INSIDE THIS EDITION

- MAEAP Phase I Meeting
- Oceana Asparagus Day
- Pesticide Exam Schedule
- 2016 West Michigan Ag Labor Meeting (see insert)
- 11th Annual Oceana County Agricultural Banquet
- Mailing List Update
- Map to New Era Reformed Church
- New Whole Revenue Protection Plan
- Optimizing Dairy Farm Profit
- 2016 Pure Michigan Agriculture Summit
- Registration form for Oceana Asparagus Day

EXTENSION NEWS

Volume 15, Issue 6  Website: www.msue.msu.edu/oceana  February 2016

EXTENSION CALENDAR
WINTER 2016

February 12, 2016  Core Manual/RUP Review & Test
Ottawa Co. Fillmore Complex, 12130 Fillmore St.,
West Olive, MI
9:00 a.m.—12 noon—Review
1:00 p.m.—Exam

February 17, 2016  Pesticide Recertification Exam
Ludington Airport, Ludington, 1:00 p.m.

February 25, 2016  Optimizing Dairy Farm Profit
Falmouth Community Center, Falmouth, MI

February 25, 2016  2016 West Michigan Ag Labor Meeting
English Hills Country Club, Walker, MI
9 a.m.—2:15 p.m.

March 10, 2016  Oceana Asparagus Day
New Era Reformed Church, New Era, MI

March 11, 2016  Core Manual/RUP Review & Test
Fremont District Library Community, Fremont, MI
10 a.m.—12 noon - Review Session
1:30 p.m.—Exam

March 15, 2016  Pesticide Re-certification Exam
West Shore ESD (formerly Oceana ISD) Building,
Griswold Street, Hart, MI
7:00 p.m.

March 19, 2016  11th Annual Oceana County Agricultural Banquet
Shelby Optimist Hall, Shelby
Taste of Oceana Reception—6 p.m.
Banquet—7 p.m.
Tickets $15.00 per person—available at MSU Extension & Oceana Conservation District

March 23, 2016  2016 Pure Michigan Agriculture Summit
Radisson Hotel, Kalamazoo, MI
7:30 a.m.—4 p.m.

Ben Werling  West MI Vegetable Educator

Curtis Talley Jr.  Farm Management Educator

Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status, or veteran status.
MAEAP PHASE 1 MEETING  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 19, 2016  
SCOTTVILLE OPTIMIST HALL  
105 W. STATE ST.  
SCOTTVILLE, MI 49454

8:00 a.m.  Sign In & Refreshments
8:30 a.m.  Welcome & Introduction to MAEAP, Farm Services Agency & Natural Resource Conservation Service  
Murray Stall, MAEAP Technician Mason-Lake Conservation District  
Dan Busby, MAEAP Verifier, Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development  
Seth Earl & Scott Hughey, USDA Natural Resource Conservation District  
Beth Saxton, Farm Service Agency, Mason, Oceana & Manistee Counties

9:00 a.m.  Forestry, Wildlife & Habitat A*Systs, Qualified Forests Program, forest pest and disease management  
Update  
Josh Shields, Outreach Forester, Manistee & Mason-Lake Conservation Districts

9:45 a.m.  Pesticide regulations & safety, MAEAP Farm A*Syst  
Jordan DeVries & Lynda Herremans, Mason-Lake & Oceana Conservation Districts

10:15 a.m.  Pesticide drift planning & compliance  
Murray Stall, MAEAP Technician, Mason-Lake Conservation District  
Dan Busby, MAEAP Verifier, MDARD

10:45 a.m.  Donut, coffee & juice break
10:50 a.m.  Oceana pesticide jug recycling  
Dani McGarry & Lynda Herremans, Oceana Conservation District

11:00 a.m.  Invasive species, applying pesticide on shrubs, intro to MIS IN phone application  
Vicki Sawicki, North Country CISMA

11:45 a.m.  Cover Crops, soil health and pesticide applications  
Christina Curell, MSU Extension Nutrient Management & Water Quality Educator

12:30 p.m.  Lunch - $5 donation suggested

12:30 p.m.  Lunch Presentation: On-Farm fuel storage safety practices  
Tim McKay, Blarney Castle Oil Co.

1:15 p.m.  Summer Deer Damage Permits, Fall Deer Management Assistance Program  
Erin Victory, Huron-Manistee National Forest

1:45 p.m.  Codling Moth pheromone disruption in orchards  
Brett Bunker, Ridge Quest, Inc.

