

Northern Michigan FruitNet 2013 Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center

Weekly Update

October 16, 2013

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

2013

- 11/8-9** **Wine Sensory Workshop**
University Club, MSU
- 11/12** **Making It In Michigan Conference**
Lansing Center, Lansing, MI
- 12/10-13** **Great Lakes Expo**
Amway Grand Plaza, Grand Rapids, MI

2014

- 1/14-15** **NW Michigan Orchard & Vineyard Show**
Grand Traverse Resort
- 2/18-19** **IPM Academy**
- 2/24-26** **Michigan Grape & Wine Conference**

REMINDER - SWD REPORTING EVALUTION REQUESTED

"During 2013, MSU Fruit Extension Team coordinated a weekly SWD Monitoring report during June, July, and August. An example can be seen online at: http://www.ipm.msu.edu/invasive_species/spotted_wing_drosophila

To capture the effectiveness of this statewide effort, we are asking all Michigan fruit producers to take a minute and fill out an evaluation of this program at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/HBLF5TQ>

We value your feedback and want to ensure that MSU is doing all that it can help producers better manage this invasive pest in all Michigan fruit crops. Your input will help us prepare for a plan for SWD control in 2014. The weekly SWD scouting report has been funded through [Project GREEN](#) and [Michigan State University Extension](#). This output is generated through a scouting and reporting 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: Rufus Isaacs, Keith Mason, Steve VanTimmeren, Larry Gut, Peter McGhee, Michael Haas, Bob Tritten, Mark Longstroth, Diane Brown, Carlos Garcia, Karen Powers and Nikki Rothwell."

SPRING OFF-CAMPUS MSU VITICULTURE AND APPLIED PLANT SCIENCE COURSES ENROLLMENT DEADLINE NEARS

Spring semester Michigan State University Institute of Agricultural Technology Applied Plant Science and Viticulture certificate programs course enrollment, at northwest and southwest Michigan community college locations, ends Nov. 8, 2013.

Posted on **October 11, 2013, MSUE News**, by **Joanne Davidhizar**, Michigan State University Extension, Michigan State University Product Center

[Michigan State University Institute of Agricultural Technology](#) is now taking applications for off-campus certificate programs in Applied Plant Science and Viticulture at northwest and southwest Michigan community college locations.

The [Institute of Agricultural Technology](#) at MSU (MSU IAT) has been conducting practical plant, animal and technology certificate courses on its East Lansing campus for more than 100 years. Commercial horticulture programs relating to 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 Certificate programs serving agriculture, the community college collaboration enables students

to obtain an Associate's Degree through supplemental coursework. MSU classes begin Jan. 6, 2014.

Spring semester classes include Principles of Grape Production I, Current Issues in Viticulture and Enology, Berry Crop Production and Management, Compost Production and Use, Landscape Irrigation, Landscape Design, Landscape and Turfgrass Business Operation, and Passive Solar Greenhouses for Protected Cultivation.

Michigan State University Institute of Agricultural Technology off-campus coordinators guide prospective students through the application process, creation of a course of study, and student internship. All MSU IAT courses are taught by [Michigan State University](#) approved faculty and [Michigan State University Extension](#) staff. Credits earned in these courses are fully transferable to on-campus bachelor's degree programs.

Act now since MSU IAT application deadlines and procedures differ from those of community colleges.

The registration deadline is Dec. 14, 2013 for on-line [Viticulture Enology Science Technology Alliance](#) (VESTA) courses which operate through a separate registration system. Start dates vary.

To obtain information about VESTA and off-campus MSU IAT Applied Plant Science certificate programs and admission requirements, visit the [MSU IAT website](#) or call 517-355-0190. Lake Michigan College-based Coordinator, Stacey Rocklin, may be reached at 269-927-8772 or rocklin@msu.edu, and Northwestern Michigan College-based Coordinator, Brian Matchett at 231-995-1719 or matchet4@msu.edu.

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).

OIL AND GAS ATTORNEY SURVEY INDICATES POSITIVE FINANCIAL RESULTS FROM LEASE BONUS NEGOTIATIONS

This is the first in a series of articles that discusses the results of a follow-up survey that measures negotiated alterations to the terms of an oil and gas lease by oil and gas attorneys for their clients.

Posted on **October 8, 2013**, **MSUE News**, by **Curtis Talley Jr.**, Michigan State University Extension

For the past three years, property owners in many areas across the state have been approached by oil and gas company land men with an offer to lease their oil and gas mineral rights.

For many mineral owners, this may be their first exposure to an oil and gas lease contract. Landowners who have never dealt with leasing their mineral rights for oil and gas production, upon reading a lease, may have found that they had difficulty understanding the lease language. Many landowners have reached out to obtain assistance in understanding this rather complex issue.

In areas of potential mineral extraction activity, a group of [Michigan State University Extension](#) educators, led by me, initiated an [educational program](#) that provided news articles, a quarterly landowner newsletter, written bulletins, webinars, public educational meetings and other materials. These [resources](#) provide information that would assist mineral owners in learning how the terms of the standard lease affect their businesses and their options in negotiating changes to the lease that put the agreement in line with their financial and environmental goals.

Because of the complexities of the oil and gas lease contract and its potential long-term life, MSU Extension recommended that a knowledgeable oil and gas attorney with experience working for private landowners be consulted to assist in negotiation of the oil and gas lease. "[Oil and Gas Expert Resources for Private Landowners](#)", which included a list of oil and gas attorneys, along with other educational documents have been provided [as a free downloadable resource](#).

To begin the process of evaluating the financial impacts of this education, during the summer of 2013 a survey was mailed to oil and gas attorneys. The survey measured oil and gas lease terms "before negotiations" and "after negotiations" to determine what, if any financial or environmentally related lease terms were negotiated to benefit their clients.

Oil and gas lease bonus payment

The survey results indicated that each attorney represented an average of 8,018 acres of cropland each year. The first survey question dealt with the lease bonus. The bonus is a cash payment, usually in dollars per acre that is paid to the mineral owner after the lease is signed. The survey compared "the average initial bonus payment per acre offered" to the "bonus paid due to lease negotiations." The average initial bonus offer was \$42 per acre. Lease negotiations increased the average bonus paid to \$124 per acre, an increase of \$82 per acre, or 195 percent. These nine attorneys, representing 8,018 acres each per year represented a total of 72,166 acres per year. At an increase of \$82 per acre, they earned \$5,917,612 per year in additional gross income for their combined landowner clients. Determining fees charged to the client were not within the scope of this study. In his video "[How Much Will it cost to Hire an Attorney to Negotiate an Oil and Gas Lease?](#)" Kevin McDugle indicates that the average lease should cost no more than \$1,000 in attorney fees.

This article is the first in a series to discuss the results of this survey. Future articles include:

- Royalty negotiation results
- Post production costs negotiation results
- When negotiations were not successful, what did the landowner do?
- Environmental and land use negotiation results

This article was published by [Michigan State University Extension](http://www.msue.msu.edu). 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).

WEBSITES 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://aqbioresearch.msu.edu/nwmihort/faxnet.htm>

60 Hour Forecast

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

Information on cherries is available at the new cherry website:

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

Fruit CAT Alert Reports has moved to MSU News <http://news.msue.msu.edu>

Tart Cherry Raw Product Reports – 2013

<http://www.cherryboard.org/Week82013.pdf>