

# **Northern Michigan FruitNet 2017**

## **Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center**

### Weekly Update

**FruitNet Report – March 24, 2017**

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

<b>4/18</b>	<b>IPM Kickoff</b> <b>NWMHRC</b>
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### **What's New?**

- **Viticulture Interview Recordings**
- **Obtaining and maintaining your Michigan pesticide applicator certification**
- **2017 Blueberry Kickoff Meeting on Thursday, March 30**

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**Viticulture Interview Recordings**

**To view the presentations for the Leelanau County Viticulture Extension Educator Position please access via the following:**

Thomas Todaro -

[https://www.dropbox.com/s/2i57gcnzf2p25ni/Thomas\\_Todaro\\_Video.mp4?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/2i57gcnzf2p25ni/Thomas_Todaro_Video.mp4?dl=0)

Jason Stout - [https://www.dropbox.com/s/o9sx9zy9491qkwt/Jason\\_Stout\\_Video.mp4?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/o9sx9zy9491qkwt/Jason_Stout_Video.mp4?dl=0)

Gerard Logan - [https://www.dropbox.com/s/bxxnsbf247vlgqj/Gerard\\_Logan\\_Video.mp4?dl=0](https://www.dropbox.com/s/bxxnsbf247vlgqj/Gerard_Logan_Video.mp4?dl=0)

**To leave presentation feedback please go to:**

Link to Public Presentation Form <https://goo.gl/forms/q5TrKQq2uFu0mTqc2>

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## **Michigan Cherry Producers Approve Continuation Referendum**

Program contact: Phil Korson, Michigan Cherry Committee, 517-669-4264

Media contact: [Jennifer Holton](#), MDARD, 517-284-5724

LANSING - Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development Director Jamie Clover Adams announced today that the state's cherry producers have approved a referendum to continue the Michigan Cherry Promotion and Development Program.

Established in May 1972, the Michigan Cherry Promotion and Development Program was developed to improve the economic position of the state's cherry producers by creating greater marketing opportunities for Michigan cherries. By law, the program must be renewed every five years.

The Michigan Cherry Promotion and Development Program will continue for an additional five years beginning July 1, 2017. The current program assessment is \$10 per ton for sweet or tart cherries and \$5 per ton for cherries sold for juice.

A total of 135 valid ballots were cast in the referendum. Of those, 101 producers voted yes (75 percent) representing 134,134,560.59 pounds of cherries (88 percent of the production volume represented) and 34 producers voted no (25 percent) representing 18,888,510.95 pounds (12 percent).

For renewal of the program and its activities, more than 50 percent of the voting producers, representing more than 50 percent of the pounds sold by those voting, must have approved it.

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## 2017 Tree Fruit IPM Kick-off

**April 18, 2017, 5:00 – 8:00 PM**

**Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center**

Please join Michigan State University Extension at the Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center on Tuesday, April 18 from 5:00 – 8:00 PM for the annual Tree Fruit IPM Kickoff! This year, we are pleased to host Ontario Ministry of Agriculture's Application Technology Specialist, Jason Deveau, using ZOOM teleconferencing. Deveau will discuss spray strategy techniques including application rates, calibration, coverage, and canopy management – the foundations of optimizing spray economy and effectiveness.

Following last year's challenging fire blight scenario, MSU's Dr. George Sundin will join us to present considerations for fire blight management this season. Dr. Sundin will also discuss the implications of new data on SDHI efficacy for cherry leaf spot management. Eric McCumber will provide a summary of the key Worker Protection Standard changes for 2017 and preparations for future changes. We will cover the annual pesticide label changes and updates and have a brief discussion on the future of borer pest management. This event is free of charge, and pesticide recertification credits and certified crop advisor credits will be available. We are looking forward to kicking off the 2017 season with you!

<b>4:45</b>	<b>Welcome and Refreshments</b>
<b>5:00 – 5:15</b>	<b>Pesticide Label Changes and Updates</b> <i>Emily Pochubay, MSU Extension</i>
<b>5:15 – 6:00</b>	<b>Fire Blight and Leaf Spot Considerations for 2017</b> <i>Dr. George Sundin, Dept. of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Sciences, MSU</i>
<b>6:00 – 6:45</b>	<b>Crop-Adapted Spraying</b> <i>Jason Deveau, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA) via ZOOM Teleconference</i>
<b>6:45 – 7:00</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>7:00 – 7:45</b>	<b>Worker Protection Standard Update</b> <i>Eric McCumber, MDARD</i>
<b>7:45 – 8:00</b>	<b>Borer Management Challenges in Stone Fruit</b> <i>Dr. Nikki Rothwell, MSU Extension and AgBioResearch</i>
<b>8:00</b>	<i>Fill out pesticide recertification and certified crop advisor sheets.</i>

