

# **Northern Michigan FruitNet 2016 Northwest Michigan Horticultural Research Center**

Weekly Update

**FruitNet Report – December 13, 2016**

## **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

**01/17 - 01/18/17**

**2017 Orchard and Vineyard Show**  
Grand Traverse Resort

**2/1 – 2/3**

**Tree Fruit IPM School**  
Registration required (more  
information below)

## **What's New?**

- **Register for Tree Fruit IPM School by January 11<sup>th</sup>**
- **Grand Traverse Conservation District - MAEAP Technician (2 positions)**

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## **Register for Tree Fruit IPM School by January 11<sup>th</sup>**

Registration is now open for the 2017 Michigan State University Tree Fruit IPM School. This year, the meeting will be held on February 1-3 at Hotel Indigo in Traverse City, MI.

The school will feature speakers that will address key challenges in orchard systems and how we can maintain and optimize IPM strategies in the 21<sup>st</sup> century particularly in relation to invasive insect pests that have changed these strategies. We will also explore orchard diseases and how to balance disease control and resistance management. Participants will learn how to identify and differentiate symptoms of traditional orchard insect pests, newer invasive species, diseases, and physiological disorders. Lastly, we have included important horticultural strategies to grow high quality fruit.

We are pleased to announce that three guest speakers are on our lineup this year – Dr. Tracy Leskey of USDA ARS Appalachian Fruit Research Station will join us to share the experience and status of brown marmorated stink bug management from the perspective of growers in Eastern states; she will also present her latest research on spotted wing drosophila. Dr. Lailiang Cheng of Cornell University will address nutritional issues of apples including nutrient requirements of Gala and mitigating bitter pit in Honeycrisp. Finally, Sara Villani of North Carolina State University Extension will discuss how to resist SDHI fungicide resistance and her latest research on apple scab management.

The cost of registration is \$175 and includes breakfast, lunch, snacks, refreshments, and beverages for the Pub Quiz Social Hour, and a binder with course materials. Dinner and lodging are on your own. Don't forget to mention MSU IPM Fruit School for a discounted room rate at Hotel Indigo until January 22<sup>nd</sup>. To register, please mail a check made payable to Michigan State University and a completed registration form (attached) to:

Jenn Zelinski  
NW MI Horticultural Research Center  
6686 S. Center Hwy  
Traverse City, MI 49684

*Registrations must be post-marked by January 11<sup>th</sup>.* Questions? Please contact Emily Pochubay ([pochubay@msu.edu](mailto:pochubay@msu.edu)) or Jenn Zelinski ([goodr100@msu.edu](mailto:goodr100@msu.edu)), 231-946-1510.

*We would like to extend our sincerest thanks our sponsors  
for their generous donations to support this year's school!*



## **Grand Traverse Conservation District - MAEAP Technician (2 positions)**

The Grand Traverse Conservation District is currently seeking candidates for the Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) Technician position. The position is full-time, 40 hours per week. The usual work hours will be scheduled between the hours of 8:00 AM-4:30 PM M-F. Some nights and weekends will be required based on when outreach events and meetings are scheduled. Travel (paid) will be required throughout the multi-county service area. The Technician will be employed by the Grand Traverse Conservation District. This is a grant-funded position and may be renewed annually. The wage (\$17 - \$21/hour) will be commensurate with candidate's experience and education.

The position is housed in Grand Traverse County at Grand Traverse Conservation District located at 1450 Cass Rd., Traverse City, Michigan. The service area covers: Antrim, Benzie, Grand Traverse, and Leelanau counties. The successful candidate will be responsible for delivering on-farm technical assistance in the counties served. This includes conducting farm-specific risk assessments, coordinating local, state and federal agency resources to help growers/farmers reduce environmental risks; and assisting growers/farmers in making progress toward MAEAP verification. The MAEAP Technician is also responsible for collaborating with Conservation District staff to promote MAEAP and educate diverse audiences on the importance of sustainable agriculture in the Grand Traverse region.

Applicants should have a four-year agriculture or natural resource management or related degree from an accredited college or university. Minimum two years of experience in agriculture or natural resource related fieldwork is preferred. Knowledge of and experience working with agricultural producers and practices is preferred. Experience collaborating on, developing, and delivering agriculture education programs to a variety of audiences in diverse settings is preferred. Must maintain a valid driver's license and have access to a working vehicle.

