Breeding Corn for Organic Farmers

with Organic Farmers

Field Day — Friday, September 18 10:00 am - 3:30 pm, East Troy/Elkhorn, Wisconsin

Learn how the **Mandaamin Institute** is breeding corn:

- for high nutritional value (protein, methionine, lysine, and carotene) and taste
- that does not allow itself to be pollinated by GMO corn
- that is nitrogen efficient
- that provides good yields and dry-down

Because this work can only succeed in conjunction with organic farmers and others, this field day will highlight the work of our most local associates. The research is funded by USDA-NRI-OREI, the Ceres Trust, and Organic Valley.

Agenda:

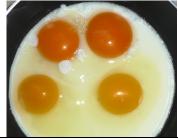
- 1. Rendezvous at **2894 On Main** (an organic cafe), located at 2894 Main Street on the town square of East Troy at 10:00 am to see a unique partnership between market gardening and restaurant, run by the Rohrer family.
- 2. Visit the **Rohrer farm** to view the Mandaamin Institute's yield test plots, discuss breeding for cross incompatibility of GMO corn, view cover crop plantings and summer berseem clover seeding, and hear about growing and marketing open pollinated and hybrid corn varieties and cooperative work on heritage wheat varieties.
- 3. Visit the **Goldstein's organic farm** to view the first yield trials of our N efficient hybrids. Lunch is available here for \$10 (advance registration). Corn breeder Kevin Montgomery will speak about how to breed hardy, disease-resistant corn, and USDA geneticist and biochemist Paul Scott will speak about our OREI breeding team and his breeding program.
- 4. Visit the historic biodynamic **Zinniker farm** to discuss relationships between farm management, yield trials, soil and grain quality, and weed control. John Bashaw of Pendragon Specialties will demonstrate a hydraulic weeder.
- 5. Meet back at **2894 On Main** for free tea or coffee and further discussion.

Co-sponsored by: the Biodynamic Association, Pounder Bros Farm, Rohrer Enterprises, Upper Midwest Collaborative Regional Alliance for Farmer Training (CRAFT), Angelic Organics Learning Center, and Pendragon Specialties.

Registration: register in advance and to assure a lunch by contacting Walter Goldstein at (262) 248-1533 or wgoldstein@mandaamin.org.

High carotene corn breeding line





Eggs from chickens fed high carotene corn (top) or organic feed with supplementary carotene (bottom).

Normal or N efficient corn, unfertilized, poor soil, Eagle, WI, 2013.



N efficient corn, unfertilized soil, Little Prairie, WI, 2015.