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## Chestnut Orchard Establishment Workshop

*Join us to learn about commercial chestnut production in Michigan this April!*

Erin Lizotte, MSU Extension

The Michigan chestnut industry has been growing steadily over the last decade, with a lot of interest in production from new growers. To address this interest, Michigan State University Extension will be holding a one-day workshop to introduce attendees to the opportunities and challenges of commercial chestnut production. The workshop will include: an introduction to the history of the industry in Michigan; an economic analysis of production; orchard establishment and design; pest management; and harvesting, marketing, and storage.

The Chestnut Orchard Establishment Workshop will be held on April 20<sup>th</sup> from 10:00 am-4:00 pm at the Clarksville Horticultural Experiment Station, in Clarksville Michigan. The cost of the event is \$50 and includes lunch and support materials. To register, visit <https://events.anr.msu.edu/chestnutworkshop2017/>

Those attending are encouraged to visit [www.chestnuts.msu.edu](http://www.chestnuts.msu.edu) before the event for a primer on chestnut production. The '[Production considerations](#)' section may be particularly helpful.

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## Obtaining and maintaining your Michigan pesticide applicator certification

**In Michigan, it is illegal to sell, purchase or apply restricted use pesticides without holding a valid pesticide applicator's certification or working on your own farm under the direct supervision of someone who does. What is that and how do you get one?**

Posted by [Eric Anderson](#), Michigan State University Extension, MSUE News



Photo 1. Examples of restricted use pesticide label notifications.

According to the [Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA), a restricted use pesticide (RUP) has “the potential to cause unreasonable adverse effects to the environment and injury to applicators or bystanders without added restrictions....[the] classification restricts a product, or its uses, to use by a certified applicator or someone under the certified applicator’s direct supervision.” How do you know [if a pesticide is a RUP or a general use one](#)? Check the label—there will be a box toward the top of the label stating that it is a RUP and why (Photo 1). In Michigan, the [Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development](#) (MDARD) oversees certification of pesticide applicators.

Applications for pesticide applicators are available online at [Pesticide Applicator Certification/Registration Application](#). In Michigan, once you pass the initial exams with a score of at least 70, your credential (Photo 2) is valid for three calendar years, so if you take the exam in April 2017, it will be valid through Dec. 31, 2020. A few months ahead of the expiration, MDARD will mail you a renewal packet—make sure to keep your address up to date with them. There are two ways to recertify:

1. Retake the exams and pass with a score of at least 70 and pay the renewal fee.
2. [Earn a sufficient number of recertification \(continuing education\) credits](#) before the certificate expires and pay the renewal fee.

