Afternoon Sessions 2:00 – 3:30 p.m.

Penciling Profit in a Lean Year  
Roger Betz, MSU Extension Educator  
Room 140  
Farming is not an easy business right now. We will discuss important things for farmers to remember as ways to protect their cash flow.

Growing Conventional and Traited Corn and Soybeans with and without Irrigation  
Bruce MacKellar & Eric Anderson  
MSU Extension Educators  
Room 166  
We will discuss corn water use throughout a corn plant's life cycle and how irrigation can be used for chemigation/fertigation, herbicide incorporation, etc. We will take a brief look at pest management strategies when growing non-GMO corn and soybean. We will also look at how to identify different herbicide injury symptoms on various crops.

2 RUP credits and 1 CCA continuing education credit (Pest Management) will be offered.

Back to the Family  
Dr. Ray Guarendi  
Room 164  
Dr. Ray presents the results of a three year national study revealing the characteristics most common in strong families as well as difficulties common in today's society.

Veterinary Feed Directive  
Mall Area  
Ernie Birchmeier, Michigan Farm Bureau  
Dr. James Averill, State Veterinarian  
This session will help farmers and large and small livestock exhibitors and their parents and leaders learn how to meet this new change in feed. Nearly all medicated feed MUST have a veterinary prescription to be sold and used, effective 1-1-17. Come prepared with questions!

50th Celebration Hot Meal- $3.00

Branch County Dairy Producers  
Branch County Agri-Business Council

50th Annual Farmer’s Day  
February 20, 2017  
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

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.
Ongoing and Emerging Pest Control Issues in Southern Michigan
Bruce MacKellar & Eric Anderson
MSU Extension Educators
ROOM 166

“Ongoing and Emerging Pest Control Issues in Southern Michigan”. Expansion of herbicide resistant weeds and changing pest complexes in southern Michigan and how to address them. We will also present some smartphone apps useful for pest management and crop production. 2 RUP credits and 1 CCA continuing education credit (Pest Management) will be offered.

How to Cultivate a Productive Mindset
Roger Betz & Suzanne Pish,
MSU Extension Educators
ROOM 140

Farmers and those within the agricultural industry have a tendency to be eternal optimists, but with all of the variability in agriculture there are times when we become overwhelmed and stressed more than normal. We will discuss how having the right mindset can help increase productivity and resiliency, so we are better prepared when times are tough, and more able to manage our farms and take care of our families and ourselves.

What’s New in Farm Food Safety for Produce Growers?
Mariel Borgman, MSU Extension Educator
ROOM 170

The food safety landscape is rapidly changing for produce growers. Is your operation prepared? This session will cover the basics of the new FDA rules that apply to produce growers, including the FSMA Produce Rule and Preventive Controls Rule: who is covered by the rules, what do the rules cover, and what is the compliance timeline. The new USDA GroupGAP program will also be covered, as well as how to become involved in the Michigan GroupGAP Network.

Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education Grant
Tom Guthrie & Mike Metzger
MSU Extension Educators
Bess Miller, Producer
ROOM 164

Using Goats to improve forage availability in Michigan Equine pastures. Come learn about a SARE project that used goats to browse invasive species such as Autumn olive, multiflora rose and buckthorn to improve pasture management. Learn more about the many opportunities of SARE.

Pork Quality Assurance
Emily Walker, MPPA - Mall Area

Recommended for showman 9-19 years old participating in the swine project. Required certification for Youth selling swine at area county fairs. Parents are welcome to attend.

Exhibit Area
Open at 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.