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UPCOMING EVENTS

February 28. Sustainable Farming Systems: Needs and Opportunities, a symposium sponsored by the Institute for Alternative Agriculture, in Washington, DC. Symposium goals include an examination of the characteristics of low-input, integrated farms and those policy barriers that limit the broader adoption of these diversified systems. Contact the Institute for Alternative Agriculture, 9200 Edmonston Road, Suite 117, Greenbelt, MD 20770, (301) 441-8777.

March 8-10. The Promise of Low-Input Agriculture, sponsored by the Soil and Water Conservation Society, in Omaha, Nebraska. The conference will explore ways to incorporate profitable, environmentally sound agricultural production techniques with conventional agricultural systems. Public policy and educational aspects of low-input farming will be addressed, as will impediments to adoption of sustainable farming techniques and the risks of adoption. The Institute for Alternative Agriculture is a co-sponsor. Contact Alan Epps, SWCS, 7515 Northeast Ankeny Road, Ankeny, IA 50021-9764, (515) 289-2331.

March 16-17. National Conference on Organic/Sustainable Agriculture, sponsored by the Center for Science in the Public Interest and others, in Washington, DC. Panels will address standards for organic foods, marketing, economics, and policy issues in organic farming. The Institute for Alternative Agriculture is a co-sponsor. Contact the CSPI, 1501 - 16th Street, NW, Washington, DC 20036.

March 27-30 and April 4-6. International Vedalia Symposia on Biological Control, in Riverside, California (March) and McAllen, Texas (April). The meeting commemorates a century of successful biological controls which began with the importation of the Vedalia Beetle from Australia in 1888-89 to control Cottony Cushion Scale in California citrus. The symposia will provide overviews of the role of biological controls. Contact the International Symposia on Biological Control, Department of Entomology, University of California, Riverside, CA 92521.

April 23-26. Making Nonpoint Pollution Control Programs Work: The Water Quality Act of 1987, sponsored by the National Association of Conservation Districts and the National Association of State Conservation Administrators, in St. Louis, Missouri. Contact William Horvath, NACD North Central Office, 1052 Main Street, Stevens Point, WI 54481, (715) 341-1022.

May 3-5. Shitake Mushrooms: A National Symposium and Trade Show, in St. Paul, Minnesota. The symposium will provide information on shitake production and marketing as well as identifying needs in the industry. The meeting is sponsored by the Center for Alternative Crops and Products, College of Natural Resources, University of Minnesota, the Minnesota Extension Service, and others. Contact Extension Special Programs, University of Minnesota, 405 Coffey Hall, 1420 Eckles Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55108.

May 11-12. National Research Conference on Pesticides in Terrestrial and Aquatic Environments, sponsored by the Virginia Water Resources Research Center and the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, in Richmond, Virginia. Topics will include pesticide monitoring, environmental effects and risk assessment, pesticide control management, and case studies. Contact the Virginia Water Resources Research Center, Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University, 617 North Main Street, Blacksburg, VA 24060-3397.

July 22-25. International Herb Growers and Marketers' 4th Annual Conference and Trade Show, in San Jose, California. Topics cover production, marketing, and business aspects of herb growing. Contact the International Herb Growers and Marketers Association, P.O. Box 281, Silver Springs, PA 17575.

July 30-August 2. The Soil and Water Conservation Society Annual Meeting, in Edmonton, Alberta. The program will focus on ways to achieve coordination and teamwork in natural resource conservation. Contact Alan Epps, SWCS, 7515 Northeast Ankeny Road, Ankeny, IA 50021-9764.