



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

MVC keeps a webpage at <https://michiganvegetablecouncil.org>.

Like MVC us on Facebook and Twitter @michvegouncil.

MVC has only a few videos at YouTube, but we are working on adding more:  
<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsbngVN-MPoYGqiF0ypb81w/videos>

Check out all the podcasts and videos at Michigan Agriculture Council

<https://michigangrown.org/>

(Michigan Grown Michigan Great)

<https://www.youtube.com/user/MichiganAgCouncil/videos>



## 2021 GREAT LAKES FRUIT, VEGETABLE, AND FARM MARKET EXPO IS DEC 7-9 IN GRAND RAPIDS

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Registration is OPEN. Get signed up now as Early Bird pricing goes through November 15. Check [glexpo.com](http://glexpo.com) for any questions you may have.

Thank you for taking the post event survey which is always sent out immediately following the Expo. MSU Extension provides the Expo with great educational programming and it needs feedback to continue improvement.

Look for the Michigan Vegetable Council Booth to be out front in the Grand Gallery this year. We will have some t-shirts available for Christmas presents. Get your present shopping done in person and not

have to worry about the delivery chain. We hope to have a new design for the t-shirts in 2022, so this may be your last chance to get this classic style.



**MICHIGAN  
ONION  
COMMITTEE  
-2022  
REFERENDUM  
VOTE  
\*\*\***

Something before summer 2022 MDARD and the Michigan Onion Committee will hold a vote to continue the Michigan Onion Promotion and Development Program. Michigan onion growers are allowed to cast their vote on whether the program should continue. The program has been in existence since 1977. The program assesses up to \$ .06 per hundredweight of onions sold. Program funds are used for marketing and research to benefit Michigan's onion industry.

## GREAT LAKES EXPO

(DEC 7-9) NEWS



VEGETABLE  
NEWS *and* VIEWS  
FROM THE MICHIGAN  
VEGETABLE COUNCIL

Genius Bar Stage in Exhibit Hall this year! Ask the experts at the genius bar events, industry presentations, 40 Under 40 Awards Tuesday at 4:30pm, Vegetable Industry retirements (John Baker, Brian Bursiek) and networking event Wednesday at 4:00pm, everyone invited. Do you receive Pesticide Credits at the EXPO? If so, we have a change coming your way! In 2021 we will no longer be using bubble sheets for

submitting information. At the end of a session you will use your personal mobile device to submit information for pesticide credits. If a personal mobile device does not work for you, please visit the pesticide credit booth in the Grand Gallery. At the booth you can log your information on a computer or on a paper form (Take the presented education session code with you to the pesticide credit booth). An instructional email will be sent as we approach the event dates.

# 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.

## MICHIGAN VEGETABLE COUNCIL FUNDED RESEARCH GRANTS

The Michigan Vegetable Council (MVC) has one Specialty Crop Block Grants (SCBG) with MSU which is: "Strategies are Needed to Protect Michigan's Cucurbits from Fungicide Resistant Downy Mildew," with Dr Mary Hausbeck's lab. This just completed year one of two. Get to the Expo to find out the latest downy mildew research from this project.

Two new SCBG grants look like they may get approved, but are waiting on final approval from MDARD and USDA. One will focus

on increasing vegetable plant productivity and the other will focus on improving Agbot and drone technologies.

2021 research grants funded by the Michigan Vegetable Council:

"Leveraging solar and robotic technology to address energy and labor constraints for Michigan vegetable growers." proposal of Dr. Daniel Brainard.

"Beating" the destructive Rhizomania disease by showcasing resistant red beet varieties' proposal of Dr. Mary Hausbeck.

MVC Research Grant Funds Provided			
	Years	Future Grant Commitments	Dollars Granted
Research Grants (SCBG, GREEN, others)	2002-2020		\$1,533,707
Research Grants (SCBG, others)	2021		\$34,200
Research Grants (SCBG)	2020-2022	\$91,577	
Grant Totals	2002-2020	\$91,577	\$1,567,907

## MICHIGAN VEGETABLE COUNCIL SCHOLARSHIPS

The 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
2001-2019	105	\$126,800
2020	7	\$10,500
Scholarship Totals 2001-2020	112	\$137,300



## WHAT'S THIS VEGETABLE NETWORKING EVENT AT THE EXPO?

It's been 24 months since the 2019 Expo. For many of us our networking and communicating with a wide group of people has probably declined since December 2019. The vegetable industry has kept rolling, but there are things that need to be discussed and the 2021 Expo is the place to do it. The event will be Wednesday, December 8 at 4pm at the Genius Bar Stage inside the trade show

The MVC Board Meetings happen several times a year and we get down to discussing the important industry topics. However, these meetings include only board members. We want to hear from the rest of the industry on the big topics. Politics (like it or hate it) it's out there and the vegetable industry needs to be part of it. Does

the vegetable industry need to come together to pool our money to make contributions? The agriculture industry seems to be funding more and more research type positions. What do you think about this? If you used Chlorpyrifos in your systems, what are your plans for 2022?

Besides having talks at the Expo, the MVC hopefully will have a special lunch meeting for growers and others in the industry to attend. We may look at February 2022 for this lunch meeting. We can't figure out every problem at once so this lunch meeting will just be another networking event. If this is of interest to you find Greg Bird or a MVC board member to get an invite.

# GENIUS BAR STAGE

LOCATION (BACK OF TRADE SHOW)

## 2021 GL EXPO VEGETABLE INDUSTRY EVENT

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December 8, 2021 4:00pm-5:30pm  
Cash Bar, light snacks  
Program approx 4:30pm - retirements of Brian Bursiek and John Bakker