

Don't Miss the 2019 Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention

The 2019 Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention educational program as always offers three days of educational sessions for vegetable, potato, berry, and fruit growers and marketers plus a large industry trade show. Andy Masters be this year's keynote speaker. Don't miss out on the following opportunities at the 2019 Convention which runs from January 29 to 31 at the Hershey Lodge in Hershey.

Fruit and Vegetable Industry Bus Tour

This all-day bus tour the day before the Convention will visit several farm markets – see page 14 for details. Cost is \$60

Reduced Registration for Spouses, Children or Employees

Remember the Convention offers a reduced pre-registration fee for additional persons attending from a member farm. The first person from the farm must pay the \$75 pre-registration fee but spouses, adult children, or employees are eligible for a \$60 pre-registration fee. The purpose is to make it more feasible for growers to bring additional persons from their farms to experience the educational opportunities available at the Convention. Remember, one \$50 PVGA membership qualifies all persons from the farm for the membership registration rates. And children under 16 and all students are admitted free.

PVGA Annual Meeting Set for January 30 at 11:30 a.m.

The Annual Meeting of the General Membership of the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association will be held on Wednesday, January 30, at 11:30 in the Crystal Room of the Hershey Lodge in Hershey. All members are asked to attend the meeting.

Traditionally, the Annual Meeting had included the election of members of the Board of Directors. However, starting seven years ago, the Directors are now elected by a mail ballot which all members have received in the mail with their dues renewal notices. The terms of Barron Hetherington, Alan Kemmerer, David King, Robert Shenot, William Reynolds, Jonathan Strite and Timothy Weiser expire at the Annual Meeting this year. All are eligible for re-election although Mr. King and Mr. Weiser have decided not seek re-election. The Leadership and Recognition Committee has nominated all the incumbents plus Matthew Christner of Everson, Tina Forry of Palmyra, Jennifer Glenister of Hustontown, and Adam Voll of Wexford for election. Write-in votes are also allowed. Five of the candidates will be elected to three-year terms on the Board of Directors by the

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Keynote Presentation

This year's keynote speaker is Andy Masters, MA, CSP is an award-winning author and international speaker who has presented over 750+ programs across North America—including as the keynote speaker for the Pennsylvania Restaurant & Lodging Association, and many other events here in Pennsylvania. Andy has earned the prestigious CSP award of the National Speakers Association (NSA), the highest international recognition for professional speakers, achieved by less than 10% of the 5,000+ speakers worldwide.



Andy has written 5 books and earned 4 degrees, including an M.A.-Human Resources Development and an M.A.-Marketing from Webster University in Missouri. He is the author of the award-winning book **"Kiss Your Customer: 77 Reasons Why Sales & Service Are Just Like Dating & Relationships"** and his latest book **"Things LEADERS Say: A Daily Guide to Help Every Leader Empower & Inspire."** Andy has been featured on the LifeTime Television network, PBS, Investor's Business

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We Need Your HELP!!!

If you have not volunteered to help at the Association's food booth at the Farm Show, call PVGA today at 717-694-3596. We need at least 20 volunteers in the booth at all the times. Since the Farm Show runs from 8:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m., we need two shifts to completely cover each day from January 5 to 12, 2018. That translates into a lot of volunteers. Plus, this year we will again be open the afternoon of Friday, January 4, from noon to 9:00 p.m.

You say you don't come to the Farm Show? Why not break tradition and come for once? It's worth the trip just to volunteer your time to the Association and any farmer is bound to see at least a few things of interest at the Farm Show. There is a wide array of exhibits throughout the Complex. Are you really too busy in the middle of the winter to take a day off to help support vegetable and small fruit research? Last year we earned about \$165 for each volunteer shift enabling the Association to give over \$66 per member to Penn State research.

We are grateful to the many PVGA members who help out each year but we need new volunteers each year. If YOU have never helped before, PLEASE call us today at 717-694-3596 and volunteer for 2019. You'll be helping your Association besides having an enjoyable time.

NEWS



Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association

*An association of
commercial vegetable,
potato and berry growers.*

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Bakerstown

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Michael Orzolek '21

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Christopher Powell '20

Strasburg

John Shenk '20

Lititz

Robert Shenot '19

Wexford

Jeffrey Stoltzfus '20

Atglen

Mark Troyer '21

Waterford

Timothy Weiser '19

York Springs

Executive Secretary

William Troxell

Richfield

Five PVGA Scholarships to be Offered for 2019

The Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association is pleased to be able to offer at two Rudolph Grob Memorial Scholarships each year to a child or grandchild of a PVGA member who is pursuing higher education with the goal of working in production agriculture. While previously only one scholarship was awarded each year, the Board of Directors has approved awarding two scholarships beginning with 2015. However, in 2017 only one application was received and in 2018 no applications were received, so five scholarships will be available in 2019.

The Association gives the annual scholarships in the amount of \$1,000 in memory of Rudolph Grob of Millersville who served the Association for 50 years as a Director, 20 years as Secretary Treasurer and for over 20 years as manager of the Association's Farm Show Booth. Mr. Grob was a horticulture graduate of Penn State University who was employed for many years at Funks Farm Market in Millersville. The funds for the scholarships are generated by a portion of the interest earned by the Association's Keystone Fund, an endowment-type fund created by the voluntary extra dues paid the Keystone Members of the Association.

The purpose of the scholarships is to assist children and grandchildren of Association members in obtaining a degree that will enable them to pursue a career in the vegetable, potato or berry production industries. Applicants must meet the following criteria:

- be the child or grandchild of an Association member who has been a member in good standing for at least one year
- be enrolled in a two-year or four-year degree program;
- be in good academic standing; and
- be intent on pursuing a career in the vegetable, potato, or berry production industries.

Applications are now being accepted for the 2019 scholarships. The deadline is March 31, 2019. Applications are reviewed by the Association's Scholarship Committee which determines who receives the scholarships. The current committee members are: Carolyn Beinlich, Keith Eckel, Curtis Kaelin, Michael Orzolek and Hilary Schramm, Jr.

The \$1,000 scholarships are awarded for a one-year period. Recipients may apply for a renewal although preference will be given to other qualified students over previous recipients. It is not a need-based scholarship. Payment of the funds is made directly to the institution.

The following items must be included with a completed application form:

- A copy of the most recent academic transcript.
- Two letters of reference from someone outside of the immediate family.
- A typed essay (approximately 500 words) on one of the following topics:
 - Describe the biggest issue that has faced the Vegetable/Potato/Berry Industry in Pennsylvania in the last five years or that the Industry will face in the next five years and how you plan to deal with this issue in your future career, or
 - Describe your previous experiences with the Vegetable/Potato/Berry Industry and the role you hope to play in the Pennsylvania Vegetable/Potato/Berry Industry upon graduation.

Applications must be emailed or postmarked by March 31, 2019 and are available by contacting PVGA at 717-694-3596 or on the website at <https://www.pvga.org/services/rudolph-grob-memorial-scholarship/>. The committee may request to interview the applicant in person or by telephone as well as contact college or school advisors and/or references.

If you have a child or grandchild in college, encourage them to apply for the scholarships. If you would like to help support the scholarship effort, consider joining the Association as Keystone Member. While there is a suggested table of Keystone dues based on your gross income from vegetables, potatoes or berries, you are considered a Keystone Member if you pay dues of \$75 or more instead of the \$50 regular dues. The amount of Keystone dues over the \$50 regular dues is deposited in the Keystone Fund. The Keystone Fund principle is invested in interest-bearing accounts (money market accounts, certificates of deposit, a government bond fund and/or various stocks) while the interest is used to fund the two \$1,000 annual Grob Memorial Scholarships and vegetable research in the entomology and plant pathology departments at Penn State University.

The Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers News is the official monthly publication of the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association, Inc., 815 Middle Road, Richfield, PA 17086-9205 phone and fax - 717-694-3596, email - pvga@pvga.org website - www.pvga.org

Our Mission:

The Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association serves Pennsylvania's commercial vegetable, potato and berry growers through education, research, advocacy and promotion.

Our Vision:

The Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association will be the driving force in ensuring the future viability of the commercial vegetable, potato and berry industries in Pennsylvania.

Inquiries about membership, this publication or advertising rates should be directed to William Troxell, Executive Secretary, at the above addresses.

PVGA Committees and Board Meet in State College

Since 2016, most of the major PVGA committees have had face-to-face meetings on the day prior to the December Board of Directors meeting in a "Committee Day" event. This year, the Executive, Leadership and Recognition, Educational, Government Affairs, Administrative, Capacity Development, Berry and Potato Committees met at Toftrees Golf Resort in State College on Monday, December 10, 2018. After sharing lunch together, the Directors and committee members were encouraged by Richard Newpher, former Administrative Secretary of the former Pennsylvania Farmers Association and then chief staff person for the American Farm Bureau Federation, to work to communicate agriculture's story to the public.

Prior to 2016, these committees usually only met once a year by telephone conference call a week or so before the December Board meeting to review the annual workplan for their area of activity. Each committee includes Directors and regular members of the Association. The committees use their meetings to strategically evaluate the activities of the Association in their area and make recommendations to the Board for the workplan for the new year.

The Vegetable Marketing and Vegetable Research Committees, the two other major committees, are joint committees with the Pennsylvania Vegetable Marketing and Research Program (PVMRP). Those committees met in November in conjunction with the PVMRP Board meeting to make vegetable promotion plans for 2019 and to evaluate the vegetable research pre-proposals respectively.

After the committee meetings on December 10, the Board of Directors and committee members met with Dr. Richard Roush, Dean of the College of Agricultural Sciences at Penn State University, along with Mary Wirth the Director of College Relations, Dr. Erin Connelly the Chair of the Plant Science Department and Dr. Carolee Bull the Chair of the Plant Pathology and Environmental Microbiology. One of the points the Directors made with the Dean was the need to fill the extension educator position left open by the retirement of Lee Stivers.

The Board of Directors held their regular meeting the following day, December 11, also at Toftrees, to act on the recommendations of the various committees. The Executive Committee recommended that the Board propose changes to the Constitution that would allow the position of Executive Secretary to be changed to that of Executive Director. They also recommended that to allow for the transition to a 501(c)3 organization, that certain language be added to the Constitution and also that strict adherence Robert's Rules of Order not be mandated. The Board approved these recommendations. The Executive Committee also presented a draft job description for members of the Board of Directors. The Board approved a recommendation from the Committee that the Board and committee member set aside several hours at next year's Committee Day to update the Association's strategic plan that was written five years ago. The Executive Committee reported that they had spent some time reviewing the Association's Crisis Management Plan – a plan that outlines how the Association should react to a crisis, like a food safety incident involving Pennsylvania vegetables.

The Board of Directors deliberated for some time on the investment policy for the Keystone Fund since it had lost considerable value in recent months. No changes were made at the current time but they agreed to review it further at their January meeting.

The Capacity Development Committee presented a timeline for the transition of the Association to a 501(c)3 organization with a target date of January 31, 2020. They recommended that the current Constitution be changed to "By-Laws" because that is a more common term for the governing document for an organization. To allow flexibility in making any minor changes that might be needed that way, the Board voted to submit the entire Constitution for re-adoption as "By-Laws" at the Annual Meeting. The proposed document is presented on page 26.

The Capacity Development Committee also presented a draft document of a succession plan for the Executive Secretary/Director and recommended a Succession Planning Committee be appointed. They also reported they were considering ways that the Association could collaborate with other organizations.

The Leadership and Recognition Committee presented several recommendations for various awards which the Board approved. They also approved, at the Committee's recommendation, recognizing at the Mid-Atlantic Convention the Pennsylvania recipients of the 40 under Forty awards presented by the Vegetable Grower News and the Fruit Growers News. The Committee is actively trying to identify candidates for next year's ballot for the Board of Directors.

The Administrative Committee recommended the Membership Directory be published bi-annually with just the members names and contact information but not the policy resolutions, Constitution and other information which is now available on the website. They also reviewed a draft of the budget for 2019 and discussed different ideas for increasing membership.

The Farm Show Food Booth Task Force reviewed their plans for this year's Farm Show – focusing on the changes to the production of the Strawberry Surprises to reduce the labor requirement and also the use of electronic tablets for the cashiers.

The Educational Committee recommended that budgeted amount for grants to support local growers meetings be cut to \$3,000 because the requests for grants was decreasing. The Association will continue to support the "Are You Crazy?" farm market tour. The Committee recommended that the president prepare a column for the newsletter each month and asked that the website be made mobile-phone friendly. The remaining \$5,500 in SCBG funds that are available to the Association they felt should be used for several virtual on-farm tours in the spring of 2019. They also recommended the Association have a membership booth at the vegetable equipment demonstration area at Ag Progress Days. To foster cooperation between growers and Penn State Extension, they suggested the Association should help Extension identify growers who might be willing to serve on county and state extension advisory boards. The Committee recommended the creation of various videos for the website. The Board adopted the Committee's various recommendations.

The Government Affairs Committee recommended the Association continue its membership in the Pennsylvania Agricultural Alliance and the United Fresh Produce Association. The Association will also plan to be represented at the Game Commission hearing on seasons and bag limits and to visit state legislators in Harrisburg in March. The Committee also recommended various policy resolutions for adoption by the

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NEWS

PVGA Committees... (continued from page 3)

members at the Annual Meeting. These are outlined in the article on the Annual Meeting on pages ??

