

Session Evaluation 2017

Ag Tech

How helpful will the information be for you?

	YES	NO	did not attend	no answer
Produce Safety Recordkeeping: Requirements and Tools	2	1	0	2
Z-Traps: Electronic Traps for Monitoring Sweet Corn and Cherry Pests	1	1	1	2
Utilizing Drones for Evergreen Inventory and Health Analysis	0	1	1	3
New Tech, New Drift: Don't Be a Perpetrator, Don't Be a Victim	3	0	1	1

Do you have any specific comments for any of the presenters?

- first presentation: great stuff; this session was full of useful info, thanks!
- First presentation: well presented; appreciate the summary / ratings table

Please share any suggestions for future speakers and/or topics for this session.

Type of operation (please check the ONE that best describes your operation)

Fruit grower (1) Vegetable grower (2) Farm Market grower / operator (2)

Greenhouse operator / manager (0)

Other

- Extension educator
- row crop grower

no answer (1)

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Food Safety

How helpful will the information be for you?

	YES	NO	did not attend	no answer
Practical Cold Storage Food Safety	21	1	0	1
Minimizing Postharvest Cross-Contamination	22	0	0	1
FSMA Produce Rule Implementation Update	19	2	1	1
GroupGAP as a Potential Solution to Audit Fatigue	11	5	1	6

Do you have any specific comments for any of the presenters?

- Less call out (i.e.: "anyone know what lysteria is?"), keep it to a lecture
- Great information provided by all presenters
- The cold storage speaker was great! I think the drying power washing idea is great
- Please repeat questions asked by the audience; proofread your slides
- Presenters did a great job; answered questions very well; targeted relative topics well for the speaking time allowed
- For old storage, importance of leaning evaporators
- Useful presentations - good job!
- Chris - thanks for restating every question asked by an attendee; appreciate that you covered everything on your slide and did not move to the next slide until doing so
- Great job with all the helpful info provided
- Second presentation great for beginners; what are we to strive for?
- Thanks for keeping the technical simple

Please share any suggestions for future speakers and/or topics for this session.

- More time for Q and A
- Steve Warshauer, Wallace Center
- Make sure the microphone is located on their clothing so we can hear them presenting the whole time!
- I feel like getting older generations on board with food safety is one of my biggest challenges; also EXPENSE, particularly labor in the new regs. Also funk tanks.
- Suggested session: GroupGAP vs GAP vs Michigan Safe Food vs On-Farm vs Primus vs Other third party auditor
- Discuss more of the results and findings of farms that have participated in the produce safety risk assessment and/or on-farm readiness review; MDARD, Extension and other doing a wonderful job to implement FSMA and helping growers, but at the end of the day how are growers in Michigan actually complying?
- Consider some additional focus on packer / processor as opposed to primarily the grower
- Should leave anything about FSMA out of a food safety discussion - difference between learning about best food safety practices and learning about regulations
- More information regarding water sampling and environmental testing
- More on FSMA, especially a more round table or Q and A format, as well as tools / tips for implementing the rules (specially for workers who do not read / write) and technical aspects

Type of operation (please check the ONE that best describes your operation)

Fruit grower (10) Vegetable grower (10) Farm Market grower / operator (5)

Greenhouse operator / manager (1)

Other

- Government
- fresh packer
- food safety educator
- Educator

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- packer / processor
- not a farmer; involved with food hub
- third body certification body
- hops

no answer (1)

Other Comments

- Consider next year allowing 30 extra minutes for the entire food safety session so each presenter has more time to answer questions; I noticed more questions wanted to be asked during the crunch n time to get the next presenter up on stage

Evaluations received: 24

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Hoop House

How helpful will the information be for you?

