

Northern Michigan FruitNet 2015 Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center

Weekly Update

March 17, 2015

Greetings FruitNet Subscribers,

We hope you are enjoying this recent beautiful weather and that you are getting some pruning done.

In this week's issue, you'll find...

- **A REMINDER FOR JACKIE BAASE'S RETIREMENT CELEBRATION AND MEMORY BOOK**
- **NORTHWEST MICHIGAN LABOR MEETING SCHEDULE**
- **CIDER: FROM APPLE TO BOTTLE, AN OVERVIEW OF THIS EMERGING INDUSTRY**
- **WEST CENTRAL SPRING HORTICULTURAL MEETING**
- **4-H TRACTOR SAFETY PROGRAM BEGINS IN APRIL**
- **LINK TO A VIDEO ON PEAR PRUNING**

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2015

- | | |
|-------------|---|
| 3/14 | Midwest Nut Producers Council Annual Meeting
Clarksville Experiment Station |
| 3/19 | Pure Michigan Agriculture Summit
DeVos Center, Grand Rapids |
| 3/25 | Cider: From Apple to Bottle, an Overview of this Emerging Industry
Crystal Mountain Resort, Thompsonville |
| 3/25 | Benzie/Manistee Hort Soc. Annual Meeting
Crystal Mountain Resort, Thompsonville |
| 3/26 | Specialty Crop Grant Proposals Due to MDARD |

- 3/26** **Ag. Labor Meeting**
NWMHRC
- 3/31** **West Central Spring Hort Meeting**
Hart United Methodist Church, Hart
- 4/1** **Michigan Water Use Reporting Due**
- 4/10-11** **Great Lakes Hop and Barley Conference**
Grand Rapids
- 4/18** **Healthy Forests – Caring for Our Trees**
Grand Traverse Conservation District

Retirement Celebration

A friendly reminder about the retirement open house for Jackie Baase....

The event will be **next Friday, March 27th from 4-6pm at the NWMHRC**. Thanks to those that have contributed letters to Jackie's memory book—I know she will just love them. There is still time if you were planning to send one; please see the email or snail mail below as where those letters can be directed.

Please send letters or stories to Nikki Rothwell at either of the following addresses:

- Email: rothwel3@msu.edu
- Snail mail: 6686 S. Center Highway, Traverse City, MI 49684. attn. Nikki

If you are also interested in providing Jackie with a parting gift, we will have a collection site at the open house or such gifts could be mailed to the above address.

I hope that you will join us in celebrating Jackie's career as she will be dearly missed by all that have worked with her over the years.

Retiring

after

34

YEARS

PLEASE JOIN US AS WE HONOR

JACKIE BAASE

Friday, March 27, 2015

4:00 PM to 6:00 PM

Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center
6686 South Center Highway, Traverse City, MI



Northwest Michigan Labor Meeting

March 26, 2015

Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center
Traverse City, MI

- 8:30-9:15 Immigration Control and Enforcement: New Information
Cory Howe, Special Agent, U.S. Homeland Security Investigations
- 9:15-10:00 Department of Labor Compliance Issues on Farms and How You Can Be Prepared for Audits
Craig Anderson, Agricultural Labor and Safety Services Program, Michigan Farm Bureau
- 10:00-10:15 BREAK
- 10:15-10:45 Being a Competitive Employer is More Than Money
Stan Moore, Educator, MSU Extension
- 10:45-11:15 Providing Feedback on Employee Performance
Dr. Corey Risch, Assistant Professor, Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, MSU
- 11:15-11:45 Employer Liability for Farm Labor Contractors
Daniella Darnell, Farm Labor Services
- 11:45-12:30 LUNCH
- 12:30-1:15 Local and Out of State Labor Recruitment
Kevin Benson and Jose Ragel, Agriculture Employment Specialists Workforce, Development Agency-Migrant, Seasonal & Immigrant Worker Services Division
Joe Parent, Prisoner Reentry Developer, NW Prisoner Reentry Program
- Working with Telamon on the Farm
Carla Wojtal, Workforce Development Specialist, Telamon Corporation
Sarah Kolehouse, Program Coordinator, Telamon Corporation
- 1:15-1:30 Update on Immigration Efforts of the Leelanau Women's League of Women Voters
- Grower/New Immigration Programs*
- 1:30-2:00 Our Experiences with the H2A Program: Two Years Under Our Belts
Mark Miezio and Linda Polinko, Cherry Bay Orchards
- 2:00-2:45 H2A Service Program: Experiences from 2014 and Moving Forward
Sarah Pion, Michigan Farm Bureau Southwest Regional Representative
Katie Rasch, Michigan Farm Bureau, Ag Labor Program Coordinator
Joe and Mary Rasch, Joe Rasch Orchards, Inc.
- 2:45-3:05 Migrant Housing Improvements to Attract Labor and Meet H2A Standards
Ginger Bardenhagen, MI Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development
- 3:05-3:35 Introduction to a new program: Healthy Harvest

Kris Thomas, Benzie County Sunrise Rotary

Please contact Stan Moore at moorest@anr.msu.edu or 231-533-8818 to register for this event. Online registration is available at events.anr.msu.edu/nwmlabormtg15.