The Government Affairs Committee recommended the following state legislative priorities for 2019:

- Penn State Ag Extension and Research Funding
- Elimination of State Unemployment Tax for H-2A Workers (since they are not eligible for benefits)
- Farmer's Market Nutrition Program Funding
- PA Agricultural Surplus System Funding
- Driftwatch Establishment in Pennsylvania

Recommended federal priorities were:

- Immigration and Farm Labor Reform
- Card Check
- Waters of the United States
- Food Safety Regulations
- Specialty Crop Funding
- Ag Extension and Research Funding
- Nutrition Funding
- Health Insurance
- Business Depreciation Deduction Limit Maintained
- Inheritance Tax Elimination

They also recommended that the Association plan to meet with Senators Casey and Toomey when they are in the state this year. The Board approved the Committee recommendations.

Reports from the Vegetable Marketing, Vegetable Research and Simply Sweet Onion Committees were reviewed. The Potato Committee, a new PVGA committee this year, reported the main research need was identifying a Russet potato variety suitable to Pennsylvania. They also suggested that a list of potato seed suppliers be added to the website for smaller growers and that the Association more closely cooperate with the Pennsylvania Cooperative Potato Growers and do more publicity for potato grower meetings.

The Berry Committee, also a new PVGA committee, listed day-neutral fertilization rates, anthracnose and pollination as strawberry research needs. They asked for more berry articles in the newsletter and email update and also that an index of

berry articles in past issues be posted on the website. The regulatory issues of concern to the committee were the water testing requirements under FSMA that are burdensome for water used only for frost protection on berries and the need for short-term labor. They recommended that small fruit program at the Mid-Atlantic contain some basic information each year.

Dr. Beth Gugino reported that the Penn State Department of Plant Pathology and Microbiology was filling a position to focus on the dynamics of soil-borne diseases. The Vegetable and Small Fruit Team will be doing some strategic planning and evaluating where additional extension educator positions should be considered.

The Board approved the following annual donations, sponsorships and promotions for 2019 (the budget line is listed in parentheses):

- Farm Show Reception Sponsorship (Donations)	\$500
- Farm Show Public Officials Day (Donations)	\$500
- Ag In The Classroom Program (Donations)	\$500
- Ag Science Education Mobile Lab (Donations)	\$500
- Capitol Hunger Garden (Donations)	\$200
- National Young Farmers Institute (Donations)	\$100
- Delaware Valley College A-Day Ad (Promotions)	\$125
- Ag Progress Days Booth (Promotions)	\$350 to \$700
- Farm-City Day Vegetables (Promotions)	± \$50
- Farm Show Vegetable Day Cooking Demonstrations	\$1,650
- PASA Conference Program Ad (Membership)	\$310
- Keystone Cornucopia Reception (Legislative)	\$200
- Ag Council Research Tour for Legislators (Legislative)	\$100
- Farm Show Livestock Sale (Farm Show Booth)	±\$100
- Farm Show Bus Transportation (Farm Show Booth)	±\$300
- Farm Show Food Court Table Cleaning (Farm Show)	±\$600
- Farm Show Visitor's Guide Ad (Farm Show)	\$700
- Grower Reception at Convention (Convention)	\$500
- Ice Cream Social at Convention (Convention)	\$800 to \$1,100

The Board's next meeting will be January 28, 2019, at Hershey.

Vegetable Apprenticeship Program Launched

The Pennsylvania Association for Sustainable Agriculture (PASA) is excited to announce that they are now accepting applications to their Diversified Vegetable Apprenticeship (DVA) for the 2019 season. The new apprenticeship program benefits beginning and experienced vegetable growers alike: Apprentices acquire the skills and experience they need to become farm managers or start their own farm, while established farmers—or "master growers"—gain a committed employee invested in farming as a career.

Master growers receive access to a pool of pre-qualified employees who are eager to learn and continuously improve. Apprentices receive 2,700+ hours of on-the-job training and complete 200+ hours of related technical coursework over 18 months. Plus, apprentices are paid!

PASA built this highly anticipated program from the ground up with the help of farmer members to ensure that it satisfies the needs of both beginning and experienced growers. It will be the first state-accredited apprenticeship for vegetable farmers in the mid-Atlantic region. Through our application process, we work to pair apprentices with master growers whose farming values and production interests are aligned.

Apprentices receive:

- Training on a working farm with a demonstrated track record of success
- Assistance with finding a farm to apprentice on that aligns with their own farming goals and interests
- A progressive wage
- Educational guidance throughout the apprenticeship, including regular on-site meetings to assess and support their learning their learning process
- Access to DVA-specific workshops and events
- Discounted registration to qualifying PASA events

Master Growers receive:

- A committed employee with a vested interest in understanding and supporting your farm operation
- Labor support for at least eighteen months, with the possibility of hiring your apprentice after they graduate
- Assistance with recruiting and vetting apprentice candidates

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Moon Light F1 Pumpkin

- Powdery mildew resistant
- Fruit average 18 lbs..
- Large vine
- White, flat fruit excellent for stacking



Summit F1 Pumpkin

- Powdery mildew resistant
- Fruit average 30 to 40 lbs.
- Semi-bush plant
- Large, dark orange fruit with good ribbing



Daybreak F1 Pumpkin

- Powdery mildew resistant
- Fruit average 25 lbs., some fruit to 50 lbs.
- Large vine
- Multi-colored, flat fruit excellent for stacking



Millionaire F1 Spaghetti Squash

- Powdery mildew resistant
- Fruit average 7 to 12 lbs.
- Semi-bush plant
- Excellent eating quality

NEWS

PVGA Annual Meeting... (continued from page 1)

members. Ballots must be postmarked by January 15, 2019 and the results will be announced at the Annual Meeting. All members are urged to vote in the election.

Last year the members approved changes to the Association's constitution to allow the Board to appoint one director to a three-year term each year. When the mail-ballot election system was instituted the Leadership and Recognition Committee adopted the practice of nominating several more candidates than seats available. Obviously, the vote of the members determines who is elected but the results may result in certain groups (such as potato growers, processing growers, berry growers, women, etc.) or areas of the state not being represented on the Board. Thus after the results from the member balloting are determined, the Board selects an additional Board member to help insure the diversity of the Board. Implementing this system last year resulted in the Board of Directors having 21 members for 2018 because the members elected six members and the Board appointed a seventh. Beginning with 2019 only five Directors will be elected by the membership so that over a three-year period, the number of Directors will gradually return to 18.

Over the past several years, as a result of the strategic planning initiative in 2014, the Capacity Development Committee has been working to enable the Association to expand its staff capacity to serve Pennsylvania growers. One of the changes they have been working on is changing the tax status of the Association from a 501(c)5 agricultural non-profit to a 501(c)3 charitable educational non-profit organization. That would make the Association eligible for certain grants it is currently not eligible for and also make contributions or bequests from members tax-deductible. Thus the Board of Directors is proposing several changes to the Association's constitution that are required to make this change in tax status, including changing the name of "constitution" to the "by-laws". Several other changes are being proposed to change the title of the chief staff person from Executive Secretary to Executive Director. The Board is actually submitting the whole constitution for re-adoption. The proposed text is on page 26.

At the Annual Meeting, the members will also receive reports on membership, finances, the Farm Show food booth and the other activities of the Association.

The following additions to the Association's policy resolutions are being proposed for adoption by the members at the Annual Meeting. The underlined text is to be added to the resolutions.

State Resolutions

1. Supporting the adoption of federal guidelines by state pertaining to withholding from employees and employer contributions to the unemployment compensation (UC) fund when employing H-2A workers
2. Supporting a right to repair law, requiring manufactures to sell repair parts, make diagnostic tools and repair information available to the public and require manufactures to provide a way to get around proprietary software locks that are designed to prevent repair.
3. Supporting provisions for farmers to contract licensed hunters to harvest deer for crop damage.
4. Supporting allowances that persons lawfully killing deer for crop damage, that will not be utilized for food consumption, not be required to: a. Provide cold storage for compliance

with standards of "safekeeping" b. Perform field dressing or gutting, and c. Surrender deer harvested."

5. Supporting the following requirements/restrictions if Sunday hunting expansion were to become law: a. Trespass laws be amended to address PFB "trespass policy"; b. Hunting be allowed only with written private landowner permission; c. Hunting for deer be allowed "on state game lands and state forests with "No Sunday Hunting" signage provided at no charge for adjacent private lands at the owner's request; d. Hunting be expanded to include antlerless deer and woodchuck only; e. Sunday hunting for antlerless deer be limited to: i. 1st Sunday of archery, ii. 1st Sunday of flintlock, iii. Friday, Saturday, and Sunday after the Thanksgiving holiday.

Note: We are asking PVGA members on our survey this year the following two questions: Should PVGA should continue to oppose expanding the deer hunting season to Sunday AND Would you support Sunday hunting in Northern Tier counties? Preliminary results from the survey will be available at the Annual Meeting and the resolutions may be revised reflect those results.

6. Supporting restrictions that no more than two antlerless deer tags be issued per hunter and the issued permits be filled before obtaining additional tags.
7. Supporting the addition of wild cucumber, autumn olive, sow thistle, water hemlock, ailanthus, common teasel, wild teasel, Japanese knotweed, marehail, and bamboo to the noxious weed list, with 90 percent cost-sharing for eradication on private land.
8. Opposing any requirements for the certification of persons authorized to apply commercial manufactured fertilizer and agricultural minerals for agricultural purposes.

Federal Resolutions

1. Supporting efforts to better coordinate the responses of Food and Drug Administration, the Center for Disease Control, the United States Department of Agriculture and state and local agencies to food safety outbreaks.
2. Supporting the creation of an independent body similar to the National Transportation Safety Board to investigate food safety outbreaks with the goal of more quickly and systematically determining the root source of the outbreak so that contaminated food can be removed from the marketplace with minimal disruption of the market for uncontaminated food.

Members should note that the minutes of last years annual meeting are printed on page 24.

Vegetable Apprenticeship...

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- Educational support throughout the apprenticeship period, including training resources and access to DVA-specific workshops and events
- Discounted registration to qualifying PASA events

For further information and to apply as an apprentice or master grower, visit <https://pasafarming.org/soil-institute/farmer-training-development/dva-home/>.



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NEWS

National New Briefs

Congress Passes a New Farm Bill

The 2018 Farm Bill cleared Congress December 12, bringing some certainty to farm families across the nation who depend on the critical agriculture programs the legislation provides to manage their risk, help protect natural resources and continue to produce quality food for consumers. The bill passed the House 369 to 47 and cleared the Senate 87 to 13. President Donald Trump has said he will sign it. The bill continues or enhances important risk management programs, including new and strengthened provisions to help dairy producers weather volatile markets. It also funds programs related to conservation, research, market development, rural broadband and infrastructure among other areas. Nutrition programs account for more than three quarters of the spending in the \$867 billion package.

The American Farm Bureau Federation Board of Directors voted unanimously to endorse the legislation prior to the votes in Congress this week. "This 2018 farm bill is a complete package - one that will serve all Americans," said AFBF President Zippy Duvall. "Farm and ranch families in particular will find a good degree of risk management support they need to help them weather the prolonged downturn in the agricultural economy that many of us are facing. Next year, we are going to face continued challenges across farm and ranch country, and this new farm bill gives us the tools we will need to weather this ongoing storm."

Pennsylvania Farm Bureau thanks its members across the state who contacted their elected leaders to discuss the importance of the bill. PFB also thanks the following members of Pennsylvania's congressional delegation who voted for the farm bill: U.S. Sen. Bob Casey; and U.S. Reps. Brendan Boyle, Bob Brady, Matt Cartwright, Ryan Costello, Mike Doyle, Dwight Evans, Brian Fitzpatrick, Mike Kelly, Connor Lamb, Tom Marino, Mary Gay Scanlon, Bill Shuster, Lloyd Smucker, Glenn "G.T." Thompson, and Susan Wild.

From Farm Bureau Express, Penna. Farm Bureau, December 14, 2018.

WOTUS Replacement Proposed

In a move applauded by Farm Bureau and other agricultural groups, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers officially proposed a new clean water rule to replace the controversial Waters of the U.S. regulation. The new Clean Water Rule more clearly defines what bodies of water are subject to federal regulation and which are left up to state governments to regulate. If the proposal is adopted, ephemeral streams, most ditches, isolated wetlands, prior converted cropland and stormwater controls constructed in uplands would not be federally regulated.

"We believe this new Clean Water Rule is rooted in common-sense," American Farm Bureau Federation President Zippy Duvall said. "It will protect our nation's water resources and allow farmers to farm." Pennsylvania Farm Bureau President Rick Ebert Farm Bureau attended the signing of the proposed new Clean Water Rule. Farm Bureau has led the push to repeal and replace WOTUS, believing that the 2015 rule was too broad and attempted to regulate land well beyond what is allowed under federal law. Farm Bureau's lawsuit challenging the legality of 2015 WOTUS rule is ongoing

and, in the meantime, Farm Bureau has asked federal courts to block the 2015 rule from taking effect nationwide. Proposing the Clean Water Rule is just the first step in what could be a lengthy process. The agencies must solicit comments before drafting a final rule.

From Farm Bureau Express, Penna. Farm Bureau, December 14, 2018.

