

Mary Yurlina

Maine Organic Farmers & Gardeners Association

(MOFGA)

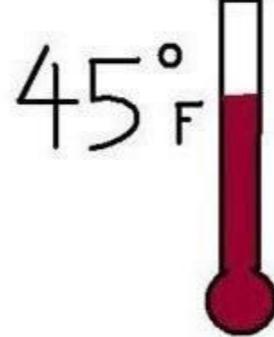
Growing a Local and Organic
Movement in the State of Maine



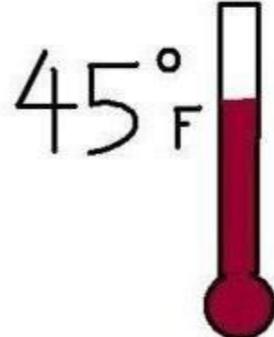


WWW.THESHAKER.COM

END OF AUTUMN...

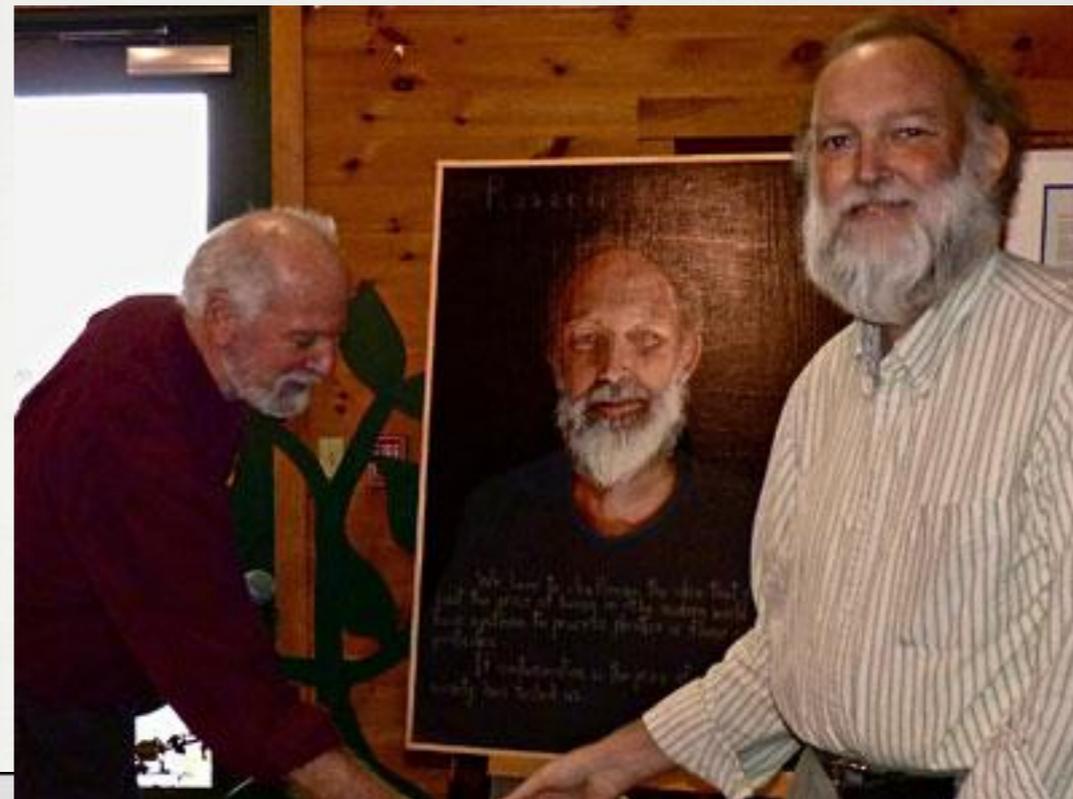


BEGINNING OF SPRING

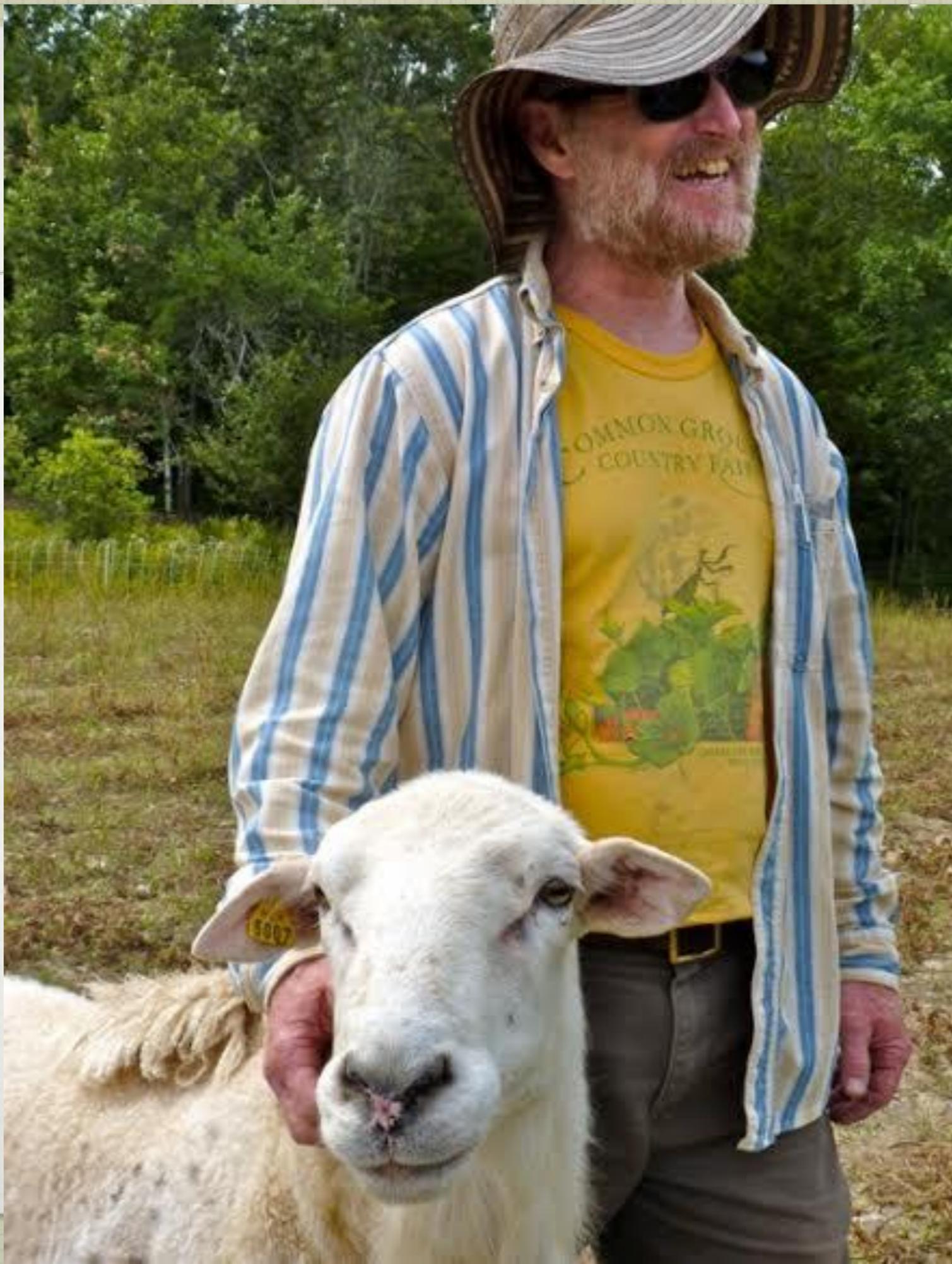


Posted by: FunnyPicss.com





www.mofga.org



MAINE ORGANIC FARMERS
**MOFGA
CERTIFIED**

ORGANIC

AND GARDENERS ASSOCIATION





MAINE ORGANIC FARMERS
MOFGA
CERTIFIED
ORGANIC
AND FARMERS ASSOC

