
EXTENSION NEWS

Volume 19, Issue 3

Website: www.msue.msu.edu/oceana

February 2020

INSIDE THIS EDITION

- Weekly E-Newsletter
- Pesticide Exam Schedule
- Farm Bill Assistance
- Mailing List Update
- Paraquat Online Training
- Oceana Asparagus Day
- West Central Spring Horticulture Meeting
- 15th Annual Oceana County Agricultural & Natural Resource Banquet
- Produce Safety Grower Training
- Program Registration

EXTENSION CALENDAR WINTER /SPRING 2020

March 12, 2020	Oceana Asparagus Day Early registration deadline March 6th New Era Reformed Church, New Era 9 a.m.—3:30 p.m. MACMA Asparagus Division Annual Meeting to follow
March 19, 2020	Oceana Ag Banquet/Oceana Conservation District Annual Meeting Ticket Sale Deadline March 13, 2020 New Era Reformed Church, New Era
March 19, 2020	Pesticide Recertification Exam Oceana County Services Building, Hart 7:00 p.m.
March 23, 2020	West Central Spring Horticulture Meeting Early registration deadline March 17, 2020 New Era Reformed Church, New Era 8:30 a.m.—4:00 p.m.
March 24, 2020	Pesticide Recertification Exam Ottawa County Administrative Bldg, West Olive 12:30 p.m.
March 25, 2020	Produce Safety Alliance Grower Training Fremont Area District Library
April 21, 2020	Pesticide Recertification Exam Ottawa County Administrative Bldg, West Olive 9 a.m.

Ben Werling
West MI Vegetable Educator

David Jones
Tree Fruit Educator

WEEKLY E-NEWSLETTERS

Dave Jones, Tree Fruit Educator, and Ben Werling, Vegetable Educator each provide weekly electronic newsletters during the growing season. To be added to their distribution list just send an email to Dave Jones (jones412@msu.edu) or Ben Werling (werlingb@msu.edu) with either your cell phone number for text messages or your email for email messages.

PESTICIDE CERTIFICATION TEST DATES

The Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development (MDARD) will be giving the Pesticide Certification Test in Oceana County and surrounding counties during the 2020 winter and spring season. Pesticide certification is necessary for anyone who wants to buy pesticides that are listed as Restricted Use (RUP) by the Environmental Protection Agency. Certification may also be necessary if you plan to apply general use pesticides commercially.

The final date scheduled for the MDARD Pesticide Exam for Oceana County is Thursday, March 19, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. The test will be held at the Oceana County Services Building (former West Shore Educational Service District Building), 844 Griswold Street, Hart. MDARD reserves the right to cancel any test that does not have at least 20 people enrolled, so it is important that you pre-register at least one week prior to the test date. Registration is online at the MDA website www.michigan.gov/pestexam.

People who are planning to take a renewal test should bring the paperwork sent to them by MDARD to the testing site. The testing fees are \$50 for private certification and \$75 for commercial certification. Payment must be made by check or money order at the testing site. **NO CASH!** You are also encouraged to bring a calculator on the day of the test.

Study manuals maybe obtained at your local MSU Extension Office or via direct order from National Pesticide Safety Education Center (www.npsecstore.com) at a cost of \$30 plus shipping and handling. The manuals are no longer available through MSU University Stores. There is one manual for private applicators and one for commercial applicators. Also if you will be renewing a special category, please allow time in case these manuals need to be ordered.

Date	Time	County	Location
3/19/2020	7:00 p.m.	Oceana	Oceana County Services Building 844 Griswold Street, Hart
3/24/2020	12:30 p.m.	Ottawa	Ottawa County Administrative Bldg. 12220 Fillmore Street, Main Conf. Room, West Olive, MI
4/21/2020	9:00 a.m.	Ottawa	Ottawa County Administrative Bldg. 12220 Fillmore Street, Main Conf. Room, West Olive, MI

FARM BILL ASSISTANCE AVAILABLE

Need help choosing the right Farm Bill program? MSU Extension educators have created videos to guide you through this important decision. <https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/choose-the-right-farm-bill-program>

New video series helps farmers navigate Farm Bill program sign-ups. [https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/choose-the-right-farm-bill-program-3 RUP credits have been requested-](https://www.canr.msu.edu/news/choose-the-right-farm-bill-program-3-RUP-credits-have-been-requested-)

MAILING LIST UPDATE

If you have returned your mailing list update—thank you very much. If you have not returned your update, please do so by March 1st. If you have misplaced the update form that was included in previous newsletters, please contact our office and we can either email or fax you a copy of the form. Updates can be returned to our office either via mail, fax (231-873-3710) or email at walicki@msu.edu. before March 1st, we would appreciate it. If you have any questions, please feel free to give us a call. We are required to show that we have requested updates to our mailing list to maintain our bulk mailing permit. Any names that have not been updated will be removed from the mailing list.

