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- 12th Annual Oceana County Agricultural Banquet
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- Meeting Registration forms

Ben Werling
West MI Vegetable Educator

EXTENSION CALENDAR
WINTER 2017

January 31, 2017  Focus on the First 24 Hours
                      Trestle Stop, Hamilton
                      9:30 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

February 1-3, 2017  Tree Fruit IPM School
                      Traverse City, MI (see insert)

February 2-4, 2017  Great Lakes Regional Dairy Conference
                      Bavarian Inn & Lodge, Frankenmuth

February 14, 2017  2017 West Michigan Ag Employer Meeting
                      Hart United Methodist Church, Hart
                      9:00 a.m.—3:00 p.m.

February 13-
March 27, 2017  Field Crops Online Webinars
                      Monday, 7:00—8:00 p.m.

February 15, 2017  Pesticide Recertification Exam
                      Ludington Airport, Ludington, 1:00 p.m.

February 27, 2017  West Michigan Ag Employer Meeting
                      West Olive, contact Amy Irish Brown (616) 632-7891

March 9, 2017  Oceana Asparagus Day
                      New Era Reformed Church, New Era, MI

March 14, 2017  Pesticide Re-certification Exam
                      West Shore ESD (formerly Oceana ISD) Building,
                      Griswold Street, Hart, MI
                      7:00 p.m.

March 15, 2017  2017 Midwest Cover Crops Council Conference
                      Crowne Plaza Grand Rapids Airport, Grand Rapids
                      7:30 a.m.—4:45 p.m. (see insert)

March 16, 2017  Produce Safety Grower Training
                      Hart United Methodist Church, Hart

March 17, 2017  Core Manual/RUP Review & Test
                      Center for AgriScience and Career Advancement/
                      Newaygo MSU Extension Office
                      9 a.m.—12 noon - Review Session/1:00 p.m.—Exam

March 18, 2017  12th Annual Oceana County Agricultural Banquet
                      New Era Reformed Church, New Era

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.
UPCOMING DAIRY PROGRAMS

FOCUS ON THE FIRST 24 HOURS

WHEN: Tuesday, January 31, 2017—9:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
WHERE: Trestle Stop, Hamilton

Participants will learn about the latest research and strategies to improve long-term health and growth of dairy replacements from the first day.

Topics will include:
• Project Recap: Passive Transfer Status on Michigan Dairy Farms
• Managing for High Quality Colostrum
• Importance of Successful Passive Immunity Transfer
• Maternity Pens that Optimize Cow and Calf Performance
• Handling the Newborn Calf
• Opportunities to Reduce Stillbirths

Registration: The registration fee is $35 for the first person and $15 for each additional person from a farm. Online registration is available at http://events.anr.msu.edu/First24Hours. For more information, contact Kathy Lee, 231-839-5850 or leeka@msu.edu.

GREAT LAKES REGIONAL DAIRY CONFERENCE

WHEN: February 2-4, 2017
WHERE: Bavarian Inn and Lodge, Frankenmuth

At this year’s conference, leading experts will make presentations on topics ranging from nutrition and genetics to the future of the dairy industry and dairy sustainability and economics.

Early bird rates are available until Jan. 20. Online registration ends on Jan. 29. On-site registrations are subject to availability. For more information, visit http://events.anr.msu.edu/glrdc or call 517-884-7089.

FIELD CROPS ONLINE WEBINARS

WHEN: Mondays, February 13 - March 27, 2017 – 7:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Growers, consultants and agribusiness professionals are invited to participate in a series of seven online programs addressing field crop production and pest management in 2017. Participants will learn how to enhance their corn, soybean, small grain and forage production systems in the coming season. These live webinar programs can be viewed independently online. One MDARD Pesticide Recertification Credit will be available through each event.

Registration: Registration fee is $15.00 for the full series of seven webinars or $5.00 per individual webinar session. Visit http://events.anr.msu.edu/FieldCropsWebinarSeries2017/ to register and access connection information. Contact James DeDecker at (989) 734-2168 or dedecke5@msu.edu for more information.
MSU EXTENSION TREE FRUIT EDUCATOR ...

Oceana MSU Extension is happy to announce that David Jones will be joining the staff as early as the first week of February. David and his family expect to move from Wisconsin to Michigan the first weekend in February and hopes to start in the Oceana MSU Extension Office as early as Monday, February 6th.

