



**Southwest
Michigan**

***Horticultural
Days***

2025

February 5 & 6

**Lake Michigan College Mendel Center
Benton Harbor, MI**



MICHIGAN STATE
UNIVERSITY | **Extension**

WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2025

8:00 Registration and Exhibitor Showroom open

GENERAL SESSION

Upton 101 (2 RUPS: 1A, 1B, 1C, Comm CORE, Priv CORE)

- 9:00 MAEAP Farmer Panel: From the Farmers – How MAEAP has Helped Them – **Emily Kerlikowske**, *Berrien County Conservation District* and **Kyle Mead**, *Van Buren County Conservation District*
- 9:20 Your Ag Workforce in 2025: What's New on the Legislative & Regulatory Landscape, and How Growers are Effectively Using the H-2A Program – **Sarah Black**, *Michigan Farm Bureau, Great Lakes Ag Labor Services*
- 9:50 Accessible Agriculture: An Introduction to AgrAbility – **Samantha Wolfe**, *MSU Extension*
- 10:20 Break
- 10:30 Bulletins Live! Two: What It Is and What You Need to Know – **Caitlin Burkman**, *MDARD*
- 11:15 Weather Update for Michigan Specialty Crop Production – **Jeff Andresen**, *MSU Geography, Environment, and Spatial Sciences*

AFTERNOON GRAPE SESSION

Upton 101 (2 RUPS: 1C, Priv CORE)

- 1:30 What the FRAC is this about? – **Tom Smith**, *E-Bridge, MSUE Emeritum*
- 2:15 Understanding Grapevine Cold Hardiness and the Cold Hardiness Models – **Jason Londo**, *Cornell University*
- 2:45 Is Michigan the New Jersey? An Introduction to Climate Analogs and Climate Hub – **Cheyenne Sloan**, *MSU Extension*
- 3:15 Utilizing Sap Analysis to Assess Varietal Nutrient Demands – **Scott Wall**, *NEW AGE Laboratories*

AFTERNOON VEGETABLE SESSION

North Training

- 1:00 Biostimulants in Vegetables – **Pat Owens**, *Miller Chemical*
- 1:40 Crop Rotations for Vegetables – **Lucas Costanza**, *Nutrien Ag Solutions*
- 2:20 PGR's in Vegetables: How to Use and What to Expect – **Amy Irish-Brown**, *Valent*
- 2:40 Planning for Liquid Fertilizing in Vegetables – **Kevin DeHerrera** and **Dave Alexander**, *Lakeshore Ag*
- 3:00 FSMA's New Water Rule – **Phil Tocco**, *MSU Extension*

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2025

8:00 Registration and Exhibitor Showroom open

MORNING TREE FRUIT SESSION

North Training (2 RUPS: 1C, Priv CORE)

- 9:00 Apple Rootstock Cold Hardiness, Climate Change, and Tree Decline – **Jason Londo**, *Cornell University*
- 9:45 Tree Fruit Disease Update – **George Sundin**, *MSU Plant Soil and Microbial Sciences*
- 10:30 Climate Considerations for Tree Fruit with a Focus on Frost Fans – **Jeff Andresen**, *MSU Geography, Environment, and Spatial Services*

- 11:15 Physiological and Genetic Underpinnings of Apple Maturity Sports – **Alex Engelsma**, *MSU Horticulture*
- 11:35 Investigating Apple Lenticel Breakdown – **Alex Engelsma**, *MSU Horticulture*

MORNING GRAPE SESSION

Upton 101 (2 RUPS: 1C, Aerial, Priv CORE)

- 9:00 Spray Drones in Vineyards can be a Thing – **Michael Reinke**, *MSU Extension*
- 9:45 Protecting Your Vineyard: Emerging Strategies for Berry Moth and Cluster Rot Management – **Lauren Goldstein**, *MSU Entomology*
- 10:05 Michigan Grape Society Annual Meeting
- 10:20 Break
- 10:35 Introduction to the Unconventional Fruit Working Group – **Michael Reinke**, *MSU Extension*
- 10:45 A Tale of Two Diseases: Botrytis Bunch Rot and Powdery Mildew – **Tim Miles**, *MSU Plant Soil and Microbial Sciences*
- 11:30 Precision on the Vine: Using LIDAR and Drones for Accurate Vineyard Insights – **Erin Bunting**, *MSU Geography Environment Spatial Sciences*

