

VEGETABLE CROPS HOTLINE

A newsletter for commercial vegetable growers prepared by the
Purdue University Cooperative Extension Service

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SUSTAINABLE EARTH PRESENTS - 2006 MIDWEST SMALL FARM CONFERENCE - Saturday, February 11, 2006, Montgomery County 4-H Fairgrounds, 400 Parke Avenue, Crawfordsville, IN, doors open at 7:30AM.

8:30 - 9:00AM - Welcome and Opening Remarks -
Steve Bonney, president, Sustainable Earth.

Session 1: 9:15 - 10:30 AM

- A) Intensive Grazing, New Zealand Style - Neil McDonald, Traders Point Creamery, Indianapolis.
- B) Financing Your New Farm Enterprise - Jim Luzar, Montgomery County director, Purdue University Cooperative Extension.

Session 2: 10:45AM - 12:00 Noon

- A) Saving the Family Farm - Jim & LeeAnn VanDerPol, Kerkoven, Minnesota
- B) Innovative Field to Market Processes for Small Produce Farms - Kevin Cooley, Cooley Family Farm, Lafayette, IN.

Lunch - 12:00 Noon - 2:00PM - An organic lunch can be purchased (meat and vegetarian options available) from The Juniper Spoon. You may bring your own lunch

Session 3: 2:00 - 3:15PM

- A) Grass Fed Beef from a Heritage Breed - Dean Hartley, Darlington, IN.

- B) Farmers Working Cooperatively - Art Sherwood / Bobbi Boos, Local Growers Guild, Bloomington, IN

Session 4: 3:30 - 4:45PM

- A) Raising Heritage Turkeys - Rob North, Earth Cure Natural Farm, Rochester, IN.
- B) Selling to Independent Natural Food Stores - Kathy Willowoode Brown, Sunspot Natural Market, West Lafayette, IN.

Registration Fees:

If postmarked by 2/6/06

Individual \$35 Family* \$55

After 2/6/06 register at the conference

Individual \$45 Family* \$65

*Family registrations include all related people living in the same household.

For more information regarding directions, lodging, etc. please call (765) 463-9366, email: sustainableearth.steve@verizon.net; or check the webpage at: <www.sustainableearth.net>.



4TH OHIO RIVER VALLEY FARM MARKETING CONFERENCE - (Roy Ballard) - Agricultural leaders from Indiana, Kentucky and Ohio have partnered to organize a valuable and affordable educational conference for growers and agricultural stakeholders. The conference is scheduled for February 21-22 at the Clifty Falls State Parke in Madison, IN. The conference is geared towards growers that are looking for strategies for marketing their products. The conference registration fee prior to February 6 is \$40 and \$50 after that date. The fee includes all conference activities and three meals.

The conference will offer day and a half of presentations, workshops, and discussions, focused on agricultural marketing. It will also include general session speakers, breakout sessions, one-on-one roundtable discussions with producers, panel discussions, and trade show exhibits.

The featured speaker will be Barry Moltz, author of "You Need to be a Little Crazy; The Truth about Starting and Growing Your Business."

Feature presentations will include:

- * Sharpening Your Competitive Edge
- * Starting out with a Certified Kitchen-Small Scale Processing
- * Marketing that Regional Flavor
- * Cooperatives 101
- * Making Sense of Certification Alphabet Soup
- * Meeting the Needs of Differing Demographics
- * Marketing Alliances from Informal to Formal
- * Home Processing Shopping List
- * New Tools for Old Tasks
- * New Ideas in Working Together

For more information, please contact Roy Ballard, Purdue Extension Educator, ANR, Floyd County at (812) 948-5470 or rballard@purdue.edu or the Purdue Extension Educator in your county. Conference information is also posted at <<http://ocdc.osu.edu>>.



SW INDIANA CROP CLINIC - (Jim Peter) - The 5th Annual Southwest Indiana Crop Clinic will be held on Tuesday, February 21, 8:30 a.m. - 4:30 p.m. E.S.T. at the Shiloh United Methodist Church. The church is located just west of Jasper on SR 56, on the south side of the highway.

The morning program will begin with a discussion of nitrogen management strategies for the 2006 corn crop presented by Jim Camberato, Purdue Agronomist. Jim will talk about nitrogen rates and getting the most out of your fertilizer dollar. SW Indiana has an ample supply of manure from animal agriculture. How can we use this manure to replace or supplement nitrogen applications? Purdue Agronomist Brad Joern will address this topic and review methods to monitor nitrogen availability to meet crop needs. Asian Soybean Rust has been a topic of farmer discussions since it was discovered in the U.S. While rust did not appear in 2005, it is still a factor in cropping decisions for 2006. Purdue Extension Soybean Specialist, Shawn Conley will talk about the disease, its identification and treatment, (PARP topic).