David will be available to assist commercial fruit growers with growing and production related questions and issues. He can be reached at 231-873-2129.

If you are in the area of the office the first week of February, please feel free to stop in and introduce yourself and welcome David.

REVISED FORM I-9 - MUST BE USED BEGINNING JANUARY 22, 2017

U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) has published a revised version of Form I-9, Employment Eligibility Verification. By Jan. 22, 2017, employers must use only the new version, dated 11/14/2016. Until then, they can continue to use the version dated 03/08/2013 or the new version. The revised Form I-9 is easier to complete on a computer. Enhancements include drop-down lists and calendars for filling in dates, on-screen instructions for each field, easy access to the full instructions, and an option to clear the form and start over. The revised I-9 form can be accessed at: https://www.uscis.gov/i-9

TAX FORMS & EMPLOYER HIRING FORMS

For those in need of 1099’s, W-2’s or other tax related forms, Oceana MSU Extension has a supply of the 1099’s and W-2’s with their respective transmittals available. There is a few various other tax related forms as well. You may also access the Internal Revenue Service website at http://www.irs.gov for a variety of other tax related forms that can be either printed or saved to your computer. We do not have the postage budget to mail these forms.

Oceana MSU Extension will again have packets of hiring forms (W-4’s, New Hire Form and I-9) available for growers in need of them. The first packet is complimentary and will cover 5 employees. For additional packets there will be a $5 charge. All forms are quality enough to allow you to make copies.

MAILING LIST UPDATE

It is that time again to update our mailing list. 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.
2017 West Michigan Ag Employer Meeting
Tuesday, February 14, 2017
Hart United Methodist Church, Hart

8:30 a.m.  Registration, coffee & refreshments

9:00 a.m.  Migrant Labor Housing Update
See examples of good things growers are doing to make their housing compliant and get updated on housing requirements for H2A workers.
Steve Wagstaff, Migrant Housing Inspector, Michigan Department of Agricultural & Rural Development

9:30 a.m.  Policy Update and Pros/Cons of Creative Ways to Hire and Share Labor
Learn about recent legislation and court cases on labor law, what you can do to be compliant, and hear about the cost and benefits of different ways growers are hiring and sharing labor.
Adam Kantrovich, MSU Extension Farm Business Management Educator

10:30 a.m.  Break & View Exhibits

10:45 a.m.  Lessons learned after three years about the pros and cons of transition to H2A.
Hear about experiences of growers who have transitioned to using H2A through Great Lakes Ag Labor Services.
Eliio Larago, Great Lakes Ag-Labor Services

11:15 a.m.  I-9 Updates, IMAGE program, and E-Verify Process
Learn about the new I-9 and get an update from US Homeland Security Staff.
Corey Howes, US Department of Homeland Security

12 noon  Lunch - View Exhibits

1:00 p.m.  Worker Protection Standards Update
Get an update on changes to the Worker Protection Standard and the practical implications for how you train applications, keep records, and notify workers on the farm.
Scott King, Michigan Department of Agricultural & Rural Development

2:00 p.m.  Respirator requirements under WPS
Handlers and applicators that use pesticides which require respirators can learn about how to comply with new WPS respirator requirements, how to safely choose and use respirators, and receive a free fit test for their respirator.
Deb Chester, MSU Occupational & Environmental Medicine

3:00 p.m.  Adjourn

3:00—4:30 p.m.  Respirator Fitting

NOTE: FOR THE RESPIRATOR FITTING—Please See page 5 for additional information and registrations requirements

PESTICIDE RECERTIFICATION CREDITS HAVE BEEN REQUESTED FOR THIS MEETING.
Free respirator fit test

Why is this service being offered? The new EPA Worker Protection Standards require a more involved fit test when handlers or applicators are required by pesticide labels to wear a respirator (this may or may not apply depending on pesticides you use). MSU has funding to provide this service free of charge during the Ag-Employer meeting to ease the burden on producers and help them meet the new standard.

What do I need to bring with me to get a fit test? (1) Proof of a completed medical evaluation (see below) and (2) your respirator.

How do I get a completed medical evaluation? Complete the questionnaire on the following page and visit a licensed health care professional, such as your personal physician, a nurse practitioner, nurse, physician assistant etc. After they review your questionnaire and perform any exams, you will need a written recommendation from the health care provider stating your ability to wear a respirator. Medical evaluation forms can be obtained at the following website: [https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3789info.pdf](https://www.osha.gov/Publications/OSHA3789info.pdf) or you may pick one up at the Oceana MSU Extension Office.

