



Soil Foodweb Canada Ltd.  
285 Service Rd. Box 420  
Vulcan, Alberta T0L 2B0  
403-485-6981

# Soil Foodweb Canada Ø Newsletter x

*News and Views from our Microbiology & Chemistry Laboratory*

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## Soil Foodweb bids farewell to valued member of staff

Matthew George, a very valued and longtime colleague, has moved on from Soil Foodweb Canada. He has taken his passion for teaching to a new position outside of the company. Soil Foodweb Canada took Matthew on in 2005 as our office manager where he quickly learned all about soil microbiology. His zeal for sharing his knowledge soon led him to tour the country teaching others about the soil.

We wish him success with his new endeavor!

Christine George has taken on the role of lab director and continues as head researcher. You can reach her via email at [info@soilfoodweb.ca](mailto:info@soilfoodweb.ca) or [research@soilfoodweb.ca](mailto:research@soilfoodweb.ca) or by phone at (403) 485-6981.

Check out our  
in house  
Research  
Projects!



Some projects we're working on in around the lab:

- Effects of nutrient additives to soil microbiology
  - Examining an alternative to glyphosate-containing herbicides
  - Plant germination and growth trials
- Visit [www.soilfoodweb.ca](http://www.soilfoodweb.ca) for more details!

## Soil & Microbiology in the News

**F** Elaine Ingham visited Saskatchewan December 2009! Her natural enthusiasm for microbiology infected the crowded room in Saskatoon, encouraging new and old students to embark on the path to improving their biology.

**F** "There is an underground revolution spreading across Harvard University this fall. It's occurring under the soil and involves fungi, bacteria, microbes and roots, which are now fed with compost and compost tea rather than pesticides and synthetic nitrogen. The results have so astounded university administrators that what started as a one-acre pilot project in Harvard Yard has spread organic practices through 25 acres on the campus." This is an excerpt from The New York Times September 23, 2009 article titled: The Grass is Greener at Harvard by Anne Raver. Follow the link on [www.soilfoodweb.ca](http://www.soilfoodweb.ca) to read more.

**F** Interested in learning more about Organics in Canada? Check out information provided to consumers and growers at [www.organicworthit.org](http://www.organicworthit.org) and [www.organicbiologique.ca](http://www.organicbiologique.ca)

Visit our booth at the  
29<sup>th</sup> Annual Guelph Organic Conference  
January 28-31!  
<http://www.guelphorganicconf.ca>

For other shows and expos where you will find us visit our website:  
[www.soilfoodweb.ca](http://www.soilfoodweb.ca)

## Microscope Courses in Vulcan

Have you been wondering what those little critters that our lab technicians look at all day *really* look like? What do we find so fascinating about your soil and compost??

You can learn to see and identify the hidden world of microbiology with us! We specialize in student-led learning in an intimate setting.



Starting at \$150\* you can learn how to perform a qualitative assessment (QA) on your soil, compost or compost tea with your own microscope in your own home! The tools you take away from the microscope course will help you understand the value of your biology.

\*Minimum charge of \$150 for the first 2 hours, plus \$50 per subsequent hour.

For more information and to register, please visit [www.soilfoodweb.ca](http://www.soilfoodweb.ca) or call 403-485-6981.