General Session 9–noon Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Farm Safety for Fruit and Vegetable Operations
Weather Impacts on Fruit Production in Southwest Michigan

Vegetables– Wednesday afternoon, 1:30–4:30 p.m.

Common vegetable insects– hands-on identification and control workshop

Wine Grapes– Wednesday afternoon, 1:30–4:00 p.m.

A Novel Approach to Control Cluster Compactness and Fruit Rot in Wine Grapes
Alion – A New Vineyard Herbicide for 2013
Promising New Wine Grape Varieties for Southwest Michigan

Tree fruit–Wednesday 1:30–4:00; Thursday 9:00–noon, 1:30–3:00

Tree Fruit Disease Update
Innovations in Cherry Production Around the World
Michigan Apple Committee Update
Peach and Plum Variety Options for Your Farm
Tree Insect Management Update
Herbicide Strategies for Tree Fruit
Common Mistakes to Avoid When Training Tall Spindle and Other High Density Apple Trees
Strategies for Insuring Quality of Michigan Apple Varieties
Apple Thinning Strategies for 2013
Sustainable Systems for Orchard Floor Management

Grapes– Thursday 8:30–noon, 1:30–3:15 p.m.

Assessing Frost Avoidance Strategies
Using Enviro-weather Tools for Grapes
Spotted Wing Drosophila and Brown Marmorated Stink Bug
Grape Berry Moth Management- Updates on New Insecticides and Work with Thresholds
Powdery Mildew Management
Impact of Light and Temperature on Fruit Quality of Concord Grapevines
Freezes, Drought, Mechanization and Other Things Concord
Herbicide Strategies for Vineyards

Blueberries– Thursday 9:00–noon, 1:30–4:00

Managing Irrigation Systems in Blueberries
Techniques for Blueberry Establishment
Using Falcons for Bird Control

Southwest Hort Days planned for February 6–7, 2013 at Lake Michigan College Mendel Center

Plan to attend the Annual Southwest Horticulture Days, at LMC’s Mendel Center, north on Yore Avenue at the intersection of 2755 E. Napier Avenue and Yore Avenue. A pre-registration form is on page 3 of this newsletter.

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Meeting calendar cont’d.

- Wine Evaluation Workshop, SWMREC, Feb. 5, 2013, contact Diane Miner at SWMREC for more info: 269-944-1477 x 201
- Southwest Horticulture Days, February 6-7 2013. LMC Mendel Center, Benton Harbor, MI
- Feb. 18: Branch County Farmer's Day, Branch Co. Career Center, Coldwater. Cost $2.00, at the door
- IPM Academy, Kellogg Center, East Lansing, MI, February 19-20, 2013
- Feb. 26: Grower’s Conference (Update on Labor and Food Safety), Van Buren ISD Conference Center, Lawrence MI, 8:30 am – 4:30 pm, Cost $25, $20 if registered before Feb 19. For registration information call (269)-539-5189

Southwest Hort Days (from page 1)

Blueberries, contd.

- Using Enviroweather Tools for blueberries
- Spotted Wing Drosophila Workshop – a series of talks dealing with this new invasive pest
- What We Did Right and What We Need to Improve to Better Deal with SWD
- Trapping for Spotted Wing Drosophila
- Controlling Spotted Wing Drosophila – Insecticide Choices

Registration opens at 8 am February 6th; programs begin 9a.m.  Trade Show; Lunch included; Prize drawings both days. Cost for both days : $25 in advance, $30 at the door.  RUP credits requested.

Southwest Michigan Wine Industry Educational Showcase, Wednesday, February 6 4:30-7 p.m at SWMREC.  SW Hort Days is sponsored by the Michigan Grape Society, Michigan State University Extension, and Lake Michigan College.

Michigan Grape & Wine Conference

- Wednesday, February 13 – Friday, February 15, 2013
- Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center, East Lansing, Michigan
- Register online at: www.michiganwines.com
- Accommodation arrangements should be made directly with the hotel by calling 1-517-432-4000.
- Reservations should be made prior to January 12th to ensure the best available conference rate (group code: MWC021213)
- Winery development pre-conference, Wednesday, February 13, 9:30 am-3:30 pm
- Winemaker’s tasting– Pinots 1 pm-4:30 pm Wednesday (limited to one winemaker per winery, $30 session fee)
- Welcome reception, Wednesday 5:30-7:00
- Michigan Grape and Wine Conference, Wednesday, 1 pm-4 pm and Thursday, 8:30 am– 5 pm
- Michigan vs. world; can our wine compete? Wine assessment session with Master Sommelier, Ron Edwards– Thursday, 1 pm-3:30 pm (limited space available, additional $15 fee)
- Big Ten Banquet, Thursday, 6:30 pm
- MSU Grape and Wine facilities Tour, Friday, 9 am-11:30 am

