

NOVEMBER 17, 2020



WESTERN ORGANIC DAIRY PRODUCERS
ALLIANCE

2020 WODPA VIRTUAL CONFERENCE TOMORROW, 11/18 - JOIN US ON ZOOM

REGISTER NOW



VIRTUAL CONFERENCE AGENDA

9:00am Welcome and Opening of the Conference, Ward Burroughs, WODPA President

9:05am WODPA Business Meeting: to include Elections, Updates & Hot Topics

9:30am Dr. Jennifer Tucker, Deputy Administrator, National Organic Program, USDA Protecting Organic Dairy: A National Organic Program Update. The National Organic Program's mission is to ensure the integrity of USDA organic products. Dairy oversight continues to be a key priority for the program. In this presentation, we will provide updates about Origin of Livestock and Strengthening Organic Enforcement rulemaking, and about our Dairy Compliance program. We'll also review our high priority goals for the coming year and answer your questions.

10:15am Abby Youngblood, National Organic Coalition and **Megan DeBates**, Organic Trade Association, will provide us with updates on advocacy and policy issues.

10:25am Producer Updates and Accomplishments: Hear from your fellow organic dairy producers about projects and upgrades they have implemented on their operations through grants and funding opportunities within the past year.

10:45am Michele Clarke-Mason, Founder of Veracious True Foods will share her experience as the prior Seattle Seahawks Team Nutritionist on why consumers choose

organic, educating athletes on the importance of dairy, dairy sensitivities, and milk alternatives. Her information will help us answer some of the questions we are met with as producers.

11:00am Coffee Break

11:10am Sonoma County Assistant **Sheriff Naugle** and **Tawny Tesconi**, Executive Director of the Sonoma County Farm Bureau, will address what to do if activists arrive on your farm and the laws pertaining to it. This is your chance to ask how to handle issues you may face in your area.

11:45am Ann Burkhart, Independent Consultant on Organic Milk in Food Service with previous experience as an Ethical Sourcing Manager at Starbucks and the Earthworm Foundation, will share insights company decision making, the growing number of corporate sustainability programs. Where does our organic milk fit in or what challenges we face?

12:15pm Business Meeting: continuation of discussion or topics, as necessary.

Please note - times may vary

[VIEW ALL PRESENTER'S BIOS
HERE](#)

TODAY'S FEATURED PRESENTER

Ann Bukhart,
Independent Sustainability Consultant

Join Ann as she speaks to Organic Milk in Food Service with previous experience as an Ethical Sourcing Manager at Starbucks and the Earthworm Foundation, will share insights company decision making, the growing number of corporate sustainability programs. Where does our organic milk fit in or what challenges we face?



Ann Burkhart has worked in sustainable agriculture and social responsibility for the past 20 years. Her grandparents on both sides of the family were dairy farmers so she grew up with a strong connection to farming. Currently Burkhart is living on Whidbey Island, looking for land to develop as a sustainability focused retreat center and occasionally consulting in the sector. Most recently, she was as a Relationship Manager at Earthworm Foundation (formerly known as The Forest Trust). Burkhart worked with member companies (brands) to set policy around sourcing key agricultural commodities, gain traceability in their supply chain, support transformation projects at origin and verify progress against their goals. She also had responsibility for new business development in the United States. Burkhart formerly worked at Starbucks as a manager on the ethical sourcing team, focused on Starbucks programs for dairy, produce and animal welfare, but also contributed to the manufactured goods, coffee and cocoa programs. Previously she helped build the company's business ethics and compliance program and worked on the equal opportunity initiatives team. Burkhart has also worked as acting director of Weyerhaeuser's ethics and compliance program and held management consulting positions with two Internet development firms. As a volunteer, she served on the board of directors for EarthCorps and Global Visionaries. Burkhart received her bachelor's degree from the Jackson School of International Studies at University of Washington and her master's degree from the Stern School of Business at New York University.

WE WOULD LIKE TO SEND A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR 2020 CONFERENCE SPONSORS

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WODPA is funded by volunteer [Producer Payments](#) and [Associate Member dues](#).

Click [here](#) to learn how you can support WODPA and its mission.
WODPA would like to send a huge thank you to the [Producers](#) & [Businesses](#) that have provided support in 2020!

IMPORTANT DATES

- WODPA'S 2020 VIRTUAL CONFERENCE, November 18, 2020:
 - [Click here to register](#)
- CORONAVIRUS FOOD ASSISTANCE PROGRAM 2:
 - Applications are due from September 21 - December 11, 2020.
 - [Click here for more information](#)



The mission for the Western Organic Dairy Producers Alliance is to preserve, protect, and ensure the sustainability and integrity of organic dairy farming across the west.

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