

# Northern Michigan FruitNet 2014

## Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center

### Weekly Update

July 22, 2014

#### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

7/22-24	35 <sup>TH</sup> Annual Ag Expo Michigan State University
7/26	Parallel 45 Pig Roast Old Mission Peninsula
8/1	Parallel 45 – First Friday Meeting NWMHRC
8/14	GT County Household Hazardous Waste & Pesticide Collection <a href="http://recyclesmart.info">recyclesmart.info</a>
8/15	Hops Field Day
8/21	SW Pre-harvest Grape Meeting Berrien Springs, MI
9/4	NWMHRC Open House – 35 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary
9/5	Weathering the Climate: Cultivation & Technology in Grape Production NMC Hagerty Center, Traverse City

#### GROWING DEGREE DAY ACCUMULATIONS AS OF July 21 AT THE NWMHRC

Year	2014	2013	2012	2011	2010	2009	24 Yr. Avg.
GDD42	1753	1959	2430	1872	2253	1671	1929.6
GDD50	1090	1300	1599	1191	1431	968	1212.3

#### Growth Stages at NWMHRC (July 21, 2014, 1:30 p.m.)

**Apple:** Red Delicious – 44 mm fruit  
Gala – No fruit  
Yellow Delicious – 45 mm fruit  
**Pear:** Bartlett: 29 mm fruit  
**Sweet Cherry:** Hedelfingen: 25 mm fruit  
Napoleon: Harvested  
Gold: 22 mm fruit

**Tart Cherry:** 21 mm fruit  
**Balaton:** 20 mm fruit  
**Apricot:** 41 mm fruit  
**Grapes:** Buckshot berry

## **NORTHWEST MICHIGAN REGIONAL REPORT**

E. Pochubay, N. Rothwell, and D. Elsner, Extension Educators, MSU

**Sweet cherry harvest is in full swing, and growers are applying ethephon in tart cherry. Tart cherry harvest will likely begin over the weekend and into next week. Overall fruit quality is good at this time.**

**Weather Report.** As we head into the week of 21 July, we have started off very warm, in the mid-80s but by Wednesday, we will drop down into the high 60s. The cooler conditions will be welcomed as we are in the height of cherry harvest. We have accumulated 1753GDD base 42 and 1090GDD base 50. We are still slightly behind our 24-year average: 1929GDD base 42 and 1212GDD base 50. Conditions are particularly dry at this time. We have received very little rainfall throughout the month of July, and grass and orchard row middles are now brown. Soil moisture is low, but growers are hoping the rain holds off until sweet cherries are off the tree.

**Crop Report.** Sweet cherry harvest is underway, and overall quality of the fruit is decent. Disease incidence is low, but some Sams have been infected by **American brown rot**. The crop load is heavy, and fruit are smaller than in a typical year. Growers are also waiting for dark sweets to color up. Tart cherries are coloring, particularly on trees with a lighter crop. As cherries turn red, the tart crop appears even more variable from tree to tree within an orchard, and the crop also varies between orchards. Ethephon applications are going on in tart cherries, and growers have been consulting the forecast (hot vs. cool) to determine the optimal rate. The estimates for northwest Michigan range from 115-125 million pounds. Apricots are ripe and ready to harvest.

**Pest Report.** Sweet cherry harvest is underway, and most orchards continue to look clean, other than a few isolated reports of **American brown rot** infection in dark sweet cherries. The weather has been warm and dry during the last week, and most of the northwest region has not had conditions conducive for **cherry leaf spot** infection. The last significant rainfall and cherry leaf spot infection periods that were recorded in the region were on 15 July (East Leland, Eastport, Elk Rapids, Kewadin, Northport) and 17 July (Old Mission). Growers should continue to keep tissue protected from American brown rot and cherry leaf spot infection through harvest and if possible, after harvest.