A workshop that will cover the causes of frost problems and need for protection, engineering the system, tree fruit fertigation and fertility, and grower experiences with microsprinklers, will be held on Monday February 4th, from 8:30 AM to 3:00 PM in the upstairs meeting room at K-Line Irrigation, 4270 Hollywood Rd, St. Joseph, MI. Scheduled speakers include:  Phil Schwallier (MSU), Mark Longstroth (MSU), John Nye (Trickl-eez), Johan Oostenbrink (Netafilm, Fresno, CA), John Rowlery (Nelson Irrigation, Walla Walla, WA), Mike Wittenbach (Wittenbach Orchards), and Ron Rasch (Rasch Orchards). There is no charge for this workshop, which is sponsored by the Michigan Pomesters, Michigan State Horticultural Society, Trickl-eez, and Michigan State University Extension. Lunch is provided courtesy of Trickl-eez. RSVP by February 1 to info@Trickl-eez.com or 269-429-8200.
The Michigan Grape Society's Sixth Annual Southwest Michigan Wine Evaluation Workshop is planned for Tuesday, February 5, 2013 8:30 am-4:30 pm at the Southwest Michigan Research and Extension Center (SWMREC), 1791 Hillandale Rd., Benton Harbor, MI.

Knowledgeable experts will guide you through wine tastings from the Lake Michigan Shore Appellation and world class examples of wine styles from other regions similar to SW Michigan wines. Registration will be $75 till Feb. 1st and $90 thereafter and includes a catered lunch. For more information, contact Diane Miner at SWMREC, 1-269-944-1477 ext. 201 or email: minerd@msu.edu

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Pre-Registration Form
Southwest Michigan Horticultural Days

Name(s)________________________   _____________________________
_____________________________    _____________________________
Company____________________________________________________
Address_____________________________________________
City___________________________    State______       Zip_____________
Phone #______________________________________________
email__________________________________

Total Amount Enclosed $____________

Registration is $75/per person by February 1st, 2013 and $90/per person thereafter. Make checks payable to: Michigan Grape Society. Mail to Michigan Grape Society, P.O. Box 151, Baroda, MI 49101

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Pre-Registration Form
Southwest Michigan Horticultural Days

Name(s)________________________   _____________________________
_____________________________    _____________________________
Address_____________________________________________
City___________________________    State______       Zip_____________
Phone #____________________________
Hort Days Pre-registration $25 per person
Total Amount Enclosed $____________
February 6 & 7, 2013

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Deadline for pre-registration is January 30, 2013. Registrations after January 30 and at the door will be $30 per person. For additional registration information, phone Al at 1-269-870-5265 or email: info@fruitfulvinetours.com In case of severe weather, please phone 1-269-944-1477 to check the status of Southwest Hort Days
The 24th annual Organic Farming Conference will be held in La Crosse, Wisconsin, February 21-23, 2013. It is sponsored by MOSES (Midwest Organic and Sustainable Education Service). Their Organic University, held on February 21st offers in-depth instruction on topics including high tunnel management, organic seed production, organic beekeeping, building soil health, increasing crop yields, integrating livestock production with fresh market vegetables, low-input cattle breeding, livestock health management, value-added organic food processing, small farm profitability, and cultivating organic fruits and markets. Workshop sessions run on February 22nd-23rd, and cover a variety of topics, including: soils and systems; field crops; market farming; livestock; marketing and business; among other subjects. Pre-registration deadline is February 13th. Early registration pricing ends January 16th. Register online at: www.mosesorganic.org

Commercial and private pesticide applicator certification and registered technician credentials expire on December 31st every third year. There are two ways to renew these credentials: Attend training seminars during the applicator’s 3-year certification/registration period, or renew by examination. Berrien County MSUE will offer a pesticide applicator core manual review session 8:30–noon on March 14th, 2013 at the Berrien County Extension office, 1737 Hillandale Rd., Benton Harbor, MI. There will be no review of specific categories. The review session has been granted 3 RUP recertification credits for private or commercial core. The review session is $25.00. Call the extension office 269-373-9752 to register for the review session.

Exams on March 14th for the core and categories will be administered by Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) beginning at 12:30; exams must be started by 2 pm. Testing—only sessions will also be held January 16th, February 20th, and April 17th, 2013 from 9 am-3 pm. Contact MDARD at 1-800-292-3939 to register for the exam only dates. You can also register on-line at www.michigan.gov/pestexam.

For more information about the pesticide applicator renewal process, contact Faye Burns @ 517-373-9752.

The 2013 Women in Agriculture Conference will be held February 21-22 at the Kearney Holiday Inn, Kearney, Nebraska. Among the workshop topics to be offered are: marketing; farm bill; drought issues; farm transition; crop insurance; communication; and land values and leasing. Dr. Temple Grandin, a world leader in animal handling and animal welfare research, is a featured speaker at this conference.

