

Ohio Fruit ICM News

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Two important meetings are coming up. Please note the date for the Midwest Apple Improvement Association Annual Meeting is November 10th, not November 3rd. The agenda for the meeting is in this issue. Also note the deer control workshop at the South Centers is this Friday, November 2nd. The registration deadline has been extended until this Thursday, November 1. For more information contact Julie Strawser at 740-289-2071 ext. 223 or 1-800-297-2072 ext. 223 (Ohio only).

The deadline for the NC-SARE Grants is rapidly approaching. If you have an idea, now is the time to put in your grant request.

We had our first freeze this morning in Piketon

Midwest Apple Improvement Association 2007 Annual Meeting - "Making Good Apples Great!"

Make plans to attend the MAIA annual meeting on Saturday, **November 10**, 2007

Meeting Location:

Dawes Arboretum
7770 Jacksontown Rd, SE
Newark, OH 43056

For directions go to: www.dawesarb.org

Located 8 miles north of I-70 exit 129B on SR 79.

Local Motel:

Quality Inn
733 Hebron Road
Heath, OH 43056
Ph. 740-522-1165

Registration - \$15.00 per person (which includes lunch), payable at the door.

8 am – 8:30 am – **Registration (coffee/pastries)**

8:30 am – 8:45 am – **Opening Remarks** President Mitch Lynd, Lynd Fruit Farm

8:45 am – 9:15 am – **Importance of MAIA Apples to Dawes Future** Ms. Sarah Lowe, Director of Education, Dawes Arboretum

9:15 am – 10:00 am – **Fifty Years of Apple Breeding: A Perspective** Dr. Jules Janick, Fruit Breeder, Purdue University

10:00 am – 10:15 am – Break

10:15 am – 11:00 am – **Apple Scab Resistance - Beginning or End?** Dr. Janna Beckerman, Ext. Plant Pathologist, Purdue University

11:00 am – 11:45 am – **MAIA: A Vehicle to Apple Biodiversity** Dr. Diane Miller, Pomologist, Ohio State University

11:45 am – 12:45 pm – Lunch (catered)

12:45 pm – 1:30 pm - **Evaluation Protocol: Finding the Winners** Dr. Joe Goffreda, Fruit Breeder, Rutgers University

1:30 pm – 2:15 pm - **Let's Make Some New Apples** Mitch Lynd, Lynd Fruit Farm

2:15 pm – 3:30 pm – **Evaluation Fruit of Apple Seedlings** and walking Seedling Blocks (weather permitting)

For additional information, phone Mitch Lynd at 740-967-5355. Your attendance is highly encouraged, as we'll see years of diligent work by Dawes and the Arboretum itself is simply spectacular!

NCR-SARE Grants (Source: Facts For Fancy Fruit, 07-10)

Grant funding program seeks innovative ideas for the farm and ranch: The North Central Region Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (NCR-SARE) Program is seeking innovative farmers or ranchers who want to implement a new, sustainable, idea to improve their operation. NCR-SARE is currently accepting applications for their 2007 Farmer Rancher grant program.

NCR-SARE awards grants to farmers and ranchers for on-farm research, demonstrations and education projects. By providing funds ranging from \$6,000 per individual grant to

up to \$18,000 for grants awarded to groups of three or more, NCR-SARE helps facilitate essential agricultural research and development.

Beverly Pender is an urban farmer in Kansas City. Utilizing the lots she owns, and the lots donated to her from neighbors, she has been able to carry on Soul and Soil Rainbow Gardens. Thanks to NCR-SARE grant funding, she will be able to add on to her gardens, and local youth, seniors and the homeless will also reap rewards.

“Our objective is to promote urban farming and to teach the community about healthy food production,” Pender explained.

Pender’s grant is just one example of the wide range of projects that NCR-SARE has funded over the years. Other funded topics include pest and disease management, soil conservation, local marketing, public education, waste management, agri-tourism, crop diversity, aqua-culture and many others.

NCR-SARE grants are awarded based on the applicants ability to describe how their project will be sustainable in terms of having long-term profitability, being good for the environment, producing healthy foods, being socially responsible and supporting their community.

Last year NCR-SARE funded 52 Farmer Rancher grants totaling \$400,037. This year farmers and ranchers throughout the North Central Region will once again have the opportunity to apply for roughly \$400,000 in grant assistance. The 12 states that comprise the North Central Region are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota and Wisconsin. The NCR-SARE program receives its funding through the United States Department of Agriculture.

