Facilities sponsored by
Kalamazoo Valley Community College
Kalamazoo Valley
Community College

If you would like to be an exhibitor or sponsor at Ag Action Day, or if you need further information, please contact your local MSU Extension office.

How to find

Kalamazoo Valley
Community College:

KVCC is easy to find, located one mile south of Interstate 94, Oshtemo, exit 72.

Special thanks to our 2017 & 2018 Exhibitors!

Bronsink and Bos Equipment
2017

Greenmark Equipment
2017/2018

GreenStone FCS
2017/2018

MSU Extension—Jackson County
2017/2018

Modreske Fence
2017/2018

MAEAP
2017/2018

Michigan’s CISMA
2018

DuPont Pioneer International
2017

Thomas Bros. Equipment Sales
2017

One of Southwest Michigan’s Biggest Ag & Home Horticultural Events!

Friday, January 26, 2018
Kalamazoo Valley Community College
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Early Registration (by January 5th): $25.00
Registration: $30.00

Pre-Registration for participants and vendors—http://events.anr.msu.edu/Agaction2018/

Join Michigan State University Extension educators & specialists for a full day of educational programs with a variety of sessions, including:

- New Pest Challenges: Re-thinking Crop Management Practices
- Blueberry Management
- Using Goats to Improve Forage Availability in Horse Pastures
- Vegetable Update for Southwest Michigan
- A Calendar for Pollinators
- Risk Communication—Things to Consider
- Weather, Technology and More
- Tree Fruit Pest Management
- Environmental Considerations for Your Horse Farm
- How to Start a Successful Cottage Food Business in Michigan
- What’s Bugging Your Plants?
- Is There a Fungus Among Us?
- Getting More From Soybeans
- Grape Pest Management
- MSU Recommendations for Establishing Horse Pastures
- Septic Tank Maintenance & Well Head Protection
- Attracting Butterflies, Hummingbirds and Other Pollinators
- New Guidance from the FDA to Clarify Parts of FMSA
- Sprayer Optimization

Trade Show Exhibition
will be open
8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Restricted Use
Pesticide Exams
will be given between
9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
$5 admission charge to take exam if not attending Ag Action

Notice: If KVCC is closed on this date due to inclement weather, Ag Action Day will be cancelled.
2018 Ag Action Day

19 educational sessions available

RUP & CCA Credits will be offered.

All classes denoting CCA credit are subject of approval by the American Society of Agronomy.

There will be a $5 admission charge to take the RUP exam if you are not attending any sessions. (lunch not included)

Master Gardener education credits will be earned for all Ag Action sessions; a maximum total of 4.5 hours may be earned.

Door prize drawing will start at 3:15 p.m. in the cafeteria

The pest complex in Southwest Michigan is rapidly changing. This session will discuss the challenges that we face from insects, weeds and diseases going into the 2018 growing season. (RUP Private, Commercial Core, 1A) CCA

Blueberry Management – Mark Longstroth, Extension Small Fruit Educator
Review the annual production cycle of blueberries, as well as the lifecycles of insects and diseases that attack blueberries. The two reviews will allow growers to understand why pesticide timings are related to plant growth and that susceptibility is an interaction of insect and disease life-cycles as well as disease infection conditions. Spotted wing drosophilà will be a focus of insect control. Herbicide selection and effectiveness will also be discussed. (RUP Private, Commercial Core, 1C)

Vegetable Update for Southwest Michigan - Dr. Ron Goldy, MSU Extension Educator
Pest control strategies unknowingly cause serious bee problems—Jacquelyn Albert, Michigan State University Entomology Specialist. There are also new pest threats to sweet corn. This session focuses on strategies minimizing bee damage while still end with pest protection to crops. It also examines sweet corn root pests, especially the potential problem Asiatic Garden Beetle poses—Bruce MacKellar, MSU Extension. It will wrap up with a wrap-up summary of the 2017 SWMREC vegetable trials—Dr. Ron Goldy, MSU Extension Educator. (RUP Private, Commercial Core, 1A)

A Calendar for Pollinators - Linda Whitlock, Extension Educator
This session will explore when a variety of our most important pollinators are active, their favorite plants, and how we can provide a microlclimate to attract them to our gardens and landscapes.

