

January 2017 Berrien MSU Extension E-news

[USDA Farm Service Agency \(FSA\) outreach series for small fruit growers, January 12 – March 9](#)

The goal of this program is to provide small, underserved, limited resource growers with training and education to create awareness about FSA and increase access to its programs and services, Bangor.

[Ag Action 2017, January 13](#)

Ag Action provides a full day of educational sessions focusing on agriculture, food safety and home gardening topics, featuring a trade show highlighting products and services provided by local businesses, trade show, RUP testing, RUP credits, and lunch. Fee: \$25 before January 6, \$30 after.

[2017 SMaRT soybean on-farm research meetings](#)

The results from the 2016 on-farm research projects will be presented at five programs conducted around Michigan in January and early February of 2017. January 18, Coldwater and January 19 Hamilton. No registration fees, but pre-registration by January 13 required. Lunch included

[EPA Worker Protection Standard Outreach Session, January 24](#)

These meetings are for assisting Greenhouse operations to help understand and comply with the revisions to WPS. Participants will receive a flash drive containing the EPA How to Comply Manual, Worker training videos in English and Spanish Languages and other materials available at the time of the meeting. Fee: \$25. Register on-line.

[Berrien County 4-H Tractor Operator Program](#)

Enroll your child in the Michigan State University Tractor Operator Program which begins January 25. Youth 13 – 19 years of age invited to participate January 25 - March 29, 2017. (Youth must be 14 by the day of the driving test to be eligible to receive the federal certificate.) Classes will meet Wednesday evenings at the Old Baroda Township Hall, 9081 First Street, Baroda. The 4-H Tractor Operator Program is a major investment of time, but one of the most valuable experiences we offer that teaches young people safety, confidence and job skills to last a lifetime. Cost is \$50/person and must be received by January 12. Payment and pre-registration is required. Call 269-927-5674 for details.

[Updating Michigan irrigators sessions offered](#)

Six area meeting hosted by Agri-business provides irrigation update for Michigan irrigators including Kalamazoo, January 24 (register Koviack Irrigation 269-273-3010) and Buchanan February 10 (register Co-Alliance at 269-695-6823). RUP and CCA credits.

[Beginning Farmer Webinar Series begins January 30](#)

Beginning producers and others with basic information needs are invited to participate in a series of nine online programs addressing crop and livestock production and marketing on weekday evenings Jan. 30 through May 8, 2017. Fee: \$10/session.

[Southwest Michigan Horticultural Days set for Feb. 1-2, 2017](#)

Attend sessions on cover cropping, soil conservation, pest management, horticultural practices, labor and regulations; trade show; and lunches. Pre-registration is \$45 before January 13; on-site is \$60. Call Allen Zelmer at 269-870-5265 for information.

[2017 FDA FSMA-compliant grower produce safety training, February 10](#)

Produce Safety Alliance grower training courses satisfying the Food and Drug Administration's Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule certification requirement will be offered at three Michigan locations, including Benton Harbor February 10. No fee, one person per operation, please. Registration required.

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Brad Baughman, Fruit
Extension Educator
baughm30@msu.edu

Joanne Davidhizar,
Extension Educator and Innovation Counselor
davidhiz@anr.msu.edu

[Berrien County Michigan State University Extension](#)

1737 Hillandale Road
Benton Harbor, MI 49022
****269-927-5674**
****Note new office phone number**