U.S., Canada and Mexico Sign New Trade Pact

President Donald Trump, Canadian Prime Minister Justin Trudeau and Mexican President Enrique Peña Nieto each signed the new U.S. Mexico Canada Agreement (USMCA), finalizing international negotiations over the trade pact.

The next step, before the USMCA can take effect, is for Congress to ratify the agreement, a process which could take up to a year. Canada's and Mexico's legislative branches must also ratify the agreement.

The USMCA replaces the North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) and continues many of the same provisions. Farm Bureau supports free trade between the three nations and notes that the implementation of NAFTA dramatically expanded opportunities for American farmers to market their products internationally. Among the highlights for agriculture in the USMCA are provisions designed to give U.S. dairy farmers greater access to Canadian markets.

The agreement comes as farmers have shouldered the brunt of strained trade relations between the U.S. and its NAFTA partners. In response to U.S. tariffs on steel and aluminum imports, Canada and Mexico levied tariffs on several U.S. agricultural exports. The USMCA does not address that dispute, which means further negotiation is needed to remove those tariffs.

From the Pennsylvania Agricultural Alliance Issues Update, Penna. Farm Bureau, December 2018.

Details Expected Soon on Second Round of Trade Mitigation

The U.S. Department of Agriculture is expected to announce details soon of the second round of assistance for *(continued on page 10)*

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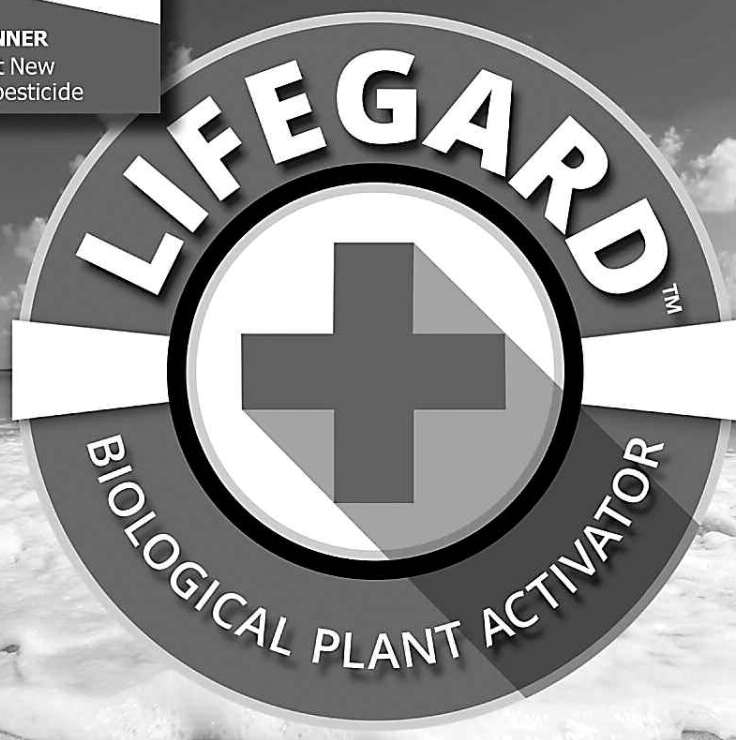
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NEWS

National New Briefs (continued from page 8)

farmers hurt by trade disputes between the U.S. and several of its top agricultural trade partners.

The aid to soybean, wheat, sorghum, cotton, dairy and pork farmers is intended to help mitigate the losses farmers have faced as a result of tariffs China and other nations imposed on U.S. agricultural goods in response to the Trump Administration's tariffs on steel and aluminum imports. According to the American Farm Bureau Federation, aggregate agricultural exports to China fell more than 65 percent year-over-year in August. Total dairy and pork product exports to China have fallen by nearly half in recent months, while soybean exports were down 97 percent in the first two months of the new marketing year.

The first round of trade mitigation assistance was made available to farmers in September. In a recent letter, AFBF President Zippy Duvall urged USDA Secretary Sonny Perdue not to eliminate or reduce the second round of aid.

"We propose you both evaluate the ongoing trade damages and reconsider the great need for more Market Facilitation Program payments to be delivered expeditiously to farmers and ranchers," Duvall wrote. "With debt at record levels, operating loans increasing substantially, and debt-to-asset ratios climbing even more, financial support is needed across agriculture."

From the **Pennsylvania Agricultural Alliance Issues Update**, Penna. Farm Bureau, December 2018.

Relief Fund to Help Farmers Affected by Wildfires

California Farm Bureau Federation has established a relief fund to assist farms, ranches and rural communities hurt by wildfires, floods and other natural disasters.

"All too often, we've seen rural areas of California wracked by fires, floods and other natural disasters," said CFBF President Jamie Johansson. "We created the Farm and Rural Disaster Fund in response to our members' request to be able to provide aid to farms, ranches and rural communities that have suffered losses."

Contributions to the fund may be made online at www.cfbf.com or www.californiabountiful.com. Donations can also be made by mailing a check payable to California Bountiful Foundation to: California Bountiful Foundation; Farm and Rural Disaster Fund; 2300 River Plaza Drive; Sacramento, CA 95833.

Soil Restoration from Ruts Made During Harvest

Some soils have become rutted and compacted due to harvest activities during a wet fall season. Ruts left in the field will lead to challenges to even planting depth during the following spring.

It is important to wait for optimum soil conditions this fall and then flatten the ruts using a skid-loader bucket or other similar piece of equipment. A light disking or plowing may be necessary to alleviate severe compaction. Cover crops may be used to prevent erosion and rebuilt soil structure. Practicing no-till stabilizes soils and helps support heavier farm equipment.

From the **Pennsylvania Agricultural Alliance Issues Update**, Penna. Farm Bureau, December 2018.

USDA Designates Several PA Counties as Disaster Areas

On November 5, 2018, the Pennsylvania State Executive Director of the Farm Service Agency (FSA), U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), requested a primary county disaster designation for three Pennsylvania counties - Columbia, Lebanon and York - due to losses caused by excessive rain, flash flooding, and flooding that occurred from July 21, 2018, and continuing.

USDA reviewed the Loss Assessment Reports and determined that there were sufficient production losses to warrant a Secretarial natural disaster designation for all three counties as primary natural disaster areas. Under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act, contiguous counties are also included in the designation - thus Adams, Berks, Cumberland, Dauphin, Lancaster, Luzerne, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Schuylkill and Sullivan counties in Pennsylvania and Baltimore, Carroll and Harford counties in Maryland are also covered in this designation.

A Secretarial disaster designation makes farm operators in primary counties and those counties contiguous to such primary counties eligible to be considered for certain assistance from FSA, provided eligibility requirements are met. This assistance includes FSA emergency loans. Farmers in eligible counties have 8 months from the date of a Secretarial disaster declaration to apply for emergency loans. FSA considers each emergency loan application on its own merits, taking into account the extent of production losses on the farm and the security and repayment ability of the operator.

Local FSA offices can provide affected farmers with further information. PVGA appreciates growers who reported their losses to provide FSA with the data they needed to prepare the necessary petition to get this designation and the resulting assistance to growers.



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CONVENTION

2019 Convention... (continued from page 1)

Daily, and Leadership Excellence magazine. His website is www.Andy-Masters.com (Click on Business).

Pre-Convention Workshops

Besides the Farm Market Bus Tour, several special workshops will be offered on Monday, January 28, the day before the main Convention opens. **PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED FOR THESE WORKSHOPS ALONG WITH THE WORKSHOP FEE.** Unless otherwise noted, workshops will be conducted at the Hershey Lodge and Convention Center in Hershey. Further information on any of the workshops is available on the convention website at www.mafvc.org.

FSMA Grower Training (\$35 for PA growers - first person from a farm and \$150 for non-PA grower and additional persons from PA farms, includes lunch) (9:00 a.m. – 5:15 p.m.)

This training is for fruit and vegetable growers and others interested in learning about: produce safety, the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) Produce Safety Rule, Good Agricultural Practices (GAPs), and co-management of natural resources and food safety. This PSA course is one way to satisfy the grower training requirement of the FSMA Produce Safety Rule as outlined in Section 112.22(c).

After attending the entire course, participants will be eligible to receive a certificate from the Association of Food and Drug Officials (AFDO) that verifies they have completed the training course.

Irrigation Basics – (\$60.00- includes lunch) (9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.)

This will be a hands-on, practical workshop covering all aspects of irrigation of vegetable crops. Topics include irrigation system components and design, irrigation scheduling and moisture monitoring, fertigation, water sources and delivery systems, pumps, filtration, developing water systems on your farm, and water quality. Speakers/panelists include Bill Wolfram (Toro), Tim Elkner (Penn State Extension, Lancaster County), Dave King (Harvest Valley Farms, Valencia, PA), Brian Campbell (Brian Campbell Farms), Elsa Sanchez (Penn State Univ.).

High Tunnel Bramble Production – (\$50.00 - includes lunch) (9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.)

Presented in engaging panel discussion and question-answer formats, this workshop will cover the latest recommendations on production techniques and pest management resulting from the TunnelBerries project (www.tunnelberries.org), a cooperative effort of 7 Universities and the USDA. Presenters will include project researchers, grower advisors, and industry personnel. While some basic information will be covered, most topics will be covered in-depth and assume attendees have a working familiarity with tunnel structures and bramble production. Registration will be limited to 50 participants.

Greenhouse Short Course – (\$85.00 - includes lunch) (9:00 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.)

Whether seeking to sharpen an "older" set of greenhouse skills or just getting started in the

greenhouse industry, the 2019 Greenhouse Short Course is the place to be. Join us as experts from Penn State Extension and the Greenhouse Industry lead discussions on an array of greenhouse topics such as marketing, greenhouse structure selection, water quality, plant nutrition, potting media selection, artificial lighting, insect and disease management, and pesticide application equipment. Speakers include Steve Bogash with Marrone Bio, Thomas Ford and Nick Flax with Penn State Extension, Dale Rutherford with HortAssist, Harry Edwards with Rimol Greenhouses, Krystal Snyder with J.R. Peters, and Jared Babik with Dramm.


This program is appropriate for both organic and conventional growers and for new entrants into the greenhouse industry. Participants will receive a binder packed with reference materials as part of the registration fee. In order to maintain a quality learning environment, we are limiting registration to 50 participants, so act today and reserve your place in one of the premier greenhouse short courses held in the Mid-Atlantic region.

PA Pesticide License Training – (\$65, includes lunch and study materials) (9:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.)

If you intend to purchase and/or apply restricted use pesticides for the purpose of producing an agricultural commodity on land which is owned or rented by you, then you need a Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture Pesticide License. To become a certified private applicator, testing is required. This full day session on January 28 will cover the basics and prepare you for the pesticide applicator's exam which will take place the next morning, January 29, from 8:30 AM – 11:30 a.m.


Intro to Social Media - Use and Marketing (\$45.00) (12:30 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.)


Social media has become a valuable marketing tool for businesses wanting direct connections with customers. The number of social media options available and their (constantly evolving) differences can be overwhelming. Tailored for beginners, this workshop will explore three of the most popular social (continued on page 13)




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CONVENTION

2019 Convention... (continued from page 12)

media platforms – Facebook, Instagram, and Pinterest – and how you can use these tools to market directly to your customers and potential customers.

Required – Attendees should bring their own laptop/device and already have business profiles/accounts created. Signing up and creating accounts will not be covered during this workshop. Instructors are Sarah Cornelisse & Kathy Kelley, Penn State Univ.

Pros and Cons of Thinning Apples Early (\$55.00) (1:00-4:30 p.m.)

Interested in learning more about improving the reliability of chemical thinning in your apple blocks? Pomologists who lead research in early thinning strategies will discuss practical applications for optimum crop load management in your orchards. Speakers include Thomas Kon, North Carolina State Univ.; James Schupp, Penn State Univ.; Keith Yoder, Virginia Tech Univ.; and Daniel Olmstead, Cornell Univ.

Annual Growers Banquet

Many of you plan to gather with friends for the evening meals at Hershey. Why not plan to join a larger group of friends and fellow growers at the Annual Fruit and Vegetable Growers Banquet on January 29. There will be door prize drawings for the ladies and brief presentations by the participating grower organizations. PVGA will present its twentieth Annual Award at the Dinner and a Life Memberships. Tickets for the banquet and reception are \$35.

Vegetable Marketing Roundtables

Join Kitchen Table Consultants staff for roundtable discussions over lunch on how you can better promote your vegetable products using the “tools” they have created for the Vegetable Marketing and Research Program for PA Produce Month. The roundtables will be in the Great Lobby at the top of the escalators from 12:00 noon to 1:30 on January 30 and 31.

Spanish Session

In an effort to provide additional education to Hispanic orchard employees, Penn State Cooperative Extension is again organizing a special session in Spanish to be held on Wednesday, January 30 at the Convention. Various relevant fruit and vegetable production topics will be presented. All are welcome, so please encourage your Hispanic friends and workers to attend the day’s seminars and trade show.

Attendees must pay the regular registration fee. Employees of PVGA members are eligible for the \$60 pre-registration rate.