We found a total of four female **Spotted wing *Drosophila* (SWD)** at the research station this week in Montmorency tart cherries. We did not detect SWD in traps on Old Mission and in Antrim County this week. However, SWD was found in Grand Traverse, Leelanau, and Antrim counties earlier this season. We detected SWD a month earlier than last year, and SWD numbers have been significantly lower this season than in past years. We hypothesize that SWD numbers will greatly increase in the coming weeks as this increase in population size has been observed in southwest Michigan in the last two weeks. Maintaining coverage and tight intervals to protect cherries from SWD and cherry fruit fly egg-laying during full swing of sweet cherry harvest has been challenging. **Cherry fruit fly** catches have also been low this season; we did not find CFF at the research station this week, but have detected CFF in the region (Leelanau, Old Mission, Antrim). Growers need to be diligent about controlling both SWD and

CFF through harvest to prevent infested fruit at harvest. **Obliquebanded leafroller** activity is on the decline at the station with an average of 4.3 moths per trap in tart cherries. We have been looking for the summer generation of OBLR larvae but have not seen any substantial populations as of yet. **Mites** are a concern in the recent warm and dry conditions, and we would like to remind growers that some insecticides (i.e. pyrethroids) have high mite-flaring potential. We have observed a few hot spots of **two-spotted spider mites** and **European red mites** in tart cherries in orchards across the northwest region.

**Obliquebanded leafroller (OBLR)** activity is ongoing and OBLR trap numbers remain low – seven moths per trap. Growers should consider a pre-harvest application targeting OBLR larvae in orchards with high (20+ moths per trap) OBLR adult catch to prevent shaking larvae into tanks at harvest. Again, OBLR larval populations have been low in scouted orchards.

In apples, **spotted tentiform leafminer** numbers are up with an average of 212.5 moths per trap at the station. We are still catching **codling moth** at very low numbers (one moth per trap) and **obliquebanded leafroller** catches are also down this week (two moths per trap). The first **apple maggot fly** was detected at the station this week. In orchards where primary **apple scab** infection occurred, growers may need to start protecting for apple scab prior to infection periods. The last possible scab infection periods recorded by the Enviro-weather scab model were on 15 July for East Leland, Eastport, Elk Rapids, Kewadin, and Northport, and on 17 July for Old Mission.

## **Wine Grapes**

Recent travels across the growing region have revealed nothing new - a great deal of devastation to **vinifera** vines from winter injury. More growing shoots have collapsed now that the stresses of berry growth and a bit of drought have created demands on the woody tissues that simply cannot be met in their injured condition.

My “guesstimates” for crop loss continue to run from 50-70 percent for Riesling and Chardonnay up to nearly 100 percent for some Pinot Noir and Cabernet Franc blocks.

Vine canopy management decisions will vary a bit by location and cultivar, but for vinifera varieties in general, the goal is to get the vine ready for a good year in 2015. Ideally we would like to see an ample quantity of good-diameter canes arising from the base of the vine when pruning time comes around next year. In order to achieve this, many growing shoots must be maintained on the vine for the rest of this growing season. If only a few shoots are alive or are kept during suckering, the entire resources of the vine will be distributed into just a few growing points and the end result will be large diameter “bull” canes which are not desirable for being the fruiting wood for 2015 (poor production, hard to manipulate and less cold-hardy than ideally-sized canes). Even though it will look like a dense, tangled mess, keeping most of the basal and trunk suckers in place for this growing season is highly recommended.

There are a number of questions for which come up in this situation:

### How many growing points is enough?

I don't have a particular reference to turn to for an answer, but the likely answer is “*as many as you've got.*” Consider an established vine in a typical year- it would be supporting the growth of twenty or more shoots along the fruiting wire, each bearing 2-3 clusters, and they still grow enough that we have to top hedge the shoots. In order to distribute the vine vigor well and avoid bull canes in this growing season, the target would be to grow at least as many shoots on

the vine in 2014. In nothing is alive along the fruiting wire, then shoots from the base and trunk of the vine need to be kept in place. On vines where there are ample shoots, the selective removal of surplus shoots could be considered. At the research vineyard we recently “cleaned up” the base of vines, removing shoots growing in errant directions and helping the retained shoots to grow upwards with twine loosely tied around the entire mass of shoots.