To register, go to the Women in Ag website, http://wia.unl.edu

To register by phone: 1-800-535-3456. Early bird registration ($100) ends February 8th, regular registration is $120 and includes workshop materials, registration, breaks, lunch and dinner on Thursday and breakfast and lunch on Friday.

The Michigan State University Fermented Beverage Science Group will present a fortified wine workshop on February 12, 2013 from 9 am-5 pm at 2000 Merritt Road, East Lansing, Michigan. Registration is $125 per person, and attendance is limited to 30 people.

This all day program begins with a history of fortified wines and styles and will cover product styles and how to make products that meet your end goals. Other topics include: the process of fortifying wines; TBB regulations for fortified wines; and packaging your product.

The workshop also includes a distillation demonstration, and workshop and tasting, that provides hands-on experience for all attendees, making fortified wines on the bench. There will be a demonstration of calculations of spirit and sugar requirements to make a fortified wine. A series of experimental wines will be produced to provide examples of production practices. Experimental and commercially-available wines will be presented to the group for tasting.

The registration deadline for this information-packed program is February 5th. Register online at: http://store.chateauchantal.com/store/product/3009/MSU-Fortified-Wine-Workshop/
The 2012 Orchard and Vineyard Show is scheduled for January 21-22, 2013, and will be held at the Grand Traverse Resort in Acme, Mich. Registration opens at 8:00 a.m. and the cost for both days is $30, which is payable at the door. The fruit industry luncheon on January 21 is $15; the Cherry Marketing Institute (CMI) luncheon on January 22 is free to cherry growers who preregister with CMI. The line is often long at the registration desk, so meeting attendees are asked to arrive well before the 9:00 a.m. start time. The winegrape session will be held on January 21, tree fruit topics will be offered both days. We are looking forward to another successful program and hope to see you there! For more information, please contact the Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Station at 231-946-1510 or nwmihort@msu.edu.

The Orchard and Vineyard Show program is co-sponsored by the Grand Traverse Fruit Growers’ Council, Parallel 45 Vines and Wines, Michigan State Horticultural Society, Michigan State University Extension, Cherry Marketing Institute and MSU AgBioResearch.

**Concurrent Grape & Wine Session – Michigan A & B**

**January 21, 2013**
9:00 – 9:10 Welcome and Overview
9:10 – 9:40 Grape Acreage & Production Survey Results
9:40 – 10:40 New Wines from New Vines
10:40 – 11:10 VENDOR BREAK
11:10 – 11:35 First Year Report on Bird Damage Studies in Vineyards
11:35 – 12:00 Bird Netting and Other Bird Management Practices
12:00 – 1:30 FRUIT INDUSTRY LUNCHEON
1:30 – 2:00 VENDOR BREAK
2:00 – 2:25 Parallel 45 Vines & Wines Inc. Annual Business Meeting
2:25 – 2:55 Parallel 45 Activities in 2012
2:55 – 3:25 MAEAP & Your Vineyard Operation: Updates and Opportunities
3:25 – 3:50 Managing Grapevine Brush
3:50 – 4:30 A Novel Approach for Controlling Cluster Compactness and Fruit Rot in Wine Grapes
4:30 – 5:00 Spotted Wing Drosophila and Other New Insects
5:00 Fill Out Pesticide Recertification Credits
5:15 Beverages & Hors D’Oeuvre Social Hour

**Concurrent Tree Fruit Session – Governors Hall**

**January 21, 2013**
9:00 – 9:10 Welcome and Overview
9:35 – 10:00 MAEAP: Updates and Opportunities for 2013
10:00 – 10:30 After 2012, How do I Prepare for the Future
10:30 – 11:00 VENDOR BREAK
11:00 – 11:30 Delaying Bloom in Montmorency Cherries
11:30 – 12:00 Life Without AZM: Pest Management Options for Cherry Growers in 2013
12:00 – 1:30 FRUIT INDUSTRY LUNCHEON
1:30 – 2:00 VENDOR BREAK
2:00 – 2:45 Mechanical Harvesting of Tart Cherries and Other Fruits
2:45 – 3:15 Cherry Leaf Spot: The challenges of managing this disease in 2012
3:15 – 3:35 Fireblight Update
3:35 – 4:05 High Density Sour Cherry Tree Management
4:05 – 4:35 High Density Tart Cherries in Michigan: Progress so Far
4:35-5:05 Update on MRL’s
5:05 Fill Out Pesticide Recertification Credits
5:15 Beverages & Hors D’Oeuvre Social Hour

