



VEGETABLE NEWS *and* VIEWS

FROM THE MICHIGAN VEGETABLE COUNCIL

SERVING THE
VEGETABLE
INDUSTRY



6835 S KREPPS RD, ST JOHNS MI 48879 | PHONE & FAX: 517-663-6725 | WWW.MICHIGANVEGETABLECOUNCIL.ORG

You receive this newsletter twice a year because you are a member of the Michigan Vegetable Council (MVC) for the year. When you attend the Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable and Farm Market Expo (GL Expo) if you identify yourself as a vegetable grower then your registration makes you a member of The Michigan Vegetable Council for the year.

MVC COMMUNICATIONS

6835 S Krepps Rd St. Johns, MI 48879 | 517-663-6725 | michiganvegetablecouncil.org

Like MVC on Facebook and Twitter: @michvegouncil. Some websites to checkout:

www.youtube.com/channel/UCsbngVN-MPoYGqiF0ypb81w/videos

<https://michigangrown.org/>

www.youtube.com/user/MichiganAgCouncil/videos

2023 GREAT LAKES **FRUIT, VEGETABLE, AND FARM MARKET EXPO**

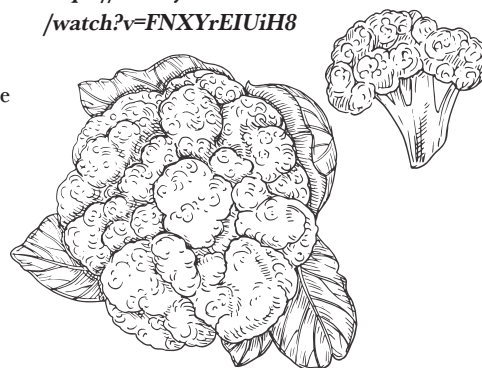
DEC 5-7

2023 Room Blocks at the Amway Grand, JW Marriott, Courtyard by Marriott, Hyatt Place, and Holiday Inn are open. (glexpo.com) Don't put off reservations as these do sell out.

2023 will introduce some major trade show changes. The specialty crop industry here in the Great Lakes needs innovation and agriculture technology. The Expo will do its best to bring innovation and agriculture technology to its attendees. If you did not view the recent webinar on innovation please check it out here. The Great Lakes Expo and the Michigan Israel Business Accelerator brought you a

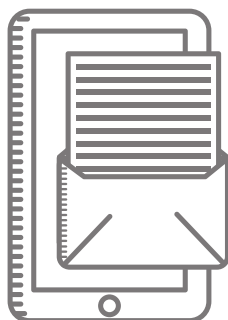
webinar featuring cutting edge innovation geared for specialty crops.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FNXYrEIUiH8>



EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTES

You should receive this newsletter as an email and a printed copy (unless outside of the US then only email). Someday we may switch to all email, but checking what works best. A



valid email address for Expo registration is important. We do our best to not share your email address and we limit email distractions to our yearly members.

The Michigan Vegetable Council has retained the services of Kelley Cawthorne to be the lobbying agent for the Michigan Vegetable Council and Michigan's vegetable industry. The board decided that it is time to make a strong effort to promote advocacy for Michigan's vegetable industry. What does this mean? It means that the Michigan Vegetable Council team and Kelley Cawthorne will be making a lot of visits with government officials in Lansing. It also means that we will be inviting these government officials out onto farms. The

Great Lakes Expo is our showcase and we are going to work hard to boost attendance at the Expo by these elected officials.

Greg Bird, Michigan Vegetable Council's Executive Director, traveled to Washington DC in February to take part in the National Council of Agricultural Employers annual meeting. The meetings and visits with elected representatives were very much focused on labor and the difficulty competing with imports from overseas. Greg made many visits with Sarah Black and Dawn Drake of Michigan Farm Bureau, along with Fred Leitz of Leitz Farms LLC. Topics ranged with ideas to improve the H-2A visa program and what should be helpful in the 2023 Farm Bill.

MICHIGAN VEGETABLE COUNCIL FUNDED RESEARCH GRANTS

New grant in 2023:

Grant Type	Details	Grantee
SCBG	2 grant proposals for 2023, pending MDARD approval.	

Get to the EXPO to find out the latest results from these current projects:

Grant Type	Details	Grantee
SCBG	Testing New Ways to Monitor and Manage Cucurbit Downy Mildew	MSU, Dr Mary Hausbeck's lab
SCBG	Getting to the Root of the Problem: Increasing Vegetable Plant Establishment and Productivity	MSU, Dr Mary Hausbeck's lab
SCBG	Advancing Agbot and Drone Technologies for Sustainable Soil and Weed Management in Michigan Vegetables	MSU, Dr. Daniel Brainard's lab
GREEN	Improving Cucurbit Pollination in Michigan Farms	MSU, Dr. Zsofia Szendrei's lab
MVC	Developing Molecular Diagnostic Services for Root Lesion Nematode Species Identification in Vegetables	MSU, Dr. Marisol Quintanilla and Dr. Henry Chung

MVC Research Grant Funds Provided:

	Years	Future Grant Commitments	Dollars Granted
Research Grants (SCBG, GREEN, others)	2002-2021		\$1,796,952
Research Grants (SCBG, others)	2023		\$12,000
Research Grants (SCBG)	2021-2024	\$201,500	
Grant Totals	2002-2023		\$1,808,952



