

September 2008
NW Michigan Regional Fruit Grower Newsletter

CALENDER OF EVENTS

- 9/20** **Saskatoon Workshop**
NWMHRS
- 9/24** **Design Guilds in Permaculture**
w/Dave Jacke, Permaculture Teacher
& Author of Edible Forest Gardens
- 9/24** **Trevor Nichols Research Complex Field Day**
Fennville
- 9/25** **Household Hazardous Waste/Clean Sweep Collection**
- 9/25** **Hoophouse Workshop**
Gaylord
- 10/8** **[CSA Training Workshop](#)**
Indian River
- 12/1** **Pesticide Core Manual Review & Test**
Banks' Township Hall
- 12/2** **Pesticide Core Manual Review & Test**
NWMHRS
- 12/9-11** **Great Lakes Expo**
DeVos Place Conference Center
Grand Rapids
- 12/11-12** **Irrigation School**
Amway Grand Plaza
- 2009**
- 1/20-22** **NW Michigan Orchard & Vineyard Show**
Grand Traverse Resort
- 2/4-5** **SW Michigan Hort Days**
Lake Michigan Community College's
Mendel Center
- 2/16-18** **MSU Tree Fruit IPM School**
KBS
- 2/17-19** **Winery Establishment**
MSU SW MI Res & Extension Center

2008 HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE AND CLEAN SWEEP COLLECTIONS

You can properly dispose of old, unusable pesticides through the *Household Hazardous Waste/Clean Sweep* collections. The remaining collection for 2008 is scheduled for **Thursday, September 25**. You

must call the Grand Traverse County recycling hotline at **941-5555** to schedule your appointment or you may go online at www.recyclesmart.info to schedule an appointment for a collection. Clean Sweep (pesticide) material is accepted free of charge to all Michigan residents. Funds to properly dispose of these pesticides come from the Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program. If you are not a residence of Grand Traverse County, there may be a fee for household hazardous waste material – call for details. Check your recycling hotline on possible Household Hazardous Waste and Clean Sweep collections held in your county.

TREVOR NICHOLS FIELD DAY

This year's field day will be held **Wednesday, September 24**, from 1:00- 4:00 p.m. MSU researchers from the Entomology and Plant Pathology Departments will be on hand to discuss the insect, disease, and efficacy trials that took place in 2008. For additional information or directions to the facility, call 269/561-5040.

Hoophouse Workshop

Presenters:

Dr. John Biernbaum, *Michigan State University Professor of Horticulture*

When:

Thursday, **September 25, 2008** from **4 to 9 p.m.**

Where:

BJ's Restaurant 990 N. Center Street, Gaylord, MI 49735

Topics to be Covered:

Design options for a range of costs and sizes

Construction methods including cold frames and small scale build your own

Crop selection and scheduling

Soil preparation and fertility management

Planting, growing and harvesting methods

Space is limited to 20 attendees. An RSVP is needed to attend. Please contact the Michigan Food & Farming Systems (MIFFS) office to register at (517) 432-0712. There is no fee for the workshop, and dinner is included.

Program funded by the USDA Farm Services Agency

CHANGE IN "KEEP OUR FARMERS FARMING" AUCTION

The Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Foundation has decided to include all donated or consigned items in an upcoming Century Asset Management auction later this fall. The site of the auction will be at Century Asset's auction barn on M-72 just west of Co. Rd. 667.

The Foundation is currently seeking items for the auction. Individuals or businesses can donate or consign farm equipment, lawnmowers, 4 wheelers, antiques, collectibles, or miscellaneous items worth over \$25.00. The commission rate on consigned items is 10% to the Auction House, 20% to the Foundation and 70% to the individual or business. Proceeds will be used to fund horticultural research in northwest Michigan. Auction services will be provided by Century Asset Management, Inc. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Questions should be addressed to:

Jeff Winegard, Event Coordinator, Phone: (231) 348-8273 E-mail:

winegard@charter.net

Dennis Kubesh, Auctioneer, Phone: (231) 228 6667 Fax (231) 228-7518 Web :

www.centuryassets.com

FRUIT IRRIGATION SYSTEMS WORKSHOP

An intensive two-day workshop on fruit irrigation systems will be offered in conjunction with the 2008 EXPO. The focus of the workshop will be on the design and use of micro irrigation systems (drip and micro sprinklers) for fruit plantings. The workshop program starts at **8 a.m.** on **Thursday, December 11** and will conclude by **4 p.m.** on **Friday, December 12**. It will be held in the Emerald Room of the Amway Grand Plaza Hotel. The EXPO's convention room rate will be available on Thursday evening at the Amway.