**Tuesday, January 22, 2013**
8:15 – 9:00 NWMHRC Foundation Board Meeting (open to the public)
9:00 – 9:35 Frost Protection Methods in Michigan
9:35 – 10:10 CLIMARK: Climate Change and Tart Cherries
10:10 – 10:30 VENDOR BREAK
10:30 – 11:00 What to Consider when Evaluating the Purchase of Crop Insurance
11:00 – 11:30 Climate Variability: How it is Affecting Decisions on the Farm
11:30 – 12:00 CMI Report to the Industry
12:00 – 2:00 CHERRY MARKETING INSTITUTE LUNCHEON
2:00 – 2:30 VENDOR BREAK
2:30 – 2:50 2002 and 2012: A Look at Supply, Price and Demand of Tart Cherries
2:50 – 3:10 Michigan Apple Committee Update – Looking Ahead to the Referendum
3:10 – 3:50 Tall Spindle Performance at the Clarksville Horticultural Research Station
3:50 – 4:20 How Long Will It Take to Recover from 2012?
4:20 – 4:55 What is the Impact of the Quality Deer Management (QDM) Program?
4:55 – 5:15 The Challenges of Bacterial Canker: How will We Deal with this Disease in the Future?
5:15 Fill Out Pesticide Recertification Credits
Ag Action Day, Friday, January 25, 2013
Kalamazoo Community College, Oshtemo, MI
8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.
Join MSU Extension educators & specialists for a full day of educational programs with a variety of sessions

♦ Trade Show Exhibition will be open 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Door prize drawing at 3:15 p.m.
♦ Registration: $20, includes lunch
♦ New this year—participants and vendors can pre-register!!! go to:
♦ http://events.anr.msu.edu/agaction2013/
♦ KVCC is located one mile south of Interstate 94, Oshtemo, exit 72.
Session 1 9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

Impact of a Changing Weather on Corn Production and Pest Management – Dr. Jeff Andresen, MSU Ag Climatologist and Marilyn Thelen, MSUE Field Crops Educator
With another record setting year in the books in 2012, what does 2013 have in store for field crop producers. MSU Ag Climatologist Dr. Jeff Andresen will discuss recent trends in weather in southwest Michigan and implications for crop production and pest management in a changing environment.
MSU Field Crops Educator Marilyn Thelen will lead a discussion on how changing weather patterns are likely to impact corn production and pest complexes in the near future. (RUP Private, Commercial 1A, CCA)

2012 SWMREC Vegetable Trials and Pest Summary – Dr. Ron Goldy, Senior Extension Educator
This session will provide summaries of the 2012 vegetable trials conducted at the SW Michigan Research and Extension Center. The 2012 trials included peppers, summer squash and specialty potatoes. We will also discuss irrigation strategies for several vegetable crops. A pest review of last year’s hot and dry growing season will be included. Vegetable growers will have an opportunity to ask production questions about any vegetable crop. (RUP Private, Commercial 1B)

Blueberry IPM – Mark Longstroth, Extension Small Fruit Educator
Review the annual production cycle of blueberries, as well as the lifecycles of insects and diseases that attack blueberries. Special emphasis on spotted wing drosophila (SWD), weed control and irrigation. (RUP Private, Commercial 1C)

Minimum Risk Pesticides, Are They Minimal Risk? – John Stone, MSU
Many of these products claim safety around children and pets, but what are the real risks for their use? Sometimes it is important to read between the lines on the label. For all pesticide applicators, but with an emphasis on turf grass, ornamentals and right-of-way applications. (RUP Private, Commercial Core, Commercial 3A, 3B, 6)

What is Your Habitattude Toward Aquatic Invasive Species? – Linda Whitlock, Kalamazoo County MSU Extension, Consumer Horticulture
Aquatic Invasive Species are a threat to our natural waterways in Michigan; we’ve all heard horror stories about Purple Loosestrife and Asian Carp just to name two. Learn how to be part of the solution by protecting our state’s streams, lakes, rivers, and ponds from further invasions. Learn which invasive plants are on the prohibited and restricted plant lists in Michigan, as well as simple steps that everyone can take to prevent these species from becoming a costly problem.

Cottage Foods: How to Start a Successful Business – Rita Klavinski, Extension Educator Calhoun County, Joanne Davidhizar, Extension Educator Berrien County & Mark Thomas, Extension Educator Cass County
Nearly 3 years have passed since the Cottage Food Law enabled the preparation of certain foods in home kitchens for direct sale. Find out what foods can be legally produced, labeled and sold. Learn how to integrate food safety practices to ensure a wholesome product. Explore MSU Extension resources for cottage food business development. A food safety training certificate option will be available.

Session 2 11:00-12:30 p.m.

