



Southwest  
Michigan

*Horticultural  
Days*  
**2024**

**February 7 & 8**

Lake Michigan College  
Mendel Center  
Benton Harbor, MI

Michigan  
Grape Society



**MICHIGAN STATE**  
UNIVERSITY

Extension

# WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024

8:00 Registration and Exhibitor Showroom open

## GENERAL SESSION

**Upton 101 (2 RUPs: Comm CORE, Priv CORE, aerial)**

- 9:00 Irrigation management for fruit – **Younsuk Dong**, *MSU Biosystems and Agricultural Engineering*
- 9:30 How MAEAP can help you and your farm – **Lisa Kuntz** and **Kyle Mead**, *Berrien and Van Buren County Conservation Districts*
- 9:45 Spray drones: what you need to know – **Mike Reinke**, *MSU Extension*
- 10:15 Break
- 10:35 MSU Weather Update – **Jeff Andresen**, *MSU Geography, Environment and Spatial Sciences*
- 11:05 Grants for farmers – **Mariel Borgman** and **Katie Brandt**, *MSU*
- 11:25 How loans can help your business grow – **Jon LaPorte**, *MSU Extension*

## MORNING VEGETABLE SESSION

**North Training (2 RUPs: 1B, Priv CORE)**

- 9:00 Introduction and SWMREC variety trials – **Ben Phillips**, *MSU Extension*
- 9:40 Viruses in squash – **Zsafia Szendrei**, *MSU Entomology*
- 10:00 Plasticulture onion trial – **Natalie Constancio**, *MSU Entomology*
- 10:20 Phytophthora and other disease work at SWMREC – **David Perla**, *MSU Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences*
- 11:00 SWMREC and YOU! Goal setting period – **Ben Phillips**, *MSU Extension*

Thank you to our Lunch sponsor:



## AFTERNOON TREE FRUIT SESSION

**Upton 101 (2 RUPs: 1C, Priv CORE)**

- 1:30 Timing insecticide sprays for tree fruit insects – **Jackie Perkins**, *MSU Entomology*
- 2:00 EnviroWeather tips for tree fruit growers – **Amy Irish-Brown**, *Valent*
- 2:30 Break
- 2:50 Using new apple cost of production info to analyze breakevens and other trends – **Chris Bardenhagen**, *MSU Extension*
- 3:20 Perspectives on the Michigan apple industry from Riveridge Produce Marketing – **Don Armock**, *Riveridge Produce Marketing, Inc.*

# WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 7, 2024

## AFTERNOON GRAPE SESSION

### North Exhibit Lobby (2 RUP: 1C, Priv CORE)

- 1:30 GBM drone border sprays and other GBM research – **Lauren Goldstein**, *MSU Entomology*
- 2:00 Precision Viticulture using Digital Ag Software – **Jennifer Russo**, *Cornell University Cooperative Extension*
- 2:30 A Guide to Optimizing Nutrients through Sap Analysis – **Scott Wall**, *New Age Laboratories*
- 3:00 SWMREC grape research update – **Mike Reinke**, *MSU Extension*

## AFTERNOON VEGETABLE SESSION

### North Training (1 RUP: 1B, Priv CORE)

- 1:30 Insurance options for vegetable growers – **Jon LaPorte**, *MSU Extension*
- 2:00 Smoke and mirrors and the weather outlook – **Jeff Andresen**, *MSU Geography, Environment and Spatial Sciences*
- 2:30 The down and dirty about soap – **Phil Tocco**, *MSU Extension*
- 3:00 Locally available irrigation monitoring systems and how to get them paid for (industry panel) – **Joe Janosky**, *Reinke Irrigation*; **Ryan Demorrow**, *Wilbur-Ellis*; and **Mike Stickle**, *National Resources Conservation Service*

**Don't Forget:**

## Southwest Michigan Wine Showcase

Wednesday, February 7, 2024

4:30 p.m.

