



## Upper Midwest Regional Fruit & Vegetable Growers Conference January 18 & 19, 2018

Sponsored by  
The Minnesota Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association  
In cooperation with  
University of Minnesota Extension  
Minnesota Department of Agriculture

### Thursday morning, January 18, 2017

#### OPENING SESSION

- 8:00 – 8:45 Continental Breakfast in Trade Show Hall  
8:45 – 9:00 Welcome & Announcements  
9:00 – 9:30 Driftwatch: Protecting Specialty Crops & Pollinators –  
Larry Van Lieshout, MDA  
9:30 – 10:00 FSMA Overview – Lillian Otieno, MDA. Annalisa Hultberg, UM Extension, and  
Don Stoeckel, Produce Safety Alliance, Cornell University  
10:00 – 10:30 Introduction of New U of M employees  
10:30 – 11:00 **Break to the Trade Show**  
11:00 – 12:00 Impacts of Climate Change on Minnesota's Specialty Crops -  
Dr. Kenneth Blumenfeld, Senior Climatologist, Minnesota State Climate Office  
12:00-1:15 Lunch served in the Trade Show Hall

### Thursday afternoon, January 18, 2018

#### SESSION I: BERRY PRODUCTION

- 1:15 – 2:15 Year in Review – Audience Participation - Kevin Edberg  
2:15 – 2:45 SWD, Japanese Beetle Update and Projects – Dr. Bill Hutchison  
2:45 – 3:15 Observations and Solutions from the Field (Facilitated Discussion of Grower  
Experiences) - Kevin Edberg, Dr.Thaddeus McCamant, Nate Nourse  
3:15 – 3:30 **Break to the Trade Show**  
3:30 – 4:15 Flower Thrips and Bronzing in Strawberries -  
Dr.Thaddeus McCamant  
4:15 – 4:45 Strawberry Variety Trials Update – Dr. Jim Luby

#### SESSION II: HIGH TUNNEL PRODUCTION Session I

- 1:15 – 2:00 Modern Technologies for Double Cropping and Trellising Raspberries in High  
Tunnels – Nate Nourse  
2:00 – 2:45 Breaking Bad Habits: Integrating Crop Diversity into High Tunnel Production -  
Dr. Cary Rivard  
2:45 – 3:15 **Break to the Trade Show**  
3:15 – 3:45 Identifying and Managing High Soil Salts in High Tunnels – Dr.Carl Rosen  
3:45 - 4:15 Superior Rhubarb Production in the Field and High Tunnels. - Nate Nourse



4:15 – 4:45 High Tunnel Systems at the Kansas State University Olathe Horticulture Center -  
Dr. Cary Rivard

**SESSION III: VINE CROPS**

- 1:15 – 1:45 Pumpkin Varieties – Terry Nennich
- 1:45 – 2:15 Vine Crop Diseases – Dr. Angela Orshinsky, Michelle Grabowski
- 2:15 – 2:45 Melon Varieties for Minnesota – Brad Paulson
- 2:45 – 3:15 **Break to the Trade Show**
- 3:15 – 4:00 Kansas Style Watermelon & Cantaloupe Production – Dan Kuhn
- 4:00 – 4:30 Growing Cucumbers from a Farmer’s Perspective – Gary and Jack Pahl

**SESSION IV: CUT FLOWER PRODUCTION – SUNFLOWERS, GLADS & Lilies**

- 1:15-2:45 Gladiolus and Lilies: Varieties, Culture, Harvesting and Marketing -  
Dave Dowling
- 2:45 – 3:15 **Break to the Trade Show**
- 3:15 – 3:45 Sunflower Varieties for Cut Flowers - Shane Johnson
- 3:45 – 4:15 Sunflower Pest Control – Dr. Samuel Markel and Dr. Janet Knodel

**Thursday evening, January 18, 2018**

- 4:15 – 5:30 Social Hour (Appetizers and Cash Bar) in the Trade Show Area**
- 5:30 – 6:00 MFVGA Business Meeting**
- 6:00 Buffet Supper in Trade Show Area (Tickets Required)**



## Friday morning, January 19, 2018

### GENERAL SESSION

- 7:30 – 8:00 Continental Breakfast in Trade Show Hall  
8:00 – 9:00 Consumer Survey Results, CSA Farms, Farmer’s Markets and More - Tina Cassler, Paul Hugunin  
9:00 – 9:30 Grower Profile: Modern Small Fruit Production and Harvesting in the Twenty-first Century – Nate Nourse  
9:30 – 10:00 **Break to the Trade Show**

### SESSION I: BERRY SESSION

- 10:00 – 11:00 Blackberry Production in Very Cold Climates - Nate Nourse  
11:00 – 11:30 Spur Blight and Raspberry Leaf Spot -Thaddeus McCamant  
11:30 – 12:00 Raspberry Production: A Modern Model from Abroad - Paul Nelson  
12:00 – 1:15 Lunch served in the Trade Show Hall. Trade show ends at 1:15pm.