PARAQUAT TRAINING

Spend 45 minutes to get certified to use paraquat for 3 years: EPA now requires anyone who handles or applies paraquat to take an approved training. The training is available online at: www.usparaquattraining.com.

It must be completed once every 3 years. The online training takes about 45 minutes including a brief quiz. A printable certificate is available once the quiz is completed (make sure to save the pdf for your records). The online video and quiz satisfy the new training requirement.

OCEANA ASPARAGUS DAY MARCH 12, 2020

New Era Reformed Church, 4775 1st St, New Era, MI 49446

Agenda:

- 8:30 – 9:00 a.m. Registration and Refreshments
- 9:00 – 9:15 a.m. **“Asparagus Marketing Update”** – *Norm Myers, Michigan Agriculture Commodities Marketing Association*
- 9:15 – 9:30 a.m. **“MAEAP Update”** – *Dan Busby, Michigan Department of Agriculture & Rural Development & Lynda Herremans, Oceana Conservation District*
- 9:30 – 10:00 a.m. **“Asparagus Emergence Studies”**—*Dr. Dan Brainard, MSU Department of Horticulture*
- 10:00 – 10:30 a.m. **“Asparagus Disease Management”** – *Dr. Mary Hausbeck, MSU Department Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences*
- 10:30 – 10:45 a.m. Break
- 10:45—11:30 a.m. **“Sustainable Soil Management: Practices Impacting Stand Longevity and Erosion Control”** - *Dr. Dan Drost, Utah State University*
- 11:30—12 noon **“MI Asparagus Industry and Variety Trial Update”** – *John Bakker, Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board*
- 12:00 – 1:30 p.m. **Lunch and view exhibits**
- 1:30 – 1:45 p.m. **“Introducing Our New Weed Control Specialist”** - *Dr. Sushila Chaudhari, MSU Department of Horticulture*
- 1:45—2:30 p.m. **“Feeding Asparagus: Macronutrient Needs for Optimal Productivity”** -*Dr. Dan Drost, Utah State University*
- 2:30 – 3:15 p.m. **“Anti-dumping and Countervailing Duty Actions in the Ag Industry”** - *Dr. Aleks Schaefer, MSU Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics.*
- 3:15—3:30 p.m. **Evaluation and adjourn**
- 3:45 p.m. MACMA Asparagus Division Annual Meeting

3 -Restricted Use Pesticide Applicator Credits for Private, Commercial Core, 1A or 1B.
Certified Crop Advisory Credits have been requested for this meeting.

2020 West Central Spring Horticulture Meeting

March 23, 2020

New Era Reformed Church, New Era

Requested:

RUP credits: 5

CCA credits: 5

- 8:00-8:30 a.m. Sign in, material pickup, coffee and light refreshments provided
- 8:30-9:15 a.m. **SWD research and updates from 2019: Looking back, looking ahead**
Dave Jones, Michigan State University Extension
- 9:15-10:15 a.m. **A discussion of current fresh apple industry production topics from the perspective of an apple packer**
Caleb Coulter, American Apple Packing LLC
- 10:15-11:00 a.m. **A discussion of ongoing apple thinning work at Michigan State University**
Phil Schwallier, Michigan State University Extension
- 11:00-11:45 a.m. **American brown rot control in 2020 and beyond**
George Sundin, Michigan State University
- 11:45-12:15 noon **FSMA Update**
Jordan DeVries, Produce Safety Technician, Newaygo Conservation District
- 12:15—1:15 p.m. **Lunch**
- 1:15—1:40 p.m. **Tailoring the sterile insect technique to manage codling moth on a farm scale**
Larry Gut, Michigan State University
- 1:40-2:00 p.m. **Relationship between fruit development and the risk of SWD infestation**
Larry Gut, Michigan State University
- 2:00-2:45 p.m. **Demonstration of the revamped Enviroweather system—grower utility and model updates**
Keith Mason, Michigan State University
- 2:45-3:15 p.m. **Update on the new West Central Michigan Horticulture Research Center**
Richard Raffaelli, Peterson Farms Inc./WC Michigan Horticulture Research Inc.
- 3:15—3:30 p.m. **MAEAP Update**
Lynda Herremans, MAEAP Technician, Oceana Conservation District
- 3:30—4:00 p.m. **Winter injury in tree fruit and a discussion of the RAD/SAD debate**
Amy Irish-Brown, Michigan State University Extension
- 4:00—4:15 p.m. **Participants fill out surveys, bubble sheets and adjourn**
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15TH ANNUAL OCEANA COUNTY AGRICULTURE & NATURAL RESOURCE BANQUET