Michigan State University Extension, AgBioResearch, the Michigan Cider Association, and the Benzie Manistee Horticulture Society presents

Cider: From Apple to Bottle, an Overview of this Emerging Industry

March 25, 2015

***New morning tour added with Mr. Neil MacDonald on the morning of the 25th!**

- 9:00-10:00 Tour of Northern Naturals Organics
Dennis Mackey, 7220 Chief Road, Keleva, MI 49645
- 10:00-10:15 Travel to Lutz high-density tart cherries
- 10:15-10:45 Tour of high-density tart cherry fruit wall for mechanical harvest
Calvin Lutz, Lumley Road (0.5 miles down from US 31) (road/orchard will be flagged with a sign)
- 10:45-11:00 Travel to Evans Brothers high-density apples at Dry Hill
- 11:00-11:45 Tour of high-density apples for the fresh market
Mark Evans, Taylor/County Line Road, Benzie County (orchard location will be flagged)
- 12:00-1:00 Lunch at Thistle Pub and Grille (on your own)
Crystal Mountain Resort, 12500 Crystal Mountain Dr., Thompsonville, Michigan 49683

This educational meeting will focus on topics related to hard cider beginning in the orchard. Mr. Neil MacDonald will be attending this unique meeting, and he is an orchardist that helps manage cider orchards in England. Mr. MacDonald has been refining orchard production to grow high quality hard cider apple varieties focusing on minimizing cost and labor.

The afternoon event will take place at Crystal Mountain Resort, Thompsonville, MI. The educational session cost is \$20 and the dinner is also \$20. Checks can be made payable to the Benzie Manistee Horticultural Society. ***Please call the Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center to reserve a spot at this meeting: 231-946-1510***

- 1:00-1:30 **Overview of Michigan Cider Industry and Beyond**
Paul Vander Heide, Vander Mill Ciders and MCA President, Spring Lake, MI

- 1:30-1:50 **The Role of the New National Organization--United States Association of Cider Makers (USACM)**
Mike Beck, USACM President and Uncle John's Cider Mill, Saint Johns, MI
- 1:50-2:20 **Developing Modern Apple Systems for Producing Cider Fruit**
Neil MacDonald, Orchard GroundCare, Somerset, U.K.
- 2:20-3:00 **Factors influencing Decisions to Plant Varieties Specifically for the Cider Market**
Kevin VerSnyder, VerSnyder Fruit Farms, Lake Leelanau, MI
Andy Sietsema, Sietsema Orchards, Ada, MI
- 3:00-3:30 **Thinking About Opening a Cidery? Checklist for Getting Started**
Dan Young, Tandem Ciders, Suttons Bay, MI
- 3:30-3:45 BREAK
- 3:45-4:15 **Big Sellers Out of the Tasting Room: Consumer Preferences Now and Into the future**
Andy Sietsema, Sietsema Orchards, Ada, MI
Dan Young, Tandem Ciders, Suttons Bay, MI
Mike Beck, Uncle John's Cider Mill, Saint Johns, MI
- 4:15-4:45 **Thinking About Packaging Cider to Make Money**
Mike Beck, Uncle Johns Cider Mill, Saint Johns, MI
Paul Vander Heide, Vander Mill Ciders, Spring Lake, MI
- 4:45-6:00 **Cider Tasting**
- 6:00 **Benzie-Manistee Horticultural Society Annual Meeting and Dinner**

**Hart Spring Meeting
March 31, 2015**

This year's spring meeting in Hart is going to be a great one! We welcome all growers from northwest Michigan to this meeting. There will be a carpool option for growers that want to head south: growers should meet at the Manistee County Road Commission (8946 Chippewa Highway, Bear Lake, MI 49614).

There is a discount for participants to register prior to this meeting—to be sure to get the reduced registration rate, please call Mike Evans at 231-383-0101 by March 24th.

- 8:00-8:30 Introduction to the MAEAP
Dan Busby and Lynda Herremans, MAEAP Program
- 8:30-9:00 Short and long-term weather forecasts: What is in store for 2015?
Dr. Jeff Andresen, Dept. of Geography, MSU
- 9:00-9:30 Understanding Maximum Residue Limits (MRLs): A Key Ingredient in Michigan Cherry Growers' Survival

Dr. Mark Whalon, Dept. of Entomology, MSU

- 9:30-10:00 Best Management Practices for Pollinators in Michigan Orchards
Dr. Julianna Wilson, Dept. of Entomology, MSU
- 10:00-10:20 BREAK
- 10:20-10:50 Mating Disruption Using Aerosol Emitters in Michigan Apples
Dr. Larry Gut, Dept. of Entomology, MSU
- 10:50-11:10 Using Pyrethroid Sprays to Control SWD and their Impacts on Spider Mite Populations
Emily Pochubay, NWMHRC, MSUE
- 11:10-11:30 Gaining a Better Understanding of Insecticide Efficacy against SWD
Dr. Nikki Rothwell, NWMHRC and MSUE
- 11:30-12:00 Investigating mechanical harvesting technologies for high density cherries
Dr. Ron Perry, Dept. of Horticulture, MSU
- 12:00-1:00 LUNCH
- 1:00-1:30 Using Copper and other Compounds to Control Cherry Leaf Spot
Dr. George Sundin, Dept. of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Sciences
- 1:30-2:00 Using Precision Orchard Management Techniques to Grow the Best Apples
Phil Schwallier, MSUE
- 2:00-2:30 Understanding Phytotoxicity Risks in Apple
Amy Irish-Brown, MSUE
- 2:30-3:00 Apple Disease Management Update for 2015
Dr. George Sundin, Dept. of Plant, Soil, and Microbial Sciences
- 3:00-3:30 Thinning Strategies for an Optimal Crop in 2015
Phil Schwallier, MSUE
- 3:30-3:45 BREAK
- 3:45-4:30 New Strategies for Successful Record Keeping and FSMA Update
Phil Tocco, MSUE

Pear Pruning Video

Phil Schwallier asked us to pass this video link on to you – it was mentioned at the IFTA meeting in Nova Scotia last week.

<http://youtu.be/5h5aQ5DwYOo>

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 is available at the new cherry website:

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

Information on apples:

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

Fruit CAT Alert Reports has moved to MSU News

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