	YES	NO	Did not attend	no answer
Beyond the Tomatoes - Specialty Crops in Hoophouses	31	1	0	1
Salad/Lettuce Mix Production Systems in Hoophouses	28	1	2	2
Seed Production in Hoophouses	14	6	8	5

If YES, please explain

- Strawberry propagation; Lettuce variety
- Cut flower high tunnel production was very helpful
- I learned a lot! We have not used hoop house yet, but I feel confident to use them in many ways
- Salad mix production; Hoop house growing crops
- Info on cut flowers Learned something from each area; Rachael spoke about paper pot transplanting system; we would not be interested in vegetable seed production at this time
- New ideas / crops / varieties
- Will grow more crops for seed
- Lettuce production: how to specifics; Flower varieties in high tunnels
- Presentation 1: Growing different flowers; Presentation 2: His goals of marketing; Presentation 3: Possibility of growing seed crops
- Niche markets, flowers specifically; Lettuce marketing
- Already growing multiple crops in our hoops (we currently have straw. out), but still thinking of putting some strawberries under cover
- Looking at different plants to grow
- Wonderful information by all the presenters
- Been growing tomatoes, need new crop to rotate; flowers and lettuce presentations were excellent
- Presentation 1: well done, organized, good handout, will use flower information; Presentation 2: good explanation of the system
- Looking forward to implementing some new ideas
- I will consider flowers, and I have just begun growing salanova; planting dates and yield numbers are great to know
- New hoop house crops
- Stayed for first two speakers; great!
- Looking at flowers; she had a great presentation with useful information
- Been considering strawberries for my hoop house

Do you have any specific comments for any of the presenters?

- Very well done!
- They all did well
- Rachael: great presentation, wonderful ideas; Dion: how do you get so much dollars for your mixes? nice work
- Great to hear growers talking about specifics
- Surprised to see profitability on such a small scale
- Beyond: nice information / great presentation; Salad: lots of info, probably could use more time for presentation, especially for new growers; Seed: interesting information
- Presentation 3: needs better handouts!!
- Appreciate their frankness, easy to understand style of speech
- Like farmers talking about what works and does not, plus less academic talks
- Thanks for sharing
- Excellent presentations
- Great handouts with inks; Thanks
- Dion: It looks like you are doing great work; I will be interested to see how the lack of rotation goes long term
- Excellent!

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Please share any suggestions for future speakers and/or topics for this session.

- Cold crop growing; Herb growing and marketing; Cuts vs Plants
- Would love to see seedling production or hydroponics in hoop houses
- Do everything to hold attention; some people are sleeping
- Keeping the hoop topics are key to keeping all hoop users (new and old) informed; using all growers (large and small) as speakers as they all have ideas they have adapted to their needs, where ever they are located; Weeds thru all the info, gets to what works well, what does not
- Grafting plants for better vegetables
- More on this topic; maybe more on topic on beginning stages of growing in hoop houses
- Excellent session!!
- Have more of these with real farmers
- The trade show needs vendors that want to talk to people farmers! We do not pay \$100 and drive 100s of miles to see people with their face in a phone; it gets worse every year
- More farmer presenters like this (fewer researchers)
- More farmers with practical advice like Rachael and Dion

Describe your hoophouse growing experience? (choose one)

None (8)

Novice (1-3 years production experience) (11)

Intermediate (4-8 years production experience) (6)

Advanced (9+ years of production experience) (5)

no answer (3)

Type of operation (please check the ONE that best describes your operation)

Fruit grower (7) Vegetable grower (17) Farm Market grower / operator (20)

Greenhouse operator / manager (7)

Other

- Extension demonstration
- Homestead
- mushroom / forest farmer
- Extension specialist; dabble in greenhouse growing
- MSU experimental
- home use

no answer (3)

Other Comments

- Just starting with new greenhouse
- I had to leave to go to another session before I could fill out a form, but I want it to be heard that my most informative session as a new producer was Rachel Cross for Hoophouses on Wednesday morning. Her presentation was thorough, useful, and well-crafted. I would absolutely attend more events where she presented.

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Labor

How helpful will the information be for you?