Seasonal
SALAD
\$5 / bag

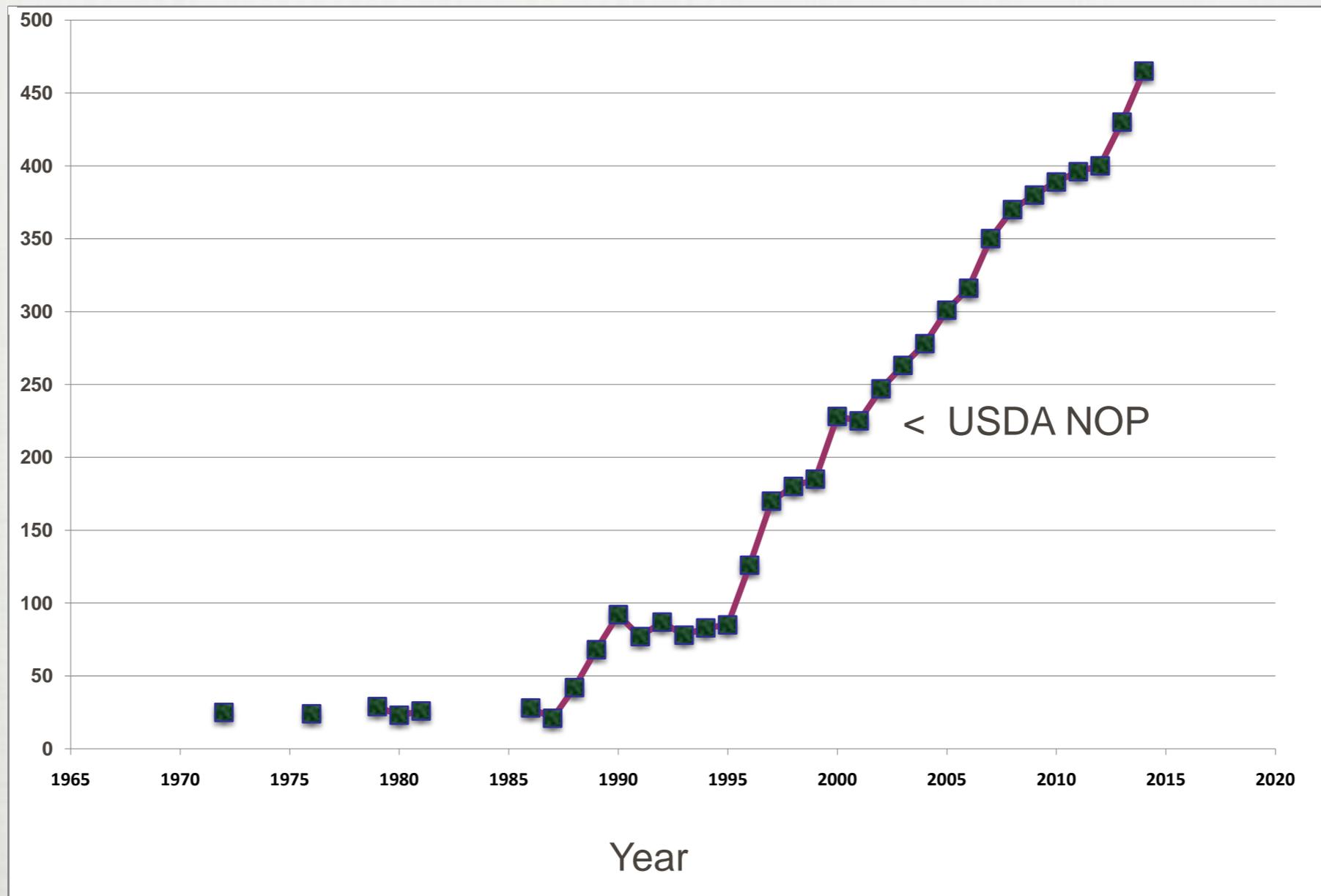
fresh, crisp
RADISHES
\$3 / bunch

delicious
SPINACH
\$5 / bag

MOFGA CERTIFIED ORGANIC

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MOFGA-Certified Producers



Highland Blueberry Farm
A Taste of Wild Maine In Every Blueberry™

HIGHLAND ORGANICS
HOME PLANT BLUEBERRY

HOT
Blueberry
Tea
\$2.00

MAINE ORGANIC FARMERS
MOFGA
CERTIFIED
ORGANIC
AND GARDENERS ASSOCIATION



Hand
K
Farm
WJHS

Farmer Kev's Organic

Affordable, Organic Vegetables

Farm Shares, Farmers' Markets, Retail & Wholesale

207-446-2899 FarmerKev.com





Certified Organic
1/2 bag Radicchio \$3.75
Cilantro \$2/bunch
Garlic \$1/head
Pineapple tomatoes \$2.99/bag
Cherry Tomi \$3.75/lb
2.99/lb
Lg Tomatoes \$3.99
Second Tomi \$1.99
*Finals not certified organic



Balfour Farm

Certified Organic Dairy Pittsfield, Maine



Pasture Based Farming
Local feeds and Forage
Normande Cattle
NO Antibiotics
NO Hormones

MILK
Buttermilk
Aged Hard Cheese
Haymaker - Cheese
Smoked Gouda
FETA

eses
ses



MOFGA offers more events...

And more people come. 11 events in 2005. 30 events now.

