



## February 2000 Regional Fruit Newsletter

### CALENDAR OF EVENTS

February - March 2000

- 2/29 Michigan Wine Industry Meeting  
Grand Rapids Community College  
Grand Rapids
- 3/1 [Cherry Industry Summit II](#)  
Hilton Inn Airport, 28<sup>th</sup> Street  
Grand Rapids
- 3/2-3 [Great Lakes Peach Conference](#)  
SW Mich Research & Extension Center  
Benton Harbor
- 3/3 [Update on Bovine TB](#)  
Skyliner Restaurant  
Buckley
- 3/3-11 Ag & Natural Resources Week  
Michigan State University
- 3/8 [Michigan Produce Marketing Conference 2000](#)  
Hilton Inn Airport  
Grand Rapids
- 3/14-15 [Benzie/Manistee Hort Show](#)  
Crystal Mountain Resort
- 3/21 [Organic Fruit Production In Michigan](#)  
NWMHRS
- 3/23 Parallel 45 Wines Annual Meeting  
NWMHRS

### CHERRY INDUSTRY SUMMIT II

By James E. Nugent, District Horticulturist, MSUE

Almost four years ago a group of cherry growers, processors, marketers and others met to assess the status of the tart cherry industry and to plan for the future. Much has been

to assess the status of the tart cherry industry and to plan for the future. Much has been implemented within the cherry industry since then. On March 1, the industry is sponsoring *Cherry Summit II*. It's time to review what has occurred during the past four years and to strategize the best courses for the future. All growers, processors and marketers are invited to attend. It will be held at the Hilton Inn Airport on 28<sup>th</sup> Street in Grand Rapids.

The program has been organized by the Tart Cherry Industry Strategy Planning Council and jointly sponsored by CMI, CIAB, Michigan Processors Assoc., CherrCo and MSU Extension. [See agenda.](#)

## **GREAT LAKES PEACH CONFERENCE – 2000**

This in-depth conference on peach production will be held at the SW Michigan Research and Extension Center in Benton Harbor on March 2<sup>nd</sup> beginning at 8:30 a.m. and ending at 11:30 a.m. March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The conference is sponsored by the Michigan Peach Sponsors and MSU Extension. Cost is \$25 for non members and \$15 for additional employees if pre-registered by February 25<sup>th</sup>. Contact the Extension office or the NWMHRS or visit their web site [www.michiganpeach.org](http://www.michiganpeach.org) for program details and/or a registration form. Attendees will receive 2 recertification credits for the Thursday session.

## **MICHIGAN PRODUCE MARKETING CONFERENCE 2000**

This conference is intended to assist Michigan's fruit and vegetable packers and marketers to stay competitive in the changing market place. Marketers, trade customers and industry analysts will provide insight into the changing produce market and discuss what industries need to do to remain competitive. For more information, contact Don Ricks at 517/355-0145 or Tom Dudek, MSU Extension at 616/846-8250.

## **BENZIE/MANISTEE HORTICULTURE SHOW**

The Benzie/Manistee Horticultural Society and Andy Norman at the Benzie County MSU Extension office have again organized an outstanding fruit grower meeting to be held on March 14<sup>th</sup> & 15<sup>th</sup> at Crystal Mountain Resort. [See agenda.](#)

## **ORGANIC FRUIT PRODUCTION MEETING**

By Jim Nugent

A program has been scheduled for fruit growers with an interest in organic fruit production. The program will provide insight from Michigan processors currently marketing organic fruit products as to the estimated potential volume and price differential for some locally processed organic fruit products. Most of the day long program will focus on how to accomplish production that meets organic standards in Michigan's environment.

A registration fee of \$15 per person will include lunch. Pre-registration is requested by March 17<sup>th</sup>. Call 231/946-1510 or 888/749-3019 (toll free) to register.

Anyone either currently producing organic fruit or interested in exploring organic production is welcome and encouraged to attend. [See agenda.](#)

## **CIAB AMENDMENT HEARINGS**

By Jim Nugent

USDA sponsored hearings regarding the CIAB proposed amendments that were originally scheduled for early February are in the process of being re-scheduled. While USDA has not confirmed a new date, according to Perry Hedin, it appears likely at this time that the Michigan hearings will be held on March 29-31 in Grand Rapids. Growers and processors are encouraged to attend. Please note that these dates are only tentative.

## **TRACTOR SAFETY COURSE**

Jim Bardenhagen, CED, Leelanau Co.

