

Ohio Fruit ICM News

Editor: Ted W. Gastier, Extension Educator, Agriculture  
Ohio State University Extension, Huron County  
180 Milan Avenue, Norwalk, OH 44857 419-668-8219  
FAX: (419) 663-4233 E-mail: [gastier.1@osu.edu](mailto:gastier.1@osu.edu)  
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Calendar

November 4-6: The 20th Annual Sustainable Agriculture Conference of the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association, downtown Durham, NC. Visit <http://www.carolinafarmstewards.com> for more info or call 919-542-2402.

November 6-8: Southeast Strawberry Expo, Sheraton Imperial in Research Triangle Park, NC. See first article for details.

November 9: OFGS Board Meeting, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Dutch Heritage, Bellville.

November 15: Ohio Ag and Hort Human Resource Managers Forum, Hilliard, OH. 10:00 am - 2:30 pm. Registration and fee requested by November 8. Check Issue #39 for details.

November 17: OFGS Research Committee Meeting, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Williams Hall, Rm 123, OARDC, Wooster.

November 17: OAMP (Ohio Apple Marketing Program) Committee Meeting, 3 p.m.-7 p.m., Researchers Services Bldg, Rm 130, OARDC, Wooster.

December 6-8: Great Lakes Fruit, Vegetable, and Farm Market EXPO, DeVos Place Convention Center, Grand Rapids, Michigan. For additional information, visit <http://www.glexpo.com>.

December 15: OFGS Research Committee Meeting, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m., Dutch Heritage, Bellville.

December 19: In-Depth Fruit School on Intensive Fruit Production - A Systems Approach, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM. Featuring presentations by Dr. Dave Ferree, Ohio State Professor Emeritus and expert on light management in intensive systems and Steve Hoying, Cornell Pomologist with 20 years experience researching tree fruit planting systems. Adams County Agricultural and Natural Resources Center, Gettysburg, PA. Contact Person: Tara Baugher, tab36@psu.edu or 717-334-6271, ext. 314.

January 4-6, 2006: North American Berry Conference. Please note that this conference is being held more than a month earlier than usual. Therefore, those planning to attend need to register and make other arrangements earlier than in other years. This meeting is being held at the Savannah International Trade and Convention Center in Savannah, GA, and is immediately followed by the SE Regional Fruit and Vegetable Conference, January 6-8. More information is available at <[www.nasaga.org](http://www.nasaga.org)>.

January 16-18, 2006: Ohio Fruit and Vegetable Congress and Ohio Direct Marketing Conference, Columbus Convention Center. See fourth article for details.

#### Southeast Strawberry Expo

Source: Kathy Demchak, Dept. of Horticulture, PSU, Fruit Times, Volume 24, Number 10

Growers have discovered that if you are interested in the commercial production of strawberries on plastic, the Southeast Strawberry Expo is one of the best places to learn about it. This years Expo will be held November 6-8, 2005 at the Sheraton Imperial in Research Triangle Park, NC.

The conference starts Sunday morning, November 6, with two intensive workshops. One is a New Grower Strawberry Plasticulture Workshop for growers considering strawberries, just getting started, or in their first year or two. It will feature the expertise of Ron and Sonny Cottle, of Cottle Farms, one of the leading producers and nursery suppliers in the Southeast, and Dr. Barclay Poling, NC State Universitys strawberry extension specialist. The other pre-conference workshop, tentatively titled Connecting with Customers, will focus on developing practical marketing plans.

In the afternoon, a farm tour will visit several successful farms and markets in the Sanford, NC area, finishing with an informal BBQ dinner at one of the farms.

The main conference begins Monday morning, November 7, and runs through noon on Tuesday, November 8. It includes presentations, breakout sessions, and a trade show of suppliers to the strawberry industry: plants, containers, irrigation, equipment, and more. Growers will be prominently featured throughout the Strawberry Expo program.