Risk Communication—Things to Consider When Discussing Pesticide Application & Safety - John Stone, Coordinator, MSU Pesticide Safety Education Program Coordinator
Pesticide use and pest management can be a controversial topic. This session will discuss ways to approach working with media, employees and the public about the proper use of pesticides, the benefits and the potential risks. (RUP Private, Commercial Core, 3A, 3B, 6, 7F)

Weather, Technology and More – Dr. Jeff Andresen, MSU Ag Climatologist, Erin Mclauke, Dean Basa, Lyndon Kelley, MSU Extension Educators
Recent trends in the climate seem to indicate that extreme weather events are on the rise in Southwest Michigan. Should you be building these into your crop management strategies? Also, new technical innovations can help us to learn more from our fields and potentially improve crop and pest management. This session will discuss innovative ways to manage around the challenges. (RUP Private, Commercial Core,1A) CCA

Tree Fruit Pest Management – Dr. Bill Shane, MSU Extension Tree Fruit Educator
Review important and emerging insect and disease problems for tree fruit. This review will include a discussion of the insect and disease management options for tree fruit. This review will allow growers to better understand how control strategies depend on plant growth, insect and pathogen life cycles as well as disease infection conditions. (RUP Private, Commercial Core, 1C)

Environmental Considerations for Your Horse Farm– Thomas Guthrie - MSU Extension Educator
This presentation will focus on the development of a plan to manage for environmental stewardship on a horse farm. This session will also discuss plants that are toxic to horses including what to look for and ways to manage and identify those that may be of concern to your horse's health. (RUP Private, 1A)

How to Start a Successful Cottage Food Business in Michigan - MSU Product Center Counselors, Joanne Davidhizar and Mark Thomas, and Leatha Byrd, MSU Extension Educator
Michigan’s Cottage Food Law, which took effect July 2010, allows those with an entrepreneurial spirit the opportunity to sell certain foods, made in their home kitchens, to the public. In this session you will find out what foods can be legally produced, as well as how to label and sell them. You will learn food safety practices to make sure that you are producing a wholesome product that people want to buy. You will also pick up techniques to develop and then maintain a successful small business.

What’s Bugging Your Plants? – Dr. Ron Goldy, Mark Longstroth, Jeremy Jaboville, Extension Educators
This panel of three Extension Educators will provide an update and answer your questions about the pests and diseases causing problems in your vegetable and fruit crops, as well as an update on protecting pollinators.

Is There a Fungus Among Us? Diagnosing Disease and Abiotic Disorders – John Stone, Coordinator, MSU Pesticide Safety Education Program Coordinator
There can be many different causes for poor plant growth and health. This session will discuss ways of determining if a plant disorder is caused by a pathogen, nematode or abiotic disorder such as nutrient deficiency or environmental stress. (RUP Private, Commercial Core, 3A, 3B, 6)

Getting More from Soybeans: Learning What Factors are Impacting Your Soybean Yield Can Be a Challenge – Mike Staton, Bruce MacKellar, Eric Anderson, Extension Field Crop Educators
This session will discuss potential factors that can lead to yield reductions, and things you can do to improve yields on your farm. (RUP Private, Commercial Core, 1A) CCA

Grape Pest Management – Brad Baughman, MSU Extension Educator
Review the key insects and diseases that affect both wine grapes and juice grapes during each stage of the annual production cycle. The session will be a discussion of the variety of options for control using cultural and chemical methods. We will include the latest MSU research on disease and insect management. (RUP Private, Commercial Core 1C)

MSU Recommendations for Establishing Effective Horse Pastures - Dr. Kim Casstidy, MSU Forage Specialist
Many Michigan horse farmers depend on onsite sewage treatment options, also known as a septic or onsite wastewater treatment system, to process wastewater. This presentation will cover how a septic system functions, system use and maintenance, best management techniques to extend the system's life, water conservation, how to detect septic failures and alternative systems. Additionally, we will cover steps that you can take to prevent and protect your drinking water from well head contamination.

Atracting Butterflies, Hummingbirds and Other Pollinators - Renata Rieblitz, Horticulturist
Pollinators are essential to most flowering plants and we cannot live without them. This session will discuss how to best utilize plants and attract pollinators to your garden.

New Guidance from the FDA to Clarify Parts of the FSMA Produce Rule –Marilyn Bongman, MSU Extension Educator
New water testing methods have been approved and there are a few changes to the inspection and water testing timeline. This session will also discuss differences between FSMA compliance and GAP certification.

Sprayer Optimization: Getting the Most Out of Your Flat Fan Boom Sprayers – John Stone, Coordinator, MSU Pesticide Safety Education Program Coordinator
Cutting edge spraying equipment is ever changing with new technologies. However, behind the bells and whistles, the basic boom sprayer remains the base technology for applying pesticides on larger areas. This session will discuss how to optimize these systems for peak performance. (RUP Private, Commercial Core, 1A, 3B, 6)

Please Note: All classes denoted as having RUP credits are subject to approval by the Michigan Department of Agriculture. Commercial core and category credits have been approved for as listed in each session. Participants should be able to obtain 1-2 RUP credits by attending a class that is approved in each time slot for a maximum of 3-6 RUP credits for the day.

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