2:15 p.m.  Refreshment break

2:30 p.m.  Concurrent Breakout Session 1: Cropping/Orchards  
2016 Scouting update for field & specialty crops  
2016 Scouting updates for orchard crops  
Fruit/Crop A*Syst updates, worker protection standards

Concurrent Breakout Session 2: Cropping/Livestock  
Crop/Livestock A*Syst updates, odor management  
Animal Mortality management practices  
Winter Manure Spreading Risk Index

4:00 p.m.  Adjourn

To Register before noon on Tuesday, February 16th call:  
Oceana Conservation District  Mason-Lake Conservation District  Manistee Conservation District  
231-861-5600 x5  231-757-3707 x5  231-889-9666 x5

5 Pesticide Recertification credits have been approved for attendees of this meeting  
Agenda Approved For  
MAEAP Phase 1 Credit
**OCEANA ASPARAGUS DAY**
**MARCH 10, 2016**
**New Era Reformed Church, New Era, MI**
**Tentative Agenda**

8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration and Refreshments

9:00 – 9:30 a.m. Training video on harvest labor
John Bakker, Research Director, Michigan Asparagus Research Committee, Inc. & Michigan Farm Bureau

9:30 – 9:45 a.m. MAEAP Update
Dan Busby, MDARD MAEAP Verifier
Lynda Herremans, Oceana Conservation District, MAEAP Technician

9:45 – 10:00 a.m. Asparagus Marketing Update
Norm Myers, Michigan Agricultural Commodities Marketing Association (MACMA)

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 – 11:00 a.m. 2015 Asparagus Cost of Production
Curtis Talley & Ben Werling, MSU Extension

11:00 – 12:00 noon. Maintaining processed produce quality
Speaker to be announced

12:00 – 1:30 p.m. Lunch and View Exhibits

1:30 – 2:00 p.m. Asparagus weed control
Dr. Bernie Zandstra, MSU Dept. of Horticulture

2:00 – 2:30 p.m. New Opportunities to Limit Disease in Asparagus
Beth Brisco and Mary Hausbeck, MSU Dept. Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences

2:30 – 3:00 p.m. Asparagus Insect Update
Dr. Zsofia Szendrei and Adam Ingrao, MSU Dept. Entomology

3:00 – 3:30 p.m. Asparagus Irrigation Research Update
Dr. Dan Brainard, MSU Dept. Horticulture

3:30 – 3:45 p.m. Evaluation and adjourn

4:00 p.m. MACMA Asparagus Annual Meeting
Following Oceana Asparagus Day

Pesticide Recertification Credits & CCA Credits have been requested for this meeting.
PESTICIDE CERTIFICATION TEST DATES

The Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD) will be giving the Pesticide Certification Test in Oceana County and surrounding counties during the 2016 winter and spring season. Pesticide certification is necessary for anyone who wants to buy pesticides that are listed as Restricted Use (RUP) by the Environmental Protection Agency. Certification may also be necessary if you plan to apply general use pesticides commercially.

The next date scheduled for the MDARD Pesticide Exam for Oceana County is set for Tuesday, March 15, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at the West Shore Educational Service District, 844 Griswold Street, Hart. MDARD reserves the right to cancel any test that does not have at least 20 people enrolled, so it is important that you pre-register at least one week prior to the test date. Registration is online at the MDA website www.michigan.gov/pestexam.

People who are planning to take a renewal test should bring the paperwork sent to them by MDARD to the testing site. The testing fees are $50 for private certification and $75 for commercial certification. Payment must be made by check or money order at the testing site. NO CASH! You are also encouraged to bring a calculator on the day of the test.

Study manuals maybe obtained at your local MSU Extension Office at a cost of $30 or ordered online through the MSU Stores at http://shop.msu.edu. There is one manual for private applicators and one for commercial applicators. Also if you will be renewing a special category, please allow time in case these manuals need to be ordered.