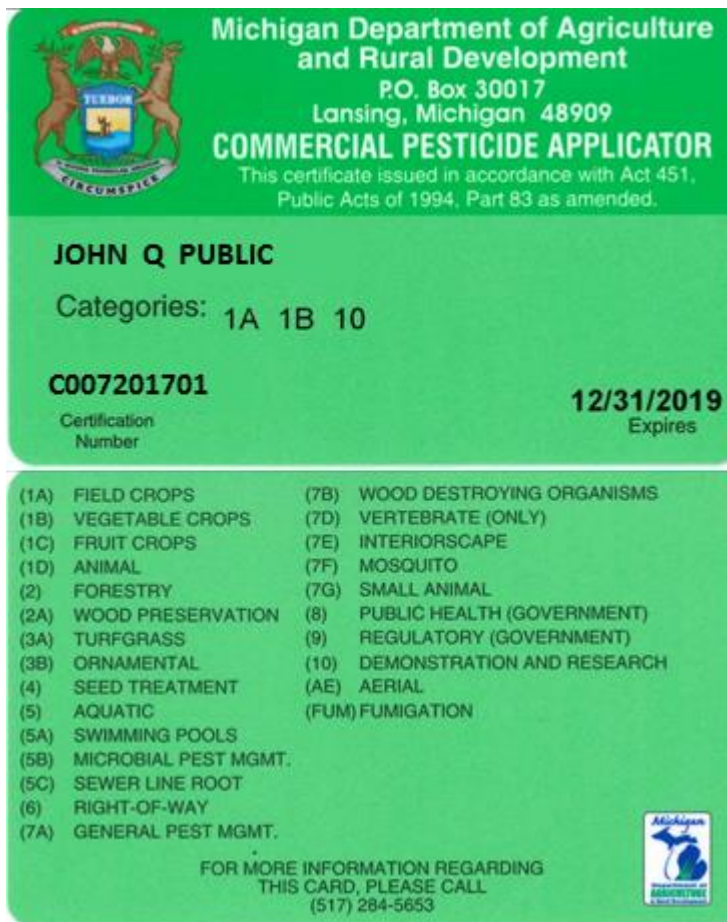


Photo 2. Pesticide applicator card (two-sided) issued by MDARD. Categories are listed on the back (lower picture). The categories you are certified in are listed on the front.

### Exam option

OK, so you don't want the hassle of keeping track of recertification credits and you enjoy taking tests. You can recertify the same way you earned your certification initially—by passing one or more exams. There is no fee to take the paper version of the exam in addition to the application/renewal fee, although you must [register online](#) with MDARD or by phone (1-800-292-3939). Enter as a “guest” and check the “Pesticide Exam Schedule” link on the website for times and locations. [Michigan State University Extension](#) often conducts training sessions for those taking the exam—contact your [local MSU Extension office](#) or visit the [MSU Extension website](#) for more information.

When taking the exam, you need to bring a photo ID, #2 pencils and a check or money order for the appropriate amount for the application fee: commercial applicator, \$75; private applicator, \$50; or registered technician, \$45. A fee waiver from the State of Michigan is offered to honorably discharged veterans seeking private pesticide applicator certification. You must provide a copy of your veteran's federal form DD-214 that indicates honorable discharge status along with your application.

A commercial applicators certification is required if you are applying RUPs or any pesticide for hire. To obtain commercial certification, you must pass the commercial Core exam—75 questions covering a wide spectrum of topics important to all applicators. In addition, you must pass at least one category (see the bottom of Photo 2). Private certification is for those applying on their own property or for their own farming operation. Only the private Core exam is required for private applicators. A registered applicator can only apply pesticides (not RUPs) under direct supervision of a commercial applicator—this category is fairly rare in Michigan.

Another option is to take a computerized version of the exam at a proctored testing facility—MDARD is currently working with Metro Institute for proctoring. The computer-based option gives you more flexibility for exam timing, although [locations are still somewhat limited](#). A \$55 fee is charged in addition to the renewal/application fee to take the computer version. You must first register to test with Metro Institute and then wait to hear back from them before you can sign up to test. Contact MDARD or [visit the Metro Institute website](#) to find out more about this option.

As an applicator, you cannot renew your certificate before the renewal window opens—the first week of October in the year of expiration. The renewal window remains open for one year after the expiration date. **However**, you cannot purchase or apply RUPs after your current certificate expires until you pass all required exams and receive a temporary credential from the exam site.

You should allow ample time—at least six to eight weeks—for MDARD to process your application and send your formal renewal letter. After the one-year renewal period has

ended, you will need to fill out a [new application](#), take and pass the exams and pay the application fee to receive a new certification number.

One way to be eligible for recertification as a pesticide applicator in Michigan is to earn a designated number and type of continuing education credits before your certification expires. How does that work?

**MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE**  
**RECERTIFICATION SEMINAR RECORD**  
(In accordance with Act 457, P.A. 1994 as amended, Part 83)

**INSTRUCTIONS**

- Use a No. 2 Pencil Only
- Make Heavy Dark Marks
- Start Fill the Oval Completely
- Erase Clearly Any Marks You Wish to Change
- SEMINAR CODE Will Be Provided by Host

**EXAMPLES**

**APPLICATOR'S NAME**

LAST NAME: PUBLIC FIRST NAME: JOHN

**SEMINAR CODE**  
82516A04

**DATE OF SEMINAR**  
Jan Feb Mar Apr May June July Aug Sept Oct Nov Dec

**SEMINAR CREDITS**

**COMMERCIAL CREDITS**

**AGRICULTURAL CREDITS**

**APPLICATOR NUMBER**  
007201701

**TYPE OF CERTIFICATION**

**INSTRUCTIONS**

In step area above, select where your credits should be applied. This must be an area for which you are currently certified or registered and for which the seminar was relevant. MARK ONLY ONE AREA. SELECT ONE CATEGORY OR SUBCATEGORY. DO NOT MARK MORE THAN ONE AREA. For example, Do not mark Commercial and Agricultural.

In signing this form, the applicator attests that he/she has attended the session listed. Falsification of the above information could result in revocation of the applicator's certification.