After lunch on your own at local restaurants, attendees will return for concurrent sessions on the topics of Feed Grains, Forages and Conservation Tillage. On the feed grain side of things, herbicide resistant weeds are a growing concern for area farmers and commercial applicators. Bill Johnson, Purdue Extension Weed Specialist, will speak on identifying and managing resistant weed populations, (PARP topic). As GMO seed traits continue to increase, which traits do we need here in SW Indiana? Purdue Extension Entomologist Christian Krupke will talk about stacked gene insect control traits for southern Indiana, (PARP topic).

In the forage arena the program will begin with "Nitrogen Management for Forages" with Jim Camberato. Wrapping up the forage sessions will be Bill

Johnson discussing problem weed control in forages, (PARP topic).

Conservation tillage is used all over the area to conserve our precious soil resource. NRCS Tillage Specialist Barry Fisher will conduct a conservation tillage update talking about techniques, equipment and practices. Did you know you can cut your seed cost by calibrating your planting tools? Purdue Extension Specialist Steve Hawkins will present information on calibration methods and cost saving from accurate plant populations and seed placement.

A discussion of the soybean rust fungicide label by Extension Educator Jim Peter will wrap up the day at 3:30 p.m., (PARP topic). Private applicators seeking PARP credit must attend this session plus two additional PARP topics.

Commercial Pesticide Applicator "CCH's" and Certified Crop Advisor credits, "CCA's" have been requested. Persons seeking credit must check the schedule for credit program times. Contact the Dubois County Extension Office at (812) 482-1782, or <www.ces.purdue.edu/Dubois/ag/ANRLinks.htm> for more information or a schedule for this event.



THE INDIANA BEEKEEPERS' ASSOCIATION (IBA) will hold its Indiana Bee School IV in Indianapolis, Indiana on Saturday, February 25, 2006. It will be held at the Southport Presbyterian Church on 7525 McFarland Boulevard. This is an excellent facility with plenty of room for our breakout sessions and is very accessible.

Dr. Keith Delaplane, Professor of Entomology at University of Georgia at Athens, has agreed to be our keynote speaker for the school. We are very excited to have him returning to his native State. We are planning to have three breakout sessions, with each session having four or five different topics to choose from. Lectures, hands-on workshops and discussions will be held for beekeepers with any level of skill, experience or ability. Topics on introductory beekeeping tools and techniques as well as learning opportunities for the more advanced beekeeper will be available. Along with a great program are door prizes, an auction and a variety of vendor displays and supplies from several of the top vendors (such as B & B Honey Farm, Dadant, Walter Kelley Co., Brushy Mtn. and others). You will have a chance to meet and informally visit with beekeepers from across the state. On-site registration starts at 8:00 A.M. (EST) with program starting promptly at 9:00 A.M. and concluding at 3:30 P.M. Registration fee will be \$20.00 per individual or \$30.00 per family (lunch included). To guarantee lunch, reservations must be made by February 15, 2006.

For future updates join the **Indiana Beekeepers' Association** and get all of the information in the upcoming newsletters or contact Steve Doty (317) 485-5593 or jsdoty@indy.net or <<http://indianabeekeeper.goshen.edu>>.

SOUTHWEST INDIANA MELON AND VEGETABLE GROWERS ANNUAL MEETING, Friday, March 10, 2006 at the Quality Inn, 600 Old Wheatland Road, Vincennes, IN 47591. Registration from 8:30 - 9:00 am, cost is \$5 per person, which will entitle one to refreshments and lunch, as well as membership in the Southwest Indiana Melon and Vegetable Growers Association. The technical meeting will cover topics concerning vegetable production and will also qualify toward re-certification for your private applicators license. If you plan to use this meeting toward re-certification, there will be an additional \$10 fee. For more information, contact: Chris Gunter (812) 886-0198 or by email at gunterc@purdue.edu.



ILLIANA WATERMELON ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING, Friday and Saturday, March 10th & 11th, 2006, at the Quality Inn, 600 Old Wheatland Road, Vincennes, IN 47591. For more information, contact: Stephanie Nowaskie (812) 886-1051.



MIDWEST WOMEN IN AGRICULTURE CONFERENCES

North: March 14-15, 2006, Essenhaus Conference Center, Middlebury, IN. Pre-conference begins at 9:30AM. Roy Ballard and Jerry Nelson will present "Is an Agritourism Enterprise 'Right' for Your Farm?"

South: March 16-17, 2006, The Seasons Conference Center, Nashville, IN.

Pre-conference begins at 9:30AM with "NCTI Real Colors".

Conferences officially start at noon with a luncheon featuring speakers Jolene Brown, CSP and Bernie Erven, Professor Emeritus, Department of Agriculture Economics, The Ohio State University. Jolene will share about "Generations at Work or War", and "Blazing New Trails for Agriculture". Bernie will share his insights on "Running an Effective Farm Business Meeting" and "Being an MVP-Most Valued Person".

At each conference there will be concurrent sessions on: Exposure to Pesticides Commodity Outlook, International Agriculture, Update on the Indiana Department of Agriculture, Urban/Rural Conflict, Women on the Well Side and Estate Planning.