Corn/Wheat Production Update – Bruce MacKellar – MSUE, and Dr. James Hilker MSUE Marketing Specialist
With one of the driest years on record in the rear view mirror, what management options should growers consider to maximize profitability in 2013? This session will discuss pest management, crop rotation, variety selection and marketing for the upcoming growing season. (RUP Private, Commercial 1A, CCA)

Producing Local Beers: Ingredients, Processes and Entrepreneurial Tips – Jon Zirkle and Diane Brown, MSU Extension Educators
This session will explore considerations for producing inputs for local beers, including agronomic, economic and quality parameters for producing grain and hops for high-quality malted beverages. Marketing and infrastructure aspects of beer production, including possible opportunities for creating processing facilities (ex. malting house) will be covered.

Organic Opportunities – Dan Rossman, MSU Extension Educator
Think that $7 corn and $15 soybeans were good? Contracts for some of the organic field crops are nearly double those levels. Increased demand for organic feeds, snack foods and staples have ignited prices of organically produced crops in MI. Dan Rossman, MSUE’s Organic Field Crops lead educator will discuss certification, production, pest management challenges /strategies and markets. Could this high value enterprise fit on your operation? (RUP Private, Commercial 1A, CCA)
Back to Basics: The First 2 Years of a Fruit Orchard – Dr. Bill Shane, Senior Extension Fruit Specialist
The productivity and profitability of a fruit orchard is often determined in the first two years of an orchard’s life. This is a review of the do’s and don’ts in establishing a young orchard. Topics include site preparation, rootstock, planting, tree support, irrigation, herbicides, fertilization, and pest management. Growers attending this session can fine-tune their orchard management skills. The emphasis will be on commercial fruit production, but backyard gardeners will benefit as well. (RUP Private, Commercial 1C)

Selecting Personal Protective Equipment (Emphasis on Gloves) – John Stone, MSU
Do not refer to the chemical resistance charts as directed by the label without listening to this presentation. New standards will be forthcoming with the goal of alignment with the other occupational safety standards. (RUP Private, Commercial Core, Commercial 3A, 3B, 6)

Invasive Plants – Beth Clawson, Extension Educator, Community & Consumer Horticulture
Plants out of place can thrive in our environment, creating challenges in our gardens, yards, and fields. This session will focus on identification of plants that do not belong, and strategies for managing them in your area. We will be discussing our area’s newest arrivals, what can be done to curb the spread of invasive weeds and what you can do about them.

Knowing Your Pond: Common Problems & Possible Solutions – Dr. Lois Wolfson, Dept. of Fisheries & Wildlife
This presentation on managing ponds and general lake ecology will focus on aquatic plant and shoreline management, fish management, and various long-term and short-term treatments to address pond problems. The session will also include some hands-on identification of various nuisance and native plants.

Session 3 1:30-3:00 p.m.
Soybean Production Update – Bruce MacKellar, Mike Staton—MSUE and Dr. James Hilker, MSU Extension Marketing Specialist
2012 was the year of the two spotted spider mite. What pests, agronomic practices, diseases and marketing strategy will shape soybean profitability during the 2013 growing season? (RUP Private, Commercial 1A, CCA)

Grape Pest Management – Diane Brown, Commercial Horticulture Educator, Berrien County MSUE
Review the annual production cycle of grapes along with the key insects and diseases that affect grapes at each growth stage. These reviews will allow growers to make effective pesticide choices, understand insect life cycles & disease cycles, and favorable conditions for infection. Pesticide selection including weed control options for grapes will also be covered (RUP Private, Commercial, 1C)

Hands on Pest ID – John Stone, MSU
Knowing what pest you are trying to control is critical to selecting the best and safest control options. In this session, you will learn how to identify some of the more common turf & ornamental pests, what some of the control options are, and how to select between the options for maximum safety in a public right-of-way and ornamental setting. (RUP Private, Commercial Core, Commercial 3A, 3B, 6)

Maximizing Irrigation Performance - Lyndon Kelley, Extension Educator, Irrigation
Irrigation was crucial for the 2012 growing season in southwest Michigan. This session will review crop water demands for field crops, changes in water use reporting and the increasing challenges facing irrigation expansion in southwest Michigan. (CCA)

Invasive Insects Coming to a Yard, Garden and Home Near You—Mark Longstroth, Extension Small Fruit Educator
The United States has been no stranger to invasive insect infestation. With ever increasing international trade, the rate of introduction is rapidly increasing. The introduction of the spotted wing drosophila has caused a dramatic increase in pesticide use in fruit and vegetable production. Learn more about this pest and others that are likely to impact our food, forests and homes.

Farm Business Succession – Roger Betz, Extension Farm Management Educator
This session will discuss concepts and strategies for transferring the farm business from one generation to the next. Roger has helped many farm families to better understand their businesses and to develop working relationships and transition plans that have created strong multi-generational family farms throughout southwest Michigan. Sit in on this program to see if it can help you shape your farm business future.