Located in the Exhibitor Showroom area

**Sponsored by**



**LAKE MICHIGAN<sup>®</sup>**  
COLLEGE

WINE & VITICULTURE  
TECHNOLOGY



# THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024

8:00 Registration and Exhibitor Showroom open

## MORNING TREE FRUIT SESSION

### North Training (2 RUPs: 1C, Priv CORE)

- 9:00 New apple rootstock technologies from the Geneva Apple Rootstock Breeding Program – **Gennaro Fazio**, *USDA-ARS New York*
- 9:30 Options for treating your fruit with ethylene blockers – **Randy Beaudry**, *MSU Horticulture*
- 10:10 Break
- 10:30 How we breed and develop apple rootstocks in the Geneva Breeding Program – **Gennaro Fazio**, *USDA-ARS New York*
- 11:00 Tree fruit disease update – **George Sundin**, *MSU Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences*

## MORNING GRAPE SESSION

### Upton 101 (2 RUPs: 1C, Priv CORE)

- 9:00 Raiders of the Grapevine: Battling Downy Mildew in Michigan – **Tim Miles**, *MSU Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences*
- 9:45 Exploring Regenerative Cropping Systems – **Christine Charles**, *MSU Extension*
- 10:15 Michigan Grape Society Annual Meeting
- 11:00 Protecting vineyards from invasive insect pests – **Rufus Isaacs**, *MSU Entomology*
- 11:30 Communicating with farmers under stress – **Remington Rice**, *MSU Extension*

## MORNING BLUEBERRY SESSION

### North Exhibit Lobby (2 RUPs: 1C, Priv CORE)

- 9:00 Nitrogen cycling in soil – **Cheyenne Sloan**, *MSU Extension*
- 9:30 MyEV Tool – free Digital Ag Software to collect, process, and use spatial data on your farm – **Jennifer Russo**, *Cornell University Cooperative Extension*
- 10:00 Advances in biological control of CFW/CBFW and SWD with *Trichogramma platneri* and the entomopathogenic nematode *Steinernema feltiae* in blueberries – **Carlos Garcia Salazar**, *MSU Extension*
- 10:30 Break
- 11:00 Strategies to improve blueberry quality and flavor – **Daniel Dick**, *MSU Horticulture*
- 11:30 Industry Update – **Nancy Nyquist**, *Michigan Blueberry Commission*; and **Chad Reenders**, *Michigan Blueberry Action Committee*

# THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024

## MORNING MARKETING SESSION

**F111 (0 RUP credits)**

- 9:00 Local Marketing 101 – Strategies, Networks and Resources – **Garrett Ziegler** and **Kelly McClelland**, *MSU Extension*
- 10:30 Break
- 11:00 Farmer Panel: Thinking About Your Optimal Market Mix (grower panel) – **Robyn Shultz**, *Shultz Fruitridge Farms*; **Kyle Mitchell**, *Mitchell's Patch of Blue*; **Marc Luff**, *Flatwater Farms*

Thank you to our Lunch sponsor:



## AFTERNOON TREE FRUIT SESSION

**North Training (2 RUP: 1C, Priv CORE)**

- 1:30 Update on bitter rot disease management in apple – **Kristi MacCready**, *MSU Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences*
- 2:00 Understanding bitter pit of apple – **Chayce Griffith**, *MSU Horticulture*
- 2:30 Making sense of surfactants and adjuvants for spraying – **Bill Shane**, *MSU Extension*

## AFTERNOON WINE GRAPE SESSION

**Upton 101 (0 RUP credits)**

- 1:30 Intro to the Winegrid equipment in the winery – **Doug Olson**, *Liang Vineyards*
- 2:00 Dirt to Glass: Elevating Michigan wine from the ground up – **Amanda Danielson**, *Intentional Agriculture*
- 2:20 Sugar and Microbes: critical concepts in wine spoilage – **Michael Moyer**, *Lake Michigan College Wine and Viticulture Technology*
- 3:00 Critical wine tasting from varietal selections at the Southwest Michigan Research and Extension Center – **Michael Moyer**, *Lake Michigan College Wine and Viticulture Technology*

# THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 8, 2024

## AFTERNOON BLUEBERRY SESSION

### North Exhibit Lobby (2 RUP: 1C, Priv CORE)

- 1:30 A Guide to Optimizing Nutrients through Sap Analysis – **Scott Wall**, *New Age Laboratories*
- 2:00 Biocontrol for SWD progress report – **Rufus Isaacs**, *MSU Entomology*
- 2:30 Blueberry Anthracnose: The Search for Control – **Tim Miles**, *MSU Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences*
- 3:00 Exploring Regenerative Cropping Systems – **Christine Charles**, *MSU Extension*