Ice Cream Social

After you have enjoyed dinner on your own on Wednesday, January 30, come to the Great Lobby outside the trade show hall for the twentieth annual PVGA Ice Cream Social from 7:00 to 8:00 p.m. The social will be open to all Convention attendees, so come early to enjoy a visit with old friends and to meet new friends. This year we adding a new twist to the Ice Cream Social by designating different tables for roundtable discussions

(continued on page 15)

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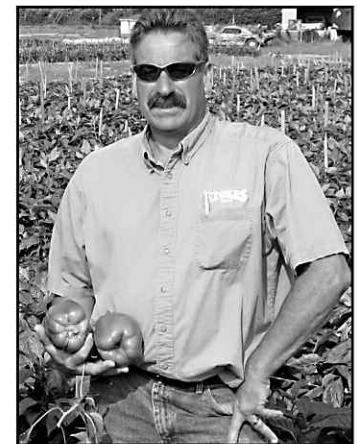
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MID-ATLANTIC *fruit & vegetable convention*

Pre-Convention Farm Market Bus Tour

Monday, January 28, 2019



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Dillsburg www.qualitygreenhouses.net

Quality Greenhouses & Perennial Farm, Inc. is a wholesale grower of bedding plants, perennials, and fall flowering crops. The business has grown to include two locations in the Northern York County, Dillsburg, Pennsylvania area. Bedding plants and perennials are the backbone of the business which services independent garden centers in Pennsylvania, Maryland, northern Virginia, Washington DC, New Jersey, West Virginia, parts of New York and Delaware. Because of our customer base, we not only try to carry the "bread and butter" products in bedding plants and perennials, but also the more unusual, hard to find items with new varieties that help set our product mix and our customers apart.



Maplewood Farm Market (Tour and Lunch)

Shippensburg

Maplewood Farm Market was started in 1993. We are a family owned business and open year round. Maplewood sells fresh produce, deli meats and cheeses, bulk foods and gift items. We have a bakery where delicious pies, bread, cookies, whoopee pies, etc. are baked daily. Made to order hoagies, sandwiches and burgers are an important part of our business. The Garden Center is also open daily and there are always pretty plants to buy and take home.



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Cost is \$60.00 per person and includes lunch

For information visit www.mafvc.org or call 717-677-4184 or 717-694-3596

CONVENTION

2019 Convention... (continued from page 13)

on the following topics: High Tunnel Tomatoes, Labor, Marketing Brags & Blunders, Wildlife Controls, Farm Transition, Sprayers, Making the Most of PA Produce Month. While you can still come just to enjoy the ice cream, we hope the designated tables will foster some valuable networking between growers. The ice cream will only be served until 8:00 p.m. but you can continue to visit for as long as you like.

The Hershey Lodge

The Hershey Lodge offers an indoor pool and water park, exercise and game room, and restaurants while the Hershey area has an outlet center, Chocolate World and other attractions that will appeal to whole family. So why not plan a mid-winter vacation at the Lodge. In case of a winter storm, you can still attend all the Convention events without setting foot outside - the Convention will go on regardless of the weather. A special Convention room rate makes the Lodge more affordable. Rooms are \$149 per night for up to four persons. To make a reservation, call 1-800-HERSHEY or 717-533-3311 and tell them you are with the Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention. Staying at the Hershey Lodge rather than some other motel ultimately enables us to keep the registration prices down. Child care services are available through the Hershey Lodge as well. Plan now to spend the week in Hershey.

Pre-Register

There is no better opportunity for you to meet with vegetable, potato and small fruit experts from across the nation, dozens of vendors and fellow growers in one place. Plan now

to be there! Remember that pre-registration helps us make better plans and can save you from waiting in a long registration line. You also save \$15 to \$30 by pre-registering by January 25. There is a pre-registration form in the November issue of the newsletter and on the Convention website at www.mafvc.org where you can also register online. Each member's membership renewal form, mailed by first-class mail to each member, is also a Convention registration form. You can also call PVGA at 717-694-3596 and we will be happy to mail or fax you a registration form. Walk-in registration at the Convention is also available. Checks must be used for all pre-registrations by mail. Cash, checks or credit cards are accepted at the Convention.

Convention Program

The following topics and speakers have been scheduled for the educational program at the 2019 Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention. *Please note, speakers, topics, times and rooms in this program are subject to change. Check for updates on the website at www.mafvc.org. The printed program at the Convention will take precedence over any pre-convention programs. This list does NOT include the Tree Fruit, and Wine Grape sessions which are listed in the November newsletter and on the website.*

* indicates topic expected to qualify for a category pesticide update training credit

** indicates topic expected to qualify for a core pesticide update training credit

(continued on page 16)

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CONVENTION

2019 Convention... (continued from page 15)**Tuesday Morning, January 29, 2019****Season Extension/Low Tunnels – Trinidad Room**

- 9:00 **Getting Your Crop Off to the Best Start: Nutrient Placement and Management** - Francesco Di Gioia, Penn State Univ.
- 9:45 **Tunnel Use Fall to Spring** - Matthew Kleinhenz and Dana Hilfiger, OSU-OARDC

Wildlife Controls - Magnolia Room ABC

- 9:00 **Effective Groundhog Control** - Arthur King, Harvest Valley Farms
- 9:45 **How Not to Feed the Deer** - David King, Harvest Valley Farms

Organic Vegetable Production - Empire Room AB

- 9:00 **Vegetable Grafting: What Small- to Midscale Organic Growers May Want to Know**- Matthew Kleinhenz, Ohio State Univ.
- 9:45 ***The Case for Spider Conservancy in Organic Agroecosystems**— Cerruti Hooks, Univ. of Maryland

Allium Pests and Production - Crystal Room

- 9:00 ***Allium Leafminer: What We Know, and How to Manage It** - Shelby Fleischer, Penn State Univ.
- 9:45 **Onion and Leek Cultivar Evaluations** – Thomas Butzler and Timothy Elkner, Penn State Extension

Snap Beans - Empire Room CD

- 9:00 **30 Years of Snap Bean Variety Trials...What Looks Good for 2019** - James Ballerstein, Cornell Univ.
- 9:45 ***White Mold Management in a Digital Era** – Sarah Jane Pethybridge, Cornell Univ.

Edible Flowers - Wild Rose Room

- 9:00 **Edible Cut Flowers, An Industry Overview** – Thomas Ford, Penn State Extension
- 9:45 **Organic Edible Flowers** – Jodi Danyo, Cherry Valley Organics

Food Trends - Cocoa Terrace/Cocoa 1

- 9:00 Research suggest an economically viable business consider an average annual growth rate target of at least 10%. Developing goals and implementing a plan for intentional growth does take some time, research and thought – IF – we seek to minimize our unavoidable mistakes. Our two session leaders are taking us through an exploration of the consumer, processor, wholesaler, commodity, and export behaviors that are directly impacting the evolution of consumer demands. - Alicia Anderson and John Berry, Penn State Extension

Keynote - sponsored by the *American Vegetable Grower* and *American Fruit Grower*

- 10:45 **Federal Legislative Update**
- 11:00 **Keynote: Leadership Lessons from Hollywood** – Andy Masters

Tuesday Afternoon, January 29, 2019**High Tunnels** – sponsored by *American Vegetable Grower*

- 1:30 ***Managing Soilborne Disease of Tomatoes in High Tunnels using Anaerobic Soil Disinfestation and Grafting** - Sally Miller, Ohio State Univ.
- 2:00 ***Putting Together a Biocontrol-Based Pest Management Program for High Tunnels** - Steve Bogash, Marrone BioInnovations
- 2:30 ***Managing Weeds Using Anaerobic Soil Disinfestation** - Ram Khadka, Ohio State Univ.
- 3:15 **Tunnel Production: Steps and Tools that may Raise Yours to a New Level** - Matthew Kleinhenz, OSU-OARDC
- 4:00 ****Water Quality and its' Impact on Pesticide Efficacy** - Thomas Ford, Penn State Extension**

General Vegetables - Magnolia Room ABC

- 1:30 **Caring For Figs** - William Muzychko, Bill's Figs
- 2:00 **Postharvest Sanitation Scenarios - What Went Wrong** - Meredith Melendez, Rutgers Univ.
- 2:30 ****Pesticide Record Keeping Options** - Thomas Butzler, Penn State Extension
- 3:15 **Soil Health and Your Farm** - Denny Wildman, Advanced Agricultural & Associates
- 4:00 **Use of IR Heating Mats for High Tunnel Crop Production** - Timothy Ransford, Anglesea LLC

(continued on page 17)



CONVENTION

2019 Convention... (continued from page 16)

Organic Vegetable Production - Empire Room AB

- 1:30 **Does the Base Cation Saturation Ratio (BCSR) Philosophy Affect Your Crops, Soils, Weeds, and Bottom-line?** - Matthew Kleinhenz, Ohio State Univ.
- 2:00 **Roots to River Farm** - Malaika Spenser, Roots to River Farm
- 2:30 ***Improving Nutrient and Pest Management in Organic High Tunnel Tomato Production** - Mark Hutton, Univ. of Maine
- 3:15 **Organic Tomato Pest (Insect and Disease) Management for the Whole Season** – Steve Bogash, Marrone BioInnovations
- 4:00 **Integrating Cover Crops in Organic High Tunnels** - Kristine Lang, Iowa State Univ.

Irrigation 201 - Crystal Room

- 1:30 **Best Practices for the Experienced Irrigator** – William Wolfram, Toro
- 2:00 **To Be Announced**
- 2:30 **Irrigation Challenges on Urban Farms** - Carla Burkle, Penn State Extension
- 3:15 **High Tunnel and Field Irrigation: Grower Panel** - Brian Campbell, Campbell Farms, and David King, Harvest Valley Farms
- 4:00 **Research Updates on Sensor-Based Irrigation Scheduling Strategies** - Long He, Penn State Univ.

Cut Flowers - Empire Room CD

- 1:30 **Wedding and Floral Trends for Cut Flower Growers** - Kathleen Kelley, Penn State Univ.
- 2:00 ***Key Diseases in Specialty Cut Flowers** - Thomas Ford, Penn State Extension
- 2:30 **Growing Cut Flower Anemones** - David Dowling, Ednie Flower Bulbs
- 3:15 **Organic Cut Flower Production** - Jodi Danyo, Cherry Valley Organics
- 4:00 **Forcing Perennials for Early Spring Bloom** - Nick Flax, Penn State Extension

Wholesale Marketing - Wild Rose Room

- 1:30 **Produce Marketing: Navigating New Distribution Channels** – Dr. John Stanton, St. Joseph’s Univ.
- 2:00 **Procurement/Wholesale Buyer Panel** – Andrea Karns, Karns Markets; Rick Stauffer, Stauffer Huling Farms; Jacqueline Soria, Hello Fresh; David Hahn, Four Seasons
- 3:15 **Grower Panel** – David Miller, Miller Plant Farm; Will Brownback, Spiral Path Farms; and Dwayne Lebo, Oak Grove Farms
- 4:00 **Wrap Up Discussion**

Success With Farm Market Bakeries - Cocoa Terrace/Cocoa

- 1 **Man Shall Not Live By Bread Alone** - Kay Hollabaugh, Hollabaugh Brothers
- 1:30 **Value Added Bakery Products** - Reuwai Hanewald and Gary Mount, Terhune Orchards
- 2:30 **Bake Off Pies** - Arthur King, Harvest Valley Farms
- 3:15 **To Be Announced**
- 4:00 **Making Things with Dough** – To Be Announced

Tuesday Evening, January 29, 2019

Social

- 6:00 **Reception** (Chocolate Lobby – ticket required)
- 7:00 **Banquet** (Nigerian Room – ticket required)

(continued on page 18)

* indicates topic expected to qualify for a category pesticide update training credit
 ** indicates topic expected to qualify for a core pesticide update training credit

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CONVENTION

2019 Convention... (continued from page 17)

Wednesday Morning, January 30, 2019

Tomatoes - Trinidad Room

- 9:00 ***Managing Bacterial Spot in Tomatoes** – Sally Miller, Ohio State Univ.
- 9:30 ****Managing Adjuvants** – Tracy Harpster, Penn State Univ.
- 10:15 **Packing Higher Quality Tomatoes** - Steve Bogash, Marrone BioInnovations
- 11:00 ***Evaluation of Fungicide Spray Program for Control of Bacterial Spot and Early Blight** – Igna Meadows, North Carolina State Univ.
- 11:30 **PVGA Annual Meeting** – Crystal Room

Soil Health - Crystal Room

- 9:00 **To Be Announced**
- 9:30 **On-Farm Soil Health Assessment with 4R Tweaks** – H. Grant Troop, AgXplore International
- 10:00 **Industry Show and Tell**
- 10:15 **Tarping and No-Till Organic Vegetable Production** – Dr. Mark Hutton, Univ. of Maine
- 11:00 **Physical and Chemical Components of Healthy Soils** – Michelle Infante-Casella, Rutgers Univ.
- 11:30 **PVGA Annual Meeting** – Crystal Room

Greenhouse Ornamentals - Empire Room AB

- 9:00 ****Federal Worker Protection Standards: Key Areas for Compliance by Greenhouse Growers** - Thomas Ford, Penn State Extension
- 9:30 **The Best of the Penn State Flower Trials** - Sinclair Adam, Penn State Extension
- 10:15 **LED Lighting** - Neil Mattson, Cornell Univ.
- 11:00 ***Insects of Perennials** - Sinclair Adam, Penn State Extension
- 11:30 **Easy Ways to Increase Nutrient Efficiency** - Krystal Snyder, JR Peters