The applicator must return this form at the end of the day's training session to the seminar host. This form will not be accepted if incomplete, or if submitted later to the seminar host or to the Michigan Department of Agriculture.

John D. Public  
6269 1555-1234

**SAMPLE**

Photo 1. For tips on filling out the recertification seminar record, or “the bubble sheet,” see bottom of article.

According to the [Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA), a restricted use pesticide (RUP) has “the potential to cause unreasonable adverse effects to the environment and injury to applicators or bystanders without added restrictions....[the] classification restricts a product, or its uses, to use by a certified applicator or someone under the certified applicator’s direct supervision.” In Michigan, the [Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development](#) (MDARD) oversees certification of pesticide applicators.

An applicator’s certification credential in Michigan is valid for three calendar years. There are two ways to recertify:

1. [Retake the exams](#) and pass with a score of at least 70 and pay the renewal fee.
2. Earn a sufficient number of recertification (continuing education) credits before the certificate expires and pay the renewal fee.



Details on the exam option were discussed in [Part 1](#) of this article. Here we will look at earning recertification by collecting continuing education credits, or what are oftentimes affectionately referred to as seminar credits or “RUP credits.”

## Recertification credits option

The number of credits required every three years for each applicator type is listed in the table, which is also [available on MDARD’s website](#) along with a handy one-page seminar attendance record sheet. For example, if you are a commercial applicator with Categories 1A and 1B, you will need to earn 24 credits (8 Core + 8 1A + 8 1B) before your credential expires. Although you will fill out the dreaded bubble sheet (Photo 1) at each continuing education meeting, you should keep your own record of your credits in the event that your sheet somehow gets lost and you need to show MDARD you did earn enough credits.

<b>Applicator types and number of credits required every three years for recertification.</b>	
<b>Applicator type</b>	<b>Credits required</b>
Private Core	16
Commercial Core	8
Commercial Category (each)	8
Registered Core	8
Registered Category (each)	8
Standards (aerial/fumigation) (each)	2

So where and when are these continuing education meetings? There is a [complete list of dates and locations](#) for meetings for which RUP credits have been approved on MDARD’s website. [Michigan State University Extension](#) hosts numerous meetings throughout the year, mostly during the winter “meeting season” where topics applicable to pesticide applicators are discussed and recertification credits are available.

Generally speaking, one hour’s worth of relevant programming is equivalent to one RUP credit, but verify the details for each meeting. Be sure you acquire enough credits in each category for which you hold certification—again, verify details for each meeting about which types of credit are being offered. If you need to know how many credits you have earned to date, you can call MDARD at 1-800-292-3939 and they can look it up for you. (Note: They are working on updates to their website so that you will be able to check your credits yourself.)

## Tips for filling out the recertification seminar record

1. Accurately record the seminar code. This is the “golden ticket” to earning credit for the continuing education event, the one they usually won’t give you until you fill out the evaluation survey for the meeting. The last two digits (04 in the above example) indicate the number of credits offered.



2. Bring your certification number with you to the meeting.
  3. The “Type of Certification” is found on the front of your applicator’s certification card (see Photo 2 from [Part 1](#) of this article). The letter in front of the credential number indicates whether you are a **Commercial**, **Private** or **Registered** applicator.
  4. This is the type of credit you are applying for. Check with the meeting host to see which types of credit are being offered. If you are applying for Core credits, you do not fill in anything under “Category Credits” or “Standard Credits.” You may choose only one credit type for each given meeting. Make sure you acquire enough of each type of credit required for your certificate.
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## 4-H Tractor Safety Registration Now Open!

Teens can improve their chances of employment by completing a tractor safety training. MSU Extension will host a **4-H Tractor Safety Program** for 14 and 15 year old youth on **Wednesdays, April 5, 12, 19, 26 from 6-8:30 pm** at the NW Michigan Horticultural Research Station. The written and driving **test** will be held on **Saturday, April 29 from 8:30am – 2:30pm**. Participants must attend all five sessions to become certified. The cost is **\$80 per student** and some scholarships are available if finances are an issue. Youth must be 14 years of age by June 1, 2017. Space is limited. The registration deadline is March 24. Registration is online only in a two-step process. First, register and pay at [events.anr.msu.edu/TractorSafety](https://events.anr.msu.edu/TractorSafety), and second, become a 4-H member and create a profile online at [www.4honline.com](http://www.4honline.com). For more information, contact **Rosali Collier** Leelanau County 4-H Program Coordinator at [collierr@anr.msu.edu](mailto:collierr@anr.msu.edu) or 231-256-9888.