Two general sessions showcase Grower Spotlight farms: Eric Hunter from Easley, SC, and Donny Fulks of Fredericksburg, VA (Belevedere Farm). The banquet speaker will be Marvin Brown, a Florida grower known for his insight, leadership, and innovation.

Growers will also share their experiences in breakout sessions - often informal roundtables - on organic strawberry production, school tours, finding markets for peak production, and Tools of the Trade.

North Carolina's highly respected extension specialists will share their knowledge on:

- Diagnosing Plant Problems
- Using Methyl Bromide Alternatives
- Developing Healthy Soil
- Achieving Optimum Yields.
- PR and the Media
- Value-added Opportunities
- Starting Small in Agritainment
- Diversifying into Crops Before and After Strawberries

For more information and a registration form, contact the NC Strawberry Association at 1138 Rock Rest Rd., Pittsboro, NC 27312, [ncstrawberry@mindspring.com](mailto:ncstrawberry@mindspring.com), or 919-542-3687 or visit <http://www.ncstrawberry.com>. The host hotel, Sheraton Imperial, is on Interstate 40, only a few minutes away from the Raleigh-Durham airport, and only half an hour from Raleigh or Durham. Reservations may be made by calling 919-941-5050. Mention the Strawberry Expoto receive the special conference rate.

P.S. Interested in sustainable and organic agriculture and strawberries? Take in back-to-back conferences: The 20th Annual Sustainable Agriculture Conference of the Carolina Farm Stewardship Association will be held November 4-6 only a few minutes away in downtown Durham. For more information, visit <http://www.carolinafarmstewards.com>.

#### Fall Application of Herbicides

Source: Rob Crassweller, PSU, Dept. of Horticulture, Fruit Times, Volume 24, Number 10

At last winter's tree fruit meetings I tried to stress the use of fall applications of herbicides. The main reason to look at this option is to reduce the dependency on a single spring application. Fall application will help control some of the winter annuals, such as the mustards, that creep in and prevent good coverage with your spring applied pre-

emergent herbicides. Fall application also allows you to apply your spring herbicides a little later. The later application in the spring also means that you will get better control of weeds into the fall. Try the fall application on part of your orchard and see the potential it provides.

#### Scout Your Fields for Weeds

Fall, after or during, harvest is the ideal time to scout your fields for problem weeds. You should note those areas where perennial weeds are present and plan to take appropriate control measures. Check the edge of your orchards as well. Some weed species can become problematic as they move from the orchard edge or from adjacent fields and become established in the tree rows. Treating problem weeds that are currently only on the edge of your orchards or in adjacent fields will prevent their introduction into the orchard. Many of these problem weeds are easier to treat before they enter the orchard than once they are established in the orchard. Control of perennial weeds is generally a 2 or 3 year proposition. Investing some time each year will keep these pests to a manageable level in your orchards.

If you need help in identifying weeds, there are several web sites that have good pictorial presentations of weeds. The following sites may be of use to you:

New Jersey Weed Gallery, Rutgers University  
<http://www.rce.rutgers.edu/weeds/default.asp>

Common Weed Seedlings of Michigan, Michigan State University  
<http://web1.msue.msu.edu/msue/iac/e1363/e1363.htm>

Weed Photo Gallery, UC Davis [http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/weeds\\_common.html](http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/PMG/weeds_common.html)

Penn State Weed Fact Sheets <http://weeds.cas.psu.edu/psuweedfactsheets.html>

#### Postharvest Physiology Articles on the Web

Source: Chris Sater, WSU-TFREC, Fruit Times, Volume 24, Number 10

Lenticel Breakdown of Gala Apples by Eugene Kupferman describes current research and provides practical advice for dealing with lenticel breakdown on the packing line:  
<http://postharvest.tfrec.wsu.edu/EMK2005A.pdf>

Bin and Storage Room Sanitation by Peter L. Sholberg describes the effectiveness of various bin and room sanitizers:  
<http://postharvest.tfrec.wsu.edu/PC2004F.pdf>

Fruit Skin Disorders by Larry Schrader, Jianshe Sun, Jianguang Zhang, Jeong-Hak Seo, Leo Jedlow and David Felicetti characterizes skin disorders and causes in several apple varieties:  
<http://postharvest.tfrec.wsu.edu/PC2004E.pdf>

## Conference to Address Human Resource Issues in Ag and Hort Industry

Source: John Wargowsky, Executive Director, Mid American Ag and Hort Services, Inc.

