



Prepared and distributed by
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Partner Spotlight



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Helping people by championing small-scale, local, and sustainable solutions to reduce poverty, promote healthy communities, and protect natural resources.

ATTRA is the **National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service** and a project of the National Center for Appropriate

Technology, NCAT. (ATTRA was formerly known as Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas.)

The 2008 Farm Bill targets special help for limited resource producers, members of socially disadvantaged groups, producers of specialty crops and those transitioning to organic production. **ATTRA's** services and products can help you gain the technical expertise you need to successfully include these new client groups into your service delivery system.

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Ask a Sustainable Agriculture Expert

Pregúntele a un Experto



Contact **ATTRA** sustainable agriculture experts on-line, or call the **ATTRA**

Helpline at: 1-800-346-9140 (English)
or 1-800-411-3222 (Spanish).

...Outreach Tip to Put in Your Back Pocket...

ATTRA invites you to sign up for its **FREE** newsletters:

ATTRAnews Offers in-depth technical information and is published 6 times a year.

Weekly Harvest Offers a weekly summary of breaking news in sustainable agriculture, funding opportunities and events and is only available electronically. Find both at <http://www.attra.org/newsletter/archives.html>

For Spanish speakers, the on-line bulletin **Cosecha Mensual (Monthly Harvest)** contains news, events, and resources about sustainable agriculture relevant to the Spanish-speaking community. Find it at <http://www.attra.org/espanol/boletin.php>

The **FREE** subscriptions will remind you **ATTRA** is a great resource for you, your partners and your clients.

“The USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer”



Organic Integrated Weed Management One Year Seeding is Seven Years Weeding



- Remove the weed before it produces seed. It is easier to weed one plant today than 1,000 weeds next year.
- The soil is a reservoir of seeds, a seed bank.

How to Prevent Weed Damage

- Plant clean or certified seed
- Avoid importing manure or compost that has not been well composted or decomposed
- Crop rotation decreases the seeds of weeds that grow well with certain crops

Ground Covers



Here's an excerpt from one publication where photographs and graphics are emphasized to help clients grasp basic concepts. Most topics are complemented by additional in-depth information products such as the one shown below. Spanish-language topics are available also.



Pastures: Going Organic

A Publication of ATTRA - National Sustainable Agriculture Information Service • 1-800-346-9140 • www.attra.ncat.org

By George L. Kuepper and Alice E. Beetz
NCAT Agriculture Specialists
© NCAT 2006

This publication is an introduction to regulations related to organic pasture and rangeland in the United States. Organically certified land is described under The National Organic Program, including activities and materials that are allowed or prohibited. Fertility, weed, and insect pest management issues are briefly addressed. Organic integrity is discussed, including records required to demonstrate compliance with the National Organic Standards. References and resources follow the narrative.

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Introduction

This publication covers the major concepts and issues associated with the organic management of pasture and range. The focus is on compliance with U.S. National Organic Standards that govern use of the word "organic" in relation to pasture or range. A brief explanation of the biological basis of organic pasture/range management is followed by specific information about materials that can and cannot be used. The organic integrity section outlines how to ensure that a pasture is not contaminated with prohibited materials and how to document measures that ensure this.

This publication does not contain everything one needs to know in order to manage a ranch or pasture organically. There is much more information that will be important to specific circumstances. More information on how to manage livestock, pasture and range is available from many other sources, including several ATTRA publications listed within.



Dense, diverse pastures produce healthy animals.
Photo by Linda Coffey, NCAT.

The National Center for Appropriate Technology (NCAT) offers an *Organic Livestock Workbook*, available through the ATTRA Project. It offers a more detailed treatment of what is required and recommended for an organic pasture or range operation. Readers are encouraged to obtain a copy. The Workbook is a guide to all aspects of livestock production that must be addressed in order to comply with federal regulations.

More than 200 publications are available at <http://attra.ncat.org/>

You'll notice that NRCS technical information is frequently incorporated into ATTRA's products and that NRCS publications are cited.

