Organic Grain Resources And Information Network (OGRAIN)
Supporting beginning organic grain growers in the upper Midwest.

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Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development
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Project Audience

- Junior operators coming into managerial roles
- New farmers exploring the organic grain market
- Beginning organic livestock operators interested in growing their own feed
- Beginning organic vegetable farmers interested in diversifying their operations
Partners/Collaborators

- University of Wisconsin Extension (UWEX)
- The Farm and Industry Short Course (FISC)
- The Center for Integrated Agricultural Systems (CIAS)
- Midwest Organic & Sustainable Education Service (MOSES)
Key Approach(es)

• A three-week intensive course offered through FISC
• A full day “Organic University” course at the annual MOSES Organic Farming Conference
• Participation in MOSES’ Farmer-to-Farmer Mentoring Program
• Field walks- building a community of practitioners
• A 6-part series of How-To videos
• Online learning library
Overall Target Outcome

By the end of this project, we will have helped:

• 40 people start a farm
• 160 early-stage farmers improve their operations through increased understanding of organic production practices, the certification process, and the marketing landscape.
What do you have to share?

• An as-yet undeveloped curriculum focusing specifically on organic grain production

• Video direction, production, and editing
What do you hope to learn from other projects?

• Best practices in curriculum development
  – Specifically for successful farmer integration
• Other organic grain production resources
• How best to organize a cash-cropping community
Keep in touch!

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