Dr. Stuart Styles, an outstanding workshop presenter and a widely recognized expert on the design and use of fruit irrigation systems, will conduct the workshop. He will be assisted by Dr. Ron Perry and Dr. Jim Flore from the Department of Horticulture at Michigan State University. Dr. Styles is the Director of the Irrigation Training and Research Center at California Polytechnic State University in San Luis Obispo, California. Topics that will be covered at the workshop include the following:

- Water needs and crop response to irrigation in apples, cherries, peaches, blueberries, grapes, strawberries and brambles
- Weather and moisture cycles, soils and soil water, scheduling plant/soil water needs
- Impact of irrigation on cold hardiness
- Drip and micro irrigation systems:
 1. Filtration requirements; avoiding plugging
 2. Dealing with undulating terrain and variable soil types in irrigation designs
 3. How efficiency and evaluation influence scheduling
- Irrigation system maintenance and fertigation systems
- Use of micro systems to deliver frost protection and pest management
- Evaluation of irrigation system performance
- Computer evaluation programs (bring your laptop for some hands-on experience)
- Irrigation equipment company representatives panel: New products and Q/A
- Water use regulations in California and the Great Lakes

To help defray the cost of the workshop to registrants, these generous sponsors have provided financial support:

Platinum Sponsors – Automatic Supply Michigan, Spring Brook Supply

Gold Sponsors – John Deere Water Technologies, Toro Micro Irrigation, Trickle-Eez Company, Zirk Welding & Irrigation

Silver Sponsor – Nelson Irrigation Corp.

Bronze Sponsor – Triple K Irrigation

Registration for the workshop will be limited to the first 100 registrants. Register by using the registration form on the back cover of the Expo program or go online to register at:

www.glexpo.com.

Cost of the two-day workshop is **\$100** (\$110 for those who do not also register for the EXPO). If space is available, registration will be offered for \$125 during the EXPO and at the door when the workshop starts on Thursday. For more information on the workshop, contact Dr. Ron Perry at 517-355-5191, ext. 1433.

WINE GRAPE PRODUCTION GUIDE RELEASED

A new publication entitled "Wine Grape Production Guide for Eastern North America" will be printed this fall and available about December. This is the first text of its kind for the Eastern U.S. with more than 300 pages and 170 color photos (see the website www.nraes.org) for more details.

The retail price of the book will be \$65 plus about \$6 shipping for a total of \$71. A considerable discount of 40% is available for pre-print orders. We will coordinate a pre-print order as follows:

The cost of the guide is \$42/copy and can be picked up at the NW Michigan Horticultural Research Station (NWMHRS). Or you can add \$6/copy and we will mail your order to you. Click here for the [order form](#). **The deadline for this pre-print offer is Friday, September 26.**

MSU TREE FRUIT IPM SCHOOL- 2009

Erin Lizotte, IPM/IFP District Educator

As in past years, the *2009 Tree Fruit IPM School* will be a two and a half day event to be held **February 16, 17, and 18** at the W.K. Kellogg Biological Station in Hickory Corners, Michigan. It will include updates on pathogens and pests from MSU faculty and researchers. We are also hoping to bring in an out-of-state speaker to get an outside perspective on the challenges facing Michigan fruit growers. We are looking forward to another successful program that delivers information you can't find anywhere else. We hope to see you there!

NEW CORE MANUALS

Erin Lizotte, IPM/IFP District Educator

New Private and Commercial Core Manuals are available this year. This is just a quick note to ensure that everyone is aware that the manuals have changed, and the recertification test will be based on this new text. Manuals are available at County Extension Offices and the NW Research Station for \$30. Additionally, there will be Pesticide Recertification Core review and test sessions on *December 1 and 2*. Please see the calendar for details.

NEW REGULATIONS FOR BAITING AND FEEDING DEER AND ELK

[Click here](#) for a page prepared by the Michigan DNR explaining the new rules for this season