Agricultural and horticultural employers will have an opportunity to hear from human resource experts during a new conference sponsored by Mid American Ag and Hort Services (MAAHS). The organization is holding its first ever Mid American Ag and Hort Human Resource Conference along with its 5th Annual Meeting.

The conference, presented in partnership with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Risk Management Agency, will be held January 16, 2006 at the Greater Columbus Convention Center in Ohio. It will cover topics such as worker safety, labor compliance, and worker productivity.

People are the most important resource of agricultural and horticultural businesses, said John Wargowsky, MAAHS Executive Director. Whether you are a top manager, human resource manager, middle manager, or working leader/supervisor, this conference will help you more effectively work with the people in your business.

Wargowsky said the program features speakers that know human resource issues and understand agricultural and horticultural businesses. A bonus session for fruit and vegetable growers, packers, and shippers will be held in the evening.

Presentations include the following:

9:00-11:00 AM - Using Orientation and Training of Employees to Improve Ag and Hort Worker Safety - Bernie Erven of Erven HR Services, LLC

11:10-11:45 AM - Whats New with Labor Compliance? - John Wargowsky, Executive Director, Mid American Ag and Hort Services, Inc.

9:00-11:30 AM - Understanding the Dimensions of Culture: Learning to Relate to Hispanic Employees - Thomas Maloney, Senior Extension Associate, Cornell University

12:00-1:30 PM - Mid American Ag and Hort Services, Inc. Fifth Annual Meeting and Luncheon - Mike Adolph, President and John Wargowsky, Executive Director

1:45-4:30 PM - New Supervisor Workshop - Bernie Erven of Erven HR Services, LLC

1:45-3:15 PM - Aligning Your Human Resource Strategies - Cheryl R. Basinger, Competitive Edge HR

3:30-4:30 PM - Factors Affecting Employee Productivity - Thomas Maloney, Senior Extension Associate, Cornell University

6:00-9:00 PM - Water Quality and Produce Food Safety - Trevor Suslow, Extension Postharvest Specialist and Affiliate Scientist, Western Institute for Food Safety and Security, University of California and Shari Plimpton, Program Manager of Industry Outreach, Center for Innovative Food Technology

The MAAHS conference is being held in conjunction with the Ohio Fruit and Vegetable Growers Congress and Ohio Direct Agricultural Marketing Conference, which runs January 16 to 18. Members of MAAHS, Ohio Fruit Growers Society, Ohio Vegetable and Potato Growers Society, and Ohio Direct Agricultural Marketing Association are entitled to member pricing for the combined conference. Register by January 4 for lowest fees.

Those wanting to attend the human resource conference and/or the water quality and produce safety workshop should register with MAAHS at <http://www.midamservices.org>, [maahs@ofbf.org](mailto:maahs@ofbf.org) or 614-246-8286. To register for multiple days of the combined conference visit <http://www.ohiofruit.org> or call 614-246-8292.

#### CAT Tax Update and An Important Deadline

Source: Donald J. Breece, Farm Management Specialist, OSU Extension

Farmers with gross sales of over \$150,000 join other commercial businesses subject to a new Ohio tax. (And no, it is not a tax on your barn cats!) As result of this years Ohio Budget Bill, the Commercial Activity Tax (CAT) came into being. In a question to the Ohio Department of Taxation, whether farms were included, the reply was as follows: The CAT was intended as a broad based, low rate privilege tax. As such, it applies to farmers and other agricultural enterprises, once these entities reach \$150,000 in taxable gross receipts.

