

Fall 2024 Michigan Onion Committee Newsletter



Michigan Onion Newsletter
6835 S Krepps Rd
St Johns, MI 48879

Onion Committee Meeting Calendar

Date	Location	Time
Nov 12, 2024	MOC Annual Meeting, 7373 W Saginaw Hwy, Lansing, MI 48917	2:00pm
March 4, 2025	MOC meeting - Celery Promotion Bldg - 5009 40th Ave, Hudsonville, MI 49426	10:00am
June 3, 2025	MOC meeting - Celery Promotion Bldg - 5009 40th Ave, Hudsonville, MI 49426	12:00pm
August 2025	TBD - MOC twilight onion trials and dinner	5:30pm

Go SUBSCRIBE to MVC on YOUTUBE [Vegetable Council Youtube Videos](https://www.youtube.com/@michiganvegetablecouncil/playlists)
(<https://www.youtube.com/@michiganvegetablecouncil/playlists>)
(6 years of vegetable award videos, 2023 MI Eastside flooding, and MVC mascots)



2024 Michigan Onion
Trials and Dinner Sponsors



Michigan Onion Assessments

Please send assessments to:
Michigan Onion Committee
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2024 onions are harvested. The Michigan Onion Committee is ready to receive onion assessments for the year. If you are a grower or packer, regardless of whether you receive this newsletter in the mail or via email, it will include a 2024 assessment form and instructions. Any questions or concerns please contact Greg Bird at gbird@michiganonion.com or 517-663-6725.

Current Onion Research

Some updates have been made to the Michigan Onion Committee website:michiganonion.com. These updates should make it easier to find previous onion trial results and NOA stats, as well as give access to prior newsletters and research projects. Check out the RESEARCH menu where we have added historical research projects.

Grant Type	Details	Grantee
Specialty Crop Block Grant (SCBG)	Onion Thrips and Foliar Disease Management in Commercial Onions in Michigan. This project will develop a new onion thrips action threshold based on disease management. The project will also determine the effect of plastic mulches on onion thrips management.	MSU, Dr. Zsofia Szendrei's lab
MSU - GREEN	Identifying Alternate Hosts for Stemphylium Can Protect Michigan Onions. Year 1 - 2023 and Year 2 - 2024	MSU, Dr Mary Hausbeck's lab
SCBG	NEW, 2023-2025 - Influence of Tip/Leaf Burn and New Fungicides on Onion Stemphylium Leaf Blight	MSU, Dr Mary Hausbeck's lab

2024 Great Lakes Expo is Dec 10-12

2024 Room Blocks at the Amway Grand, JW Marriott, Courtyard by Marriott, Hyatt Place, and Holiday Inn are open. (glexpo.com) By this time of year, some I'm sure are already sold out. It's always best to make your reservations in February or March.

Jon Dinsmore and his farm business and the benefit of having popular social media videos will present on the Valent Trade Show Stage on December 10 at 12:00pm. Jon Dinsmore will also talk in the Brassica session at 9am on December 10.

Did you know that the trade show underwent a bit of a redesign? The Valent Main Hall Stage has a full schedule. The stage is at the end of Main Street. There will be several dozen new Ag Tech exhibitors in the Innovation Aisle. To see who, go to <https://glexpo24.expofp.com/>. Many of these exhibitors are focused on labor saving innovations. On Tuesday and Wednesday in the morning and afternoon there will be a TECH DEMO AREA at the end of the Innovation Aisle. Check out the Expo app or the schedule at the TECH DEMO AREA to see when and who will have equipment in action.

Do you have a need for Ag Tech, then consider attending the Ag Tech Summit on December 12 from 9am-2:30pm. The Ag Tech Summit is included with your Expo registration.

Are drones and the work they can accomplish of interest to you? If so, then consider attending the Drone Spraying Symposium on December 12 from 9am-4:00pm. The Drone Spraying Symposium includes lunch, but there is a \$50 add-on cost to attend this day-long workshop.

MSU is hosting Restricted Use Pesticide License Core Review and Testing at Expo on Thursday Dec 12 8:30 a.m.- 3 p.m. Register here: (<https://events.anr.msu.edu/GLEXPOPesticideSafetyandWorkerProtectio/>)

Meet The Buyers returns to Expo, December 11 at 4pm in the Main Hall food truck area.

Executive Director's Notes

Have you heard of PROTECTOURPRODUCE.COM? Michigan Asparagus decided it was time to actively promote Congressman Moolenaar's bill and Congressman Huizenga's letter. Thus, Michigan Asparagus formed the AEWR Coalition along with: Michigan Vegetable Council, Michigan State Horticultural Society, Michigan Agri-Business Association, Michigan Farm Bureau, Michigan Tree Fruit Commission, Michigan Blueberry Commission, Cherry Marketing Institute, and Michigan Potatoes. The AEWR Coalition has created the Protect Our Produce Media Campaign. If you have not seen it, get out there and share it. The goal is to find momentum to get either Congressman Moolenaar's Bill to pass as a law, or Congressman Huizenga's letter to get written into a budget. Both of these are attempting to get a 2 year freeze on the Adverse Effect Wage Rate (AEWR).

Onion Session at Expo Dec 11 9am-11am

Onion weed control and IPM - an Ontario perspective - Wendy Zhang, Kejay Farms
Stemphylium update - Dr Mary Hausbeck, MSU
New onion weeds and their seeds - Dr Dan Brainard, MSU and Jordan Hoekstra, Vriesland Growers Cooperative, Inc
Onion thrips research update - Dr Zsofia Szendrei, MSU