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## Measuring spotted wing Drosophila impacts – your help needed!

**This survey will help researchers identify impacts of spotted wing Drosophila (SWD) on fruit growers and look for new management tactics and programs, improved insecticide efficacy and SWD training.**

Posted by [Rufus Isaacs](#), and Larry Gut, Michigan State University Extension, Department of Entomology, MSUE News

Michigan State University researchers are part of a [recently funded project](#), **“Sustainable Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) Management for United States Fruit Crops,”** and the team is surveying fruit growers with two goals:

1. Measure the impact of SWD throughout the United States.

2. Guide our project activities over the next four years.

This five-year project, coordinated by [North Carolina State University](#), is developing national research and extension projects to minimize the impacts of SWD. They include new management tactics and programs, improved insecticide efficacy for SWD and information and training on SWD for growers, extension agents and others. In order to achieve this and ensure the research and extension efforts match the needs of growers, the project is collecting information on the impacts of SWD on fruit growers, current management practices and preferences, and your requirements for better management of SWD. Participation is voluntary and the survey does not collect personally identifying information. The data will only be analyzed and reported in aggregate form.

We would like to get feedback from as many growers as possible! So, please complete the survey here: [Sustainable SWD Management Grower Survey](#)

Contact me at [isaacsr@cns.msu.edu](mailto:isaacsr@cns.msu.edu) for additional information.

Funding for this project is provided by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture Specialty Crops Research Initiative under Agreement No. 2015-51181-24252.

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## **2017 Blueberry Kickoff Meeting on Thursday, March 30**

**Pre-season update for blueberry growers on cultural and pest control strategies for 2017.**

Posted by [Mark Longstroth](#), and Carlos Garcia, Michigan State University Extension, MSUE News



Blueberry fruit cluster just before the first harvest of berries. Photo: Mark Longstroth, MSU Extension.

[Michigan State University Extension](#) blueberry team's annual [Blueberry Kickoff meeting](#) will be March 30, 2017, at the [MSU Trevor Nichols Research Center, 6237 124th Ave., Fennville, MI, 49408](#). The meeting will start at 1 p.m. and conclude about 5 p.m.

Three RUP credits will be available to certified pesticide applicators in Private and Commercial fruit. There is a \$10 registration fee to cover break snacks and handouts. To attend, please register online at [Blueberry Kickoff Meeting](#) or contact Mark Longstroth at 269-873-8983 or [longstr7@anr.msu.edu](mailto:longstr7@anr.msu.edu), or Melissa Franklin at 269-873-8983 or [frank126@anr.msu.edu](mailto:frank126@anr.msu.edu). Preregistration provides us with information for planning the number of handouts and audience seating.

2017 Blueberry Kickoff Meeting Agenda		
Time	Event	Presenter
1 p.m.	Sign in and Registration	
1:15	Welcome and Introduction	Mark Longstroth and Carlos Garcia-Salazar
1:25	Updates on Michigan Blueberry Council and USHBC	Creela Hamlin and others
1:40	Upgrading Enviroweather	Beth Bishop
2	Blueberry Insect Update	Steve Vantimmeren
<b>2:40-2:45</b>	<b>Coffee Break</b>	
2:45	Weed Control Update	Eric Hanson
3:15	Food Safety Update: Testing your Water	Carlos Garcia
3:35	Blueberry Disease Update	Annemiek Schilder
4	Update on WPS - Worker Protection Standard	Mark Longstroth
4:35	Questions and review	
5	Adjourn	

Growers with special needs may request assistance by contacting Carlos Garcia at 616-260-0671 or [garcias4@msu.edu](mailto:garcias4@msu.edu).

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*Michigan State University is committed to providing equal opportunity for participation in all programs, services and activities.*

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**WEB SITES OF INTEREST:**

Insect and disease predictive information is available at:

<http://enviroweather.msu.edu/homeMap.php>

This issue and past issues of the weekly FruitNet report are posted on our website:

<http://agbioresearch.msu.edu/nwmihort/faxnet.htm>

60-Hour Forecast:

<http://www.agweather.geo.msu.edu/agwx/forecasts/fcst.asp?fileid=fous46ktvc>

Information on cherries:

<http://www.cherries.msu.edu/>

Information on apples:

<http://apples.msu.edu/>

Information on grapes:

<http://grapes.msu.edu>

Fruit CAT Alert Reports:

<http://news.msue.msu.edu>