The 2000 Tractor Safety Course will be starting on Thursday, April 6<sup>th</sup> from 6-9 pm at the TBA Career Tech Center at 880 Parsons Road in Traverse City. The rest of the sessions will be held on Thursdays, April 13, 20, & 27 from 6-9 pm at the same location. The written/driving test will be held on Saturday, April 29<sup>th</sup> from 8 am – 3 pm. The cost is \$40.

This course is for youth 14 and 15 years old (as of June 1, 2000). Please note that in order for 14 and 15 year old non-family youth to drive tractors on farms, they need a certificate that they have passed a tractor safety course.

Look for a registration form in next month's newsletter or call the Leelanau MSU Extension Office (256-9888) or the Career Tech Center (922-6353) to obtain a form.

We really appreciate the effort that Bill Bassett and his staff at TBA put forth to make this course possible for our youth.

## **AGENDA FOR THE CHERRY INDUSTRY SUMMIT CONFERENCE**

9:00-9:15 Session Co-Chairs: Phil Korson and Don Ricks  
Welcome-Phil Korson

9:15-10:30 Panel Discussion: "The State of the Tart Cherry Industry"  
Panel Chair: Terry Morrison  
Panel Members: Don Ricks, Phil Korson, Perry Hedin, Jim Jensen

10:15-10:45 Break

10:45-11:30 "Fruit Industry Strategies for Success in Today's Competitive World"

Dr. Des O'Rourke, Washington State University

11:30-12:00 "Michigan Agriculture Now and in the Future"  
Dan Wyant, MDA

12:00-1:15 Luncheon

MC for the luncheon: Jim Jensen

Luncheon Speaker: Ian Gray, MSU, "MSU and the Cherry Industry for the New Millennium"

1:15-2:15 "Cherry Market Expansion Opportunities—Panel Discussion"

**1:15-2:15 Cherry Market Expansion Opportunities—Panel Discussion**

**Panel Chair: Terry Morrison**

**Marketers and Processors Panel: Dave Anderson, Dick Bogard, Bill Sherman, Don Nugent**

**2:15-2:35 "Industry Strategies for Expanding Cherry Markets for the Future"**

**Phil Korson**

**2:35-2:50 "Future Tart Cherry Acreage Trends and Projections"**

**Don Ricks**

**2:50-3:05 Break**

**3:05-3:25 "Vision and Strategic Directions for the Cherry Industry's Future"**

**Earl Peterson**

**3:25-3:45 "Needed Industry Strategies for the Future: A Grower's Perspective"**

**Don Gregory**

**3:45-4:15 Questions, Discussion, and Wrap-up**

**Moderator: Jim Nugent and Council members**

## **49<sup>TH</sup> ANNUAL BENZIE-MANISTEE HORT. SHOW**

**Crystal Mountain Resort**

**March 14th & 15th, 2000**

Registration and Exhibits Open at 8:30 am

Registration and Membership and 1 day's meal ticket - \$ 12 (*Extra meal tickets are \$6 each*)

### **HEALTH SCREENING**

#### **Advanced Hearing Center**

March 14<sup>th</sup> ONLY (Tuesday)

Free Hearing Screening

9:30 am to 2 pm

Jeanne Strathman

#### **Michigan Department of Agriculture**

March 15<sup>th</sup> ONLY (Wednesday)

Pesticide Certification or Re-certification Testing

10 am to 3 pm

Eric McCumber, Pesticide Specialist

Michigan Department of Agriculture

#### **Benzie-Leelanau District Health Department**

March 15<sup>th</sup> ONLY (Wednesday)

Free Blood Pressure Screening

Non-Fasting Cholesterol Screening (\$10)

9:30 am to 3 pm

Michelle Klein, RN, Public Health Nurse

**For attending this year's Educational Sessions. an individual will receive 4 re-certification**

**credits for March 14<sup>th</sup>. Credits are only valid for those currently certified in category 1C (Fruit Crops) or private applicators.**

## **Benzie/Manistee Hort Show Program Schedule**

### **MORNING PROGRAM**

**Tuesday, March 14, 2000**

**Chair MIKE EVANS, Member,  
Michigan Apple Committee,  
Benzie-Manistee Hort. Society**

**9:01 am**

**CALVIN LUTZ II, President, Benzie-Manistee Hort. Society  
WELCOME**

**9:03 - 9:23 am**

**DR. RON PERRY, MSU Dept of Horticulture  
Dogwood Borer & Burr Knots On Apple Rootstocks**

**9:25 - 10:10 am**

**DR. MARK E. WHALON, MSU Dept. Entomology  
& Center For Integrated Plant Systems  
Update & Questions:  
Food Quality Protection Act**