MARCH 19, 2020

The Oceana County Agriculture & Natural Resource Banquet is scheduled for March 19, 2020 at the New Era Reformed Church in New Era. The evening will begin at 6:00 p.m. with the Taste of Oceana Reception featuring local businesses providing some tasty samples of their signature creations produced with ingredients grown in Oceana County. The banquet will get underway at 6:45 p.m. with dinner followed by the Oceana Conservation District update and elections with various scholarship award presentations. The awarding of the 2020 Friend of the Oceana County Ag Industry Award will conclude the award portion of the evening. The featured entertainment will be the comedy of Dwayne Gill. As a former marine and police officer, Dwayne will share his thoughts and observations on a variety of topics that will be sure to have everyone laughing. The evening will conclude with the handing out of door prizes.

Tickets are available for \$16 per person through the Oceana Conservation District or MSU Extension until March 13th. There will be no ticket sales at the door.

PRODUCE SAFETY ALLIANCE GROWER TRAINING

The PSA Grower Training Course is one way to satisfy the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule requirement outlined in §112.22(c) that requires, 'At least one supervisor or responsible party for your farm must have successfully completed food safety training at least equivalent to that received under standardized curriculum recognized as adequate by the Food and Drug Administration.'

The course will provide a foundation of Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs) and FSMA Produce Safety Rule requirements, and details on how to develop a farm food safety plan. After attending the entire course, participants will be eligible to receive a certificate from the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) that verifies they have completed the training course. To receive an AFDO certificate, a participant must be present for the entire training and submit the appropriate paperwork to their trainer at the end of the course. Additional Grower Produce Safety Training sessions will be scheduled in the fall, as well as in future years. Consult the MSU Extension website, www.msue.msu.edu, or subscribe to the MSU Extension Newsletter for event announcements.

Funding for this program was made possible by the Food and Drug Administration through grant PAR-16-137. The views expressed in the program do not necessarily reflect the official policies of the Department of Health and Human Services; nor does any mention of trade names, commercial practices or organization imply endorsement.

DATES AND LOCATIONS

March 19, 2020 - Negaunee, MI -Marquette County MSU Extension, 184 US-41, Negaunee, MI 49866

March 25, 2020 - Fremont, MI -Fremont Area District Library, 104 East Main Street Fremont, Michigan 49412

March 26, 2020 - Interlochen, MI—Green Lake Township, Golden Fellowship Hall, 9700 Riley Rd. Interlochen, MI 49643

AGENDA

Day-long Course Schedule: (subject to change)

8:45 am	Registration
9:15 am	Announcements
9:30 am	Introduction to Produce Safety Worker Health and Hygiene Training Soil Amendments Wildlife, Domestic Animals & Land Use
12:00 pm	Lunch on your own
1:15 pm	Production Water Postharvest Water Postharvest Handling and Sanitation How to Develop a Farm Food Safety Plan
3:45 pm	Evaluation and final

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO ENROLL ONLINE:

[https://
events.anr.msu.edu/20192020PSACourses/](https://events.anr.msu.edu/20192020PSACourses/)

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

2020 OCEANA ASPARAGUS DAY REGISTRATION
Thursday, March 12, 2020
New Era Reformed Church, New Era

Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number attending: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Names of those attending: _____,

_____, _____

Those requiring special accommodations are asked to contact the MSU Extension at 231-873-2129 ten days prior to the event.

Registration Fees:

Early Registration: \$25.00 ea.
(before or on Mar 6th)

Late Registration: \$40.00 ea.
(after Mar 6th)

Please make checks payable to:
Michigan State University

Return registration and fees to:
MSU Extension
844 S. Griswold St. Ste 400
Hart, MI 49420

Questions, please call 231-873-2129

To register online go to: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/OceanaAsparagusDay2020/>

REGISTRATION FORM
2020 SPRING HORTICULTURE MEETING
MARCH 23, 2020

Name: _____

Company Name: _____

Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number attending: _____ Amount Enclosed: _____

Names of those attending: _____,

_____, _____

Those requiring special accommodations are asked to contact the MSU Extension at 231-873-2129 ten days prior to the event.

Registration Fees:

Early Registration: \$25.00 ea.
(before or on March 17th)

Late Registration: \$40.00 ea.
(after March 17th or at the door)

Please make checks payable to:
Michigan State University

Return registration and fees to:
MSU Extension.
844 S. Griswold St. Ste 400
Hart, MI 49420

Questions, please call 231-873-2129

To register online go to: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/Westcentralspringhorticulturemeeting2020/>