Grant proposals are due in the NCR-SARE office by December 3, 2007. Interested applicants may contact Joan Benjamin with NCR-SARE at 402-472-0809 or ncrsare@umn.edu. The current Farmer Rancher Grant Call for Proposals application can be found on the NCR-SARE web site at <http://ncr.sare.org/prod.htm>. Previous project reports are made available through the national SARE web site at www.sare.org.

Contact:

North Central Region - Sustainable Agriculture Research and
Education Farmer Rancher Grant Program
402.472.0809 or 1.800.529.1342 (toll free)
402.472.0280
ncrsare@umn.edu
www.sare.org/ncrsare

Census Give Farmers a Voice in Their Future (Source: NY Berry News
Volume 06, Number 10)

America's farmers and ranchers will soon have the opportunity to make their voices heard and help shape the future of agriculture for years to come. That opportunity will come to their mailboxes in the form of the 2007 Census of Agriculture.

Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Census is a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics. It provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation.

"The Census of Agriculture provides information that is not available anywhere else - information that benefits agricultural producers and their communities in myriad ways," said Steve Ropel, Director of the New York Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

"For instance, policy-makers factor Census data into decisions concerning agricultural and rural programs. Community planners use Census to target needed services to rural residents. Companies rely on Census data when determining where to locate their operations. And farmers themselves can use Census data to help make critical decisions about their businesses," he explained.

NASS will mail out Census forms on December 28, 2007 to collect data for the 2007 calendar year. Completed forms are due by February 4, 2008. Producers can return their forms by mail or, for the first time, they have the convenient option of filling out the Census online via a secure web site.

"We're committed to making this Census the best count ever. It's about the future of agriculture and rural communities in our state," Ropel said. "Regardless of how large or small their operation is or what kinds of products they produce, New York farmers will help themselves and their communities by filling out the Census of Agriculture and returning it promptly," he added.

"We want farmers and ranchers to know: the Census of Agriculture is their voice, their future and their responsibility."

New Census of Agriculture Web Site (Source: NY Berry News Volume 06, Number 10)

Information on the 2007 Census of Agriculture is now only one click away at www.agcensus.usda.gov. "The new web site is a clearinghouse created by USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) to provide farmers, ranchers and the rest of the agricultural community with the latest news and information about the upcoming Census," said Steve Ropel, Director of the New York field office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS).

The Census site is part of our ongoing effort to accommodate the growing number of farmers and ranchers that are using the Internet. This year will mark the first time that producers have the option of filling out their Census forms online, saving both time and postage costs.

NASS will mail out Census forms on December 28, 2007 to collect data for the 2007 calendar year. This mailing will include instructions on how to log in and respond to the Census via a secure web connection. Whether they chose to respond online or by mail, producers are asked to return their completed Census forms by February 4, 2008. Conducted every five years by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, the Census is a complete count of the nation's farms and ranches and the people who operate them. The Census looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures and other topics. It provides the only source of uniform, comprehensive agricultural data for every county in the nation.

Census web site visitors can find answers to frequently asked questions about the Census and can access data from previous counts, dating all the way back to 1840. In addition, those wanting to plan ahead can download a draft of the actual Census form and begin pulling together the information they'll need to respond.

Hoophouse System Extends Bramble Harvest by Cathy Heidenreich and Craig Cramer, Department of Horticulture, Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Ithaca, NY (Source: NY Berry News (Source: NY Berry News Volume 06, Number 10)

Northeast growers can capture more of the lucrative local market for fresh berries by growing brambles (raspberries and blackberries) in high tunnels, according to researchers at Cornell and Pennsylvania State Universities.

These relatively low-cost, usually unheated, plastic-covered hoophouses can help growers fill late-spring and late-fall gaps in the market. Instead of mid-June, high-tunnel berries can be harvested in May. The field-grown season for brambles usually ends in early October. But growers using high tunnels continue to harvest berries through November.

Other benefits of high tunnels include:

Florican-fruiting raspberries and blackberries can overwinter in climates where they would otherwise be killed.

Primocane-fruiting blackberries ripe where the growing season is otherwise too short. Berry yields from tunnels can be two to three times greater than field-grown, and the berries can be significantly larger.

Tunnel-grown berries also have longer shelf life with reduced pesticide inputs.