Application Deadline: Friday, January 6, 2017, or until position is filled. Submit a cover letter stating your suitability for the position based on knowledge and skills, along with a resume, and list of 3 professional references to Marsha Clark, Executive Director, Grand Traverse Conservation District. E-mail: [mclark@gtcd.org](mailto:mclark@gtcd.org) or mail to: 1450 Cass Road, Traverse City, MI 49685. Equal Opportunity Employer

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## Changes in Duke Elsner's Extension Assignment

I have been asked by the administration of MSU Extension to make changes to my programming assignment. Beginning in January of 2017 I will be heavily involved in educational programming on the topics of pollinating insects and monarch butterfly conservation throughout northern Michigan.

In order to take on my new role I will be reducing the amount of time I spend on the horticultural aspects of viticulture and other small fruits. I will continue to be involved with integrated pest management in grapes and other small fruits with a greater emphasis on the management of spotted wing drosophila in berry crops.

I have greatly enjoyed working with the northern Michigan grape growers and wine makers over the last 26 years, and I'm happy that I'm not cutting my ties to this industry entirely.

MSU Extension is committed to maintaining viticultural programming for this region. They have announced a new, 100% viticulture extension educator position, based in Leelanau County, to be filled in early 2017.

Duke Elsner

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## Sustainable Spotted Wing Drosophila Management for United States Fruit Crops

### Grower Survey

<https://survey.ncsu.edu/swd/>

Thank you for helping out by taking this survey. The purpose of the survey is to measure the effects of spotted wing drosophila (SWD) on fruit crop production. Results will be used to develop national research and extension projects to minimize future impacts of SWD. These may include:

- *Development of new management tactics and programs*
- *Supporting new or expanded pesticide registrations for SWD*
- *Development of educational material on SWD for growers, extension agents, and others*

Participation in the survey is voluntary. The survey does not collect personally identifying information. Data may be summarized by state, crop, farm size, or farm type, but individual survey responses are confidential and will never be shared. Summaries of aggregated survey data will be publicly available on our project website, and will also be available by request.

Funding for this project, *Sustainable Spotted Wing Drosophila Management for US Fruit Crops*, was provided by the National Institute of Food and Agriculture, U.S. Department of Agriculture Specialty Crops Research Initiative under Agreement No. 2015-51181-24252.

The survey should be completed by the person (age 18 or older) who is responsible for making pest management decisions for this growing operation.

If you have questions about the survey, please contact Hannah Burrack at [hjburrac@ncsu.edu](mailto:hjburrac@ncsu.edu) or Jean-Jacques Dubois at [jbubois@ncsu.edu](mailto:jbubois@ncsu.edu)

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## **New webinar series for beginning farmers will begin January 2017**

**The Beginning Farmer Webinar Series generated new farm businesses and employment opportunities. A new series will begin Jan. 30, 2017.**

Posted by [Jim Isleib](#), Michigan State University Extension, MSUE News

New farm businesses provide jobs, income and increased economic and social stability, and increased food security to rural and other communities. Providing basic, practical information to people interested in or already engaging in new farm enterprises helps these small businesses develop sound production and marketing plans. The [Michigan State University Extension Beginning Farmer Webinar Series](#) helps to make this happen, reaching 664 people since 2012.

An evaluation of the series of 24 webinars offered during January-May 2016 showed that the series was perceived as valuable by respondents, with strong indication of knowledge increase. Respondents indicated the series will have impact on the land they manage and on several key farming decisions and activities. Respondents revealed that the series contributed to the creation of 10 new jobs.

A [new Beginning Farmer Webinar Series](#) is planned for January-May 2017. Presenters include MSU Extension educators and others. The following evening "Getting started with..." webinars will provide valuable start-up information on nine general and more specific farming topics, including:

- Jan. 30, Small vegetable farm systems
- Feb. 13, Hoophouse management
- Feb. 27, Maple syrup
- March 13, Fencing and watering systems for livestock
- March 27, Blueberries
- April 3, Crop nutrient management
- April 10, Aquaculture (fish farming)
- April 24, Planning and operating a mixed fruit orchard
- May 8, Producing and selling eggs

A fee of \$10 per webinar is required, or you can register for the entire series at half price for \$45. Webinar recordings will be provided to all registered participants. Participate from the comfort and convenience of your own home or office. Registration, a brochure containing details on each individual program and online or mailed payment options can be found at **Beginning Farmer Webinar Series 2017**. You may register for all or some of the courses at any time, even if the session has already taken place. In that case, you will get a link to the recorded program.

