Afternoon Sessions 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

Farm Succession
Roger Betz, MSU Extension Educator
Room 140

Family-owned business operations and farm families are faced with challenges when it comes to success in and estate planning issues. Often they are not sure how or where to turn for answers to complex legal and financial matters. Roger will help to answer some of these questions and give resources to start a successful transition.

Field Crop Insect & Disease Control Management Strategies for your Farm
Bruce MacKellar & Eric Anderson
MSU Extension Educators
Room 166

Targeting commercial producers raising field crops. Changing pest complex (s) are putting pressure on traditional crop production methods. This session will focus on the interaction between herbicide resistant weeds, new weed species, and the spread of white grub, western bean cutworms, army worm and black cutworm damage in corn and loss in grain yield and quality. Also will look at challenges with “mystery spots” of poor production in soybean fields seen in 2017.

2 RUP and 1.5 CCA credits

So Easy to Preserve Using a Steam Canner
Jeannie Nichols & Leatta Bird
MSU Extension Educators
Room 170

Steam canning is an approved and safe method to preserve certain goods. In this session the topics covered will be how the steam canner works, what foods can be steam canned, the advantages and disadvantages, how to steam can safely and end up with an award winning product.

Update on Animal Welfare for Swine & Dairy Industry
Dr. Madonna Benjamin,
MSU DVM Swine Specialist
Paola Bacigalupo-Sanguesa,
MSU Extension Educator
Mail Area

This class will overview recent and trending topics, including new research. Come and learn how animal welfare issues impact farms of any size. This session is for adults and youth.

Restricted Use Pesticide Exams (RUP)
9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Rooms 142-143

All categories will be given by the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA). You must be in the room by 2:15 p.m. in order to take the test. Bring a check or money order payable to State of Michigan.

$50 for Private - $75 for Commercial.

Branch County Agri-Business Council
366 Morse Street, Coldwater, MI
51st Annual Farmer’s Day
Monday, February 19, 2018      Morning Session 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.

Herbicide Resistance Weeds
Bruce MacKellar & Eric Anderson,
MSU Extension Educators
Dr. Erin Burns,
MSU Corn Weed Control Specialist
ROOM 166
2 RUP and 1.5 CCA credits

On-farm solar power investment:
Lease my land or invest in on-farm equipment.
M. Charles Gould, MSU Extension Educator
ROOM 164
Farmers across the state are getting proposals, sometimes unsolicited, from solar power companies wanting a long term land leases for solar farms. The first half of this session will provide guidelines farmers can follow to ensure their interest in a lease agreement. The second half will provide information to determine if a proposal is a wise financial investment.

Stress Management Tips for Farmers
Roger Betz & Suzanne Pish,
MSU Extension Educators
ROOM 140
Farmers know how to take care of their animals and crops, taking careful steps to ensure that they are healthy and safe. Unfortunately, farmers don’t take the same care in monitoring and managing their own mental and physical stress and fatigue. Suzanne and Roger will share proven tips on stress management for farmers.

How local can you get?
Growing your own Vegetables
Mariel Borgman, MSU Extension Educator
ROOM 170
Topics that will be covered: Raised bed and container options for vegetable growing. Which vegetables to plant when. Spring, summer and fall crops. Tips for gardening with young people and encouraging healthy eating along with Food Safety in the garden.

Livestock Welfare for YOUTH
Beth Ferry & Dave Thompson,
MSU Extension Educators
Dr. Richard Ehrhardt,
MSU Small Ruminant Specialist
Mall Area
Recommended for Showman 9-19 years old participating in equine, dairy, swine, or other livestock projects, including those culminating in area county fairs. Program will stress sound animal husbandry and key things to consider before, during and after the Fair. Attendance at this class meets the requirement for youth showing at Branch County Fair. Parents are encouraged to attend.

Luncheon Speaker
12:00 p.m. - Mall Area
Bruce & Jennifer Lewis
Pleasant View Dairy Farm
The Lewis Family is a third generation dairy in our neighboring county of Hillsdale. They recently went on a Farm Bureau tour to New Zealand. Come and learn about the ag-venture they had while touring diverse farms at the “Land of Kiwis”.

4-H GROWS HERE
Connie Lange, MSU Extension Educator
Val Albright, MSU Program Instructor
ROOM 130
Youth with adults will participate in 4-H Science and Health and Nutrition activities while learning more about MSU Extension and Farmer’s Day. Pick up your passport at the Farmer’s Day Information Desk. Turn in to receive your prize.

Vendor / Exhibit Area
Open at 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.