

January 2018 Berrien MSU Extension E-news

[Pest and field crop management update meetings set for 2018, January 15](#)

Field crop producers and agribusiness professionals are invited to attend meeting. The session will feature presentations by several state specialists on a variety of topics important to field crop agriculture. Dowagiac, \$30. RUP and CCA credits.

[Beginning Farmer Webinar Series, January 17 – April 25](#)

Beginning farmers and others with basic information needs are invited to participate in a series of fifteen online programs addressing crop, horticulture, farm management, and livestock production and marketing on Wednesday evenings Jan. 17 through April 25, 2018. Participants will get an overview of a variety of farming enterprises and topics, and have an opportunity through live, online chat to ask questions of MSU and other agriculture experts. \$5/session or package deal.

[2018 4-H Tractor Operator Program](#)

Michigan State University Extension offers the Tractor Operator Program through the 4-H Youth Development Program. Successful completion provides completion certificates to 13-19 year olds. January 18 – March 29. Fee: \$50 by deadline of January 11, 2018.

[2018 SMaRT \(Soybean Management and Research Technology\) Meetings](#)

The results of the 2017 SMaRT on-farm research projects will be presented. Participants will also learn about other checkoff-funded research and soybean cyst nematodes. Time is available for questions, comments and discussion. In association with the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee. Pre-registration required.

[Ag Action 2018, January 26](#)

Ag Action provides a full day of educational sessions focusing on agriculture, food safety and home gardening topics, featuring a trade show highlighting products and services provided by local businesses. The cost of the program is \$25 per person before Jan. 5th and \$30 after Jan. 5th or at the door.

[2018 Winter Grower Produce Safety Certification Course, February 6 or March 1](#)

Get the training you need through one of 11 grower training courses that satisfy the Food and Drug Administration's Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule certification requirement. Benton Harbor, February 6, or March 1. Pre-registration required.

[Southwest Hort Days, February 7-8, Benton Harbor](#)

Attend sessions on pollinator conservation, climate change, H2A worker program, direct marketing and wine grape canopy management and winemaking practices. \$45/person if registered by January 15, or \$60 thereafter and at door.

[Michigan 2018 Wine Grape Vineyard Establishment Conference, February 9](#)

The February 2018 Wine Grape Vineyard Establishment Conference will provide essential elements for those exploring entry into Michigan's expanding winery industry. Via video conference with Benton Harbor and Traverse City sites. Fee \$100, pre-paid registration by February 2, required.

[Pesticide Applicator Review and Exam Sessions](#)

Berrien County MSU Extension is hosting pesticide applicator testing and review sessions again this winter. Exam sessions will be January 16, February 20, and April 12, 2018. Review sessions with exam testing immediately after review will be March 23 and May 10, 2018. Sign up for [exam sessions](#) and view schedules at [Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development](#). Cost of the exam is \$ 50 for private applicators and \$ 75 for commercial applicators. Call Extension office at 927-5674 to sign up for a review session. Cost of review is \$25.00.

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