If the Oceana County date and time is not convenient for you, below is a table of the testing dates, times and locations in the surrounding area. By visiting the MDARD website you can find a complete listing of all tests being offered this winter/spring season throughout the state.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>County</th>
<th>Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2/12/16</td>
<td>9 a.m.—12 noon</td>
<td>Ottawa</td>
<td>Ottawa Co. Admin. Bldg., 12220 Fillmore Street Main Conference Room, West Olive, MI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Session * $20 fee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>To Register contact—Ottawa MSU Extension at 616-994-4544</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/12/16</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ottawa</td>
<td>Ottawa Co. Admin. Bldg., 12220 Fillmore Street Main Conference Room, West Olive, MI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/17/16</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Mason</td>
<td>Ludington Airport 5300 W. US 10, Ludington</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/19/16</td>
<td>9 a.m.—12 noon</td>
<td>Montcalm</td>
<td>MSU Extension—Montcalm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Session * $20 fee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>To register—contact Montcalm MSU Extension at 989-831-7500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2/19/16</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Montcalm</td>
<td>Sidney Township Hall, 3019 S. Grow Road, Sidney</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/11/16</td>
<td>10 a.m.—1 p.m.</td>
<td>Newaygo</td>
<td>Fremont Area District Library Community Room, Fremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Session * $20 fee</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>To Register call—Montcalm MSU Extension at 989-831-7500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/11/16</td>
<td>1:30 p.m.</td>
<td>Newaygo</td>
<td>Fremont Area District Library</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>104 E. Main St., Community Room, Fremont</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3/15/16</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Oceana</td>
<td>West Shore ESD 844 Griswold Street, Hart</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
MAILING LIST UPDATE

It is that time again to update our mailing list. For those that have already returned your updates—thank you! We have enclosed the mailing list update form and would ask that you please take a few minutes to provide us with your mailing information, areas of interest and indicate if you would like your name protected from Freedom of Information requests. If you could return the mailing list form either via mail, fax (231-873-3710) or email at walicki@anr.msu.edu. before March 1st, we would appreciate it. If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call. We are required to show that we have requested updates to our mailing list to maintain our bulk mailing permit.
**New Whole Farm Revenue Protection**  
Monday, February 15, 2016  
11 a.m.—1:30 p.m.

Hart Community Center (formerly Hart Library location behind Hart City Hall)

An upcoming meeting on the New Whole Farm Revenue Protection and if it is right for your operation is being offered by Betty Hyde, Breckenridge Insurance Agency.

Risk Management for Fruit & Vegetable Growers  
How Whole Farm Revenue Protection Can Benefit your Operation

Lunch will be provided.

Questions can be directed to Betty Hyde at 231.629.6295 or bhyde@biaofmi.com.

*MSU EXTENSION DOES NOT ENDORSE OR RECOMMEND ONE INSURANCE AGENCY/CARRIER OVER ANOTHER.*

---

**OPTIMIZING DAIRY FARM PROFIT**  
February 25, 2016  
Falmouth Community Center, Falmouth, MI

This program will focus on opportunities to improve profitability on Michigan dairy farms. Several critical factors for successful dairy herd management will be discussed, including heifer raising, optimum stocking densities, and labor productivity on farms. Participants will learn about financial tools for estimating cash flow, benchmarking, and evaluating financial stress of their businesses. A dairy market situation outlook also will be presented. Presenters: Dr. Chris Wolf, MSU Extension Dairy/Farm Management Educator & Curtis Talley Jr., Farm Management Educator.

Registration: Contact Faith Cullens at 989-224-5249

---

**2016 Pure Michigan Agriculture Summit**  
Wednesday, March 23, 2016  
Radisson Hotel, Kalamazoo

Pure Michigan Business Connect and the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, are excited to announce the third annual Pure Michigan Agriculture Summit! This full day matchmaking initiative will be held at the Radisson Hotel (100 W Michigan Ave, Kalamazoo, MI 49007) on Wednesday, March 23rd, 2016 from 7:30 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Featuring multiple opportunities for all companies invited to attend, this event will create a platform linking buyers to Michigan growers and processors. To register visit : http://www.michiganbusiness.org/grow/pure-michigan-business-connect/b2b/?page=%23summit%2FSummitAg

---

**2016 OCEANA ASPARAGUS DAY REGISTRATION**  
Thursday, March 10, 2016  
New Era Reformed Church, New Era

Name: ________________________________

Company Name: ________________________________

Address: ________________________________

City, State, Zip: ________________________________

Phone Number: ________________________________

Number attending: _______  Amount Enclosed: _______

Names of those attending: ________________________________,

______________________________,

______________________________

Those requiring special accommodations are asked to contact the MSU Extension at 231-873-2129 ten days prior to the event.

Registration Fees:

Early Registration: $20.00 ea.  
(before or on March 1st)

Late Registration: $35.00 ea.  
(after March 1st)

Please make checks payable to:  
Michigan State University

Return registration and fees to:  
MSU Extension  
210 Johnson St.  
Hart, MI 49420

Questions, please call 231-873-2129