**10:12 - 11 am**

**DR. LARRY GUT, Assistant Professor, MSU Dept of  
Entomology  
Research Update: Managing Resistance  
in Tree Fruit Insects**

**11:01 - 11:27 am**

**GARY E. THORNTON, MSUE, District Fruit IPM Agent,  
NW MI Hort. Research Station  
Peach Tree Borer in Pheromone Disruption NW MI**

**11:29 - 11:59 am**

**DR. MIRA BULATOVIC-DANILOVICH  
District Hort/Marketing Agent, WC MI, MSUE-Oceana County  
Plum Pox Virus: What Is It? How Does It Affect Stone  
Fruit Growers?**

**NOON LUNCH ON SITE**

### **AFTERNOON PROGRAM**

**Tuesday, March 14, 2000**

**Chair MARK EVANS, Secretary,  
Benzie-Manistee Hort. Society**

**1:00 - 1:45 pm**

1:00 - 1:45 pm

**DR. ALAN JONES, MSU Dept. Botany & Plant Pathology**  
**New Information For Disease Control In Apples/Cherries;**  
**Update On Fungicides**

1:50 - 2:25 pm

**DR. JOHN WISE, Coordinator, Trevor Nichols Research Complex**  
**New Tree Fruit Research & Extension Insecticides**

2:26 - 2:34 pm Short Stretch Break

2:35 - 3:25 pm

**DR. JOHN CLINE, Research Scientist,**  
**Dept. Plant Ag/Hort. Research, University of Guelph, Ontario, CANADA**  
**New Apple Varieties in Ontario**

3:30 - 4:00 pm

**DR. JERRY HULL, Professor Emeritus, MSU Dept. of Horticulture**  
**Orchard Weed Management & Potential For Herbicide**  
**Resistance**

#### **MORNING PROGRAM**

**Wednesday, March 15, 2000**

**Chair JIM LAUBACH, Vice-President,**  
**Benzie-Manistee Hort. Society**

9:00 - 9:30 am

**JON CLEMENTS, ANDY NORMAN, ANR Agents,**  
**MSUE-Berrien & Benzie Cos.**  
**New Zealand & Australia's Tree**  
**Fruit Production: 2000 IDFTA**

9:32 - 10:02 am

**DR. DON RICKS, MSU Dept. of Ag. Economics**  
**Recent Developments In The Apple & Cherry**  
**Industries: Strategies For The Future**

10:05 - 10:35 am

**DR. JOHN CLINE, Research Scientist,**  
**Dept. Plant Ag/Hort. Research, University of Guelph, Ontario, CANADA**  
**Thinners & Other Plant Growth Regulators For Apples**

10:36 - 10:45 am - Short Stretch Break

10:45 - 11:15 am

**JIM NUGENT, Station Coordinator, MSUE, District Hort. Agent,**  
**NW MI Hort. Research Station**  
**Growing & Processing Cherries On**  
**Dwarf Rootstocks: Do's & Don'ts Of Training**

11:17- 11:59 am - PANEL

**PHIL SCHWALLIER, Moderator, District Hort/Marketing Agent,**  
**WC MI Hort. Research Station**  
**Growing Quality Honeycrisp: Apple Orchard Decisions**

**Growing Quality Honeycrisp. Apple Orchard Decisions**

**Dr. John Cline, Research Scientist, Dept. Plant Ag/Hort. Research  
University of Guelph, Ontario, CANADA**

**Mike Evans, Partner, Evans Bros. Orchard, Frankfort, MI**

**Dr. Phil Schwallier, MSUE, District Hort/Marketing Agent,  
WC MI Hort. Research Station**

**Stan Peterson, Peterson Orchard And Summit Sales, Ludington, MI  
Brokers & Markets Michigan Apples To Peppin Heights, Minnesota**

**NOON LUNCH ON SITE**

**AFTERNOON PROGRAM**

**Wednesday, March 15, 2000**

**Chair CALVIN LUTZ, II, President  
Benzie-Manistee Hort. Society**

**1:00 - 1:35 pm**

**GLEN CHOWN, Exec. Director, Grand Traverse  
Regional Land Conservancy  
Using Land-Trust As A Management Tool;  
Fruit-Haven Orchard Update**

**1:36 - 2:14 pm DR. E. "DUKE" ELSNER, ANR Agent**

**MSUE-Gr.Traverse & Kalkaska Counties  
Wine Grape Production in NW MI:  
Is It In Your Future?**

**2:15 - 2:55 pm**

**DR. WILLIAM "BILL" SHANE, MSUE, District Fruit Product/Mkt Agent  
SW MI Hort. Research/ Extension Center  
Cling Peach Production Factors:  
Are They An Alternative For You?**