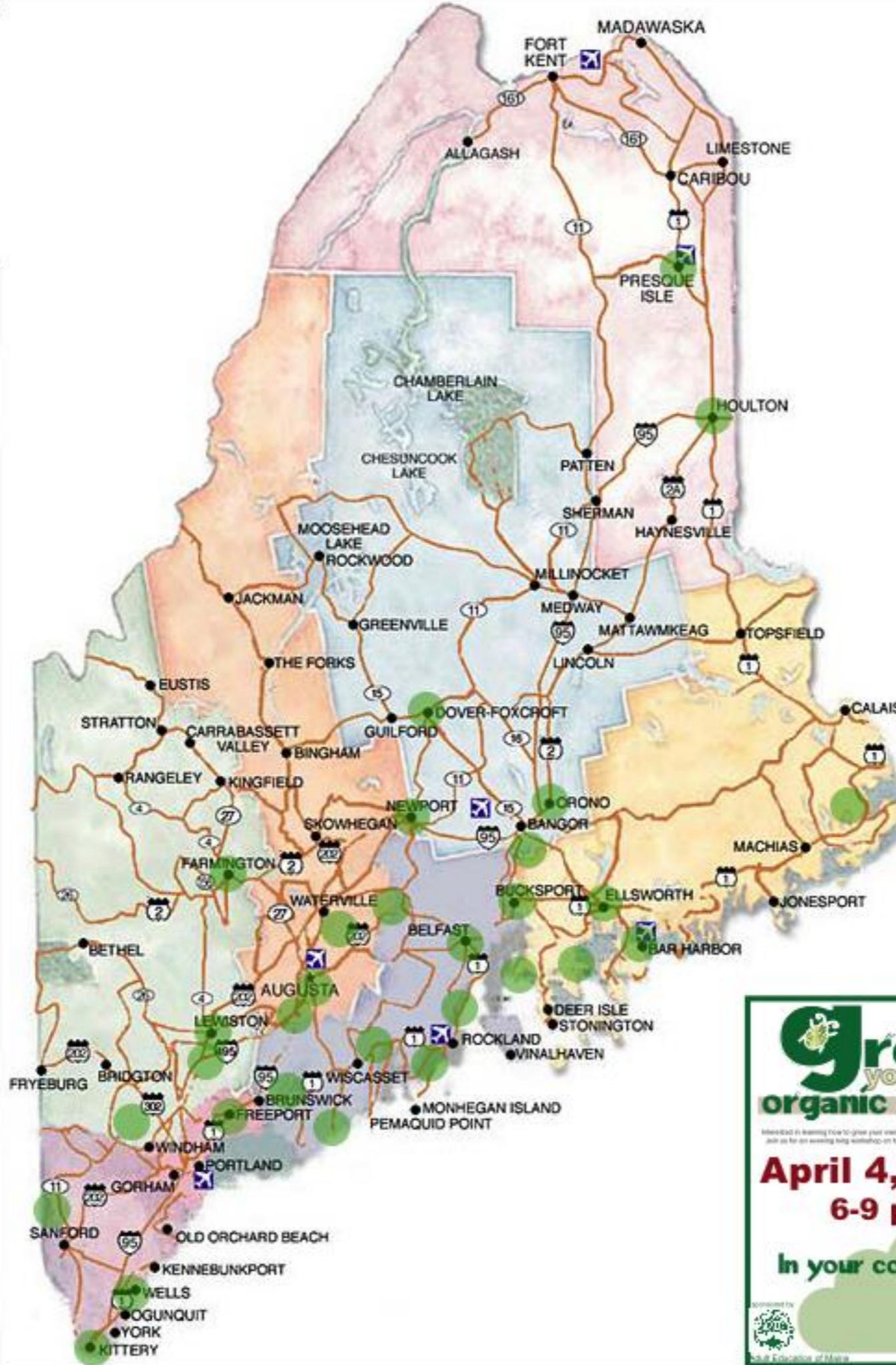


Farmer to Farmer Conference

- Started in 1990 with 86 attendees; 300 regularly attend today
- Enables growers from our bioregion to share information
- Cosponsored with the University of Maine Cooperative Extension
- Organic menu!

Grow Your Own

- Every April, 20+ workshops running concurrently around Maine
- Column in MOFGA newspaper
- Demonstrations at the Fair
- Seed & Scion exchange



grow
your own
organic garden

Interested in learning how to grow your own vegetables in a sustainable manner? Join us for an evening long workshop on how to grow your own organic garden!

April 4, 2012
6-9 pm

In your community:

Supported by
2012
Maine Extension of Maine

Common Ground Country Fair

- Largest organic fair in USA
- Since 1977; draws ~55,000 people over 3 days
- Educational & conscious raising
- Important market for Maine-grown organic products
- Stimulates local economy



MORE GA

Maine City

Join Us!

Business & Community Support

Apprenticeship
Journey

JP

IN GROW
TRY FAIR







BEYOND PESTICIDES

Protecting Health and the Environment with Science, Policy and Action

www.beyondpesticides.org



KEEPING ORGANIC STRONG



SAVE
the
BEES!

Journey Person Program

- Started in 1999. Has grown to be a national model, supporting over 200 beginning farmers.
- 89% success rate
- Over half seek organic certification
