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- INDUSTRY LINKS
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- ADVERTISING
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- [Latest Video](#)

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- [Weather](#)
- [Packer Archives](#)
- [Fresh Trends](#)
- [Infographics](#)
- [Packer 25](#)
- [Executive Briefs](#)

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Organic Summit brings leaders together

By Pamela Riemenschneider

(Feb. 18, 11:10 a.m.) After two years in Boulder, Colo., the Organic Summit is heading northwest.

Scheduled for June 3-5 in Stevenson, Wash., the event gives leaders in the organic industry a place to get together to discuss a wide array of issues, said Ted Quaday, communications director for the Organic Farming Research Foundation, Santa Cruz, Calif.

"The goal of the summit is to bring a variety of interests that are involved either in production, processing, retailing or distribution of organic foods together to scope out emerging or current issues," he said. "It's really a look at organics today and looking into the future to see where we need to go."

Speakers for the summit are being finalized and are scheduled to include Nell Newman, co-founder and president of Newman's Own Organics.

For the first time this year, the summit also is featuring an organic film trailer competition.

Organizers opened a call for entries in mid-February for trailers for work-in-progress films to be shown at the Organic Summit on June 3. One trailer will be awarded the "Pick of the Harvest" award out of 10 finalists judged by Curt Ellis, producer of the documentary "King Corn."

The competition is designed to highlight promising films that support relevant topics in organic agriculture and industry.

More information about the summit, including registration and a tentative agenda, can be found at www.theorganicsummit.com.

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