**2:55 - 3:15 pm**

**DR. E. "DUKE" ELSNER, ANR Agent,  
MSUE- Gr.Traverse & Kalkaska Cos.  
NW MI "Project Greenfield": What Is it?  
What Might It Mean To Your Farm?**

**3:20 - 3:45 pm**

**DR. ROBERTA DOW, District Ground/Freshwater Agent,  
MSUE-Grand Traverse County  
Groundwater Protection Standards  
For Farm Fuel Storage Tanks: Update**

**3:50 - 4:15 pm**

**STAN MOORE, County Extension Director, MSUE-Antrim Co.  
Tuberculosis In Michigan Deer Herds**

# **ORGANIC FRUIT PRODUCTION IN MICHIGAN**

**Tuesday, March 21**

**NW Michigan Horticultural Research Station**

***Morning Moderator:* Jim Nugent  
District Horticultural Agent, MSUE**

**8:30 Registration, Coffee & Donuts**

**9:00 Introductions**

**9:05 Organic Production -- An Ecologist's Perspective  
George Bird, Michigan State University**

**9:20 Organic Certification  
Jim Moses, Organic Growers of Michigan**

**9:40 Marketing Opportunities for Organic Fruit:  
Panel Presentation and Discussion  
*Moderator:* Jim Bardenhagen  
Tim Young, Food for Thought, Honor  
Brian Hackert, Mason County Fruit Packers Coop**

**Todd DeKryger, Gerber  
Steve Nugent, Graceland Fruit**

**10:25 Break**

**10:40 Managing Soil in Organic Systems  
Joe Scrimger, Bio-Systems, Marlette, Michigan**

**11:05 Experiences Growing and Marketing Organic Apples  
Dennis Mackey, Manager, Germantown Orchards,  
Rims Edge Orchards & Appleworks, Germantown, WI**

**11:45 Managing Organic Fruit Production Systems  
Doug Murray, Consultant, Paw Paw, Michigan**

**12:10 Lunch**

**1:00 Challenges & Strategies for Producing Organic Apples:  
Panel Discussion and Presentations  
*Moderator:* Duke Elsner, Extension Ag Agent, G.T. & Kalkaska Counties**

**Brian Hackert, Grower, Ludington  
John Brabenec, Grower, Northport  
Larry Gut, Dept. of Entomology, MSU  
Mark Whalon, Center for Integrated Plant Systems, MSU  
Dennis Mackey, Grower, Wisconsin  
Joe Scrimger, Consultant  
Doug Murray, Consultant**



**2:30 - Break**

**2:45 Can Cherries Be Grown Organically in Michigan?**

**Moderator: Jim Nugent**

**Alan Middleton Consultant, Northport  
Jim Laubach, HortSystems, Honor  
George Bird, Dept. of Entomology, MSU  
Doug Murray, Consultant  
Larry Gut, Dept. of Entomology, MSU  
Joe Scrimger, Consultant**

**3:30 Strategies for Organic Wine Grape Production**

**Moderator: Jim Thompson, Grower, Old Mission Twp.**

**Larry Mawby, Grower, Wine Maker, Suttons Bay  
Charlie Edson, ICM Coordinator, MSU  
Duke Elsner, Extension Ag Agent**

**4:15 Conference Wrap Up**

**Mark Whalon, MSU**

**4:30 Adjourn**

**UPDATE ON BOVINE TB**

**Skyliner Restaurant, Buckley**

**Friday, March 3**

**9:30 a.m. - noon**

**Bovine TB is likely to be a huge problem for our area livestock producers to overcome. Having the very best and latest accurate information is the first step. Duke Elsner and Tom Adams (NRCS) have arranged for Dr. John Molesworth, MSU Extension's livestock agent based out of Alpena County, to be on hand to discuss the bovine TB situation and prospects. We will also have Stan Moore, the new county Extension Director for Antrim County, there to comment on the Antrim county TB find and to get to know area producers. Stan has a strong livestock background and should become a great resource for us. We have also invited Jerry Lindquist from Osceola County MSU Extension, another strong resource on livestock and grazing. In addition to the TB topic, Ginger Bardenhagen will be presenting information on the groundwater protection program's opportunities for technical assistance and cost-sharing dollars.**