RUP & CCA Credits will be offered.

Please Note: All classes denoted as having RUP credits are subject to approval by the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

- Commercial core and category credits have been applied for as listed in each session. Participants should be able to obtain 1 RUP credit by attending a class that is approved in each time slot for a maximum of 3 RUP credits for the day.
- All classes denoting CCA credit are subject of approval by the American Society of Agronomy.
- There will be a $5 charge to take the RUP exam if you are not attending any sessions.
- Master Gardener education credit may be earned for all Ag Action sessions; a maximum total of 4.5 hours may be earned.
Register Today!
Visit events.anr.msu.edu/IPMAacademy2013 to access the registration page

The cost of this event is $225. Please note that snacks, lunch and parking are included. Lodging is not included but special rates are available.

Registration is open December 3 through February 12, space is limited.

QUESTIONS?
Contact Erin Lizotte at taylo548@msu.edu or 231-944-6504

MSU is an affirmative action, equal opportunity employer.

IPM Academy 2013
February 19-20,
Okemos Conference Center
Okemos, MI

IPMA13 will address the weather challenges of the 2012 production season with the help of Dr. Jonathan Comstock from the Department of Horticulture at Cornell University. Dr. Comstock will address shifting weather patterns and the related impacts affecting agricultural producers. MSU Educators will also discuss frost protection and drought mitigation.

On day 2 participants will opt into two of the following sessions:

Morning session choices:
Apple and Cherry IPM Come with us on a season-long excursion where we will show how to tailor your integrated pest management decisions to produce a marketable crop.

Communicating Climate Change Climate change will have a major impact on agriculture. Here’s how to navigate a potentially divisive subject that is important for producers.

Conifer IPM Come learn how to identify and monitor for the most destructive pests and diseases of Michigan’s conifer tree species.

Vegetable IPM This session takes participants through a production year on tomatoes, peppers, eggplant, sweet corn, onions, garlic and asparagus. You will be introduced to insect and disease pests and how best to control them using IPM techniques.

Scouting Techniques for Field Crops and Forages Learn the basics of scouting for diseases, weeds and insects. Growth stages, life cycles, weather and date all impact the success of finding and controlling pests. Learn how each of these factors can help you succeed.

Afternoon session choices:
IPM in Small Fruit Crops In this session we will focus on spotted wing drosophila, fruitworms, beetles, and common disease of small fruits including blueberry, strawberry, brambles.

Vegetable IPM We will guide you through a production year for vine crops, legumes (snap beans and peas) and cole crops with emphasis on insect and disease ID and control. The session will conclude by exploring emerging IPM challenges and opportunities in vegetables.

Check it Out, MSU Resources for Hops, Saskatoons and Chestnuts Interested in these up and coming Michigan crops? Then join us for this introduction to these cropping systems and available Resources!

Deciduous Tree IPM Come learn how to identify and monitor for the most destructive pests and diseases of Michigan’s deciduous tree species.

Emerging Issues in Field Crop Pesticide Resistance In this session, participants will learn how resistance develops and discuss management practices that can decrease the risk of developing resistant strains. Also, learn what pests are positioned to pose a threat to Michigan field crops.
Starting A Community Vegetable Garden - Community Garden Leadership Training

Local foods means more than simply having access to locally grown foods. It includes being able to grow your own vegetables, fruits, herbs and flowers. Some may wish to sell their produce for extra money. There are families from other cultures that would like to grow traditional foods not available in the local supermarket. Many may want to garden to be outdoors and spend time in a comfortable relaxing environment. Community gardens beautify neighborhoods and bring neighbors closer together. They are a way for people who do not have land or space to have a garden of their own. Why do you want to garden?

This program is for neighborhood groups, organizations and individuals who want to start and sustain a community garden. It will be held February 21, 2013 at 6:00PM at the Human Services Center, 801 Hazen St., Paw Paw. The cost for this program is $25 per person. Register online at: http://www.events.anr.msu.edu/ or email clawsonb@anr.msu.edu.

To learn more contact: Beth Clawson, Extension Educator 269-657-8213, clawsonb@anr.msu.edu

Essential Information for the Beginning CSA or Market Farmer

- Do you have farming in your blood?
- Do you own some land that you want to farm, but aren’t sure where to start?
- Do you want to produce more of your own food?
- Already producing but want to grow for a farm market or a farmer’s market?
- Want to grow produce for a larger community seeking fresh fruits and vegetables?

This series is designed for those who need information and inspiration. We will help landowners decide how to use their property with essential information for the beginning agricultural entrepreneur. The series will include essential information about where to start, goal setting, creating a business plan, financial management, and legal stuff. From there we will look at CSA types, soil basics and veggie and fruit production. We will also discuss local foods, farm to institution requirements and food hubs.