New Trends in Farm Marketing - Magnolia Room ABCD

- 9:00 **Consumer Trends** - Claudia Schmidt, Penn State Univ.
- 9:30 **What's Your Hack?** - Brian Moyer & Tanya Lamo, Penn State Extension
- 10:15 **Survey - Farm Market Craft Alcohol sales** - Tanya Lamo, Penn State Extension
- 10:30 **Reinventing the Farm Market** - Dawn Salerno, Dreyer Farms
- 11:30 **Making the Most of your Website** - Justine Gray, Dreyer Farms

Cole Crops- Empire Room CD

- 9:00 **Tillage, Tarping and Mulching for Cabbage Production** - Mark Hutton, Univ. of Maine
- 9:30 ***Insect Control of Cole Crops featuring Worms and Swede Midge** – Christy Hoepting, Cornell Coop. Extension
- 10:15 ***Management of Head Rot Diseases in Broccoli and Cauliflower featuring New Recommendations for Alternaria Leaf Spot** – Beth Gugino, Penn State and Christy Hoepting, Cornell Coop. Extension
- 11:00 **Best Practices for Broccoli Production** – Brian Campbell, Brian Campbell Farms
- 11:30 **PVGA Annual Meeting** – Crystal Room

Small Fruit - Wild Rose Room

- 9:00 **Farmer Perceptions of Raspberry and Strawberry Production in Tunnels: Management and Marketing Implications** – David Conner, Univ. of Vermont
- 9:30 **Grower Experiences with Netting for Spotted Wing Drosophila Control** – Dale Ila M. Riggs, The Berry Patch
- 10:15 ***Novel Cultural Management Techniques for Japanese Beetle and SWD in High Tunnel Raspberries** – Maria Cramer, Penn State Univ.
- 11:00 **New Raspberry Variety Performance in High Tunnels** – Eric Hanson, Michigan State Univ.
- 11:30 **High Tunnel Design Considerations for Mid-Atlantic Berry Producers** – Mike Marett, Rimol Greenhouses

Spanish- Cocoa Terrace (presented in Spanish)

- 9:00 **Welcome and Ice-Breaker** - Ilse Huerta y Emma Rosenthal, Penn State Univ.
- 9:30 **Soil Testing and Fertilization** - Beth Sastre, VCE-Loudon Extension
- 10:00 **GAPs: Pre- and Post-Harvest Sources of Contamination** - Maria Gorgo-Gourovitch, Penn State Extension
- 10:45 **Three Important Invasive Insect Pests: Brown Marmorated Stink Bug, Allium Leafminer, and Spotted Lanternfly** - Carla Burkle y Don Seifrit, Penn State Extension
- 11:30 **Catered Lunch and Round Table Discussions;** followed by an hour to visit the Trade Show - Ilse Huerta y Emma Rosenthal, Penn State Univ.

Wednesday Afternoon, January 30, 2019

Tomatoes – sponsored by the American Vegetable Grower

- 1:30 **Tomato Variety Update** - Majid Foolad, Penn State Univ.
- 2:00 ***Understanding Induced Resistance and How to Use it** - Gregory Rodgers, Certis
- 2:30 ***Enhancing Authority MTZ Safety for Processing Tomatoes** - Mark VanGessel, Univ. of Delaware and Dwight Lingenfelter, Penn State Univ.
- 3:15 **Improving Production of Grafted Tomatoes in a Field Setting** - Inga Meadows, North Carolina State Univ.
- 4:00 ***Integrated Foliar Disease Management** - Beth Gugino, Penn State Univ.

General Vegetables - Crystal Room

- 1:30 **PASA'S Diversified Vegetable Apprentice Program** - Daniel Dalton, PASA Sustainable Agriculture
- 2:00 **Rutgers Specialty Pumpkin Habanero Peppers** - Albert Ayenj, Rutgers Univ.
- 2:30 ***Use of Biologicals/Microbials in Crop Production** - Dean Craine, AgriEnergy
- 3:15 **Enhancing Flower Fertility for Increase Crop Yields** - Richard Woodward, Stoller USA
- 4:00 **Food Banking/Food Waste** - Robert Amsterdam, Feeding America

(continued on page 19)

CONVENTION

2019 Convention... (continued from page 18)

Greenhouse Ornamentals - Empire Room AB

- 1:30 *Greenhouse Crop Scouting - Dale Rutherford, HortAssist
- 2:00 **Pesticide Drift, Volatility ,and Misapplication - Thomas Ford, Penn State Extension
- 2:30 Substrates (Potting Media) – Selection and Management - Neil Mattson, Cornell Univ.
- 3:15 PGR's - Joyce Latimer, Virginia Tech.
- 4:00 *Biocontrol Products for Disease Control- Steve Bogash, Marrone Bio Innovations

Farm Market Financial Management - Magnolia Room ABCD

- 1:30 Including the Younger Generation in the Business – Emma Lower, Boyer's Nursery and Jason Coopey, Way Fruit Farm
- 2:00 Borrowing Money - Lynn Kime, Penn State Univ.
- 2:30 Pricing and Merchandising Strategies - Claudia Schmidt, Penn State Univ.
- 3:15 Budgeting - Lynn Kime, Penn State Univ.
- 4:00 Benchmarking For Success - Keith Dickinson, Farm Credit East

Small Fruit - Wild Rose Room

- 1:30 *Cultural and Conventional Weed Management Strategies for Blueberries – Eric Hanson, Michigan State Univ.
- 2:30 Low Tunnels for Strawberry Production: Structures, Management, and Outcomes – Kaitlyn Orde, Univ. of New Hampshire
- 3:15 Day-Neutral Variety Performance in NH and PA under Open Field and Protected Culture Conditions – Kaitlyn Orde, Univ. of New Hampshire and Kathy Demchak, Penn State Univ.
- 4:00 Does Plastic Type Make a Difference to High Tunnel Raspberries? – Kathy Demchak, Penn State Univ.

Spanish- Cocoa Terrace (presented in Spanish)

- 1:30 Pollination of Apples and Other Tree Fruits - Margarita López-Urbe, Penn State Extension
- 2:15 The Peach Pruning Blueprint - Tara Baugher y Rob Crassweller, Penn State Extension
- 3:00 How to Get a Pesticide License - Carlos Quesada y Maria Gorgo, Penn State Extension
- 3:30 Evaluation and Adjourn

(continued on page 20)

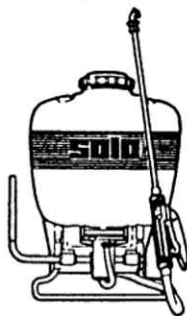
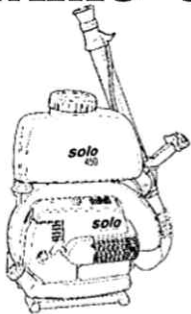
* indicates topic expected to qualify for a category pesticide update training credit

** indicates topic expected to qualify for a core pesticide update training credit

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CONVENTION

2019 Convention... (continued from page 19)**Wednesday Evening, January 30, 2019****Social**

- 5:00 **Apple Growers Reception** (Cocoa Suites 3,4,5)
 7:00 **Ice Social and Roundtable Discussions** (Nigerian Room) ice cream served until 8:00 p.m. discussion tables will be set aside for the following topics of your choice: Labor, High Tunnel Tomatoes, Marketing Brags and Blunders; Wildlife Controls, Farm Transition, Sprayers, Making the Most of PA Produce Month, and others.

Thursday Morning, January 31, 2019**Sweet Corn** - sponsored by the **American Vegetable Grower**

- 9:00 ****Pesticide Applicator Safety** - John Esslinger, Penn State Extension
 9:30 ***Late Season Insect Pest Management** - William Cissel, Univ. of Delaware
 10:15 **Comparing non-Bt, Bt, and stacked Bt cultivars** - Kristian Holmstrom, Rutgers Univ.
 11:00 ***Effective Weed Control (including Marestalk)** - Dwight Lingenfelter, Penn State Univ.
 11:30 **Optimizing Starter/Pop Up Fertilizers** - Gordon Johnson, Univ. of Delaware

Peppers/Eggplant - Crystal Room

- 9:00 **Tips for Growing Colored Bell Peppers in High Tunnels** - Timothy Elkner, Penn State Extension
 9:30 ***Insect Pest Update for Peppers** - Thomas Kuhar, Virginia Tech Univ.
 10:15 ***Chronicles of a Perennial Cover Crop's Journey into Managing Pests** - Alan Leslie, Univ. of Maryland
 11:00 **Pepper Variety Screening for Bacterial Leaf Spot** - Wesley Kline, Rutgers Cooperative Extension
 11:30 ***Pepper Disease Management 101** - Andrew Wyenandt, Rutgers Univ.

Potatoes - Empire Room AB

- 9:00 **PotatoesUSA** - Bryan Bender, Bender Potatoes and PotatoesUSA
 9:30 **2018 Potato Research at Penn State** - Xinshun Qu, Penn State Univ.
 10:15 ***Current Trends in Potato Breeding and Variety Development** - Jeffery Endelman, Univ. of Wisconsin
 11:00 ***Potato Insect Pest Management Update** - Thomas Kuhar, Virginia Tech Univ.
 11:30 **Observations from the 2018 Potato Growing Season** - Robert Leiby, Pennsylvania Coop. Potato Growers

* indicates topic expected to qualify for a category pesticide update training credit

** indicates topic expected to qualify for a core pesticide update training credit

Pollinators - Magnolia Room ABC

- 9:00 **Honey Bees and Other Bees: Biology and Health of our Major Pollinators** - Margarita Lopez-Urbe, Penn State Univ.
 9:30 ***Pollinators, Pesticides, and Use-Patterns of Neonics** - David Biddinger, Penn State Univ.
 10:15 ***Wild and Managed Pollinators Doing the Job in Cucurbits and Tree Fruit** - Shelby Fleischer and David Biddinger, Penn State Univ.
 11:00 ***Wild and Managed Pollinators Doing the Job in Strawberries** - Heather Grab, Cornell Univ. and Margarita Lopez-Urbe, Penn State Univ.
 11:30 **Introducing the Pennsylvania Pollinator Protection Plan** - Charlie Vorisek, Vorisek's Backyard Bee Farm

Creative Approaches to Direct Marketing - Cocoa Terrace/Cocoa 1

- 9:00 **The Art of Direct Marketing- Catching the Customers Eye** - Rose Robson, Robson Farms
 9:30 **Keeping the Customers Satisfied** - Adam Costello, Wightman Farms
 10:15 **Fernbrook Farm- The Evolution of a Diverse Farm Business** - Jeffery Tober and Jess Brandeisky, Fernbrook Farms
 11:00 **Creative Marketing Farmer Panel Discussions – Moderator** - William Hlubik, Rutgers Coop. Extension
 11:30 **The Art of Positive Communication with Customers** - William Hlubik, Rutgers Coop. Extension

(continued on page 21)

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CONVENTION
2019 Convention... (continued from page 20)**Small Fruit - Wild Rose Room**

- 9:00 ***Potential of the Strawberry Advisory System for Timing Fungicide Applications in the Mid-Atlantic** – Mengjun Hu, Univ. of Maryland
- 9:30 **Strawberry Flower Mapping: Understanding Plant Development and Its Effect on Yield** – Edward Durner, Rutgers Univ.
- 10:15 **Putting Flavor and Disease Resistance First in a Strawberry Breeding Program** – Kim Lewers, USDA-ARS Beltsville
- 11:00 **Goldenberries: A New Superfruit for North America** – Edward Durner, Rutgers Univ.
- 11:30 **Cane Management to Maximize Yield and Earliness of Primocane-Fruiting Blackberries** – Fumiomi Takeda, USDA-AFRS

Thursday Afternoon, January 31, 2019**Pumpkins/Vine Crops - Trinidad Room**

- 1:30 ***Pumpkin Weed Management Issues and Updates** - Dwight Lingenfelter, Penn State Univ.
- 2:00 **Giant Pumpkins 2500 lbs – What Do These Growers Know About Vine Crops That You Don't?** - Timothy Parks, Park's Garden Center
- 2:45 ***Vine Crop Disease Management in the Next Wet Year** - Beth Gugino, Penn State Univ.
- 3:15 ***Managing Problematic Insects in Pumpkins** - Gerald Brust, Univ. of Maryland
- 3:45 **Pennsylvania Cantaloupe Variety Trial** - Carla Burkle, Thomas Butzler, Timothy Elkner and Robert Pollock, Penn State Extension and Elsa Sanchez, Penn State Univ.