**9:30 Welcome - Tom Adams & Duke Elsner**

**9:40 Groundwater Stewardship Program News - Ginger Bardenhagen**

**10:00 Bovine TB Michigan Overview - Dr. John Molesworth**

**10:30 The Antrim County and NW Michigan Situation - Stan Moore**

**11:00 TB Risk Factors, Deer Risk Factors**

**11:00 TB RISK FACTORS - Deer, RISK FACTORS**

**1 1:30 Open Question and Answer Time**

**Thanks to Quality Farm & Fleet, McGough's and Hamilton Farm Bureau for sponsoring this program.**

## **MICHIGAN EMERGENCY PLANNING TUBE HANDS-ON WORKSHOP**

**Brought to you by the NW MI Groundwater Stewardship Program and your Local Emergency Planning Coordinators (LEPC)  
Here is your chance to earn up to three Pesticide Applicator Recertification Credits!!**

**Workshop dates and locations:**

**Antrim, Emmet, Charlevoix and Kalkaska Counties on March 6, 2000 at Banks Township Hall with Bill Murphy, Rhonda Headapohl, and Kathy Simmons**

**Leelanau, Grand Traverse and Benzie Counties on March 7, 2000 at the NW MI Horticultural Research Station with Dick Catton, Dan Scott and Doug Joy**

## **AGENDA**

**6:00 - 6:15 PM Greetings, introductions and intent of workshop**

- **Spill kits and Cost Share availability for 2000**

**6:15 - 7:15 PM The Michigan Emergency Plan - Hands on Planning - Dan Scott, Dick Catton, Bill Murphy, Kathy Simmons, Rhonda Headapohl and Doug Joy with assistance from local fire chiefs**

- **Preparing your farm and family**
- **Generating a Farm Map**
- **Listing your chemicals and updating the list**

**7:15 - 7:30 PM Break**

**7:30 - 8:00 PM Right To Farm, the current Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices (GAAMPS) for Pesticide and Nutrient Management - Kip Miller, MDA**

- **Yes, there are some rules**

**8:00 - 8:30 PM Recycle pesticide containers or on farm disposal? You have options - Ginger Bardenhagen**

- **Clean Sweep**

**8:30 - 9:00 PM Spill Response - Ben Darling, MDA**

**9:00 - 9:15 PM Fill out the RUP Credit bubbles; questions; wrap up**

**Next Day: Call Ginger at 231-941-4191 to have her come out and install your Emergency Plan and receive your third RUP Credit!!!!**

**Thanks for coming!**

**A big thank you to your Local Emergency Planning Coordinators, who are providing**

refreshments!

### ***Work Shop Locations:***

#### **Banks Township Hall**

**Coming from Traverse City (north on US31): Just North of Atwood turn East on C-48 (Ellsworth Rd) follow that into Ellsworth about 7 miles. Go past the school and up the hill. At the blinking light turn left on Center St. Banks Township Hall is halfway down the block on the left, parking is in back.**

#### **NW MI Horticultural Station**

**From Greilickville, travel North on M-22 toward Suttons Bay. Go 4 miles to Crane Hill Road. Travel approximately 1 mile to intersection of Co Rd. 633. Turn right (North) on 633. Continue on 633 for approximately 3 miles. The Station is located on the left (West) side of 633, 1/2 mile past the intersection of Bingham Rd.**

**This year the NW MI Groundwater Stewardship Program has Cost Share Funding for:**

***Well Closure- up to \$500***

***Offset Hydrants - up to \$630***

***Pesticide Application Controller or Groundmonitor - up to \$1500***

***IPM Scouting: Fruit or Vegetable crops - up to \$15/acre***

***Pesticide Storage Impervious Surface- up to \$500***

***Dripless Spray Nozzle Tips - up to \$75***

***Spill Kits - up to \$56***

***Seasonal Pesticide Storage Shed - up to \$500***

***Pesticide Container Pressure Rinser -up to \$6.25***

***Cover Crops - up to \$5/acre***

***Anti-backflow Device - up to \$250***

***Permanent Mix/Load Pad - up to \$1500***

***Management Intensive Grazing- up to \$15/acre***

***Nurse Tank - up to \$1000***

***Pre-Sidedress Nitrate Testing - up to \$1.50/acre***

***Emergency Planning Tube- FREE***

**Call Ginger Bardenhagen at 231-941-4191 for an application, or pick one up at the Emergency Planning Workshop!**

**Please send any comments or suggestions regarding this site to:**

Bill Klein, [kleinw@pilot.msu.edu](mailto:kleinw@pilot.msu.edu)

Last Revised: 02-17-00