#### Should the fruit be removed from the shoots arising from the base and trunks?

De-fruiting the dense growth of sucker shoots would require a great deal of labor. Consider the pro's and con's of this action. Leaving the clusters on will help control vine vigor and reduce the severity of the potential bull cane problem. Fruit maturing in this area of the vine will be difficult to protect from pests and diseases. Would this fruit end up being of harvestable quantity or quality, especially considering the difficulty of your labor force to pick it?

### **Upcoming grape meetings**

The next Parallel 45 vineyard meeting will be on **Friday, August 1, 3-5 p.m.** at the Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center. We'll meet in the research vineyard, where the topics will be a continuing look at vine recovery issues and examinations of trunk problems.

The Parallel 45 summer pig roast will be held on Saturday, **July 26**, on Old Mission Peninsula beginning at 2:00 p.m. at 12467 Center Road, just north of Chateau Grand Traverse. Cost is \$10.00 for members, and \$15.00 for non-members. Bring your own chair, a bottle of wine, and a dish to pass.

### **NMC-MSU TO HOST CONFERENCE ON CLIMATE AND TECHNOLOGY IN GRAPE PRODUCTION**

Northwestern Michigan College and Michigan State University are hosting a conference, **Weathering the Climate: Cultivation and Technology in Grape Production,” Friday, September 5 at the Hagerty Center** at NMC's Great Lakes Campus, 710 E. Front Street, Traverse City.

The conference features experts in agricultural technology, geography, horticulture, and other areas related to unmanned aerial systems technology and the science of grape production.

Sessions cover topics like Climate Change and Potential Agronomic Impacts in the Great Lakes Region, Impacts of the 2014 Polar Vortex on Grapes: Lessons Learned, How to Manage Grapes for Our Changing Climate, and Unmanned Systems and Technology Applications in Viticulture. There will be a vineyard demonstration of the application of unmanned systems at Chateau Chantal Vineyard and Winery, and a panel of grape growers who will discuss practical applications of unmanned systems technology in vineyard management.

Experts speaking at the Weathering the Climate conference include Brian Matchett, MSU Institute of Agricultural Technology; Jeff Andresen, MSU Department of Geography, Imed Dami, Ohio State University Department of Horticulture and Crop Science; Paolo Sabbatini, MSU Department of Horticulture; Duke Elsner, MSU Extension; Ed Bailey, NMC Technical Division; and Tony Sauerbrey, NMC Unmanned Aerial Systems.

The panel will include Ben Bramer, Agrivine; Stan Howell, MSU Department of Horticulture; Mark Johnson, Chateau Chantal; Larry Mawby, L. Mawby Vineyards; James Peters, Staits Area Grape Growers Association and Coenraad Stassen, Brys Estate Vineyard.

Registration for the event can be done online by visiting [nmc.edu/viticulture](http://nmc.edu/viticulture) and following the links. Cost for the conference is \$60, conference and dinner is \$85. Rooms have been made available for conference attendees to reserve at the Bayshore Resort.

### FOR MORE INFORMATION

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### PREDICTED 2014 APPLE HARVEST DATES

**The 2014 predicted apple harvest dates are roughly one week behind normal and last year. Bloom dates during spring were also behind normal.**

Posted on **July 17, 2014**, **MSUE News**, by [Phil Schwallier](#), and Amy Irish-Brown, Michigan State University Extension

The predicted apple harvest dates are now available at all locations on the [Michigan State University Enviro-weather website](#). In general, 2014 predicted harvest dates are roughly a week behind normal and a week behind last year. Bloom dates this spring were also behind normal across the state.

As always, the weather seems to be unusual each year and 2014 was no different. It began after an extremely long, cold winter with a late, cool spring that eventually became somewhat normal in May and June. Little to no frost events occurred. This unusual spring was also characterized by considerable and seemingly unending record precipitation in most state locations. Most apple growers were successful in thinning the crop with most growers under-thinning slightly. This moderate to heavy crop will mature close to the predicted dates. Blocks with light crop loads will mature three or four days sooner.