Greenhouse Vegetables - Crystal Room

- 1:30 **Growing Greenhouse Tomatoes - Guidelines for the New Grower** - Richard Snyder, Mississippi State Univ.
- 2:00 **Observations from 22 Years of Growing Greenhouse Vegetables** - Thomas Childs, Twin Springs Fruit Farm
- 2:45 **Greenhouse Tomato Problems & Solutions** - Richard Snyder, Mississippi State Univ.
- 3:15 **Production Systems and Practices for Growing Hydroponic Leafy Greens and Culinary Herbs in Greenhouses** - Nick Flax, Penn State Extension
- 3:45 ***Using Biopesticides to Manage Greenhouse Vegetable Insects, Mites and Diseases** - Steve Bogash, Marrone BioInnovations

Potatoes - Empire Room AB

- 1:30 **Marketing the Pennsylvania Potato** - Lela Reichart, Stermann Masser, Inc.
- 2:00 ***Potato Disease Update** - Margaret T. McGrath, Cornell Univ.
- 2:45 ***Verticillium Wilt of Potato: Can We Manage the Disease Without Soil Fumigants?** - Laura del Sol Bautista Jalon, Penn State Univ.
- 3:15 **Stem End Discoloration in Chip Potatoes; its Cause and Possible Solutions** - Curtis Frederick, Stermann Masser, Inc.
- 3:45 **To Be Announced**

(continued on page 22)

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NEWS

State News Briefs

New Label Requirements for Dicamba Products

A registration extension has been granted for the herbicide dicamba used to control broadleaf weeds in Xtend soybeans. Soybeans with the Xtend technology account for about 25 percent of the soybean acreage planted in Pennsylvania.

The main concern is limiting drift during the application of dicamba herbicide. The new label will outline the training for the certified applicator, timing of the application, field buffer requirements, tank clean-out instructions, and detail the potential of water with a low pH test contributing to herbicide drift. Applicators will need to possess a Pennsylvania pesticide license.

From the Pennsylvania Agricultural Alliance Issues Update, Penna. Farm Bureau, December 2018.

Still Plenty of Funding for Conservation Planning Reimbursements

There's still plenty of money available through a state grant program that reimburses farmers in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed for the cost of professional assistance with conservation planning.

So far, \$205,445 of the funding available for reimbursements had been claimed, leaving more than \$900,000 available. Applications are due by April 1, 2019 and grants will be awarded on a first come, first served basis.

Farmers can be reimbursed up to \$6,000 for the cost of hiring consultants to complete required Manure Management, Agriculture Erosion and Sediment Control, Nutrient Management, and Conservation plans. Plans developed during 2017 or later are eligible for reimbursement as long as they were not developed by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (or with NRCS funding), developed for Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP) tax credits or

2019 Convention... (continued from page 21)

Farm Management - Magnolia Room ABC To Be Announced

Social Media- Cocoa Terrace/Cocoa 1

- 1:30 **Keep It Legal!: Legal Considerations for Marketing Your Farm on Social Media** - Nicole Cook, Univ. of Maryland
- 2:15 **MicroInfluencers and Social Media** - Sarah Cornelisse, Penn State Univ.
- 2:45 **Using Social Media on the Farm** - Julie Keene, Flinchbaugh's Orchard and Farm Market
- 3:15 **Tricks of the Trade** - Sarah Cornelisse, Penn State Univ. This session will be an open discussion to share suggestions and get advice for using social media for your farm business.

Small Fruit - Wild Rose Room

- 1:30 **Who Pollinates Our Blueberries?** – Margarita Lopez-Urbe, Penn State University
- 2:00 ***Understanding Herbicides Modes of Action and Injury on Blueberries** – Thierry Besancon, Rutgers Univ.
- 2:45 ***Trapping for SWD vs. Infestation in Blueberries** – Cesar Rodriguez-Saona, Rutgers Univ.
- 3:15 ****Core Pesticide Credit** – To Be Announced

developed for acres that previously received reimbursement through this program.

Farmers in Bradford, Cameron, Carbon, Centre, Clearfield, Clinton, Columbia, Elk, Jefferson, Lackawanna, Luzerne, Lycoming, Montour, Northumberland, Potter, Schuylkill, Snyder, Sullivan, Susquehanna, Tioga, Union, Wayne, and Wyoming counties should contact Sara Bolton of Larson Design Group at sbolton@larsondesigngroup.com or 570-374-5700.

Farmers in Adams, Bedford, Berks, Blair, Cambria, Chester, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Fulton, Huntingdon, Indiana, Juniata, Lancaster, Lebanon, Mifflin, Perry, Somerset, and York counties should contact Jedd Moncavage of TeamAg at jeddm@teamaginc.com or 717-721-6795.

From the Pennsylvania Agricultural Alliance Issues Update, Penna. Farm Bureau, December 2018.

DEP: Farmers Working to Improve Water Quality

State inspections of nearly 3,000 small farms in the Chesapeake Bay Watershed revealed that close to all of the them are doing their part to protect water quality.

The state Department of Environmental Protection said that 96 percent of the farms inspected met state requirements for water quality planning, which include having a Manure Management, Erosion and Sediment Control Plan, or both.

DEP Secretary Patrick McDonnell said the inspection program “documents the good work many farmers are doing voluntarily to develop plans to reduce pollution. Just as important, it creates productive working relationships that help farmers meet their plan obligations.”

DEP, conservation districts and the State Conservation Commission teamed up to visit 2,924 farms, covering more than 329,000 acres. The inspections focused on smaller operations, with an average size of 87 acres. Two-thirds of the farms visited already had plans in place, while most of the others worked with conservation districts to put plans in place by the end of the year.

“Education is a large part of the program, as we use inspections as a catalyst to help farmers understand what’s needed and get them on track to develop and ultimately act on their plans,” McDonnell said. “Action to improve water quality is our ultimate goal.”

From the Pennsylvania Agricultural Alliance Issues Update, Penna. Farm Bureau, December 2018.

Grants Available for Conservation Projects in Parts of Chesapeake Bay Watershed

Farmers in certain areas of the Chesapeake Bay Watershed can apply for funding to implement conservation practices through the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Through the Regional Conservation Partnership Program, which was created by the 2014 Farm Bill, NRCS works with local partners to help producers fund, design and implement voluntary conservation solutions that benefit natural resources, agriculture and the economy. For the latest round of grants, which aim to expand conservation efforts in the bay watershed, NRCS is partnering with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture, Chesapeake Bay Foundation, and Chester County Conservation District.

Grants are available for planning, implementing or main-

(continued on page 23)

State News Briefs (continued from page 22)

taining a variety of conservation practices, with different points of emphasis for each region. Grants to farmers in the portion of Chester County that's in the Chesapeake watershed will emphasize water quality and/or riparian buffers. Grants to farmers in Adams, Cumberland, Dauphin, Franklin, Perry, and York counties will focus on livestock and manure management practices. And grants to farmers in Centre, Clinton, and Lycoming counties will be for projects that improve soil health.

To learn more about the grant program or apply, contact your local USDA NRCS Service Center. For a listing of local service centers, visit <https://www.farmers.gov/connect>.

From the **Pennsylvania Agricultural Alliance Issues Update**, Penna. Farm Bureau, December 2018.

Grants Still Available for Conservation Projects

There's still plenty of grant money available for farms and other agri-businesses to reduce pollution or improve energy efficiency.

So far, there is still about \$300,000 available through the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection's Small Business Advantage Grant program. Grants will be awarded on a first-come, first-served basis.

Small business owners or farmers with 100 or fewer full-time employees are eligible for the grants. Projects must save the business a minimum of \$500 and 25 percent annually in energy consumption, or pollution related expenses. Natural resource protection projects are exempt from the minimums, however the projects must be able to quantify sediment and nutrient reductions into nearby waterways. The grants provide

50 percent matching funds for equipment or materials, up to \$9,500.

To apply or learn more, visit <https://bit.ly/2JQp9be> or contact the DEP Small Business Ombudsman's Office at 717.772.5160 or epadvantagegrant@pa.gov.

From the **Pennsylvania Agricultural Alliance Issues Update**, Penna. Farm Bureau, December 2018.

Risk of Spotted Lanternfly on Christmas Trees Slight but Take Precautions

Penn State Extension educators say the risk of Spotted Lanternflies on Christmas trees is slight and should not deter consumers from purchasing a live tree.

Christmas tree producers in the quarantine zone comprised of 13 southeastern Pennsylvania counties are working with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture and practicing integrated pest management to minimize chances of spreading this threatening pest.

However, there are precautions that consumers—especially within the quarantine zone—can take. Those include examining the tree before purchasing for egg masses, which resemble gray mud splatters and are easily scraped off the bark of trees. After the holidays, Christmas trees obtained in the quarantined zone should be recycled within this region to minimize the risk of spreading this destructive insect.

From the **Pennsylvania Agricultural Alliance Issues Update**, Penna. Farm Bureau, December 2018

NEWS

Minutes of the January 31, 2018, Annual Meeting

Call to Order, Proof of Notice of the Meeting and Attendance - President David Miller called the meeting to order at approximately 11:40 a.m. in the Crystal Room of the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, Pennsylvania, with about 47 members present. Notice of the meeting had been published in the December newsletter and on the dues notices.

Minutes – Michael Orzolek and Jeffrey Stoltzfus moved to dispense with the reading of the minutes of the February 1, 2017, Annual Meeting and to approve them as published in the agenda. The motion was adopted.

Officer and Committee Reports

Treasurer - Secretary-Treasurer William Reynolds reviewed the year-end financial reports summarized as follows:

	Income	Expenses	Balance
General Fund	\$506,911	\$504,651	\$245,543
Keystone Fund	\$10,192	\$2,155	\$156,598
Onion Committee Fund	\$12,274	\$12,356	\$21,610

Executive Committee – Mr. Miller reported that the Board, on the Committee's recommendation, had established a Potato and a Berry Committee to advise the Board on how the Association can better serve.

Leadership and Recognition – Robert Shenot, Committee chairman, announced the following persons had been elected to three-year terms as Directors by the mail-in balloting: Robert Amsterdam, Brian Campbell, Peter Flynn, Amy Metrick, Michael Orzolek, and Mark Troyer.

Scholarships - Mr. Shenot also announced that Carville Mace was awarded one of the two Rudolph Grob Memorial Scholarships available for 2017.

Young Grower Award – Mr. Shenot introduced Peter Salerno III as the winner of the second PVGA Young Grower Award.

Administrative

Budget - Mr. Reynolds, Committee chairman, reviewed the General Fund budget adopted by the Board of Directors. The budget anticipates \$479,900 in income and \$490,600 in expenditures for a deficit of \$10,700.

Membership - Mr. Reynolds, reported that 2018 membership stood at about 802 compared to 848 on the second day of the Convention last year. Membership at the end of 2017 was 1,064.

Farm Show Food Booth - Mr. Reynolds noted that the Board had decided to discontinue the Ag Progress Days Food Booth because the profits were marginal compared to the amount of effort put into the booth. He reported a profit of about \$57,700 had been earned at the Farm Show Booth – all due to the volunteer labor. Thanks to Jack Grace, Jackie Grace, Nancy Grace and Boots Hetherington, who volunteered for the entire week at the Farm Show, were expressed, as well as to Mr. Reynolds, Mr. Shenot and Mr. Campbell who helped manage the booth during the week.

Educational Committee – Jonathan Strite, Committee chairman, reported that the Convention was going well with registration at about 1,092 compared to 1,176 the previous year after the second day.

The Association will be working with Penn State Extension to sponsor twilight meetings again in the 2018 season as well as to continue to support the website and produce the newsletter and email updates.

Government Affairs Committee – Mr. Campbell, Committee chairman, reported the Directors will visit with state legislators in March. The Association will also be represented at the United Fresh Produce Association Public Policy Conference in Washington in the fall. He then presented the following Policy Resolutions additions recommended by the Board of Directors:

(Underlined text is to be added. Struck-through text is to be deleted.)

State Issues

1. Supporting requirements that companies that receive state grants for the purpose of building, expanding or updating an agricultural processing plant use a minimum of 25% Pennsylvania agricultural products when available.
2. Supporting amendments to the Retail Food Facility Safety Act to require proprietors to obtain only one food market stand license, rather than multiple licenses for each farmers' market attended.
3. Supporting the expansion of the Red Tag permit program to allow two permits per-parcel per-hunter statewide.
4. Supporting antler restrictions for senior and lifetime license holders that require two or more points on one antler or a spike three or more inches in length.
5. Supporting the elimination of white-tailed deer antler restrictions in CWD Disease Management Areas.
6. Supporting amendments to the vehicle code to authorize issuance of annual permits to a Commercial Motor Vehicle and a non-Commercial Motor Vehicle authorizing the movement on highways for all agricultural commodities and agricultural related equipment, which exceeds the maximum vehicle gross weight specified in Title 75, Chapter 49, Subchapter C (relating to maximum weights of vehicles). The weight of any vehicle permitted may not exceed 95,000 pounds overall gross weight and the weight on any non-steering axle may not exceed 21,000 pounds.
7. Supporting an exemption for any farm licensed or farm stickered vehicle from the road weight restriction within the 50-mile farm radius.
8. Supporting the reduction of the maximum period for review and approval for nutrient management plans and the Department of Environmental Protection agricultural permits from 180 days to 90 days.
9. Supporting a farm survey, similar to that conducted by Penn State University for the Chesapeake Bay watershed, for other watersheds in the state to capture Best Management Practices that have not been cost shared to be credited to water quality improvement.
10. Supporting a restriction on township riparian buffer ordinances that would prohibit them from requiring streambank buffers greater than 35 feet or requiring that buffers be completely forested.
11. Supporting the exemption of structures used for growing crops in the field, such as low tunnels, high tunnels and greenhouses where crops are grown in the soil and no permanent changes have been made to soil or topography of site, from state storm water regulations.
12. Supporting the development of Best Management Guidelines by the Department of Environmental Protection and agricultural organizations that would allow farmers to

(continued on page 25)

Minutes of the... (continued from page 24)

maintain and improve drainage lines to protect the use of farmland without requiring of costly permits, delays and engineering costs.

