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Institute Information

The Institute for Alternative Agriculture is a non-profit, tax-exempt research and education organization established in 1983 to encourage and facilitate the adoption of low-cost, resource-conserving and environmentally-sound farming methods. It works closely with producer groups, public research and education institutions, and government agencies in promoting a sustainable agriculture system.

Its programs include providing a national information clearinghouse, serving as a voice for sustainable agriculture in Washington, and developing and implementing research and educational outreach programs. It holds an annual scientific symposium and publishes a monthly newsletter.

The Institute is governed by a grass roots Board of Directors, which includes several commercial-scale organic farmers, and maintains a small professional staff. It is supported by memberships and donations and grants from foundations, corporations, and individuals.

Cover Photo

Regional Extension Specialist Karen Talarczyk and local farmers confer at Lee Montgomery's on-farm demonstration plot near Argyle, Wisconsin. Lee and other farmers not only manage demonstration projects but also serve on regional advisory councils for the Nutrient and Pest Management (NPM) program, a University of Wisconsin—Extension program affiliated with the Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems (see p. 111). Photo by Laura Ward Good, University of Wisconsin, Madison, WI.