A second question was asked about milk and other livestock sales from Ohio farms to out-of-state markets. Would these sales be a part of the gross income figure and subject to the tax? The answer was the gross receipt has to be "sitused" (see definition at end of article) to Ohio. If the dairy farm milk is sold outside Ohio, the farm is not subject to CAT. See the Ohio Revised Code 5751.033 for the situsing provision.

For businesses with gross receipts below \$150,000, no CAT is due. For businesses with gross receipts between \$150,000 and 1 million dollars, a flat \$150 tax will be paid. A tax rate schedule will kick in for businesses with gross receipts over 1 million dollars. All businesses with receipts of over \$150,000 per year must pay a one time registration fee; \$20 will cover most farms (a \$200 maximum fee).

Registration deadline is November 15th and on-line registration is encouraged (a reduced \$15 is charged for web registration). A web link is available to explain more about the CAT and other new Ohio tax information at: <http://tax.ohio.gov/>. It is very important to register, even if you later determine that you may not be subject to the tax, since a penalty may be imposed at \$100 per month, up to \$1000, for failure to register timely.

More information is available at an Ohio Department of Taxation site:  
[http://tax.ohio.gov/divisions/communications/cat\\_general\\_information.stm](http://tax.ohio.gov/divisions/communications/cat_general_information.stm).

The term situsing is new to a lot of us, especially as it relates to sales of products outside of Ohio. Peggy Hall, Senior Researcher with the OSU Department of Agricultural, Environmental, and Developmental Economics, was good enough to define it for us:

The situs term is used to determine the place over which jurisdiction exists for taxing purposes. The state creates situsing rules to determine whether or not it has taxing powers over property. If a good is sitused to Ohio, then the taxing power will exist. In the case of CAT, those goods that are sitused to Ohio will be included within the gross receipts upon which the tax applies. I reviewed the situsing rule for goods such as milk and livestock, and it states that the situs will be Ohio if the good is received in this state by the purchaser. If the good is received outside the state, then the gross receipts from that sale would not be included in the amount to determine if the CAT is applicable.

## 2005 Midwest Fruit Report

Extension specialists and staff meet each year to revise the 2006 Commercial Spray Guides for tree fruit and small fruit. Additionally, members shared state reports covering the 2005 growing season. States represented this year were Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, and Ohio. Here are highlights from those reports:

Weather was most often mentioned as an important limiting factor. Precipitous temperature drops in late December, before peach trees had acclimated, reduced production from 50 to 100% in the Midwest. Those orchards with a crop produced peaches of excellent quality. In addition, some areas also experienced frost damage in early May. After low temperatures, the season saw above average temperatures.

Precipitation amounts also created growing challenges, with extremes in amounts depending on location and time of the season. A wet spring allowed primary scab to develop where timely applications were hampered by soggy soils and windy conditions. Most areas, though receiving below normal precipitation in early summer, benefitted from timely rains later in the year. Rainfall from hurricane aftermaths was not destructive.

It was generally agreed that this is a vintage year for grapes. Quality of other fruit crops was also rated as being excellent.

Insect pressures were not reported as being unusual. Multi-colored Asian ladybeetle populations had not become significant by October 12. It was reported that mating disruption for Oriental fruit moth was successful in reducing internal feeding damage in problematic peach blocks.

Disease problems appeared most often where weather conditions hampered spray applications or interfered with sound spray programs. Otherwise, no unusual situations were noted. Testing for fungicide sensitivity of apple scab was conducted on samples from five Ohio orchards. They all tested highly resistant to the Sterol inhibiting fungicides. This is a very serious problem and something we all need to consider in the future, according to Mike Ellis, OSU Plant Pathology

Terminal Market Wholesale Fruit Prices  
October 26, 2005 (Detroit October 27)

Chicago: <[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/HX\\_FV010.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/HX_FV010.txt)>

Apples: Market about steady.