13. Opposing the required metering of private wells and gravity-flow systems by government and all other agencies or organizations."
14. Supporting the establishment by the Department of Transportation of an online and paper no-spray registry for roadside state spraying.
15. Supporting a requirement that persons bringing emotional support and/or service animals into facilities where pets are not otherwise allowed have the need for the emotional support and/or service animal certified by a medical professional.

Federal Issues

16. Supporting changes in the regulations for Commercial Drivers Licenses (CDL) that would make CDL Medical Card anniversary dates coincide with the card holder's birthdate.
17. Supporting the exemption from registration for farmers using drones in their own farm business.
18. Supporting the ability of farmers to update and maintain on-farm management plans utilizing current soil and manure samples that would eliminate the need to rewrite NRCS 590 Nutrient Management Plans every three years.

Joel Kosa questioned whether the Association should maintain its opposition to Sunday hunting, especially in areas of the state where deer crop damage is especially severe. Mr. Campbell

and Mr. Reynolds moved that the Association advocate concurrent antlered and antlerless seasons across the state. The motion was adopted. Kenneth Martin and Arthur King moved to adopt the above policy resolutions as presented. The motion was adopted.

Marketing Committee – It was reported the Committee met in November and had made recommendations for the Vegetable Marketing and Research Program promotion activities for 2018.

Research Committee – It was reported that the Association would be funding the multi-state project on protected berry production with \$8,000 and would be contributing \$60,000 to vegetable research projects that would be chosen that evening by the Vegetable Marketing and Research Program Board.

Penn State Liaison - It was reported that Dr. Francesco Di Gioia had accepted the vegetable research and extension position in the Plant Science Department at Penn State for which the Association had provided a \$25,000 grant for start-up funding. He was presenting at the Convention and meeting with growers.

Simply Sweet Onion Committee - It was reported that the trademarked onion program is continuing at about the same acreage and number of growers.

New Business

Constitutional Amendment – The Board of Directors proposed the following amendment to Article IV, Sections 2 and 3

(continued on page 26)

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NEWS

Minutes of the... (continued from page 25)

with the underlined text to be added and the ~~struck through~~ text to be deleted:

Article IV

Section 2 *The number of member-elected Directors shall not be less than 15. Their terms shall be staggered with one-third being elected by ballot by the members each year to serve terms of three years. The Board ~~may shall each year appoint up to two~~ one additional "at large" voting Directors to serve a terms of three years. Election procedures and term limits are to be determined and approved by the Directors and stated in the Association's By-Laws. Terms shall begin and end on the dates of the annual meeting. Mid-term vacancies shall be filled by the Directors either at the next meeting of the Directors following the vacancy or by balloting through email, post or telecom, with the person elected serving the remainder of the unexpired term.*

Section 3 *Two-thirds of the members of the Board of Directors shall be vegetable or small fruit growers. The Directors should reasonably represent the different geographic regions and the different segments of the industry. The Board shall use its ~~"at large"~~ "at large" appointments to add diversity to the Board membership, to insure diversity in the Board membership in terms of industry segment, gender and geographic representation as well as to include special expertise.*

Dr. Orzolek and Mr. Amsterdam moved to approve the amendments to the Constitution. The motion was adopted without dissent.

Proposed Changes to Constitution/Bylaws

The Board of Directors is proposing that the members re-adopt the following version of the Constitution with the additions to the current Constitution underlined and the deletions ~~struck through~~. One of the changes is changing the name of the document to Bylaws. Additional changes may be proposed at the Annual Meeting which will be held on January 30, 2019, at 11:30 a.m. in the Crystal Room of the Hershey Lodge in Hershey, Pennsylvania.

Constitution Bylaws of the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers Association**Article I Name**

Section 1 The name by which this organization shall be known is The Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers' Association.

Section 2 The Association shall be incorporated as a non-profit corporation and operated exclusively for charitable, educational and scientific purposes consistent the Internal Revenue Service requirements for a 501(c)3 organization with offices at a location determined by the Board of Directors.

Article II Purpose

Section 1 To unite in common organization those engaged in the production, handling or processing of Pennsylvania grown vegetables and small fruits and of others whose business welfare depends at least partially upon the economic efficiency of the Pennsylvania vegetable and small fruit industries.

Section 2 To provide educational opportunities, information and materials to keep members of the vegetable and small fruit industries abreast of the latest developments.

Since implementing the above amendment would result in the Board of Directors having 21 members for 2018, the Board further proposed that beginning with the election for 2019, only five Directors be elected by the membership so that over a three-year period, the number of Directors will gradually return to 18. Dr. Orzolek and Mr. Stoltzfus moved to approve this recommendation. The motion was adopted without dissent.

Capacity Development Committee – Mr. Amsterdam reported that the Committee is working on various issues including transitioning the Association to 501(c)3 status, developing a succession plan and expanding the staff capacity. James Oswald noted that a 501(c)3 organization would have to be apolitical.

Memorial for Deceased Members Mr. Miller noted that the following Association members and friends had passed away since the last meeting: Mary Beard, Stan and Nona Brown, Roy Brubaker, Greg Forejt, Betty Miller and Robert Trax.

Adjournment There being no further business, Mr. Martin and Dr. Orzolek moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was adopted at about 12:30 p.m. The Board of Directors immediately convened to elect officers for 2018.



William Troxell
Executive Secretary

Section 3 To promote the vegetable and small fruit industries of the Commonwealth and their products in whatever way possible.

Section 4 To encourage and support vegetable and small fruit research to increase the profitability of the industries.

Section 5 To represent the interests of the vegetable and small fruit industries to the public and government officials although no substantial part of the activities of the Association shall involve attempting to influence legislation.

Section 6 To engage in any other activities that will benefit the vegetable and small fruit industries.

Article III Membership

Section 1 Any person or organization covered by Article II, Section 1, may become a member by payment of an annual dues. Memberships expire on the day of the next annual meeting unless renewed.

Section 2 Dues and membership classification are to be determined by the Board of Directors and included in the ~~By-laws~~ Standing Rules.

Section 3 Each member shall be entitled to one vote in transacting business at any association meeting. The Board of Directors may authorize certain classes of associate members to vote.

Article IV Directors

Section 1 The affairs and business of the Association shall be conducted, managed and controlled under policies adopted by its Board of Directors. The Board shall elect the officers of the Association, hire or contract with an Executive Director and

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Proposed Changes... (continued from page 26)

other staff persons, adopt an annual budget, recommend policy resolutions to the annual meeting and exercise all other powers necessary to effectuate the purposes of the Association.

Section 2 The number of member-elected Directors shall not be less than 15. Their terms shall be staggered with one-third being elected by ballot by the members each year to serve terms of three years. The Board shall each year appoint one additional Director to serve a term of three years. Election procedures and term limits are to be determined and approved by the Directors and stated in the Association's By-Laws Standing Rules. Terms shall begin and end on the dates of the annual meeting. Mid-term vacancies shall be filled by the Directors either at the next meeting of the Directors following the vacancy or by balloting through email, post or telecom, with the person elected serving the remainder of the unexpired term.

Section 3 Two-thirds of the members of the Board of Directors shall be vegetable or small fruit growers. The Directors should reasonably represent the different geographic regions and the different segments of the industry. The Board shall use its appointments to insure diversity in the Board membership in terms of industry segment, gender and geographic representation as well as to include special expertise.

Section 4 The Board of Directors shall hold at least three regular meetings each year at such times and places as they shall determine. The President or a majority of the Executive Committee may call a special meeting by notification of all Directors. The President or the Executive Committee may authorize the Board of Directors to be polled by mail or telephone on specific issues.

Section 5 A quorum at any meeting of the Board of Directors shall be a simple majority of the elected Directors and questions shall be carried by a simple majority of those present. If a quorum is not present at a duly called meeting of the Board, those present may prepare recommendations and submit them for approval to the full Board of Directors by a mail or telephone poll. When a telephone or mail poll of the Board is conducted, a simple majority of all the elected directors must approve the question for them to be carried. The actions from a telephone or mail poll shall be reconfirmed at the next meeting of the Board of Directors.

Article V Officers

Section 1 The Board of Directors shall at its first business meeting following the annual meeting elect from its own members to serve for one year a President, two Vice Presidents, and a Secretary-Treasurer. The terms of the officers shall begin on the date of their election and end on the date their successors have been elected. The Board shall fill any mid-term vacancies that may occur. The person vacating the office of President shall serve as Past President during the term of the newly elected President. If this person is unable or unwilling to serve as Past President., the Board shall designate another former president to serve as Past President. The Board of Directors shall also designate a non-member of the Board of Directors to serve as the Executive Director who will be retained as an employee or under an independent contractor arrangement.

Section 2 The President. shall preside at all meetings of the

(continued on page 28)

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NEWS

Proposed Changes... (continued from page 27)

members, of the Board of Directors, and of the Executive Committee and shall perform all acts and duties usually performed by a principal executive officer, required by this ~~Constitution-Bylaws~~, or imposed by resolution of the Board of Directors or of the Executive Committee.

Section 3 The First Vice President shall preside at all meetings of the members, of the Board of Directors, and of the Executive Committee in the absence of the President and shall perform any other duties delegated by the President or the Directors. In the case of the resignation, death or disability of the President, the First Vice President shall assume the office of President.

Section 4 The Second Vice President shall preside at all meetings of the members, of the Board of Directors, and of the Executive Committee in the absence of the President and the First Vice President and shall perform any other duties delegated by the President or the Directors. In the case of a vacancy in the office of First Vice President., the Second Vice President shall assume the office of First Vice President.

Section 5 The Secretary-Treasurer shall be ~~responsible for the performance of the following duties:~~

~~— notification of the members, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee of their respective meetings; be the secretary and treasurer of the corporation. The Secretary-Treasurer shall be one of the signatories on all financial accounts of the Association with two signatures being required. — preparation of minutes of all meetings of the members, the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee; — collection of dues and maintenance of membership records; — collection all income and maintenance of financial records; and — any other duty commonly associated with the office or imposed by the Board of Directors.~~

~~The Secretary Treasurer shall personally make all disbursements from the treasury of the Association as authorized by the Board of Directors.~~ The Association shall bond the Secretary-Treasurer.

Section 6 The Past President shall serve as a member of the Executive Committee and as chairman of the Leadership and Recognition Committee. The Past President shall be permitted to express his or her opinions at any meeting of the Board of Directors even if not an elected Director.

Section 7 The Executive Director shall direct and manage the day-to-day operations of the Association under broad policies established by the Board of Directors and shall have the authority to manage any additional staff persons, establish specific operational policies and procedures consistent with the Board's broader policies, speak for and represent the Association, sign legal documents on behalf of the Association and perform any other function authorized by the Board of Directors. The Executive Director shall be a non-voting, ex-officio member of the Board of Directors and the Executive Committee (although the presence of the Executive Director shall not count towards any required quorums).

Article VI Executive Committee

Section 1 The elected officers and the Past President shall constitute the Executive Committee.

Section 2 When the Board of Directors is not in session the Executive Committee shall at all times act for the Board. The Executive Committee shall keep a written record of all its acts and proceedings and report them to the Board.

Section 3 A simple majority of the full number of the Executive

Committee shall constitute a quorum. The President may authorize the Executive Committee to be polled by telephone or mail. A majority of the full number of the Executive Committee shall be necessary to carry a question either in a meeting or in a telephone or mail poll.

Article VII Other Committees and Task Forces

Section 1 The Leadership and Recognition Committee shall consist of the Past President serving as chairman, a member not presently serving on the Board of Directors a member of The Pennsylvania State University staff, and other members as determined by the Board of Directors.

Section 2 The Board of Directors may authorize other standing or special committees and task forces, designating the committee's or task force's purpose and its composition. Committees and task forces should contain some members not on the Board. The Board shall designate the period of time during which a special committee shall function.

Section 3 The President shall appoint the members of all committees and task forces at the beginning of his or her term of office.

Section 4 A simple majority of the number of the appointed members of a committee or task force present at any meeting shall constitute a quorum and questions shall be carried by simple majority of those present. The members of a given committee may be polled by telephone or mail on specific issues or questions, in which case a majority of the total number of appointed members shall be necessary to carry a question. *Amended February 4, 2009.*

Article VIII Association Meetings

Section 1 The annual meeting of the Pennsylvania Vegetable Growers' Association shall be held each winter in conjunction with an annual educational conference at such time and place as the Board of Directors shall determine.

Section 2 The order of business at the annual meeting shall be:

- (1) Proof of notice of the meeting
- (2) Reading and disposal of minutes
- (3) Annual reports of officers and committees
- (4) Election of directors
- (5) Unfinished business
- (6) Review of Policy Resolutions
- (7) New business
- (8) Adjournment

Section 3 A summer field day, tour or educational meeting shall be held each year at such time and place as may be designated by the Board of Directors.

Section 4 Special meetings of the Association may be called by the Board of Directors.

Section 5 Members shall be given 15 days notice by mail of all meetings of the Association. The notice shall include an agenda of all major items of business expected to be acted upon and the text of any policy or major resolutions.

Section 6 Twenty-five members or two-thirds of the Board of Directors shall constitute a quorum at all meetings of the Association.

