

Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute and the Organic Ecology program present:

***"Exploring the impacts of organic production practices on nutritional content - How can the University of Minnesota engage in this emerging field of research?"***

**Date: Monday, November 23<sup>rd</sup>**  
**Time: 4 – 6 pm**  
**Location: Food Science and Nutrition Building, Rm 23 // U of M, St. Paul Campus**

Please join the Healthy Foods, Healthy Lives Institute for the first Break-out Session from our 2009 Symposium: Critical Issues in Research and Public Policy. During our symposium, over 300 attendees participated in a day-long event highlighting national research investigating how our food system, from production to processing, affects human health. To keep the conversation going, and to move toward a deeper level of discussion, HFHL will be co-hosting a series of Break-out Sessions around each of the topics highlighted at the Symposium.

Our first Break-out session on Organic Production Practices and Nutritional Content will be co-hosted and facilitated by Jim Riddle of the Organic Ecology program. Jim serves as the Southwest Research and Outreach Center's coordinator for organic outreach. In this capacity, Jim works with the University's Research and Outreach Centers, several departments of the College of Food, Agriculture and Natural Resource Sciences, and Extension Educators on various organic research and outreach projects.

The format of our Break-out session will be as follows:

A viewing of Alyson Mitchell's presentation entitled "Getting to the root of food quality: The influence of agriculture system practices on the nutrient density of organic foods." Additionally, we will view the follow-up commentaries by University of Minnesota faculty members Carl Rosen and Francisco Diez-Gonzalez.

During our discussion period following the presentations on organic production practices and nutritional content, we would like the group participants to:

- discuss the merits of such research
- assess UMN resources that could be employed to facilitate further research
- explore who is already working in this area (both on campus and throughout Minnesota)
- identify people and potential partners who should be brought to the table to advance this emerging field of research

To attend the presentation and discussion, please RVSP to [hfl@umn.edu](mailto:hfl@umn.edu) by Thursday, November 19<sup>th</sup>.