MORNING BLUEBERRY SESSION

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

- 9:00 Is Michigan the New Jersey – **Cheyenne Sloan**, *MSU Extension*
- 9:30 Nematodes for SWD Control – **Carlos Garcia Salazar**, *MSU Extension*
- 10:00 Break
- 10:30 Effect of “Pulsed Irrigation” on Plant Growth and Blueberry Fruit Quality – **Josh Vander Weide**, *MSU Horticulture*
- 11:00 Horticultural Factors Influencing Fruit Rot Development in Three Blueberry Cultivars – **Stephanie Rett-Cadman**, *MSU Horticulture*

MORNING MARKETING SESSION

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- 9:00 Food Access 101: How to Grow Your Market and Improve Community Access to Healthy Foods – **Joe Lesausky**, *Food Access Director, Michigan Farmers Market Association*
- 10:15 Break
- 10:30 Finding Success with Food Access Programs – *Farmer Panel and Discussion*

AFTERNOON WINE GRAPE SESSION

Upton 101 (1 RUP: 1C, Priv CORE)

- 1:30 Current Insights and Future Directions for Perennial Cover Crops in Vineyards – **Suzanne Fleischman**, *Penn State University*
- 2:00 A Legislated Opportunity for the Wine Grape Grower’s Voice: Michigan PA 232 – **Bob Schutzki**, *Michigan Wine Collaborative*
- 2:30 Results from the 2023 Michigan Grape Pricing Survey – **Tony Jacobson**, *P45*
- 3:00 Crafting Quality: Tools and Best Practices for Preparing Wine for Bottling – **Tim Godfrey**, *Lake Michigan College Wine and Viticulture Technology*

AFTERNOON BLUEBERRY SESSION

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

- 1:30 Irrigation in Perennial Crops – **Brendan Kelley**, *MSU Extension*
- 2:00 Fruit Rots and Other Blueberry Diseases – **Tim Miles**, *MSU Plant, Soil and Microbial Sciences*
- 2:30 Insect Update – **Lauren Goldstein**, *MSU Entomology*
- 3:00 Blueberry Industry Update – **Nancy Nyquist**, *Michigan Blueberry Commission* and **Chad Reenders**, *Michigan Blueberry Advisory Committee*
- 3:15 Blueberry Programming Discussion – **Cheyenne Sloan**, *MSU Extension*

AFTERNOON TREE FRUIT SESSION

North Training (2 RUPS: 1C, Comm CORE, Priv CORE)

- 1:30 Precision Thinning Tools: Practical Implications from On-Farm Trials in Northern NY – **Mike Basedow**, *Cornell Cooperative Extension*
- 2:15 Keeping Up with Spotted-Wing Drosophila: What We Learned in 2024 and What's Next – **Julianna Wilson**, *MSU Entomology*
- 2:45 Update on the Tart Cherry Geographical Identification Project – **Chris Bardenhagen**, *MSU Extension*
- 3:00 Orchard Weed Management: Making the Best Use of Your Herbicide Toolbox – **Mike Basedow**, *Cornell Cooperative Extension*
- 3:45 Demonstrating Advanced Technology Spray Systems in Orchards – **Emily Lavelly**, *MSU Extension*

PLEASE VISIT THE EXHIBITORS

Amberg Grapevines LLC	Ausra Equipment & Supply
Berrien County Conservation District	d'marie inc
Durand-Wayland Inc	Farm Depot
Gillison's Variety Fabrication Inc	Gowan USA
Great Lakes Ag Labor Services LLC	Great Lakes IPM
GreenMark Equipment Inc	GreenStone Farm Credit Services
Krieger's Wholesale Nursery	Louis Gelder & Son Co
Michigan On-Farm Produce Safety	Michigan State Horticultural Society
Nevill Supply Inc	NEW AGE Laboratories
Nutrien Ag Solutions	OnPoint Applications Group
Oxbo	Provide Agro Corporation
Reister's Grower Services LLC	Spring Brook Supply
Thomas Bros Equipment Sales	UPL NA Inc
Wilbur-Ellis Company	Zirk Ag Services / Trickl-Eez

Don't Forget:
Southwest Michigan Wine Showcase

Wednesday, February 5, 2025

4:30 p.m.

Located in the Exhibitor Showroom area

Sponsored by



**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, Emily Lavelly, Ben Phillips, Cheyenne Sloan, and Mariel Borgman**
- The MSU staff, **Mike de Schaaf, 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 exhibitor 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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