



JOAM News

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The Jamaica Organic Agriculture Movement Ltd.

JOAM Hosts Second Inspector Training Workshop

The Jamaica Organic Agriculture Movement (JOAM), in keeping with its commitment to foster the development of a quality organic agriculture industry in the Jamaica and the Caribbean, will be hosting the second IOIA (International Organic Inspectors Association)/JOAM Basic Organic Farm Inspector training workshop to be held in Jamaica. The training workshop will be held at the Eltham Training Centre in St. Ann **June 27-30, 2006**.

IOIA Organic Inspectors Training courses are recommended for inspector trainees, certification agency committee members, organic processors and industry activists who want to better understand the inspection and certification process.

The workshop will last 3 ½ days and follows IOIA's curriculum requirements, with classroom instruction on the certification process, organic standards, how to

inspect organic farms, on farm processing inspection, audit trail requirements, regulatory requirements, risk assessment, investigative skills, report writing, approved materials, livestock, soil fertility, and business/ethical considerations.



The JOAM Standards will be used as reference

Inspection field trips are an integral

part of all IOIA training courses. The participants will be required to accompany field trip hosts on inspection field trips and to write inspection reports at the conclusion of the inspections.

The **registration deadline is May 27, 2006**. The registration fee; 600USD (United States and/or Jamaica currency only) is due in full with your application. Applications and further information may also be downloaded from the JOAM website at <http://www.joam.org.jm> or IOIA at www.ioia.net. If there are any additional questions, please contact Tracy Ann Logan of JOAM by **phone** at (876) 842 2177, by **fax** at (876) 977 1075, or via **email** at zamia_br@yahoo.com, joampr@mail.com.

IOIA/JOAM Organic Training Workshop

THE REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS MAY 27, 2006

Please mail in applications and registration fee to:

The Jamaica Organic Agriculture Movement (JOAM)
P.O. Box 5728
Liguanea P.O.
Jamaica West Indies

Alternatively, Applications and registration fee may be dropped off at:

The National Organic Agriculture Steering Committee Secretariat
Ministry of Agriculture
Room 213
Hope Gardens, Kingston 6

2006 Extra-Ordinary General Meeting

JOAM will be holding its EGM on **April 27, 2006** at the Girl Guides Association of Jamaica, **2 Waterloo Road, Kingston 6**. The official meeting will be held from 9:30am to 1:30pm.

All who have an interest in organic agriculture and the local industry are invited to attend.

Members and attendees will have networking opportunities, access to JOAM

literature such as the JOAM Organic Farming Handbook and the JOAM Standards for Organic Production and Processing.

Other documents such as the IOIA/JOAM Organic Training Workshop application and information sheet, the NOASC farm selection questionnaire, JOAM membership forms and brochures will

also be available.

Organic Farmers Market



JOAM members who farm organically

will have an opportunity after the meeting to sell and barter products. Farmers who are interested in participating may contact **Delroy McNish** at **404 9125**.

<http://www.joam.org.jm>



The JOAM website is up and running again. It is still a work in progress, but affords members and the public the opportunity to access and download the:

- Membership form
- Annual Reports
- Newsletters
- Brochures etc.

It also affords individuals the opportunity to review the structure of JOAM, view photos of the executive members and have access to contact information.

JOAM to Participate in Wellfest

Jamaica Wellfest, the Caribbean's largest wellness festival has invited JOAM to be a boothholder. The festival is scheduled for **April 28 –30, 2006**.

Wellfest aims to positively influence the lifestyle choices and health consciousness of Jamaicans.

JOAM sees the Wellfest festival as an excellent avenue to market its products and services and

to allow JOAM members to get involved and showcase their skills and products.

Once again JOAM members have an excellent **opportunity to showcase, sell or barter** their organically grown products.

Producers will be responsible for the pricing and sale of their own products. The coordination of sales will be required, so producers who are interested in participating with

JOAM in Wellfest are asked to contact us as soon as possible.

In addition, members of JOAM are being asked to volunteer to assist in the information booth. There will be an orientation session **Tuesday, April 25** for volunteers. For further information, please contact:

Dwight Robinson
at
830 0934
or
**dwight.robinson@uwi.mo
na.edu.jm.**

JOAM Certified Organic Input

Johnson's Organic Fertilizer Company Limited, achieved its JOAM organic certified organic status in December 2005. The certified product is Rescue Organic Fertilizer which may be used in organic gardens and agricultural enterprises.

The company is located at **Cherry District, Kitson Town P.A. in St. Catherine**. Alternately, the company may be contacted



Johnson's
Organic
Rescue
Fertilizer

by calling **406 8096** or **345 2495**. Mr. Johnson, the proprietor may be emailed at **hughjohnson@yahoo.com**.

Mr. Johnson has been a convert to the benefits of organic food products and a healthy lifestyle for many years. He has shown his dedication to the growth of the local organic industry by personally supporting and volunteering in JOAM.

Vacant Executive JOAM MSC Positions

Unfortunately, due to personal reasons, ill-health and other commitments, a number of executive members have resigned from their posts.

While we are sorry to see these members resign from the executive, we wish them all the best in overcoming their challenges. We still look forward to their active participation in JOAM through their regions and on specially formed working committees.

The JOAM by-laws make provision for the selection of JOAM members to serve on the executive. Such selected persons are allowed to serve the move-

ment in the selected position until elections which are held annually at the end of each administrative year.

Interested members may be nominated through their regional Chairs or may volunteer at the Extra-Ordinary General meeting to be held **April 27, 2006 at 2 Waterloo Road, Kingston 6**. The vacant positions are:

- Events Sub-committee Chair
- Projects Sub-committee Chair
- Northwestern Regional Chair
- Southwestern Regional Chair

We look forward to welcoming you on the Management Steering Committee!

JOAM Executive Retreat



The JOAM Executive members will be having the annual retreat at Eltham in St. Ann **May 5 - 7, 2006**.

The retreat will involve reviewing the performance to date against the 2005—2006 workplan. The workplan for the 2006—2007 administrative year will be adjusted, and that for the 2007—2008 year will be developed. Additionally, the procedural guidelines of the movement will be reviewed and adjusted.

Members of JOAM will have the opportunity to make an input at the upcoming EGM or through their regions and regional Chairs.

The Jamaica Organic Agriculture Movement

Room 407, Ministry of Agriculture, Hope Gardens
P.O. Box 5728, Kingston 6
Email: joam@mail.com, **Website:** joam.org.jm

Our Mission

To facilitate the development of a sustainable and economically viable organic agriculture sector in Jamaica while maintaining organic integrity, promoting health, environmental consciousness and social responsibility