Each program begins at 7 p.m. ET and will last up to two hours. A high-speed internet connection is required. You will receive webinar connection information after you register.

An archive of 58 Beginning Farmer Webinar Series programs from 2012-2016 on a wide variety of topics can be accessed free of charge at the Beginning Farmer Webinar Series webpage.

Contact the Alger County MSU Extension office at 906-387-2530 or [isleibj@anr.msu.edu](mailto:isleibj@anr.msu.edu) for more information.

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## **Agricultural Survey Responses Needed – Benzie and Antrim County Growers**

Benzie County: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/5KKDVQB>

Manistee County: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/ZNQL8FH>

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## **Last chance to receive pesticide recertification credits from the IPM Academy Online**

**Up to five commercial or private core pesticide recertification credits are available for Michigan applicators until Dec. 31, 2016. No registration or fees required.**

Posted by [Erin Lizotte](#), Michigan State University Extension, MSUE News



Looking to learn more about integrated pest management (IPM) or get some end-of-year recertification credits? Check out Michigan State University's [IPM Academy Online Webinars](#), a series of on-demand webinars created to help Michigan growers identify pest management resources and understand IPM basics.

Registration is not required and they are available for free. Simply visit the [IPM Academy Online Webinars](#) webpage at your convenience and view one or all of the prerecorded webinars. Viewers can earn up to five pesticide recertification credits. A computer with internet connectivity, a web browser and speakers are required.

The following webinars are currently available for viewing:

- MDARD Nursery Program Update
- Summer 2015 Nursery Update
- Becoming an Insect Investigator: Interpreting Vegetable Pest Symptoms and Signs
- Tactics for Vegetable Disease Management
- Hop IPM
- What's Wrong With My Vegetable Plants?
- Chestnut IPM
- Introduction to Integrated Pest Management
- Integrated Pest Management Resources
- Entomology 101
- Plant Pathology 101
- Soil Science 101
- Plant Science 101

- Pesticides 101
- Insect Scouting in Fruit Crops

Accommodations for persons with disabilities may be requested by contacting Erin Lizotte at [taylo548@msu.edu](mailto:taylo548@msu.edu) to make arrangements. Requests will be fulfilled when possible.

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## **ISSUE BRIEF: Right to Access Migrant Labor Camps**

Outreach workers have the right to enter migrant labor camps without the permission or knowledge of the labor camp owner or operator.

Rev. March 2012

Legal Standard:

Migrant labor camp occupants, their guests, and representatives of assistance organizations have the right to enter and leave migrant labor camps without the permission or knowledge of the labor camp owner or operator.<sup>1</sup> Camp owners and operators may not inhibit outreach workers' or guests' reasonable visits to migrant camps.<sup>2</sup> Outreach workers can enter migrant labor camps without signing in or notifying a camp owner/operator prior to entering the labor camp.<sup>3</sup>

GAP Applicability:

The above legal standard, established by the federal court landmark decision in *Folgueras v. Hassle*; *United States v. Hassle*, 331 F. Supp. 615 (W.D. Mich. 1971), supersedes guidelines, such as those included in the Good Agricultural Practices ("GAP") and similar audit programs.<sup>4</sup> The GAP guideline is merely a recommendation and "does not have the force and effect of law and thus is not subject to enforcement."<sup>5</sup> In addition, the GAP guideline applies only to the agricultural workplace, not labor housing.<sup>6</sup> Even in situations where the "workplace" and "housing" are arguably



connected, the GAP guideline does not restrict or preempt legal precedent that recognizes the constitutional, statutory, and common law rights to freely enter migrant labor camps to visit and serve occupants.<sup>7</sup>

For additional information or assistance in resolving a specific issue involving the denial of or limitations on the right to free access to migrant labor camps, contact Farmworker Legal Services, Migrant Legal Aid, the Michigan Department of Civil Rights, or a private attorney.

