



Covering Environments—The CEAC Monthly Seminars

January 27, 2017 @ 4:45pm*

My CEAC Experiences with Organic Hydroponics

Controlled Environment Agriculture Center, 1951 E Roger Rd

Stacy Tollefson, PhD

Asst Professor, Agriculture Biosystems Engineering;
Assistant Professor of Practice, CEAC
College of Agriculture & Life Sciences; University of Arizona,

Dr. Tollefson is the newest faculty member to join the CEAC team. But, she is not a newcomer to CEAC itself, having earned her PhD here and having been involved in the teaching greenhouse crop production courses over the past several years.

In addition to her expertise in greenhouse management, hydroponic crop production and integrated pest management in controlled agriculture environments, Tollefson has focused her attention on the study of liquid organic fertilizers, including compost teas as a vehicle for producing hydroponically-grown vegetable crops which would qualify them as organic according to USDA regulations.

Tollefson's research expertise has earned her a seat on the USDA Hydroponic and Aquaponics Task Force which was tasked with describing current hydroponic organic production systems being used in the industry today and analyzing the practices to determine their compliance or non-compliance with current NOP regulations. This position is not only an important achievement for Tollefson but also puts in the limelight the CEAC, CALS, and the University of Arizona contributions to the national scene in this important and emerging area of agriculture in the USA and abroad.

In her presentation, the second in the CEAC *Covering Environments* seminars, Dr. Tollefson will update us on her progress in using various liquid organic fertilizers for the production of vegetable crops grown hydroponically. Looking to the future, Tollefson will share her vision of how hydroponics and organics will be integrated to grow healthier, more nutritious and safer foods.

***note:** this presentation is the 2nd in the new series of talks highlighting the accomplishments and forward directions of CEAC for the years to come.