Article IX Rules of Order

Section 1 ~~The latest edition of Roberts Rules of Order shall be followed at all times. While the general principles of traditional parliamentary procedure shall be followed, the presiding officer,~~

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Proposed Changes... (continued from page 28)

subject to appeal to a majority vote of the board, committee or members over which the officer is presiding, shall determine the rules of order.

Article X Limitation of Liability of Officers and Directors

Section 1 Officers and Directors shall not be personally liable for monetary damages for any action taken as an Officer or Director or any failure to take any action, unless:

(a) The Officer or Director has breached or failed to perform the duties of his or her office as an Officer or Director;

(b) Such breach or failure to perform constitutes self-dealing, willful misconduct or recklessness.

This provision of the ~~Constitution-Bylaws~~ shall not apply to the responsibility or liability of an Officer or Director pursuant to any criminal statutes or to the liability of an Officer or Director for the payment of taxes pursuant to local, state or federal law. If Pennsylvania law hereafter is amended to authorize the further elimination or limitation of the liability of Officers and/or Directors, then the liability of an Officer or Director of the corporation, in addition to the limitation on personal liability provided herein, shall be limited to the fullest extent permitted by Pennsylvania law as amended.

Article XI Indemnification

Section 1 The corporation shall indemnify, to the fullest extent now or hereafter permitted by law, every Director and Officer of the corporation who was or is a party (other than a party plaintiff suing in his or her own behalf or in the right of the corporation), or who is threatened to be made such a party, to any threatened, pending or completed action, suit or proceeding, whether civil, criminal, administrative or investigative (including, but not limited to, an action by or in the right of the corporation) by reason of the fact that he or she is or was a Director or Officer of the corporation or is or was serving at the request of the corporation as a representative of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise. against expenses (including attorney's fees), judgments, fines and amounts paid in settlement actually and reasonably incurred in connection with such action, suit or proceeding, unless the act or failure to act giving rise to the action, suit or proceeding for which indemnification is sought is determined by a court to have constituted self-dealing, willful misconduct or recklessness.

Section 2 The corporation shall have the power to indemnify any person who was or is an employee or agent of the corporation or who was or is serving at the request of the corporation as a representative of another corporation, partnership, joint venture, trust or other enterprise to the same extent as the indemnification provided in Section 1 of this Article, if the Board of Directors at any time determines such person should receive indemnification.

Section 3 Expenses incurred by an Officer or Director of the corporation or a person to whom indemnification has been granted pursuant to Section 2 of this Article, in defending a civil or criminal action, suit or proceeding may be paid by the corporation in advance of the final disposition of such action, suit or proceeding upon receipt of an undertaking by or on behalf of such person to repay the corporation such amount, if it shall ultimately be determined that he or she is not entitled to the indemnification provided for in this Article.

Section 4 The corporation may purchase and maintain insurance to protect itself, and any person eligible to be indemnified under this Article, against any liability or expense asserted

against that person or incurred by him or her in connection with any action, whether or not the company would have the power to indemnify such person against such liability or expense under the provisions of this Article. The corporation may create a trust fund, grant a security interest, cause a letter of credit to be issued or use other means (whether or not similar to the foregoing) to ensure payment of such sums as may become necessary to effect indemnification as provided in this Article.

Section 5 The indemnification provided by this Article (1) shall not be deemed exclusive of any other rights to which those seeking indemnification or advancement of expenses may be entitled under any agreement, Bylaw ~~or Constitutional~~ provision, vote of members or Directors or otherwise, both as to action in an official capacity and as to action in another capacity while holding such position,

(2) shall continue as to a person who has ceased to have the status pursuant to which he or she was entitled or determined to receive indemnification hereunder,

(3) shall inure to the benefit of the heirs, executors and administrators of such a person, and

(4) shall be applicable to actions, suits or proceedings commenced after the adoption hereof, whether arising from acts or omissions occurring before or after the adoption hereof.

Article XII Agents

~~**Section 1** The Board of Directors may hire or contract with persons or organizations to carry out any administrative or operational functions of the Association when determined to be in the best interests of the Association.~~

~~**Section 2** When an agent is retained to serve as Executive Secretary, the person or organization hired or contracted shall be authorized to speak and act on behalf of the Association provided the positions and actions are in accordance with the expressed position of the Board of Directors.~~

Article XII Dissolution

Section 1 In the event of the merger or dissolution of the Association for any reason, all money and securities or other property of whatsoever nature which at the time be owned or under the absolute control of the Association shall be distributed at the discretion of the Board of Directors, or such other persons as shall be charged by law with the liquidation or winding up of the Association and its affairs, to an organization of its choosing which is exempt under Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code or the corresponding section of any future federal tax code, ideally one that has some relation to the agricultural/horticultural purposes for which the Association was originally organized.

Article XIII By-laws Standing Rules

~~**Section 1** The Board of Directors shall incorporate all standing rules operating policies and procedures into a systematic set of By-laws Standing Rules.~~

~~**Section 2** By-laws Standing Rules shall be established and amended by a two-thirds vote at any meeting of the Board of Directors.~~

Article XIV Policy Resolutions

Section 1 The official position of the Association on current issues shall be set forth in a systematic set of policy resolutions adopted by the Association at any regular or special meeting.

Section 2 The Board of Directors shall annually review the pol-

(continued on page 31)

VEGETABLE PRODUCTION

Tomato Problems

Gerald Brust

To no one's surprise this season has seen a great number of problems pop-up in tomato fields throughout our area. The first, of course, has been disease with bacterial and fungal diseases spreading. The fungal pathogens usually can be contained with timely (as difficult as that is) fungicide applications. Bacterial spot or speck on the other hand can be much more difficult to control once it gets started and the weather remains wet and warm. In Figure 1 on the right hand side is a row of tomatoes that had been sprayed with fungicides and copper for the last several weeks. Bacterial spot has ravaged this row. The row to the left has been sprayed with the same material plus Actigard. Actigard is a plant activator that stimulates systemic acquired resistance, reducing the symptoms of bacterial and even fungal diseases. If you have problems with bacteria spot or speck Actigard can help reduce symptoms (as too can hot water treating your seed before you plant). You must use Actigard before the problem arises in the field, it is not a rescue material. This is the year in which the use of Actigard and heat-treating seeds would have greatly helped reduce losses to bacterial and fungal diseases.

Several fields had similar symptoms as seen in Figure 2, where the bottom foliage had been decimated but the top of the plant's foliage looked good. If fungicide sprays are applied as needed the top foliage should be OK. The problem arises with the green fruit being exposed by the missing foliage. These fruits are in danger of sunburn, sunscald (Fig. 2) and rain check (the many, tiny concentric cracks that form on the shoulder of fruit and can expand over time (Fig. 3). This is where using shade cloth (20-30% shade-inducing) would greatly reduce the chances of sunscald and rain check.



Figure 1. Row on right had fungicides and Cu applied, row on left same fungicides and Cu plus Actigard.



Figure 3. Exposed tomato fruit with rain check.

*Dr. Brust is the IPM Vegetable Specialist at the Univ. of Maryland. From the **Weekly Crop Update**, Univ. of Delaware Ext., Issue 26:19, Aug. 3, 2018.*

GREENHOUSE PRODUCTION

Scouting Guidelines in Greenhouses

Tina Smith and Leanne Pundt

If you've been growing greens in your greenhouse all winter long, it's likely you've extended your pest season as well. If you're just beginning to think about seeding your first flats of transplants, it's important to make sure you're starting off on the right foot. Either way, having a good scouting strategy is an essential part of a successful pest management plan in greenhouses. These guidelines from the UMass Floriculture program are also excellent advice for vegetable growers. See the slideshow, *Tips on Scouting Spring Ornamental Plants*, in the Resources section below for some great photos to help you identify aphids and other pests. Small greenhouses (< 4,000 sq.) can be scouted as one unit. Larger greenhouses should be divided into 2,000 to 3,000 sq. ft. sections for ease of scouting. Scout propagation areas at least every 3 to 4 days. Use your prior experience to determine how many plants and which plants to inspect (those that are most susceptible to pests or diseases in your greenhouse). The more plants or locations inspected, the more likely it is that a problem will be detected in a timely manner, when treatments are the easiest. In practice, scouting is a compromise between thoroughness (examining everything), efficiency (putting limited time to the best use), and

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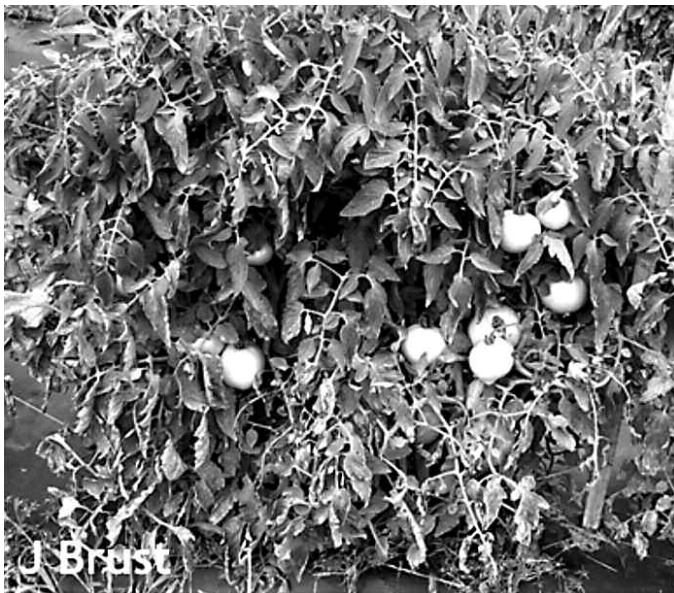


Figure 2. Bottom half of tomato plants have lost their foliage and expose fruit to possible sunscald or rain check.

Scouting Guidelines... (continued from page 30)

cost (the value of improved management information). Sampling a predetermined number of plants in each crop increases the likelihood of locating "hot spots," which are areas with high arthropod pest populations. One way is to spend a predetermined amount of time per area of growing space, such as 5 to 10 minutes for each 1,000 square feet of growing area, inspecting 20 or more randomly chosen plants. In addition to randomly selecting plants, be sure to inspect those plants that have always been a problem for you in the past. Scouting should begin at the major doorway, which is usually an entry point of pests. Special attention should be paid to plants near vents where pests may come in from outdoors. Walk every aisle and move from bench to bench in a zigzag pattern. Examine plant parts in a systematic manner. For example, begin with buds or flowers, then inspect new growth, younger leaves, older leaves and finally basal stems and finally growing media. Examine leaf axils and the tops and undersides of leaves. Many pests prefer the undersides of leaves or inner, protected plant parts. Use a 10- 30x hand lens to make it easier to see the small arthropod pests. If the plants are small, the sample unit may be an entire plant; for larger plants the sample unit may be a set number of shoots and leaves, such as 2 to 6 per plant. Don't forget to inspect hanging baskets or any plants on the floor. The first plant showing symptoms becomes an "indicator plant". This plant is tagged to allow the scout to easily find it from a distance. Indicator plants can be used to examine the pest's development cycle and to monitor the effectiveness of a treatment. Indicator plants should be marked and numbered with a colored flag or flagging tape so the scout can identify them quickly each week. Blackleg symptoms on stem, credit S Scheufele In general, it's been a great season for growing greens in high tunnels, but this is a great time to scout crops - this week we found (clockwise from top left): Cladosporium in spinach, potassium deficiency in kale, chickweed, and rodent damage on kale stems. Photos K Campbell-Nelson 3 Indicator plants (petunias or fava beans) are also used to detect the early presence of tospoviruses (Impatiens Necrotic Spot Virus (INSV) and tomato spotted wilt virus) and thrips. Weeds hidden under benches or behind the furnace are often a source of overwintering insect and mites, so look for and hand-pull those troublesome weeds. Place the weeds in a plastic bag to avoid spreading any weed seeds or insect or mite pests. For at least several plants in each section, examine roots for root decay, root-feeding insects (root mealybugs or root aphids) or other problems. Follow the same pattern of inspecting each plant every time. To avoid spreading diseases, wash hands thoroughly or wear disposable gloves and discard them after handling any plants you suspect might be diseased. Resources: Tips on Scouting Spring Ornamental Plants, (UConn Extension) IPM Scouting and Decision Making (UMass Extension) Identifying Some Pests and Beneficial Insects on Sticky Cards (UConn Extension) Integrated Pest Management for Bedding Plants: A Scouting and Pest Management Guide (see section III on scouting), (Cornell University)

Ms. Smith is with the Univ. of Massachusetts Extension and Ms. Pundt is with the Univ. of Connecticut Extension.

Originally published in the Univ. of Mass. Floriculture Greenhouse Update, January 29, 2016. From Vegetable Notes for Vegetable Farmers in Massachusetts, Univ. of Mass. Ext., Vol. 28, No. 2, February 11, 2016.

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Proposed Changes... (continued from page 29)

icy resolutions and recommend revisions at the annual meeting of the Association.

Section 3 The Board of Directors may modify a policy resolution by a two-thirds vote if extreme or unusual circumstances make a previously adopted policy resolution contrary to the best interests of the Association.



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Article XV Amendments

Section 1 The ~~Constitution~~ Bylaws of this Association may be amended by a two-thirds vote of the members present at any annual meeting provided that notice of such proposed amendment is included in the call for this meeting.

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