Cartons tray pack MI U.S. Fcy Jonathan 100s 17.00

Cartons 12 3-lb film bags MI U.S. ExFcy Red Delicious 2 1/2" min 13.50

Golden Delicious 2 1/2" min 13.50

Gala 2 1/2" min 15.00

Mcintosh 2 1/2" min 13.50

Jonathan 2 1/2" min 13.00-13.50 some 14.00

Paula Red 2 1/2" min 13.50

Bushel cartons loose MI U.S. One Golden Delicious 2 1/4" min 12.00-13.00

Jonagold 2 1/4" min 12.00-13.00

Ginger Gold 2 1/4" min 12.00-13.00

Paula Red 2 1/4" min 12.00-13.00

Grapes: Market about steady. 12 qt baskets MI Concord 21.00

Detroit: <[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/DU\\_FV010.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/DU_FV010.txt)>

Apples: Market about steady

Cartons tray pack MI U.S. ExFcy Red Delicious 113s 16.00-16.50

Empire 88s 20.50-21.50 100s 20.50-21.50 138s 15.00-15.50

Honeycrisp 80s 52.00-52.50 100s 47.00

Cartons cell pack MI U.S. ExFcy McIntosh 96s 20.50-21.50

Cartons 12 3-lb film bags MI U.S. ExFcy Red Delicious 2 1/2" min 12.00-13.50 mostly 12.00 few 14.00-14.50 2 1/4" min 11.50-12.00



Golden Delicious 2 1/2" min 12.00-13.50 mostly 12.00 few 14.00-14.50 2 1/4" min 11.50-12.00  
Granny Smith 2 1/2" min 12.00  
Fuji 2 1/2" min 13.00-13.50  
Royal Gala 2 1/2" min 13.00-13.50 some best 16.50-17.00 2 1/4" min 11.50-12.00  
Red Rome 2 1/2" min few 14.00-14.50  
Mcintosh 2 1/2" min 12.00-12.25 mostly 12.00 some best 16.00-16.50  
Jonathan 2 1/2" min 13.00-13.50 few 14.00-15.50 Empire 2 1/2" min 12.00 few best 15.00-15.50  
Idared 2 1/2" min 14.00-14.50

U.S. Fcy MI Red Delicious 2 1/4" min 10.00-10.50 Golden Delicious 2 1/4" min 10.00-10.50  
Gala 2 1/4" min 10.00-10.50  
Mcintosh 2 1/4" min 10.00-10.50  
Jonathan 2 1/4" min 10.00-10.50

Bushel cartons loose MI No Grade Marks Red Delicious 3" min 13.00-15.00  
Golden Delicious 2 3/4" up 13.50-14.00  
Granny Smith 2 3/4" up 13.00  
Gala 3" min 13.50-14.00  
Jonathan 3" min 13.50-14.00  
Empire 2 3/4" up 13.00 3" min 15.00  
Honeycrisp 2 1/2" up 44.00-45.00

Grapes: Market about steady cartons 12 1-pt containers MI U.S. One Concord med 19.00-20.00

Pittsburgh: <[http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/PS\\_FV010.txt](http://www.ams.usda.gov/mnreports/PS_FV010.txt)>

Apples: Market about steady.

Cartons tray pack PA U.S. ExFcy McIntosh 125s 11.50 138s 11.50

WV Comb U.S. ExFcy-U.S. Fcy Red Delicious 88s 15.75 125s 13.25 138s 13.25  
Golden Delicious 88s 15.75 125s 12.75 138s 12.75

Cartons cell pack NY Comb U.S. ExFcy-U.S. Fcy McIntosh 100s 25.00  
U.S. Fcy McIntosh 80s 17.50 100s 17.50

Cartons 12 3-lb film bags NY Comb U.S. ExFcy-U.S. Fcy Cortland 2 1/2" min 15.50