

Vol 3. May

MICHIGAN STATE UNIVERSITY | **Extension**



*Agriculture
for
Tomorrow
Conference*

Tuesday, February 20th, 2024 9:15 – 4:05 EST
Bay College, Escanaba
Joseph Heirman University Center
2001 N Lincoln Rd, Escanaba, MI 49829

Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference

Tuesday, February 20th, 2024 - Bay College, Escanaba, MI

9:15-9:45 (EST)	Registration & Educational Exhibits—Joseph Heirman University Center (JHUC) Atrium			
9:45-10:30 JHUC 952	Welcome: Dr. James DeDecker, Director, Upper Peninsula Research & Extension Center Keynote Address: The Fascinating History of UP Agriculture and Leo Geismar, the First Superintendent of MSU's Upper Peninsula Research and Extension Center—Dr. Russell Magnaghi			
	<u>SPECIALITY CROPS TRACK—BHAT 420</u>	<u>FIELD CROP & FORAGE TRACK—JHUC 961</u>	<u>HOMESTEAD TRACK—JHUC 963</u>	<u>LIVESTOCK TRACK—JHUC 952</u>
10:45-11:40	A-1 Michigan's Approach to Produce Safety	A-2 Principles of Regenerative Agriculture	A-3 Making Trees Work for You and Your Land	A-4 Swine Respiratory Disease Management
11:40-12:10	Visit Tradeshow Exhibitors & Sponsors in JHUC Atrium			
12:10-1:00	Lunch in JHUC 952			
1:00-1:55	B-5 Getting the Most Out of Your Compost System	B-6 Forage Equipment for Small Farms	B-7 Select, Start & Grow Your Own Vegetables	B-8 Emergency Response to Accidents Involving Livestock
2:05-3:00	C-9 What's Wrong With My Vegetables?	C-10 Growing Soybeans in the Upper Peninsula	C-11 Water Management on Small Farms	C-12 Cow-calf Producers Share Strategies to Get Better Prices
3:10-4:05	D-13 Vegetable Varieties for Yield, Quality and Flavor in the UP	D-14 Cover Crop Basics	D-15 Honeybees: Their Value and Summer Beekeeping	D-16 How are you capitalizing on record prices?

Registration Form

Name(s): _____ Address: _____

City, State, Zip: _____ County: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Cost of attendance is \$30 pre-registration

- * Due by February 10th— no phone registrations accepted.
- * After February 10th, the registration fee will be \$40 per person online and at the door.
- * On-site registration is cash or check only, no cards!

Fee includes lunch and materials

Number of attendees-- _____ x \$30 = _____

Make checks payable to: MSU Extension

Send check and form to:

MSUE Ontonagon County
725 Greenland Rd.
Ontonagon, MI 49953-1492

Receipts will be available at the door

For registration information contact Frank Wardynski @ wardynsk@msu.edu, 906-884-4386

If you are interested in being a sponsor, vendor, and/or exhibitor, contact Paul Naasz at naasz@msu.edu or 906-439-5114

To register on-line go to: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/2024Ag4Tomorrow/>

Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference

Tuesday, February 20th, 2024 - Bay College, Escanaba, MI

Session A

10:45-11:40 am

A-1—BHAT 420

Michigan's Approach to Produce Safety

UP Produce Safety Technician, Landen Tetil, will discuss Michigan's unique approach to managing food safety on fresh produce farms. Learn about the three organizations that make up the MI On-Farm Produce Safety team and the many food safety resources available to Michigan produce growers.

Landen Tetil, UP Produce Safety Program

A-2—JHUC 961

Principles of Regenerative Agriculture

Join this session for a comprehensive overview of regenerative agriculture principles and practices, from the basics to the benefits and beyond.

Jeremy Sweeten, Understanding Ag

A-3—JHUC 963

Making Trees Work for You and Your Land

Agroforestry, the intentional integration of trees and shrubs into crop and animal farming systems, has been practiced worldwide for centuries. Although it is less prevalent today, modern-day farmers stand to gain from the environmental, financial, and social benefits of agroforestry. Whether it be greater crop yields, improved soil health, increased livestock safety, or added streams of income, there are countless ways that trees can be used to your advantage on your farm or property.

Anna Ellis, MSU Extension

A-4—JHUC 952

Swine Respiratory Disease Management

The Upper Peninsula's spring weather is highly conducive to causing respiratory disease in hogs, especially young, weaned pigs. This session will discuss causes, prevention, identification, types, and cures of swine respiratory diseases.

Casey Zangaro, MSU Extension

Session C

2:05-3:00 pm

C-9—BHAT 420

What's Wrong With My Vegetables?

It is easy to see if a plant is not looking good, but it is much harder to tell why. The goal of this presentation is to give specific examples of vegetable abnormalities that will help identify what is wrong with your vegetable plants and inform future management decisions.

Dr. Saltanat Mambetova, MSU Extension

C-10—JHUC 961

Growing Soybeans in the Upper Peninsula

Genetic advancements, cropping system trends and climate change are creating additional opportunities for successful soybean production in Northern MI and the Upper Peninsula. Join this session to review the results from ten years of soybean research in the region and learn how you can apply that information to overcome specific barriers to growing soybeans up-north.