Curriculum

Feb 26 Resource identification, goal setting, elements of a business plan, and is CSA farming right for you. Plus introduction to marketing and business plan development; CSA types of shares, members, & communication.

March 5 Farming and the law including risk management, labor laws, & Ag employer checklist. Plus vegetables, fruit & the cost of production, planting & how much to plant.

March 12 Introduction to farm financial management, record keeping, & tax reporting.

March 19 Introduction to soil fertility & and overview of organic certification.

No Computer? No problem. Mail in your registration using this form:

Name: ____________________________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________
Address ___________________________________________________________
Phone Number: ___________________________________________________
email: ________________________________

Register online: Credit card payments can be made at MSU Extension’s online event registration site at http://events.anr.msu.edu/csa13
Or mail in this registration form to: Michigan State University Extension ATTN: Agri-preneur
219 Paw Paw St. Suite 201
Paw Paw, MI 49079
The Need for Irrigation
Recent years have shown irrigation to be critical for economic production of many southwest Michigan crops. Characteristics that make our soils desirable for cultivation also make them drought prone. Recent dry summers have made crop production without irrigation economically risky.

Why Irrigation Scheduling
Efficient water use is important for several reasons. Under irrigation leads to decreased yields, but over irrigation may lead to nutrient run-off or leaching - an economic loss to the producer and potential environmental threat to water sources. Over irrigation also leads to increased disease problems. Finally, it is simply good stewardship of a valuable resource.

Benefits of Scheduling
By maintaining more uniform soil moisture irrigation scheduling reduces water use while maintaining yields. The goal is to keep soil moisture between 65 and 100% field capacity. This is accomplished by weekly monitoring, projecting water use and operating the irrigation system to meet weekly or daily needs. To monitor each site a 3’ long PVC tube is installed (4” will be above ground) and a moisture probe is slid into the tube and readings taken every 10 cm (4-inches). Access tubes are installed in May or early June.

Our Service
Since 2003 Michigan State University has conducted soil moisture monitoring and irrigation scheduling on a limited basis in southwest Michigan. MSU has expanded this service on a pay for service basis to irrigators within the Berrien, Cass and Van Buren County area. The fee varies depending on the length of the crop season. Sites will be monitored on a weekly basis and growers will receive an email or FAX providing a plot of soil moisture change over time. The graphs help determine irrigation effectiveness and helps growers adjust irrigation length or frequency as needed.

The graph below is an example, and it shows the 11-week (series), season-long moisture changes at 10 to 80 cm (4 to 32-inch) depths.

If you are interested in participating in this program please fill out the information in this flyer and follow the return instructions.

The fee schedule is listed below. If you have further questions, or if your crop is not listed on the fee schedule, please contact: Ron Goldy, at 269-944-1477 ext. 207, or e-mail at goldy@anr.msu.edu

### 2013 Fee Schedule

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of Crop</th>
<th>Fee per site</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Short Season Crops</strong></td>
<td>$80/site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Green Beans, Cucumbers/pickles, Yellow Squash, Zucchini</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Mid-Season Crops</strong></td>
<td>$105/site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cantaloupe, Watermelon, Pumpkins, Fall squash, Sweet corn</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Long Season Crops</strong></td>
<td>$155/site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Field Corn, Peppers, Soybeans, Tomatoes</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Perennial Crops</strong></td>
<td>$155/site</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Apples, Blueberries, Brambles, Cherries, Christmas Trees, Grapes, Nursery Stock, Peaches/Nectarines</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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**Operation Name:**
**Crops:**

**Contact Name:**
**Number of Sites:**

**Phone Number:**
**Cell Number:**
**FAX Number:**

**Return by April 15 to:**
SWM Irrigation Network
1791 Hillandale Road
Benton Harbor, MI 49022

Do not send any money at this time. You will be billed at a later date.
Michigan State University Extension announces the annual Field Crops Pest Management Update Program Series for 2013. This year’s update program will include research and recommendation updates for weed, insect, disease and nematode control for field and forage crops grown in Michigan. Highlights will include discussions of seed treatments for nematode control, evaluating alfalfa stands ravaged by frost and drought in 2012, results from soybean sudden death syndrome and white mold research trials, and strategies for managing herbicide resistant weeds that are becoming more numerous all across Michigan.

MSU weed control specialist Christy Sprague will review changes in the MSU E-434 bulletin, Weed Control Guide for Field Crops. MSU entomologist Christina DiFonzo will discuss western bean cutworm numbers seen in 2012, potential for soybean aphids in 2013 and what signs to watch for if rootworm resistance to Bt varieties is developing on your farm. MSU Extension wheat educator Martin Nagelkirk will discuss fungicide usage for disease control and wheat trial results for 2012. MSU fertility specialist Kurt Steinke will discuss research results for 2012 and talk about fertilizer strategies for the upcoming growing season.