A new publication, *High Tunnel Raspberries and Blackberries*, spells out in detail how it's done. The 29-page guide is available online at www.fruit.cornell.edu/Berries. Or you can order a hard copy for \$10 from

Dept. of Horticulture
Attention: Max Welcome
134a Plant Science Bldg.
Cornell University
Ithaca NY 14853-5904

. Topics covered include:

Site selection

Tunnel types and construction

Choosing and establishing plants

In-ground and container plantings

Care and management

Season extension and harvesting

Budget for in-ground high tunnel raspberries

If coupled with brambles grown in heated greenhouses, Northeast berry growers could produce brambles nearly year-round. (An earlier publication, Greenhouse Raspberries, describes those growing practices:

www.fruit.cornell.edu/Berries/bramblehtml/ghrasp.html) Greenhouse production of raspberries and blackberries has helped to bridge one gap in establishing all season bramble production in the Northeast. However, using this method alone to cover bramble production during mid-winter months may not be cost effective for producers, especially in the face of rapidly rising energy costs. Conversely, the same rapidly rising energy costs also provide a unique opportunity for expanding local and regional market shares over those currently held by imports. But these two practices could help shift market supply along the Atlantic seaboard to local sources instead of berries imported from other regions or hemispheres.

Calendar - Newly added in ***Bold***

November 2, Deer Control Workshop, OSU South Centers Piketon., For more information contact Julie Strawser at 740-289-2071 ext. 223 or 1-800-297-2072 ext. 223 (Ohio only).

November 10, Midwest Apple Improvement Association Annual Meeting. Dawes Arboretum, Newark, OH. For more information contact Mitch Lynd at (740) 967-5355.

November 11-13, Southeast Strawberry Expo, at the Sheraton Imperial Hotel, Research Triangle Park (Durham), North Carolina. New Grower workshop and farm tour on November 11; trade show and educational sessions on November 12-13. For more information, email ncstrawberry@mindspring.com, call 919-542-3687, or visit www.ncstrawberry.com.

December 3, USDA NC-SARE Farmer & Rancher Grant proposals deadline

December 4-6, Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable and Farm Market EXPO, DeVos Place, Grand Rapids, MI, for more information www.glexpo.com.

Jan. 7-8, 2008 Kentucky Fruit and Vegetable Conference, Embassy Suites, Lexington, KY. Contact John Strang 859-257-5685; e-mail: jstrang@uky.edu

Jan 14-16, 2008. Ohio Produce Growers and Marketers Association Congress, Kalahari Resort & Conference Center, Sandusky Ohio

Jan. 28-30, 2008. Indiana Horticultural Congress, Adam's Mark Hotel, Indianapolis. For more information see www.inhortcongress.org

Jan. 29-31, Mid-Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention, Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey, PA. For More information Contact William Troxell 717-694-3596.

Jan. 29-31, Annual meeting of the North American Strawberry Growers Association will be held in conjunction with the Mid Atlantic Fruit and Vegetable Convention (above), and the National American Bramble Growers meeting (below). For more information: Kevin Schooley at kconsult@allstream.net or visit www.nasga.org.

Jan 29-31, North American Bramble Growers Association Conference, Hershey Lodge and Convention Center, Hershey PA. For more information contact: Debby Wechsler, 1138 Rock Rest Rd. Pittsboro, NC 27312, nabga@mindspring.com.

February 11-12, Ohio Grape & Wine Conference, Shisler Conference Center at OARDC in Wooster.

February 16-17, 29th Annual OEFFA Conference, Granville, Ohio. Featuring keynote speakers Joel Huesby (farmer and mobile livestock processor, co-sponsored by IFO) and Dr. Kamyar Enshayan (local food activist), along with nearly 50 workshops, locally sourced organic food, kids' conference, child care, trade show, Saturday evening entertainment, and more. For more information contact Laura Wies at 614-421-2022.

NOTE: Disclaimer - This publication may contain pesticide recommendations that are subject to change at any time. These recommendations are provided only as a guide. It is always the pesticide applicator's responsibility, by law, to read and follow all current label directions for the specific pesticide being used. Due to constantly changing labels and product registrations, some of the recommendations given in this writing may no longer be legal by the time you read them. If any information in these recommendations disagrees with the label, the recommendation must be disregarded. No endorsement is intended for products mentioned, nor is criticism meant for products not mentioned. The author and Ohio State University Extension assume no liability resulting from the use of these recommendations.

Ohio Poison Control Number

(800) 222-1222
TDD # is (614) 228-2272