



Organic Sprouting Seed: Current Issues

ISGA Convention 2018, Cape Cod MA

New Breeding Techniques



Movement of Millions Say No to Gene Drives as Brazil Attempts to Legalize
Photo: ETC Group

- *The organic sector has clear arguments to remain GM-free based on the IFOAM principles of health (respecting integrity of life), ecology (need for locally adapted cultivars) and fairness (no patents on life, open access to genetic resources for breeders). The techniques are new and still in an experimental phase and thus little is known on the consequences of applying such techniques...*

– Dr. Edith Lammerts van Bueren, Department of Plant Sciences, Wageningen University and Louis Bolk Institute

- IFOAM Position Paper: Compatibility of Breeding Techniques in Organic Systems

https://www.ifoam.bio/sites/default/files/position_paper_v01_web_0.pdf

Innovation in Organic Breeding

Participatory Plant Breeding



Anne Kirk, University of Manitoba PPB project coordinator, and Jake Drozda, participating farmer, making selections in Jake's oat plots near Valleyview, Alberta in 2014.
Photo: University of Manitoba



Dr. Martin Enz, Organic Researcher
Photo: OrganicBiz

GE Alfalfa

Since alfalfa is a perennial plant that is pollinated by bees, GM contamination of non-GM alfalfa is unavoidable. There are several ways in which gene flow from GM to non-GM alfalfa can occur. These may be broadly divided into three categories: seed escape, pollinator-mediated gene flow, and gene flow through volunteer and feral alfalfa. – Canadian Biotechnology Action Network, 2017 Briefing



Alfalfa in bloom

Increasing organic seed production



Dr. Jeff Schoenau, soil fertility professor at the University of Saskatchewan, discussed soil health at the cover crop field day.
Photo: OrganicBiz



Cover crop field day at Upland Organics farm.
Photo: OrganicBiz

Fresh Aire Farms: David & Karen Grenier and Family



The Grenier girls enjoying the Saskatchewan winter
Photo: David Grenier



Speckled Peas in bloom
Photo: David Grenier

Carmen Corner Acres: Louella & Don Friesen



Wintertime at Carmen Corner
Acres
Photo: Louella Friesen



Don & Louella Friesen and family
Photo: Louella Friesen



Alfalfa field in bloom
Photo: Louella Friesen

Taylor Organic Farms: Sharon & Arnold Taylor



Arnold Taylor and granddaughter in sunflower field. Photo: Sharon Taylor



Arnold and son Doug during harvest
Photo: Sharon Taylor



Arnold & granddaughter fishing.

Intercropping, soil building



A chickpea and flax intercropped field

Photo: Irrigation Crop Diversification Corporation



Daikon radish root

Photo: University of Maryland