The normal harvest dates for other varieties are listed in Table 3 for the Grand Rapids, Michigan area. This year's 2014 predicted dates and adjusted predicted dates are a rough estimate based on the McIntosh, Jonathan and Red Delicious predicted dates. [Michigan State University Extension](#) recommends other areas of the state adjust non-predicted varieties based on their own history. ReTain application should be applied 30 days before harvest (DBH). Use Table 3's 2014 predicted harvest dates to time ReTain applications and adjust for varieties and locations.

**Table 1. 2014 predicted peak harvest dates**

Full bloom date				Predicted harvest date			Observer
Station	McIntosh	Jonathans	Reds	McIntosh	Jonathans	Reds	
<a href="#">SWMREC</a>	May 12	May 13	May 13	Sept. 11	Oct. 1	Oct. 7	<a href="#">Bill Shane</a>
Deerfield	May 12	May 14	May 16	Sept. 12	Sept. 30	Oct. 7	<a href="#">Bob Tritten</a>

<a href="#">Romeo</a>	May 15	May 17	May 17	Sept. 14	Oct. 1	Oct. 7	<a href="#">Bob Tritten</a>
Peach Ridge	May 21	May 22	May 23	Sept. 19	Oct. 2	Oct. 10	<a href="#">Phil Schwallier</a>
<a href="#">Hart</a>	May 23	May 24	May 25	Sept. 23	Oct. 8	Oct. 14	<a href="#">Amy Irish-Brown</a>
<a href="#">NWMHRS</a>	May 27	May 31	May 31	Sept. 26	Oct. 13	Oct. 19	<a href="#">Nikki Rothwell</a>

Table 2. 2014 predicted peak harvest dates compared to normal and last year

Days ahead of normal				Days ahead of last year		
Station	McIntosh	Jonathans	Reds	McIntosh	Jonathans	Reds
<a href="#">SWMREC</a>	-8	-7	-7	-6	-8	-8
Deerfield	-7	-7	-8	-4	-9	-5
<a href="#">Flint</a>	-6	-5	-4	-1	-6	-4
Peach Ridge	-9	-8	-9	-5	-5	-6
<a href="#">Hart</a>	-7	-5	-6	-5	-5	-4
<a href="#">NWMHRS</a>	-7	-10	-9	-4	-7	-6

Table 3. Normal and 2014 peak harvest dates for varieties for the Grand Rapids, Michigan area

Variety	Normal date	2014 predicted date
Paulared	Aug. 24	Aug. 28
Gingergold	Aug. 26	Aug. 30
Gala	Sept. 10	Sept. 14
McIntosh	Sept. 15	Sept. 19
Honeycrisp	Sept. 18	Sept. 22
Empire	Sept. 22	Sept. 26
Jonathan	Sept. 28	2-Oct
Jonagold	Sept. 28	2-Oct
Golden Delicious	Oct. 2	Oct. 6
Red Delicious	Oct. 5	Oct. 10
Idared	Oct. 10	Oct. 14
Rome	Oct. 15	Oct. 18
Fuji	Oct. 25	Oct. 28

Braeburn	Oct. 25	Oct. 28
Goldrush	Nov. 1	Oct. 4

This article was published by **Michigan State University Extension**. For more information, visit <http://www.msue.msu.edu>. To contact an expert in your area, visit <http://expert.msue.msu.edu>, or call 888-MSUE4MI (888-678-3464).

## MICHIGAN BROWN MARMORATED STINK BUG REPORT FOR JULY 17, 2014

### A statewide brown marmorated stink bug monitoring program in fruit and vegetable crops continues with more sites reporting, but still no detections to report.

Posted on **July 18, 2014** by **Julianna Wilson**, and Larry Gut, Michigan State University Extension, Department of Entomology

This is the second weekly report of the [Michigan State University Extension brown marmorated stink bug](#) (BMSB) statewide monitoring program for 2014. We now have more than 60 sites being monitored with pyramid-style pheromone-baited traps for BMSB, the majority of which are at farms that grow a variety of fruit and vegetable crops including apples, tart cherries, sweet cherries, peaches, blueberries, raspberries, tomatoes, peppers, and sweet corn. Sites have been selected that are near riparian areas or are along major transportation corridors in the following counties: Monroe, Lenawee, Oakland, Macomb, Livingston, Ingham, Lapeer, Saginaw and Bay on the east side of the state, and Antrim, Grand Traverse, Leelanau, Benzie, Oceana, Newaygo, Kent, Ionia, Ottawa, Allegan, Van Buren and Berrien on the west side of the state.