### SESSION II: GROWING HEALTHY TRANSPLANTS FROM SEED

- 10:00 – 10:30 Plans for Small Germination Chamber - Molly Schaus  
10:30 – 11:00 Starting with Healthy Seed: Resistant Varieties, Seed Treatment and More - Michelle Grabowski  
11:00 – 11:30 Relationships between Light, Moisture and Heat - Dr. John Erwin  
11:30 – 12:00 Strategies to Keep Plants Healthy - Michelle Grabowski  
12:00 – 1:15 Lunch served in the Trade Show Hall. Trade show ends at 1:15pm.

### SESSION III: GROWING NON-GMO SWEET CORN

- 10:00 – 10:30 Varieties – Jason Williamson  
10:30 – 11:00 Weed Control – Dr. Roger Becker  
11:00 – 11:45 Insect Control (Corn Borer & Earworm) – Dr. Bill Hutchison  
11:45 – 12:15 Rust Control – Andy Oding  
12:15 – 1:15 Lunch served in the Trade Show Hall. Trade show ends at 1:15pm.

### SESSION IV: HIGH TUNNEL PRODUCTION Session II

- 10:00 – 10:30 High Tunnel Foliar Leaf Diseases – Michelle Grabowski  
10:30 – 11:00 Identification and Management of Viral Diseases in High Tunnel Crops - Dr. Sara Bratsch  
11:00 – 11:30 Soil-borne Pathogens – Dr. Angela Orshinsky/Michelle Grabowski  
11:30 – 12:15 Biocontrol: Making them Preform - Carter Kent  
12:15 – 1:15 Lunch served in the Trade Show Hall. Trade show ends at 1:15pm.



## Friday afternoon, January 19, 2018

### **SESSION I: SPECIALTY CROPS & PROTECTING POLLINATORS**

- 1:15 – 2:00 Edible Fall Decorations – Jason Williamson
- 2:00 – 2:30 Basics of Honeyberry Production - Jim and Bernis Ingvaldson
- 2:30 – 2:45 Break
- 2:45 – 3:45 Protecting Pollinators: Responsible Use and Timing of Sprays & Bee Friendly Products – Dr. Karl Foord
- 3:45 – 4:45 Cover Crops: Mixes for Soil Building and Nematode Suppression- Dr. Scott Wells

### **SESSION II: TREE FRUIT**

- 1:15 – 2:00 Year in Review – Grower Participation
- 2:00 – 2:45 High Density Apples: What Works in Minnesota? – John Jacobson and JP Jacobson
- 2:45 – 3:00 Break
- 3:00 – 3:45 High Density Planting & Pruning – John Jacobson and JP Jacobson
- 3:45 – 4:30 Hard Cider Industry Update/Roundtable

### **SESSION III: MARKETING**

- 1:15 – 2:00 Social Media: Managing Your Farm’s Digital Footprint- Danielle Daugaard, Paul Hugunin
- 2:00 – 2:30 Facebook vs Website – One or Both? - Danielle Daugaard, Paul Hugunin
- 2:30 – 3:30 Good Acre and Opportunities to Aggregate Product- Staff of the Good Acre
- 3:30 – 3:45 Break
- 3:45 – 4:30 GAPs, Food Safety Moderation Act and Food Safety: What You Need to Know - Annalisa Hultberg, Lillian Otieno, Don Stoeckel

### **SESSION IV: MAPLE SYRUP FOR SMALL COMMERCIAL PRODUCTION**

- 1:15 – 1:45 Grower Profile – Stu Peterson
- 1:45 – 2:45 Introduction and History of Maple Syrup Production – Stu Peterson
- 2:45 – 3:00 Break
- 3:00 – 4:15 Sweet Ideas for Small Commercial Maple Syrup Production: Sizing Equipment to Your Needs, Economics and Cost Recovery, Tree Health – Jim Adamski
- 4:15 – 4:45 Selling Maple Syrup at Farmers’ Markets and Direct to the Consumer Under the Cottage Foods Law – Kathy Zeman