What does the fit test entail? A Qualitative Respirator Fit Test will be performed to make sure there is a good seal between your face and the respirator. To do this, you will be asked to wear the respirator within a hood, perform certain actions, and determine if you can smell an introduced odor. The test typically takes 15-20 minutes.

How many fit tests will be performed? Appointments will be assigned to those registering for a fit test during and immediately following the meeting on a first come, first served basis. We will notify you if and when you can receive your test. If demand for this service is high, a future block of time could be reserved for additional fit tests.

Tests can not be performed without the medical evaluation form.

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PRODUCE SAFETY GROWER TRAINING

MARCH 16, 2017
HART UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, HART

The PSA Grower Training Course is one way to satisfy the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule requirement outlined in §112.22 (c) that requires, “At least one supervisor or responsible party for your farm must have successfully completed food safety training at least equivalent to that received under standardized curriculum recognized as adequate by the Food and Drug Administration.

The course will provide a foundation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirements, and details on how to develop a farm food safety plan.

After attending the entire course, participants will be eligible to received a certificate from the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) that verifies they have completed the training course. To receive an AFDO certificate, a participant must be present for the entire training and submit the appropriate paperwork to their trainer at the end of the course.

Registration will be available online shortly, you may call the Oceana MSU Extension at 231-873-2129 to register.
OCEANA ASPARAGUS DAY
MARCH 9, 2016
New Era Reformed Church, New Era, MI
Tentative Agenda

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

9:00 – 10:00 a.m. “Current markets and future opportunities for fresh Michigan asparagus” – Melinda Goodman, Full Tilt Marketing

10:00 – 10:15 a.m. Break

10:15 – 10:45 a.m. “Asparagus variety trial update” – John Bakker, Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board

10:45 – 11:00 a.m. “Anti-backflow preventers for filling sprayers/ benefits of MAEAP” – Dan Busby, MDARD MAEAP Verifier & Lynda Herremans, Oceana Conservation District MAEAP Technician

11:00 – 11:15 a.m. “Asparagus marketing update” – Norm Myers, Executive Director, MACMA Asparagus Division

11:15 – 11:30 a.m. Break

11:30 – 12:00 noon “Asparagus irrigation and upcoming fertility research” – Dr. Zack Hayden and Dr. Dan Brainard, MSU Dept. Horticulture

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. “Update on asparagus disease management” – Dr. Beth Brisco and Dr. Mary Hausbeck, MSU Dept. Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences

2:30 – 3:00 p.m. “Asparagus insect management update” – Adam Ingroa, and Dr. Amanda Buchanan and Dr. Zsofia Szendrei, MSU Dept. Entomology

3:00 – 3:15 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 2017 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 14, 2017 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. If a review session is offered, please contact the appropriate Extension Office to register. Some review sessions will have fees.

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>2/10/17</td>
<td>9 a.m.—12 noon</td>
<td>Ottawa</td>
<td>Ottawa Co. Admin. Bldg., 12220 Fillmore Street</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Test at 1:30 p.m.</td>
<td></td>
<td>Main Conference Room, West Olive, MI</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>To Register contact—Ottawa MSU Extension at 616-994-4544</td>
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<tr>
<td>2/15/17</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Mason</td>
<td>Ludington Airport</td>
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<td>5300 W. US 10, Ludington</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/3/17</td>
<td>Review 9:00 a.m.—12 noon</td>
<td>Montcalm</td>
<td>Sidney Township Hall, 3019 S. Grow Road, Sidney</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/17/17</td>
<td>Review 9:00 a.m.—12 noon</td>
<td>Newaygo</td>
<td>Newaygo MSU Extension Center for Agri-Science &amp; Career Advancement</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Test at 1:30 p.m.</td>
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<td>5479 W. 72nd Avenue Room 118</td>
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<td>Fremont, MI 49421</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/15/16</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Oceana</td>
<td>West Shore ESD</td>
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<td>844 Griswold Street, Hart</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/30/2017</td>
<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Ottawa</td>
<td>Ottawa Co. Admin. Bldg., 12220 Fillmore Street</td>
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<td>Main Conference Room, West Olive, MI</td>
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<tr>
<td>3/31/17</td>
<td>Review 9 a.m.—12 noon</td>
<td>Montcalm</td>
<td>Montcalm County Admin. Building</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Test at 1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>3rd Floor Conference Room</td>
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<td>211 W. Main Street, Stanton, MI 48888</td>
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<tr>
<td>4/7/17</td>
<td>Review</td>
<td>Newaygo</td>
<td>Fremont Area District Library</td>
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<td>1:00 p.m.</td>
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<td>Community Room</td>
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<td>104 E. Main St, Fremont</td>
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12TH ANNUAL OCEANA COUNTY
AGRICULTURAL BANQUET
& OCEANA SOIL CONSERVATION DISTRICT MEETING