	YES	NO	did not attend	no answer
US DOL Investigations: Preparing for the Investigators, Asserting Your Rights	43	0	2	1
Grower Panel on H2A	39	3	3	1
US DOL Wage and Hour	40	2	3	1
Youth Labor on Michigan Farms	33	1	5	7

Do you have any specific comments for any of the presenters?

- Great info! Good variety with all sides given
- Very helpful
- Well done
- Everyone in the panel was amazing
- Thank you!
- Need more sessions
- As someone new to the H2A program, this was an excellent presentation, very informative
- US DOL presentation and speakers knew regulations, etc.; provided helpful reminders of practices we need to incorporate; attorneys gave excellent specifics
- More time
- Kelly Daniels was able to share in a language we could understand
- This session needs to be longer, especially for questions allowed after each presenter (esp. lawyers)
- Perhaps directly answer the question, and then pause to see if a follow-up question is needed.
- Did not now that H2A was overall topic; was hoping for more info on new regulations
- Very useful discussion - than you!
- Kelly was awesome!
- Session could be separated into 3-hour per topic listed
- Kelly Daniels did an awesome job; Seems very informative about H2A
- First session very good and much needed topic and would benefit with much more time!!
- US DOL investigation needs to be longer!
- I would like a longer time for the lawyers; Thank you for option other than Varnum
- Need bigger room!!
- Very good information! Great speakers; Cannot wait to make changes in our office!
- Kelly was fantastic
- Too many t list ...

Through attending this session, did you improve your knowledge in this area of labor management?

Yes (42) No (0) no answer (4)

Please share any suggestions for future speakers and/or topics for this session.

- Human trafficking special topics; supervisor involvement; how to give disclaimer of rights to workers
- more of the same information
- Please allow more time for this session
- Please MORE labor sessions; This was great
- Longer session with a bigger room
- Bigger room and more discussion/questions; This was definitely the most interesting session I have attended so far
- Sexual harassment
- Same type of presentation

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- Discussion on H2A labor contractors
- Grower panel
- Longer - more time needed on such difficult subjects as H2A
- Please remember to speak into the microphone and repeat questions that may not be heard
- Longer session and more time for questions near the end
- H2A: is it possible to DIY successfully, spending less than farms like H2AMas charge?
- More info on non-H2A employees
- Yes, please continue this process; could do it all day Part1, Part2, Part3 just for investigations; more topics on Labor!
- Need more time and bigger room; did not get to topic about youth labor
- Please start this session a bit later; Hard to get here early with traffic
- Handouts
- Difference of contract labors and H2A workers
- Keep the US DOL speakers as laws are always changing!
- Make this a 2-session topic; Lawyers and DOL need to be here; Helps everybody understand issues
- Maybe as a separate session, but I would like to attend a Farm Labor 101 session; This one was more of a second level session - which is great! Just think you need some of each (not at the same time)

Type of operation (please check the ONE that best describes your operation)

Fruit grower (19) Vegetable grower (15) Farm Market grower / operator (12)

Greenhouse operator / manager (7)

Other

- C/O agent
- State of Michigan
- agent
- Talent Investment Agency, State of Michigan - Migrant services worker
- corn maze

no answer (0)

Other Comments

- Would love this session to be bigger (room), longer and more involved.
- I learned from the first three presentations, even though I am not H2A and probably never will be
- This labor session continues to grow (in numbers) each year; a bigger room would be great!
- We do not have H2A, so topics 2 and 3 were marked no
- Need more sessions on Labor; break down more tie on very specific topics
- Need a bigger room!!
- Topic 4: needed Craig's help often 8-(
- Meeting needs to be in bigger room
- Labor meeting needs to be moved to a bigger room!

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Coping with Back Pain at Work

No evaluations for this session.

Farm to Institution

No evaluations for this session.

USDA Value Added Producer Grant Program

No evaluations for this session.

Wildlife Damage Management

No evaluations for this session.