## AFTERNOON MARKETING SESSION

### F111 (0 RUP credits)

- 1:30 Unpacking Your Marketing Mix with Market Channel Analysis – The Tool Every Direct Marketer Needs – **Curtis Mahnken**, *University of Minnesota*; **Mariah Beverly**, *University of Minnesota*; and **Jon LaPorte**, *MSU Extension*

### We want to thank those that made this event the success it is including:

- The Michigan Grape Society Executive Board
- The MSU Extension educational session coordinators, **Mike Reinke**, **Bill Shane**, **Ben Phillips**, **Cheyenne Sloan**, and **Mariel Borgman**
- The MSU staff, **Renee Tinkey** and **Jamie Styburski**

If you want to be a member of this team bringing great education to the Michigan agricultural community, join the Michigan Grape Society board!

## Grand Door Prize Drawings

following lunch and afternoon sessions

**BOTH DAYS!**

**Grand Upton Hall**

Be sure to save your door prize tickets! Have them punched at the trade show vendor booths, clearly PRINT your name and deposit into the door prize drawing box.

Drawings for prizes will be held in the trade show area both days during lunch break and after the afternoon sessions.

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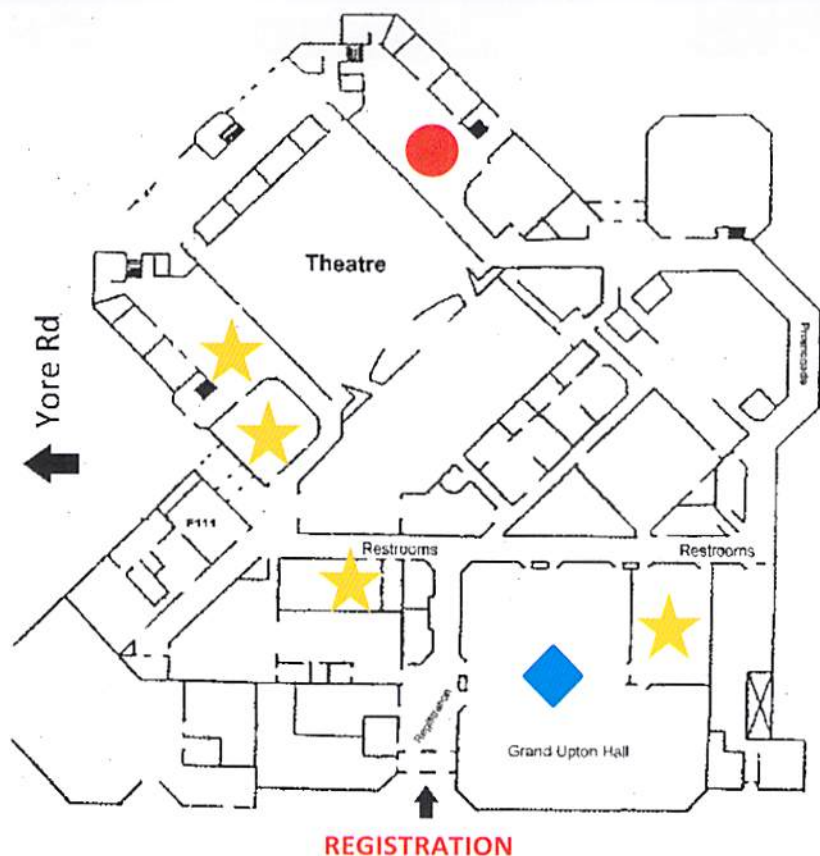


## PLEASE VISIT THE EXHIBITORS

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Great Lakes IPM  
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Krieger's Wholesale Nursery  
Michigan On-Farm Produce Safety  
Morgan Composting Inc  
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NEW AGE Laboratories  
Nutrien Ag Solutions  
Orchard-Rite/Superior Wind Machine  
Provide Agro Corporation  
Spring Brook Supply  
Thomas Bros Equipment  
USDA Farm Service Agency  
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## NORTH PARKING LOT



Educational Session Rooms



Exhibitor Showroom



Lunch Location

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In the event of inclement weather, call Mike Reinke at 269-944-1477 x210 for cancellation details.