



GAINING GROUND

making a successful transition to organic farming

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Getting Started

- What is Organic Farming
- Why Farmers Make the Transition
- What is Transition to Organic Farming
- Planning & Preparing for the Transition
- Challenges Farmers Face When Going Organic



Managing Transition in the Fields

- Building Soil Fertility
- Soil Fertility and Nutrients
- Making the Transition
- Organic Fertility Management
- Fact Sheet- Soil Organic Matter
- Monitoring Your Soil
- Fact Sheet- Green Manures



Developing a Crop Rotation

- Create diversity via the crop rotation
- Design for nutrient cycling and building soil organic matter
- Prevent weed problems through rotation
- Prevent pest & disease problems
- Maximize economic performance
- Samples



Managing Weeds

- Principles of Organic Weed Management
- Preventing Weed Problems
- Direct Measures to Remove Weeds
- Fact Sheet- Problem Weeds



Organic Management- Pests & Weeds

- Principles of Organic Pest Management
- Preventing Pest and Disease Problems
- Direct Methods to Manage Pests and Diseases
- Fact Sheet- Problem Pests and Diseases



Organic Certification & Protecting Organic Integrity

- Organic Certification
- Record Keeping
- Protecting Organic Integrity



Managing the Transition of the Farm Business

- The economics of organic farming
- Income variables
- Expenses
- Profitability
- Resources for transition
business planning



Marketing and Maintaining Financial Stability on an Organic Farm

- Wholesale marketing
- Fact sheet- Cooperatives
- Marketing directly to the consumer
- Value-Added
- The need for quality, quantity
and appropriate pricing
- Advertising



Appendices, References, Resources, Glossary & Index

- Seeds
- Marketing on the Internet
- Interviewed Farmers' Operations
- General Resources
- Glossary
- Index
- Profiles: Managing the Transition



Best of Luck in Your Farming!

- Thank you for your interest in organic agriculture
 - Check out our COG publications:
 - The Organic Field Crop Handbook
 - The Organic Livestock Handbook
 - Gaining Ground: Making a Successful Transition to Organic Farming
 - The Organic Companion
- Please visit www.cog.ca