AGENDA

9:00 – 9:10 Welcome - - Local Educator
MAEAP Technician
9:10 – 9:35 Seed Treatment Update for SCN
Dr. George Bird
9:35 – 10:15 New Soybean Diseases, Fungicide Study Results, SDS Update
Dr. Martin Chilvers
10:15 – 10:25 Break
10:25 – 11:10 Soil Fertility Strategies for Improved Crop Production
Dr. Kurt Steinke
11:10 – 11:30 Wheat Disease Control Update
Martin Nagelkirk, MSUE Wheat Educator
11:30—12:00 Renovation of Forage Stands, Dr. Kim Cassida
12:00 – 12:45 Lunch
12:45 – 1:10 Local MSUE Agronomic Update
1:10 - 2:10 Glyphosate Resistant Weeds (including Palmer Amaranth) Dr. Christy Sprague
2:10 - 3:10 Weed Control Update for Corn, Soybeans and Small Grains
Dr. Christy Sprague
3:10 – 3:50 Insect Control Discussion
Dr. Chris DiFonzo
3:50 – 4:05 Local MSUE Agronomic Update
4:05 – 4:15 Credits, Evaluation and Wrap-up

Meeting dates/locations/who to contact for more information:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 29, 2013</th>
<th>February 8, 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Shifter’s Restaurant</td>
<td>Ubl Heights Country Club</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3130 W. Monroe</td>
<td>2409 E. Atwater Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alma, MI 48801</td>
<td>Ubly, MI 48475</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For more information contact: Dan Rossman</td>
<td>For more information contact: Bob Battel</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Gratiot County MSUE</td>
<td>Huron County MSUE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>214 E. Center Street</td>
<td>1142 S. Van Dyke</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ithaca, MI 48847</td>
<td>Bad Axe, MI 48413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>989-875-5233</td>
<td>989-299-9949 ext. 602</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><a href="mailto:msue29@msu.edu">msue29@msu.edu</a></td>
<td><a href="mailto:msue37@msu.edu">msue37@msu.edu</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>January 31, 2013</th>
<th>February 11, 2013</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Van Buren ISD Conference Center</td>
<td>Mason Technology Center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>490 South Paw Paw Street</td>
<td>474 S. Onondaga Road</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lawrence, MI 49064</td>
<td>Mason, MI 48854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>For more information contact: Bruce MacKellar</td>
<td>For more information contact: George Silva</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Van Buren County MSUE</td>
<td>551 Courthouse Drive Suite One</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>218 E. Paw Paw St. Suite 201</td>
<td>Charlotte, MI 48813</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Paw Paw, MI 49079</td>
<td>517-543-2310</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>269-657-8213</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

February 12, 2013
Lapeer County Ed-Tech Center
690 Lake Pleasant Road
Attica, MI 48412
For more information contact:
Phil Kaatz
1800 Imlay City Road
Lapeer, MI 48446
810-667-0341
houset@msu.edu ask for Tina

Registration is $40 per person and includes the cost for the 2013 MSU Weed Control Guide for Field Crops. The registration deadline is seven days prior to the meeting date. Register in advance to reserve your place.

NEW this year! Registration available online
See next page for registration information
We’re on the web! www.msue.msu.edu/berrien
We’re happy to send you a print copy by mail or email you to let you know when the newsletter has been posted to the web. If you prefer to be notified by email when this newsletter is posted to the web, send your request and email address to us at: msue.berrien@county.msu.edu or phone us (1-269-944-4126) with your request and email address. Our new fax number is: 269-944-4128

Berrien County
Michigan State University Extension
1737 Hillandale Road
Benton Harbor MI 49022

Field Crops Pest Management Update Program Series for 2013

NEW! Register Online at http://events.anr.msu.edu/Pestmgnt2013

To register by mail, send in registration and payment to:
ANR Communication Event Services
Agriculture Hall Room 312
446 West Circle Drive
East Lansing, MI 48824 –1039

Make checks payable to: Michigan State University

Registration Fee: $40.00 per person
(includes cost for 2013 MSU Weed Control Guide E-434)

First Name: _______________ Last Name: _______________
Address: ____________________________________________
City: _______________ State: _____ ZIP: _____________
Phone: _______________ County: _______________
Email: ____________________________________________

The registration deadline is seven days prior to the meeting date. Space is limited, so register early. Meals and space cannot be guaranteed for those who do not register in advance

Sign up for
_____Alma, January 29  _____Ubly, February 8
_____Lawrence, January 31  _____Mason, February 11
_____Attica, February 12

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