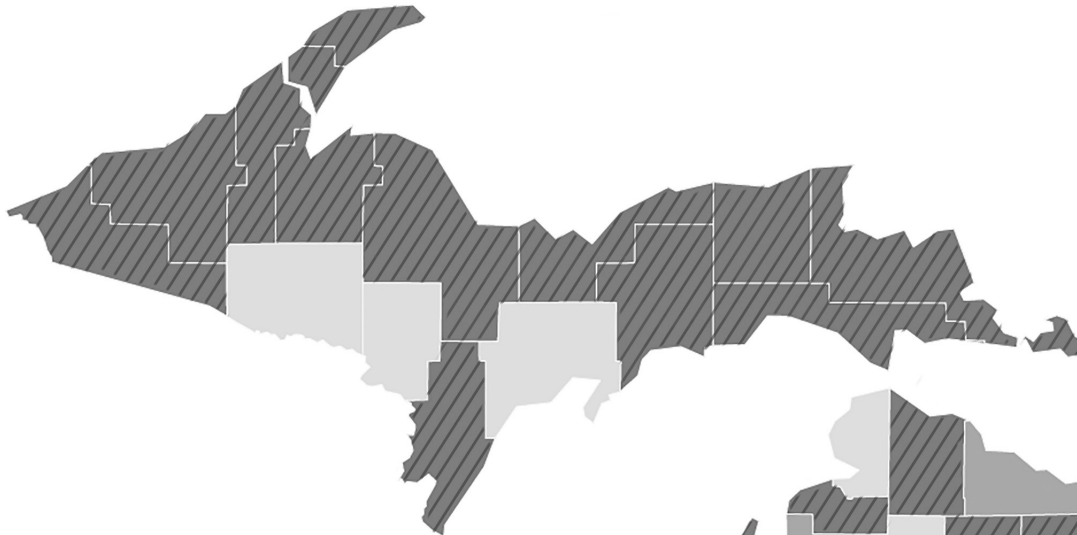
MICHIGAN VEGETABLE COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIPS

Michigan Vegetable Council (MVC) provides student scholarships that are awarded each December at the Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable, and Farm Market Expo.

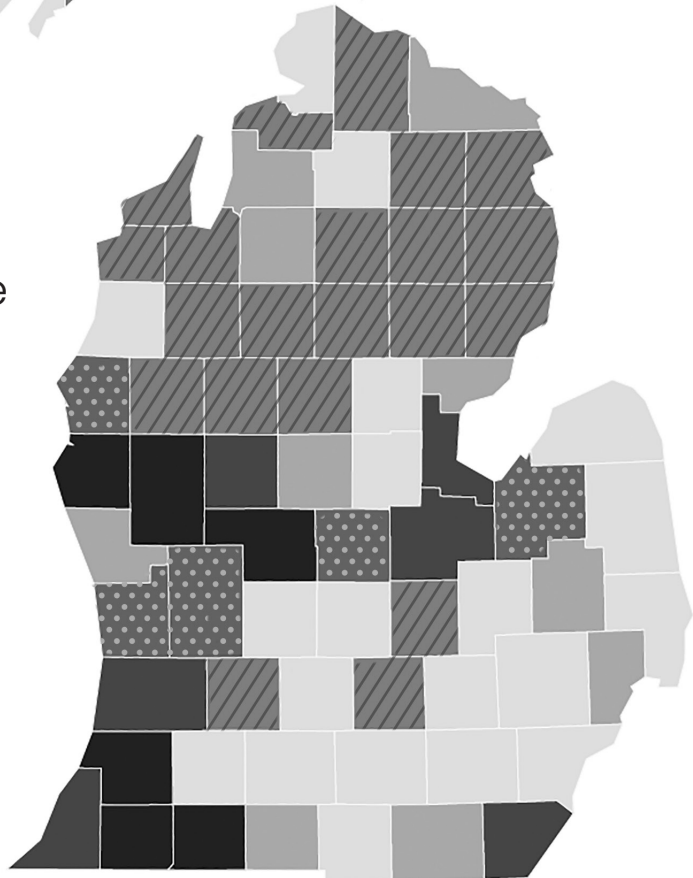
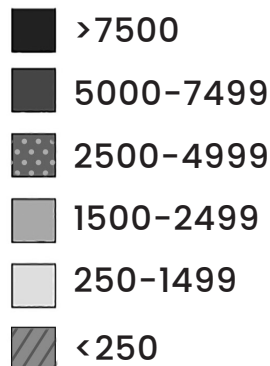
MVC Scholarships:

Years	Number of Scholarships	Dollars Given
2001-2021	119	\$147,800
2022	7	\$10,500
Scholarship Totals 2001-2022	126	\$158,300

MICHIGAN'S VEGETABLE PRODUCTION



165,620 ACRES | **\$535 MILLION** Farm Gate Value



Agralytica, on behalf of the USDA – Risk Management Agency (RMA), is inviting interested parties, including specialty crop producers, crop insurance agents, adjusters, and others, to participate in a listening session to discuss a potential weather index program for fresh market specialty crops. The live event was in Hart, MI on April 20.

There are still virtual listening sessions on:

Friday, June 9, 2023 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Eastern Time

Monday, June 12, 2023 12:00 PM – 1:00 PM Eastern Time

**Meeting URL: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82895068841>

For audio only (call in): 1-301-715-8592

Meeting ID: 828 9506 8841

For questions contact:

Andre Williamson

Email: awilliamson@agralytica.com

Tim Mitchell

Email: tmitchell@agralytica.com

Both the Grand Rapids Children’s Museum and Lansing’s Impression Five have yearly or new children’s agriculture exhibits. Both are looking to partner with companies in

the vegetable industry to promote Michigan’s vegetable industry. MVC has contacts at both museums if anyone is interested in getting further details.



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