OF OUR CERTIFIED FARMS CAN BE FOUND AT: <https://www.realorganicproject.org/farms/>

## ABOUT THE REAL ORGANIC PROJECT:

The Real Organic Project was started by farmers to protect the meaning of organic. We grow food in the soil, not hydroponically. We raise livestock on pasture, not in confinement. In this time of concern about the erosion of integrity in the USDA, Real Organic remains exactly what organic was always intended to be.

We're a farmer-run organization and we run on a shoestring budget. Please help us produce greater transparency in the organic marketplace by making a donation. Your tax-deductible gift will help fund more "Know Your Farmer" videos and keep the costs off the backs of Real Organic farmers. Thank you! <https://www.realorganicproject.org/donate/>