Dr. James DeDecker, MSU UPREC

C-11—JHUC 963

Water Management on Small Farms

Water is a key component of daily life on every farm. This session addresses the management of groundwater, surface water, and precipitation on small farmsteads. We will take a look at site planning, water sources, distribution systems and components, drainage, and simple steps for protecting water quality. Whether planning a new farmstead or assessing an existing setup, this session will provide a broad overview on water management to help guide your efforts.

Erin Satchell, MDARD MAEAP Program

C-12—JHUC 952

Cow-calf Producers Share Management Strategies to Get Better Prices

A panel of UP cow-calf producers will discuss their marketing and value adding management practices to ensure they receive top dollar for their beef calves this fall.

UP Producer Panel

Session B

1:00-1:55 pm

B-5—BHAT 420

Getting the Most Out of Your Compost System

This session will provide an overview on how to start composting and explain how composting can benefit not only your farm but also your local community. Learn about small to mid-sized composting operations and utilizing compost from start to finish. Eliza will demonstrate how to build your own system, how to troubleshoot problems that may arise, and how to utilize the finished compost in a variety of ways. This presentation is for composters of all levels, from those just learning to advanced composters who want to expand into community work and gain a deeper understanding of composting practices.

Eliza Hensel, MSU Extension

B-6—JHUC 961

Forage Equipment for Small Farms

Join a representative from the Vermeer Corporation for an overview of their equipment offerings with a focus on forage equipment suited to the specific needs of small farms making and feeding hay or baleage.

Morgan Lambert, Vermeer Corporation

B-7—JHUC 963

Select, Start & Grow Your Own Vegetables for Fresh or Storage

What does it take to successfully start your own vegetables from seeds? Learn the important steps required for seed germination and for transplant care, from soil health to harvesting. Discover qualities that determine fresh or storage use for better garden planning.

Rebecca Krans, MSU Extension

B-8—JHUC 952

Emergency Response to Accidents Involving Livestock (ERAIL)

ERAIL is a training session directed towards first responders involving livestock. Inevitably the very first person on the scene of an accident involving livestock is a trucker or farmer. This session will cover what to do if you are in that situation.

Casey Zangaro, MSU Extension

Session D

3:10-4:05 pm

D-13—BHAT 420

Vegetable Varieties for Yield, Quality and Flavor in the UP

The Seed to Kitchen Collaborative brings together vegetable breeders, seed companies, researchers, organic vegetable growers and professional chefs to evaluate the productivity and quality of elite vegetable varieties in organic research station and on-farm trials. In 2022-23, participants grew different varieties of lettuce, winter squash, carrots, broccoli and cantaloupe in university and on-farm trials. Join us to learn the results of these trials and how you can participate in 2024.

Dr. James DeDecker, MSU UPREC

D-14—JHUC 961

Cover Crop Basics

This session will offer a look at the why and how of cover crops to improve soil health, from selection to termination and everything in-between.

Michelle Sweeten, MSU Extension

D-15—JHUC 963

Honeybees: Their Value and Summer Beekeeping

Beekeeping through a summer – Learn what an experienced honey beekeeper might do throughout a summer, for example, managing swarms, extracting honey, splitting an overwintered hive, and the whole ball of beeswax.

Bernie Driggs, Northwoods Beekeepers Club

D-16—JHUC 952

How are you capitalizing on record prices?

Beef cattle prices hit record highs last year and will likely continue at that level into 2024. What can you do to get the most of those dollars? Topics covered will include selling healthy, high quality calves, locking in price protection and developing sales agreements.

Frank Wardynski, MSU Extension

Bay de Noc Community College
2001 N Lincoln Rd, Escanaba, MI 49829

Directions to J. Heirman Center **Parking Lot A:**

From the North and East: From highway US 2 & 41 go west past the Travelodge Motel to the stoplight at Danforth Road. Turn right and go about 1/10 mile to first driveway on the right.

From South and West: From highway US 2 & 41 go east past KFC restaurant and under the railroad viaduct to the stoplight at Danforth Road. Turn left and go about 1/10 mile to the first driveway on the right.

Agriculture for Tomorrow Sponsors

These organizations and businesses have previously contributed to support our program:

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DTE Energy	Michigan Milk Producers Assoc.
Joe Blanchard Farm Bureau Insurance	Nutrien, Gladstone, MI
Frozen Farms Company	Purina Animal Nutrition
GreenStone Farm Credit Services	Rainbow Packing
Growing UP Agricultural Assoc.	Ray's Feed Mill
Hiawathaland Farm Bureau	U.P. Products
Insight FS	UPCAP
Iron Range Farm Bureau	Verbrigghe Potato Farm
Jilbert's Inc.	Wardynski Livestock
Mac-Luce-Schoolcraft Farm Bureau	Weston A Price Foundation

This sponsor list may not be complete for 2024.

An updated list of sponsors will be presented at the conference.

The Agriculture for Tomorrow Conference is brought to you by:



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