A couple of native stink bug species were caught in traps set out in apple and tart cherry orchards in a few sites this week in Monroe, but still no BMSB. However, there were two reports of BMSB caught in sweep net samples from field crop sites this week, one in Monroe County near Erie, Michigan and the other in Ingham County near Holt, Michigan.

To learn more about how to monitor for the brown marmorated stink bug, distinguish it from other similar-looking stink bugs, what crops it favors, and management strategies should populations reach the threshold where management is necessary, visit [MSU's Brown Marmorated Stink Bug website](#).

The weekly BMSB statewide monitoring report has been funded through [Project GREEN](#) and [Michigan State University Extension](#). This output is generated through a network of MSU Extension field staff and campus specialists. We would like to acknowledge the following team members and thank them for their weekly scouting efforts and input into this report: Peter McGhee, Michael Haas, Bob Tritten, Mark Longstroth, Brad Baughman, Carlos Garcia, Amy Irish-Brown, Lina Rodriguez Salamanca, Ben Philips, Mark Whalon, Hal Hudson, Karen Powers, and Nikki Rothwell.

*Dr. Gut's work is funded in part by [MSU's AgBioResearch](#).*

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## **DISASTER ASSISTANCE FOR 2012 FROST OR FREEZE FRUIT CROP LOSSES ANNOUNCED**

### ***Enrollment Begins, July 22***

WASHINGTON, July 21, 2014 – The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) today announced Noninsured Crop Disaster Assistance Program (NAP) assistance for losses to bush or tree fruit crops due to frost or freeze during the 2012 crop year. The program, authorized by the 2014 Farm Bill, provides supplemental NAP payments to eligible producers.

Farmers who did not have access to crop insurance and are in primary and adjacent counties that received a Secretarial disaster designation because of frost or freeze in 2012 are eligible for NAP assistance. Losses due to weather damage or other adverse natural occurrences may also qualify for program assistance.

NAP enrollment begins July 22, 2014. **Applications must be submitted to FSA county offices by Sept. 22, 2014.**

“After the 2014 Farm Bill was enacted into law, USDA expedited the restart of disaster assistance programs as a top priority,” said FSA Administrator Juan Garcia. “Fruit producers experienced significant financial losses from weather-related damage in 2012. NAP provides them with long-awaited disaster relief.”

To expedite applications, producers who experienced losses are encouraged to collect records documenting these losses in preparation for the sign-up in this program. Producers also are encouraged to contact their FSA county office to schedule an appointment. Limited resource, socially disadvantaged, and beginning producers are eligible for premium reductions and also may be eligible for fee reductions.

Interested producers can view the 2012 NAP Coverage for Frost, Freeze or Weather Related Fruit Losses Fact Sheet at <http://go.usa.gov/5kSQ>, or visit a local FSA office. To find out if land is located in an eligible frost/freeze county, visit <http://go.usa.gov/53rz>.

Today's announcement was made possible through the 2014 Farm Bill, which builds on historic economic gains in rural America over the past five years, while achieving meaningful reform and billions of dollars in savings for the taxpayer. Since enactment, USDA has made significant progress to implement each provision of this critical legislation, including providing disaster relief to farmers and ranchers; strengthening risk management tools; expanding access to rural credit; funding critical research; establishing innovative public-private conservation partnerships; developing new markets for rural-made products; and investing in infrastructure, housing and community facilities to help improve quality of life in rural America. For more information, visit [www.usda.gov/farmbill](http://www.usda.gov/farmbill).

### **Farm Service Agency**

3001 Coolidge Rd. Suite 350  
East Lansing, MI 48823  
517-324-5110

Website <http://www.fsa.usda.gov>



## **MSU FRUIT TREE AND LANDSCAPE COURSES OPEN FOR OFF-CAMPUS FALL ENROLLMENT**

**Posted on July 14, 2014 11:07pm**

The Michigan State University (MSU) [Institute of Agricultural Technology](#) (IAT) has been conducting practical plant, animal and technology certificate courses on its East Lansing campus for more than 100 years.