If you would like a copy of the complete registration booklet, please contact your local extension office and they will mail one to you. You can also visit the web at www.ces.purdue.edu/WIA/.



INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT SURVEYS FOR INDIANA VEGETABLE GROWERS - (Jim Jasinski) - The Great Lakes Vegetable Working Group (GLVWG) committee, University personnel who specialize in vegetable

research and Extension programming, along with industry stakeholders have been developing vegetable IPM adoption surveys. This is the first major initiative of the GLVWG formed in October 2004. The mission of the working group is to foster communication and collaboration between vegetable specialists in the Great Lakes region, including Ontario, Canada, and to address priorities in vegetable production through research and Extension programs. For more information about this working group and our mission, visit our website at <http://glvwg.ag.ohio-state.edu/>.

The GLVWG decided that understanding IPM adoption in key vegetable crops across the region is essential to focus our resources and direct our outreach and research efforts. To that end, with input from both University and industry representatives, we have developed state and crop specific IPM adoption surveys. The intent of the surveys is to determine which IPM practices are commonly used among growers. The results of this survey will be a major influence in future research and Extension efforts. By completing the survey, you help us continue to serve you.

These surveys are designed to be taken over the Internet. Most questions require only a click to select the proper response(s); very little typing is involved. Your responses will be kept confidential. Sections of each survey will evaluate general pest management knowledge, training needs, and actual pest management practices from a pre-plant through post harvest time frame. These surveys are designed to take 10-15 minutes to complete. One completed survey per state per crop will be chosen at random to receive a free gift such as a current vegetable production guide or sweatshirt from that state or province.

To begin the survey, either double click the link directly below in this article or cut and paste the link into your web browser's URL address bar (Netscape, Internet Explorer, Fox Fire, etc).

The crops selected for the IPM survey in (ADD STATE) and their web address are as follows:

Pumpkin:

www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=330741063607,

Muskmelon:

www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=622231483727

Processing Tomato:

www.surveymonkey.com/s.asp?u=757651474753

These surveys will remain on line and active until March 12th, 2006 at which time they will be taken off line. Results of these surveys will be analyzed and reported in a future edition of this newsletter. For more information concerning the survey or if you do not have access to the Internet and need a hard copy, please contact Jim Jasinski, at jasinski.4@osu.edu or (937) 484-1526.



WHAT'S NEW? - Highlights of changes. For many years, *The Midwest Vegetable Production Guide for Commercial Growers (ID-56)* has been a collaborative project of the Extension services of the University of Illinois, Iowa State University, University of Minnesota, and University of Missouri.

The cover for this year's guide reflects that collaboration by listing all participating institutions. State-specific information has been moved from the inside covers to pages 3-6.

Other changes include:

- Photos added to many chapters.
- Redesigned tables and updated layout.

Varieties

- Many updates to variety recommendations.

Disease Management

- Headline® (pyraclostrobin) has been registered for control of Asian soybean rust in beans and peas.
- Phosphorous acid-based fungicides (Agri-Fos®, Phostrol®, Prophyt®) have been labeled for control of downy mildew, Phytophthora and other diseases of many vegetable crops.
- Ranman 400SC® (cyazofamid) has been labeled for use on cucurbits, potatoes, and tomatoes.
- The Tanos 50WDG® (famoxadone and cymoxanil) label has been expanded on cucurbits and tomatoes.
- A Fusarium fruit rot section has been added to the cucurbit section and vegetable disease management table.
- The downy mildew section of cucurbits has been updated with possible disease resistance information.
- Many fungicides have new rate and resistance management strategies.

Weed Management

- Aim® is labeled for use in beets, carrots, cucurbits, and horseradish.
- Callisto® (mesotrione) is labeled for Preemergence and postemergence broadleaf control in sweet corn.
- Chateau WDG® (flumioxazin) has a label for use in mint.
- Dacthal® is on the market again and is again listed for use in many crops.
- Outlook® is labeled for use in horseradish, potatoes, garlic, and onions.

Insect Management

- Brassica and leafy greens have new thresholds for caterpillar infestation.
- The potato section lists Insecticide Resistance Action Committee (IRAC) group members for resistant management.
- Assail® has a label for cole crops, fruiting vegetables, and leafy vegetables.
- Baythroid® has a label for cucurbits, fruiting vegetables, and leafy vegetables.

The Midwest Vegetable Production Guide for Commercial Growers (ID-56) is available on line at www.entm.purdue.edu/entomology/ext/targets/ID/index.htm. It can also be purchased for \$10 per copy from the Southwest Purdue Ag Center, 4369 N. Purdue Road, Vincennes, IN 47591; phone: (812) 886-0198. Please make checks payable to Purdue University.

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Vegetable Crops Hotline
c/o Chris Gunter
Southwest Purdue Agricultural Program
4369 N Purdue Rd
Vincennes, IN 47591