



VEGETABLE NEWS *and* VIEWS

FROM THE MICHIGAN VEGETABLE COUNCIL

SERVING THE
VEGETABLE
INDUSTRY



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VIPS at 2018 EXPO

If you see one of these people at the Expo this year, wish them well. They have all retired from their positions during the previous year. Ben Kudwa was formerly the Director of External Relations for the Michigan Vegetable Council (MVC). Roger Brook was the Speaker/AV Coordinator for the Expo. Dave Smith was a former MVC president and served as executive director of MVC for 20 years. In fact, Dave will even be holding office hours at the MVC booth (951) from 3-5pm on Tuesday. Stop by and say hello.

MEET THE BUYERS RECEPTION

(TUESDAY
4:30PM-6:30PM)

As in previous years, the Meet the Buyers Reception will be held in its normal location (Center Concourse of the Amway) as well as in the Ambassador Ballroom right next to the concourse. We hope this will allow the event to flow smoothly and that everyone will have a chance to discuss important topics with this year's buyers.

FRUIT+VEGETABLE 40 UNDER FORTY

(TUESDAY 5:00PM-6:00PM)

The Fruit Grower News and Vegetable Grower News proudly present awards to those under 40 who are leaders in the fruit and vegetable industries. This will be held in the

Devos Place Convention Center. I know that I will be busy from 4:30pm-6:30pm on Tuesday, but I think I can make both of the events at that time fit into my schedule.

MVC COMMUNI- CATIONS

No one likes too many emails. Therefore, please see if you can work these into your bookmarks, LIKES and FOLLOWS. The MVC keeps a webpage at michiganvegetablecouncil.org. The MVC also has a small presence on Facebook and Twitter. I might post something

on Twitter that I think needs broadcast to MVC members. I try to post a photo or two when I am out and about for the council. I think I have done a dozen or dozen and a half of each of these since I came on board in April. @michvegouncil gets you to the right location on both Facebook and Twitter.

Head to **GLEXPO.COM** to find out any of your questions about the above mentioned programs or any other mentioned Expo events.



We are keeping same design as previous years, but this year we have switched to two new colors. More importantly we have changed from cotton to a microfiber

shirt. Usually when I think of microfiber I think of Dri-Fit, but that's a specific brand, but I think you get the point. These should be a great item to wear.

MSU Extension WANTS *** YOU ***

To fill out surveys and reviews for the educational sessions at the Expo. MSU Extension organizes most all of the educational events at the Expo. MSU Extension is interested in improving wherever they can. This takes feedback. So, hopefully we can

all fill out a survey and increase the data they receive. There are still some details in the works, but this year the surveys and reviews may work a bit different than in previous years. There may even be giveaways for those who participate in the surveys.

WORKER PROTECTION STANDARDS
**MEDICAL
 EVALUATION
 QUESTION-
 NAIRE**

The Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable and Farm Market EXPO will provide attendees the opportunity (free of charge) to have the OSHA Respirator Medical Evaluation Questionnaire completed by a Great Lakes Bay Health medical provider. This evaluation is needed in order to complete a respirator fit testing (not offered at expo). Below is a link to a questionnaire similar to the one that will be used at the expo. An exact copy of the version to

be filled out at the expo will be available at glexpo.com before the expo, so that it can be filled out ahead of time.
EVALUATION TIMES:
 Tuesday 8am-5pm
 Wednesday 8am-5pm
 Thursday 8am-noon
 The medical evaluations will occur to the left when you are at the top of the ramp going up to the farm market and conference room area. Outside of the room will be a booth with literature from Great Lakes Bay Health and the National

**Link to
 questionnaire:**
<https://www.osha.gov/laws-regs/regulations/standardnumber/1910/1910.134AppC>



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**ANNUAL
 MEETING**

Each year at the expo, the MVC holds its annual meeting. This year, as usual, it will be at 11:30am on Wednesday in conference room C. This meeting is usually kept pretty short and sweet. New board members are elected by the council. A MVC financial report for the fiscal year is given. Any show attendees are welcome to attend.

**WHERE DOES
the
 Time Go?**

I started my role as Executive Director on April 1 of this year. April 1 is the beginning of the fiscal year for the MVC. It is also the beginning of the growing season which is when very few face to face interactions occur between MVC board members. The expo and yearly board meetings are held between November and March. This gave me a whole growing season to get out and meet some people and visit some board members on their farms. I have a list of people that I did not make it to see this year and will get to those as time allows. I thought I would share a few of the visits I made this season.

EDUCATIONAL:
 Nematode seminar at MSU
 MSU Ag Innovation Day
 Morgan Composting Soil
 Health Day

MVC BOOTH:
 Farm to Food Expo in Holland
 Breakfast on the Farm at MSU
 Ag Day at Johnson pumpkins
 in Saginaw
FARMFACILITY VISITS:
 Van Dyk Farms in Imlay City
 Swanson Pickles in Ravenna
 Andersen Brothers in
 Blanchard
 Oomen Farms, Asparagus
 Research Farm, Michigan
 Freeze Pack all in Oceana
 county
 Senator Stabenow press
 conference at Dietrich Farms
 in Conklin
 Victory Farms in Hudsonville
 Visit to Macomb and thumb,
 multiple locations
 Leitz Farms and Piggot's Farm
 Market in Sodus
 Michigan Sugar Company in
 Bay City