

# Hop Growers of Michigan Update

- We've come a long way, baby!
- From initial interest and discussions in 2007 & 2008
- To the first wave of commercial plantings thru 2014 ~400 acres
- To NOW! 2018 w/ ~800 acres and regional production facilities



# Hop Growers of Michigan Update

**MISSION** Hop Growers of Michigan makes a positive difference in Michigan's hop industry by providing educational opportunities and research for better hop production and processing, as well as advocating for and promoting the use of Michigan grown hops.

- Feb. 2014 – formation of 501(c)5 non-profit
- 7 person board w/ 4 officers and 3 M.A.L.
- Several Subcommittees:
  - Education - Marketing - Financial –funding/grants
- General Assemblies (1-2) + Annual Meeting
- 2018 - 4 new board members



# HGM Accomplishments

- Annually Several Farm Tours per Spring / Summer Season  
Past couple years partnered with MSU for an IPM session at farms
- Sponsoring GLHBC & Presence at MBG events and members attending American Hop Conference for HGM updates
- 2017 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Michigan Chinook Cup
- 2016-2018 1<sup>st</sup> Specialty Crop Block Grant-quality and food safety program
- 2017-2019 2<sup>nd</sup> SCBG – Downy Mildew Research



# Michigan's Hop Quality Program

- Specialty Crop Block Grant award from USDA
  - through MDARD (*MI Department of Agriculture & Rural Development*)
    - Fall 2016
  - to create a food safety and quality program
    - Goal: increase brewers' confidence in MI hops
      - Become a trusted supply region/state
      - Establish/adopt a verification process
      - Increase sales



# Growers Quality Standards and Requirements

Hop Growers of Michigan

2017

Beta: Version 1.0

Development of this guide was funded in part by a USDA Specialty Crop Block Grant (SCBG) through the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) awarded to Hop Growers of Michigan, 2016

HGA Grower Quality Standards and Requirements v1.0



This Guide is available at: <http://hopgrowersofmichigan.com/quality/>

# Grower Audit Checklist: Categories

- **Documentation:**
  - Policy, Record Keeping, Reporting
- **Growing:**
  - Hopyard & Farming
  - Health & Human Safety
  - Includes *HGA Module I: Food Safety*
- **Harvest Center:**
  - Harvesting
  - Drying, Cooling & Baling
  - Storage & Transportation





# Hop Processing Guide: Standards & Process Control

Hop Growers of Michigan  
2017

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# Processor Audit Checklist: Categories

- Bale Supply
- Bale Breaking
- Conveyance & Handling
- Milling (Grinding)
- Blending/Batching
- Pellet Processing (Extruding)
- Sifting/Rework
- Cooling
- Holding/Binning/Blending
- Packaging
- Storage



# Michigan Hop Quality Program

- 2018 Workplan:

- “Guides” & Checklists:

- revise & publish final versions

- *Training Sessions:* coming in April, 4 locations

- *Sign up at the HGM table in the Trade Show today!!!*

- *2018 Crop Audits:* of grower/processors

- Earn “HGM Verified Source” seal:



Thank You



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