



VEGETABLE NEWS *and* VIEWS

FROM THE MICHIGAN VEGETABLE COUNCIL

SERVING THE
VEGETABLE
INDUSTRY

since
1964

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

*MICHIGAN
VEGETABLE
COUNCIL*
**BOARD
MEMBER
NEWS**

We have several terms expiring in 2022 and 2023 and will need a few new board members. A few of the board members with terms expiring are not vegetable growers, but are part of the vegetable industry. We can have board members who are not growers, but participate in the industry. A board member participates in 4 in-person meetings a year.

One aspect of the board is to help plan the Great Lakes EXPO. A few board members serve on the EXPO planning committee and get to plan the details of the event. We will need a new board member to take on this role in the next year or two. The Great Lakes EXPO is a company which holds board meetings. The EXPO has 2 in-person meetings and several conference calls each year.

MVC board members serve up to 3 terms which are 3 years in length. The next time you are at the Great Lakes EXPO stop by the MVC booth if you think you may be interested in being part of the board of directors.



2022 GREAT LAKES FRUIT, VEGETABLE, AND FARM MARKET EXPO

DEC 6 - 8

2022 Room Blocks at the Amway Grand, JW Marriott, Courtyard by Marriott, Hyatt Place, and Holiday Inn are open. (glexpo.com) By this time of year, some I'm sure are already sold out. It's always best to make your reservations in February or March.

The Fruit + Vegetable 40 Under 40 Awards for 2022, presented by Great American Media Services, will be awarded on December 6 at 4:30pm. The award ceremony will take place at the Valent Trade Show Stage.

Agritourism is popular if you have not noticed. The EXPO continues to expand our education sessions regarding Agritourism. Take time and check out the updated Agritourism area within the Farm Market Hall. At 11am, 1pm, and 3pm on Tuesday and Wednesday, there will be

Agritourism roundtable discussions held. The topics of these discussions are: Local ordinances, zoning, land use\flowers\security & safety\ticketing\successful events, including music, food trucks, alcohol, etc\employee engagement. The large Tuesday evening Farm Market Roundtable Discussion will still be held as usual.

The Labor I session held on December 7 from 9:00am-11:00am will contain information regarding H-2A Temporary Agricultural Workers. Both the government of El Salvador and Guatemala are making it possible for citizens of those countries to be available to become part of the H-2A program. There will be information about El Salvador and Guatemala in this session.

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BRING THIS TO THE VALENT TRADE SHOW STAGE READ BELOW

Valent U.S.A. LLC is the major sponsor for the Trade Show Stage in 2022. Valent has reserved the stage for a few programs of its own. Please stop by and check these out:

- 12/6 10:00am - PGRs for Today's Fruit Production Panel Discussion
- 12/7 12:00pm - Tree Fruit Solutions from Valent with Special Guests
- 12/8 10:00am - Organic and Sustainable IPM Strategies with Bio-Insecticides

Since this is the Vegetable Council Newsletter, **clip this coupon or bring this newsletter to the Valent Trade Show Stage on 12/6 at 12:00pm and receive a free gift from Valent.** Stay for the following talk:

- 12/6 12:00pm - Vegetable Growing solutions from Valent with Special Guests

MICHIGAN VEGETABLE COUNCIL FUNDED RESEARCH GRANTS

New grant in 2022:

Grant Type	Details	Grantee
SCBG	Testing New Ways to Monitor and Manage Cucurbit Downy Mildew	MSU, Dr Mary Hausbeck's lab

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

Grant Type	Details	Grantee
SCBG	Strategies are Needed to Protect Michigan's Cucurbits from Fungicide Resistant 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 Mary Hausbeck's lab
GREEN	Help turnip, radish, cabbage and rutabaga growers adjust to life without Lorsban	MSU, Dr. Ben Werling and Dr. Zsofia Szendrei
MVC	Identifying the utility of aerial drone chemical application systems for Michigan vegetable crops (carrots, asparagus, and squash)	MSU, Dr. Michael Reinke

MVC Research Grant Funds Provided:

	Years	Future Grant Commitments	Dollars Granted
Research Grants (SCBG, GREEN, others)	2002-2021		\$1,648,774
Research Grants (SCBG, others)	2022		\$148,178
Research Grants (SCBG)	2021-2024	\$201,500	
Grant Totals	2002-2022		\$1,796,952

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
2001-2020	112	\$137,300
2021	7	\$10,500
Scholarship Totals 2001-2021	119	\$147,800

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S NOTES

What are you doing Wednesday, December 7, at 4pm? It's the perfect time to head from the end of an education session to the back of the main exhibit hall. The Valent Trade Show Stage is located there. The MVC will be hosting the social hour for anyone in the vegetable industry who is interested in stopping by and saying hello. Let's just call it the vegetable industry networking from 4:00pm-5:30pm. From 4:15pm-4:45pm the MVC will hold its annual meeting. Everyone is welcome to join the

meeting. However, we hope people will just hang around and talk about what's happening in the industry. Find an MVC board member for a token for a drink on us.

Following up on my content from the last newsletter where I mentioned carbon farming, there will be a place to get some information on carbon farming while at the EXPO. Dr. Emily Lavelly, the Tree Fruit Educator for the West Central region, will be talking about carbon sequestration. This will happen on December 6 at 1:00pm at the Valent Trade Show Stage.

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is full of employees that have immense knowledge about

our environment. These same people crave to know more about the environment across our country. This is the reason that each year, Michigan hosts a tour of employees from the EPA. Our goal is to bring people to Michigan so they can see our environment and see the great things we do here in agriculture. In August 2022, the Michigan IPM Alliance hosted this tour. The Michigan Vegetable Council, Michigan Onion Committee, Michigan Carrot Commission, and the Michigan Asparagus Advisory Board are all member organizations of the Michigan IPM Alliance. 2022 was the year when vegetables were focused on during the tour.

The National Council of Agricultural Employers (NCAE) hosts its annual meeting at the beginning of February each year in DC. The MVC hopes to send

some members to this meeting as we have in the past. These meetings focus on agricultural labor. Time is spent hearing from federal employees and time is spent visiting representatives from Michigan.

Without getting into the details. The MVC would like to thank two families for their generous donations this year. Both families lost a family member this year. The families decided to ask for donations in honor of their family members to be given to the MVC Endowment Fund. The MVC Endowment Fund is held at the Fremont Area Community Foundation. The MVC Endowment Fund can be used for vegetable research and education needs here in Michigan. The MVC board of directors control how the funds are used.

FOOD BANK COUNCIL OF MICHIGAN

The Food Bank Council of Michigan works closely with growers all over the state to support our statewide food bank network with distributions of Michigan-grown produce to food insecure families across the state. We have a general fund grant from the State of Michigan, called Michigan Agriculture Surplus System (MASS), that allows the Michigan Food Bank Council to purchase directly from Michigan farmers.

In order to maximize these funds, we work directly with farmers to purchase their sort outs and #2's. This is produce that might otherwise go to waste. We purchase everything from apples to zucchini – but we are especially in need of **onions** right now. If you have **onions** available for purchase, please contact Morgan Deans, at the Food Bank Council of Michigan, for more information at mdeans@fbcmich.org or 517-648-4687.