Commercial horticulture programs focused on fruit, vegetable, greenhouse production and ornamentals are attracting students to [Lake Michigan College](#) in Benton Harbor and [Northwestern Michigan College](#) in Traverse City. In addition to local access to MSU academic programs serving agriculture, the community college collaboration enables students to earn an associate's degree through supplemental coursework.

Enrollment in these programs at Lake Michigan College and Northwestern Michigan College is open now. Complete applications, including transcripts, for new MSU IAT students are due Aug. 15. MSU application deadlines and procedures differ from those of community colleges, so participants should act now. Courses begin Aug. 27.

Fall semester classes include:

- Tree Fruit Production and Management.
- Fundamentals of Soil Science.
- Landscape Plants II.
- Horticulture Industries Seminar.
- Plant Diseases and their Pathogens.

IAT off-campus coordinators guide prospective students through the application process, creation of a course of study and a required student internship. All IAT courses are taught by [MSU](#)-approved faculty and staff members, and credits earned are fully transferable to on-campus bachelor's degree programs.

For those interested in learning more about viticulture and enology (the study of grape growing and wine production), information on the online [Viticulture Enology Science Technology Alliance](#) (VESTA) courses, which operate through a separate registration system, may be found at <http://www.vesta-usa.org>. The registration deadline for VESTA is Aug. 15. VESTA courses begin Sept. 2.

For information about VESTA and off-campus IAT applied plant science certificate programs and admission requirements, contact one of the community college-based coordinators: Stacey Rocklin, Lake Michigan College, 269-927-8772, [rocklin@msu.edu](mailto:rocklin@msu.edu); or Brian Matchett, Northwestern Michigan College, 231-995-1719, [matchet4@msu.edu](mailto:matchet4@msu.edu).

## **LECANIUM SCALE NUMBERS BUILDING ON CHESTNUTS**

**Chestnut growers in some areas of Michigan are experiencing high levels of Lecanium scale infestation. Growers with young, susceptible trees should be particularly diligent in scouting for this pest.**



**Lecanium scale on chestnut. Photo credit Dennis Fulbright, MSU**

Lecanium scale is a soft scale pest that attaches to and feeds on many deciduous plants in Michigan, most notably hardwood trees. Lecanium scale populations can build to extremely high levels over a series of favorable years before crashing due to natural enemies and disease. When present in low numbers, lecanium scale are often overlooked and are of little economic or aesthetic significance.

Lecanium scale has one generation per year. Mated females overwinter on the host plant and appear black in the spring before they molt into larger, tan scales. These larger, mature scales lay eggs under their turtle-like exoskeleton before dying. The eggs hatch and the immature scales known as crawlers disperse from the protective covering to find new places to feed and develop, returning to woody material where they mate and attach to the host for the winter. Dead scales that have already laid eggs may persist on the host for an extended period of time and are dark in color and appear dusty.

Growers need to check chestnut branches for evidence of this pest. Scales may look a lot like leaf scars or bud scales, so a close inspection is important. Some infestations have only a few scales per branch while others are well-covered. One tell-tale sign of scale activity is the shiny film of honeydew that the scales excrete, similar to aphids, onto surfaces beneath the scales. Increased ant activity is also associated with scale insects as they collect the honeydew.

As mentioned above, the scale's feeding creates honeydew that can act as a substrate for sooty mold. On agricultural crops, sooty mold can become an issue when it ends up on the fruit or nut being produced. Additionally, the scales removes sap when feeding which can weaken shoots and even cause shoot death in some cases. The rule of thumb is that vigorous and healthy trees and plants can tolerate some scale infestation, but if high populations of Lecanium scale are found, control programs should be considered, particularly on small trees.