SATURDAY, MARCH 18, 2017
NEW ERA REFORMED CHURCH, NEW ERA

Come enjoy an evening of fine dining, entertainment and wonderful recognition of outstanding agricultural producers in Oceana County. The Oceana Soil Conservation District will provide a brief update of their activities and hold a short business meeting. Door prizes will be handed out. The Taste of Oceana Reception begins at 6:00 p.m. with the Banquet beginning at 7:00 p.m. Tickets will be available in mid-February.
2017 West Michigan Ag Employer Meeting
Tuesday, February 14, 2017

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.

YES, PLEASE SCHEDULE ME FOR A RESPIRATOR FITTING. I WILL BE BRINGING MY RESPIRATOR AND MEDICAL EVALUATION.

Registration Fees:

Early Registration: $20.00 ea. (before or on February 9th)

Late Registration: $30.00 ea. (after February 9th)

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

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2017 OCEANA ASPARAGUS DAY REGISTRATION
Thursday, March 9, 2017
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: $25.00 ea. (before or on March 3rd)

Late Registration: $40.00 ea. (after March 3rd)

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
RETURN DEADLINE MARCH 1, 2017

MAILING LIST UPDATE!

In order to keep our records up-to-date, we are asking you to complete the form below and return it to the MSU Extension Office. We have added the Freedom of Information Act Statement for anyone who would like their name and address protected from being distributed to anyone requesting our mailing list under the Freedom of Information Act. By re-folding the form and affixing the proper postage you can simply drop it in the mail. We have provided the return address on the outside. Thank you for your time and cooperation.

Name ___________________________ Phone number ( ) ______________________

Company Name ___________________ County __________________________

Complete Mailing Address ________________________________

City ___________________________ State ___________ Zip __________

Email address ____________________

Please mark one of the following: _____ YES, please keep my name on the mailing list to received the Extension News

_____ NO, please remove my name

Please indicate your agriculture connection: Grower ______ Ag Support Person ______

Please indicate any agriculture related businesses: _____ Farm Market _____ Packing Shed

_____ Food Processor _____ Consultant

Areas of Interest: Please mark all areas of interest:

Fruit:

____ Apples
____ Apricots
____ Blackberries
____ Blueberries
____ Cherries
____ Cranberries
____ Grapes
____ Peaches
____ Pears
____ Plums
____ Raspberries
____ Strawberries

Vegetable:

____ Asparagus
____ Asparagus Crowns
____ Carrots
____ Cole Crops
____ Melons
____ Peppers
____ Pickles
____ Potatoes
____ Pumpkins
____ Root Crops
____ Snap Beans
____ Squash
____ Sweet Corn
____ Zucchini

Field Crops:

____ Corn – Grain
____ Corn
____ Dry Beans
____ Hay/Pasture
____ No-Till
____ Oats
____ Rye
____ Sugar Beets
____ Soybeans
____ Wheat

Animal:

____ Beef (cow-calf)
____ Beef (feed-lot)
____ Dairy
____ Goats
____ Horses
____ Poultry
____ Sheep
____ Swine

Forestry:

____ Forestry
____ Christmas Trees
____ Nursery:
____ Greenhouse
____ Landscaping
____ Nursery

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT WAIVER

I am providing you with my mailing address so that I may receive Oceana County MSU Extension mailings only. I do not want my address released to any other party.

I understand that I may cancel this restriction at any time by writing the Oceana County MSU Extension.

Signature ___________________________ Date ______________________

Signature of Parent (if 4-Her) ___________________________ Date ______________________

Return to: Oceana MSU Extension * 210 Johnson St. * Hart, MI 49420
or fax: 231-873-3710