Alfalfa weevil larval feeding starting in southern Michigan alfalfa fields
Alfalfa weevil threshold damage levels are low, however fields should be examined for signs of tip feeding from now until the first cutting is harvested.

Nutrient management recommendations for profitable soybean production
Careful management of lime and fertilizer applications has always been an important component of profitable soybean production, however it becomes essential when commodity prices are low.

Preventing sidewall compaction in field crops
The potential for sidewall compaction occurring during planting operations is high this spring and the following information will help you reduce this yield-limiting phenomenon.

Soybean planting depth matters
Planting soybean seed at the proper depth will produce more uniform stands and higher yields.

Do you have a plan to reduce risks from wildlife in your produce fields?
When wildlife comes in contact with fruit and vegetable production areas, the risk of foodborne illnesses increases. If growers are to mitigate some of the risk posed by wildlife, they need a plan.

Protecting tomatoes from herbicide drift
Tomatoes are extremely sensitive to even small amounts of certain herbicides, so producers need to be cautious in how, when and where herbicides are used.

Update on Luna fungicides for grapes and berry crops
Recent changes to the Luna fungicide labels for grapes and berry crops are discussed and summarized.

MSU Institute of Agricultural Technology certificate program fall enrollment is open
Applications for Michigan State University Institute of Agricultural Technology certificate programs, including those with off-campus community college partners such as Southwestern Michigan College in Dowagiac, are being accepted for the fall 2016.

USDA Grants available for farmers who want to develop value-added products
The U.S. Department of Agriculture has announced a program to provide financial assistance to producers, producer-controlled entities, organizations representing agricultural producers, and farmer cooperatives. Paper applications are due July 1, 2016.

Grape growers’ pre-bloom IPM meeting, May 25th
Late afternoon session with meal in Lawton. Credits requested. $10/person. Pre-registration and payment required: 269-927-5674

Wheat Field Day, May 25
Two-hour session, Mt. Pleasant. No fee.

Wine Grape Mealybug/virus session, June 6
Late afternoon session 3PM in at Lemon Creek Winery, Berrien Springs. Credits requested. Free. Register: call 269-927-5674 X4012, or E-mailbaughm30@anr.msu.edu.

Clarksville Research Field Day, June 22
All day session with meal and equipment show. Four credits requested. RSVP crcmail@msu.edu, or 616-693-2193.

Farm Pesticide Collection Days June 29 and July 27, 2016
Open to Michigan farmers, greenhouses, pesticide retailers and other end users of pesticides, as well as individuals. Download, complete, and submit form from link two weeks prior to event. Direct questions to: Jill Adams, 269-983-7111 X8234 jadams@berriencounty.org.

**Hands-on, Hop IPM Workshops 2016**
There are three different workshops at different locations July through August. Check link for details.

**Weekly fruit IPM meetings in progress**
Fruit integrated pest management (IPM) meetings are held for fruit growers in southwest Michigan nearly every Monday at 5pm at the Bjorge’s Fruit Acres Farm in Coloma through the end of June.

**St. Joseph County Field Crop IPM Breakfast Series**
The meetings will be held at the 595 E Main St, Centreville, MI 49032 at 7:00 AM every Tuesday morning from through June 28, 2016 focusing on field crops. RUP Credits. For more information contact Eric Anderson at eander32@msu.edu, or 269-467-5511.

**How to Start a Cottage Food Law Business in Michigan**
Two-hour sessions focuses the Cottage Food Law guidelines, food safety, allowed foods for sale, packaging, labeling, processing procedures, finance and marketing. This session does not address foods that require commercial licensing such as salsa, pickles, barbeque sauces, or anything containing meat or dairy. Benton Harbor. Fee: $20.00
Deadline: May 20.

**Pesticide Applicator Review and Exam Sessions**
Berrien County MSU Extension is hosting pesticide applicator testing and review sessions again this winter. Exam sessions will be May 18, 2016. Sign up for the exam sessions and view schedules at Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. Cost of the exam is $50 for private applicators and $75 for commercial applicators.

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