

MOGAP ANNUAL REPORT TO MEMBERS

by

MAYNARD KAUFMAN, CHAIRPERSON

Since this is our first annual report in written form I will review our activities from the beginning. The Board of Directors has met five times, set policies and appropriated money, but the really important work was done by members of the Board between meetings.

Oct. 26, 1991

Organizational meeting. Decision to incorporate as Michigan Organic Growers Advancement Project, Inc. and to seek 501(c)(3) status with the Internal Revenue Service. Board of Directors is organized. Pat Whetham agreed to serve as Vice-Chairperson, John Valenti as Treasurer, Merrill Clark as Secretary, with Grey Larison, Laura DeLind and Norman Engel serving as members of the Board.

Dec. 7, 1991

Second Board Meeting. By-laws adopted.

Jan. 11, 1992

Third Board meeting. Planned brochure, decided that MOGAP will sponsor MICHIGAN ORGANIC NEWS, and discussed grant proposals.

Jan. 16, 1992

Articles of Incorporation filed with Michigan Dept. of Commerce. Applied to IRS for status as a charitable educational organization under Section 501(c)(3) of the IRS code.

March 25, 1992

First annual meeting of all members. Gwen and Paul Guenther elected to the Board of Directors. Further discussion of grant proposals.

April 7, 1992

Notification from the IRS that our application will not be approved until we append certain

articles to our Articles of Incorporation. All members were contacted, agreed to changes, and the paper work slowly made its way through the Michigan Dept. of Commerce and back to the IRS.

June 6, 1992

Approval as a 501(c)(3) organization by the IRS.

Oct. 10, 1992

Fourth Board meeting. Planned for MOGAP participation in Ag Week program at MSU. Decided to offer MICHIGAN ORGANIC NEWS as the official newsletter of the OGM state council. (State Council later accepted offer.) Pat Whetham discussed the special consumer-oriented newsletter of 500 copies being prepared for free distribution with funds from the Center for Science in the Public Interest.

Dec. 12, 1992

Fifth Board meeting. Pat Whetham agreed to develop evaluation procedures for CSPI funded newsletters in accordance with their request prior to full funding. Other educational projects for CSPI funds were discussed. Laura DeLind led off with discussion of plans for our part in the Ag Week program on March 2, 1993. It was agreed that a grant proposal to fund our educational program and the salary of an executive director should be prepared.

I will conclude with a brief statement about how the purposes of MOGAP evolved as the Board met and discussed its mission during the past year. We incorporated as a charitable organization designed to solicit tax-deductible contributions to help organic growers organizations with their educational outreach. We do promote awareness of the ecological

advantages of production methods that do not pollute soil and water with harmful chemicals.

But a sustainable food system includes more than organic or ecological methods of production. Food processing and distribution, in the current centralized system, also impose high ecological and social costs. The importing of food from less developed countries raises issues about social justice and the welfare of farm workers. The vitality of rural communities, here and abroad, is a necessary component of a sustainable food system.

In view of these considerations the Board of Directors is working to develop programs and publications which heighten awareness of the total food system and help to link local producers and local consumers in a mutually beneficial relationship. Given the ecological advantages of local production, we also encourage organic gardening and food processing for household use.



MOGAP BUDGET PROJECTIONS FOR '93

INCOME

Membership dues	\$ 7500.
Grant (CSPI)	2250.
OGM donation	500.
from state council, for newsletter	
TOTAL	\$10,250.

EXPENSES

Newsletter for printing & postage	\$ 5500.
Educational programs	2000.
Promotion (brochures, etc.)	1000.
Misc. expenses (phone, fax, postage, copying)	1200.
TOTAL	\$ 9700