Natural enemies usually regulate scale populations and prevent outbreaks of these pests, but growers with high populations this 2014 season may need to consider chemical control options. Dormant oil applications that smother overwintering scales are the preferred method of control, but it is too late for oil applications at this time. Most other insecticides that are active on scales are used at the crawler stage, after the insect has emerged from the waxy covering of the mature female. Crawlers are much more vulnerable to insecticides than the mature scales and

may be active at this time, generally emerging in June and remaining active through July in Michigan. Growers can scout for crawler emergence by placing some double-sided sticky tape near the scales on infested shoots and checking with a hand lens until you see tiny dots (the young crawlers) on it.

There are a number of insecticides labeled against scale for chestnut growers in Michigan. Refer to "[Pesticides Registered for Edible Chestnuts, 2014](#)" by [Michigan State University Extension](#) for more information.

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## **SOUTHWEST GRAPE PRE-HARVEST MEETING**

**Date:** August 21, 2014

**Time:** 5:00 pm - 8:00 pm

**Location:** Lemon Creek Winery, 533 E. Lemon Creek Rd., Berrien Springs, MI 49013

**Contact:** Brad Baughman, Berrien County Horticulture Extension Educator.

[baughm30@anr.msu.edu](mailto:baughm30@anr.msu.edu) (269)-944-0157

Southwest Grape Preharvest Meeting Thursday, August 21st 5-8 p.m. Lemon Creek Winery 533 E. Lemon Creek Road, Berrien Springs, MI 49103. This meeting is an opportunity for the grape grower and processor community of Southwest Michigan to discuss the challenges and successes of the growing season thus far, spray decisions leading up to harvest, recovery from 2013-2014 winter injury, and other issues with each other and with experts from Michigan State University (MSU). Dinner is included in registration and will be served at 5 p.m. 2 RUP recertification credits have been requested. Topics and speakers will be: "Rebuilding winter-injured vineyards" (Tom Zabadal, SW Michigan Research and Extension Center), "Pre-harvest insect management decisions" (Rufus Isaacs, MSU Department of Entomology), "Late-season disease management" (Annemiek Shilder, MSU Department of Plant, Soil, & Microbial Sciences), "Canopy management after winter injury" (Paolo Sabbatini, MSU Department of Horticulture) Cost: \$15 per person.

## **2014 HOPS FIELD DAY & TOUR – August 15**

MSU Extension is offering a **Hops Field Day and Tour** on **Friday, August 15 from 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.** Participants will meet at the MSU Horticultural Research Center (6686 South Center Highway, Traverse City, MI 49684), board a chartered bus and travel to **Empire Hop Farm** on the Leelanau Peninsula to tour one of the largest hop yards in Michigan and a new hop processing facility. The group will then travel to **Northport Brewing Company**, for lunch and a tour. In the afternoon participants will travel by bus to tour **New Mission Organic's** hop yard and processing operation near Omena and then onto **K & K Farm** south of Suttons Bay.

Throughout the tour hop growers will be on site to discuss all aspects of hop production; initial costs, plant care, disease and insect management, short and tall trellis systems, trellis construction, and organic and conventional growing practices. The group will then return to the Research Center for an educational beer tasting led by Executive Director, **Scott Graham**, of the Michigan Brewers Guild, along with several Michigan brewers.

The cost is \$85 per person which includes lunch, charter bus transportation and handouts. **Pre-registration is required by debit/credit card online and space is limited. Due to the popularity of this event, payment is due at the time of online registration. Because of liability issues and space, participants will NOT be allowed to drive their personal vehicle on this tour; please don't ask.**

To register, go online to [hops.msu.edu](http://hops.msu.edu).

Once you are registered, you will receive confirmation immediately by email, and an agenda and directions the week prior to the event by email.

Don't delay, this tour fills quickly! If you have any questions, contact **Rob Sirrine**, or **Annette Kleinschmit** at the Leelanau MSU Extension office at 231-256-9888 or [msue45@msu.edu](mailto:msue45@msu.edu).

We thank our gracious program sponsors: Empire Hop Farm, Michigan Brewers Guild, Michigan Hop Alliance, New Mission Organics, K & K Farm and Northport Brewing Company.

Hoppy day,

Annette

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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 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>

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