- Instruction include whole farm planning, farm food safety, labor management, market access, business planning, relationship management, and the gamut of technical production topics



Access to Land

- Developing new ways to lend money to farmers
- Developing alternative models for land tenure
- Partnering with
 - Maine Farmland Trust
 - Land for Good
 - Farmlink





Nice things about our Certification Process

- We involve farmers
- Our fees are reasonable, especially for the small farmer
- We are very flexible about administrative non-compliances like paying fees
- We are close-by and familiar. We consume our producers goods.
- We try to be helpful as much as possible

Nice things coming from MOFGA

- Ag Services Staff
- NRCS Technical Service Provider
- A fee subsidy program of its own for the <\$10K gross income producers
- Marketing
- Educational events and programs

Why do so many get certified?

- Loyalty toward the MOFGA brand
- Appreciation for the way MOFGA has supported them (JPs)
- The feeling that MOFGA Certification Services is a little different from other certifiers and the USDA
- MOFGA's high profile in Maine

How do we improve retention and growth?

- Producers need to see a greater financial return for their efforts
- More work needs to be done educating consumers about labels, including local vs organic.
- Creative ways are needed to work with non-certified producers who market as organic...We like a 'carrot' approach
- More work marketing the MOFGA-certified brand and making it more distinctive and sought after