<sup>1</sup> In 1971, a Western Michigan federal court issued the landmark decision *Folgueras v. Hassle*; *United States v. Hassle*, 331 F. Supp. 615 (W.D. Mich. 1971) that upheld the right of free access by migrant laborers, their guests, and outreach workers to labor camps. Since then, the *Folgueras* principles of free access have been followed by courts in other states and continue to provide legal precedent regarding labor housing access rights.

<sup>2</sup> *Id.*, at 623 (holding that a labor camp owner or operator “may not constitutionally deprive the migrant laborers living in his camps, or members of assistance organizations, or mere visitors of reasonable access to his camps”); see also *Id.*, at 624 (“[T]he property rights of the camp owner do not include the right to deny access to his camps to guests or persons working for any governmental or private agency whose primary objective is the health, welfare or dignity of the migrant workers as human beings.”).

<sup>3</sup> *Id.*, at 625 (prohibiting camp owners and operators “from interfering with any persons who seek access to enter agricultural labor camps or have entered said camps located on property he owns or controls for the purpose of visiting the residents of said camps”). <sup>4</sup> See Guidance for Industry, *Guide to Minimize Microbial Food Safety Hazards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables*, U.S. Food & Drug Admin. (Oct. 1998), available at <http://www.fda.gov/downloads/Food/GuidanceComplianceRegulatoryInformation/GuidanceDocuments/ProduceandPlantProducts/UCM169112.pdf>.

<sup>5</sup> *Id.*, at 2. <sup>6</sup> *Id.* While Part 7 of the GAP guideline provides a nonbinding recommendation that a facility have a visitor check-in log, such recommendation applies only to the facilities where the processing of fresh produce occurs. *Id.*, at 32. <sup>7</sup> *Id.*, at 2.

**Be aware of changes to EPA’s Worker Protection Standard  
January 2017**

**These meetings and resources will help growers who use pesticides comply with changes to the federal Worker Protection Standard.**

Posted by [Tom Dudek](#), Michigan State University Extension, MSUE News



The [Environmental Protection Agency](#) (EPA) has made a significant number of changes to the [Worker Protection Standard](#) (WPS) that were put into effect in 1992. The new changes require growers of agricultural crops, including greenhouses and nurseries, to be compliant starting Jan. 2, 2017.

Changes in the new rules include:

- Worker training
- Hazard communication
- Notification of treated areas
- Minimum age for handlers and early entry workers
- Entry restrictions during applications for outdoor production
- Handler suspends application in certain situations
- Exemptions and exceptions
- Basic pesticide safety information
- Personal protective equipment
- Decontamination supplies
- Emergency assistance
- Definitions of “family,” “enclosed space production” and “employ”

[Michigan State University Extension](#) is offering [EPA WPS Outreach Sessions](#) throughout Michigan in January 2017 to help growers understand the changes. These sessions will take place **Jan. 10 in Clarksville**, **Jan. 17 in Traverse City**, **Jan. 24 in Benton Harbor** and **Jan. 31 in New Era**. Visit [EPA WPS Outreach Sessions](#) to register and for more information.

The Pesticide Educational Resources Collaborative has some excellent written materials to help you comply with the changes, including checklists to be sure you have covered all the changes, an employee training video for worker training and the “How to Comply With the 2015 Revised Worker Protection Standard For Agricultural Pesticides” manual. This updated manual supersedes the 2005 version. Changes to the Standard have made the 2005 version obsolete. The revised “How to Comply” manual includes:

- Details to help you determine if the WPS requirements apply to you.
- Information on how to comply with the WPS requirements, including exemptions, exceptions, restrictions, options and examples.
- A “Quick Reference Guide,” which is a list of the basic requirements (excluding exemptions, exceptions, etc.).
- New or revised definitions that may affect your WPS responsibilities.
- Explanations to help you better understand the WPS requirements and how they may apply to you.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development enforces the WPS rules in Michigan. They have completed planned use inspections with many growers over the past few years as a method to see how growers are complying with the Standards.

I encourage you to review the changes and be in a position to implement them when your workers show up Jan. 2, 2017.

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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>

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