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How to find Kalamazoo Valley Community College:

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

Facilities sponsored by Kalamazoo Valley Community College

Special thanks to our 2014-2015 Exhibitors!

Bronsink & Bos Equip 2014-2015
Chemical Bank 2014-2015
Crystal Flash Energy 2014-2015
Dairyland Seeds 2014-2015
Food Resource Bank 2014-2015
GreenStone Farm Credit Services 2014-2015
Marvin Okun Agency 2014-2015
MAEAP/MGSP 2014-2015
Michigan Farm Bureau 2014-2015
Modreske Fence / Livestock Equipment 2014-2015
MSU Extension / Master Gardener 2014-2015
Van Buren Conservation District 2014-2015

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.

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

- Soybean Update
- Blueberry Management
- Getting Started with Hop Production
- Irrigation Expansion Economics in Tight Commodity Markets
- Local Foods: Determining the Right Business Structure
- Tomato Diseases, Insects and Disorders
- Adjuvants, Spreader-Stickers and Water Quality
- Corn Considerations for 2015
- Understanding Pesticide Use in Fruit Production
- Introduction to Hop Pest Management
- Farm Bill Signup Options
- Marketing Bee-Friendly Plants and the Buzz about Neonicotinoids
- Grape Pest Management
- Hands on Pest ID—How Well Can You Identify Weed Seedlings
- Quality Hops for Quality Brew
- Healthy Farm Ponds for Irrigation
- Protecting Pollinators, Yields & Keeping Landscapes Beautiful
- Apocalyptic Pests of 2014
- Needlecast & Other Pests of Conifers

Restricted Use Pesticide Exams will be given between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Registration: $25 (includes lunch)
Pre-Registration for participants and vendors— http://events.anr.msu.edu/agaction2015/

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

Notice: If KVCC is closed on this date due to inclement weather, Ag Action Day will be cancelled.
2015 Ag Action Day

19 educational sessions available

RUP & CCA Credits will be offered.

Please Note: All classes denoted as having RUP credits are subject to approval by the Michigan Department of Agricultrue. Commercial core and category credits have been applied 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.

All classes denoting CCA credit are subject to 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 educational credit may 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

2015 Ag Action Day

Session 1 9:00 a.m.—10:30 a.m.

Soybean Update – Mike Staton, Extension Soybean Educator

White mold control in soybeans—are fungal fungicides a silver bullet? Late season soybean aphids in 2014: SDS on the increase across southwest Michigan; can foliar combination sprays improve highly productive field soybean yields? (RUP Private, Commercial 1A, CCA)

Blueberry Update – 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. Spotted wing drosophila will be a focus of insect control. Herbicide selection and effectiveness will also be discussed. (RUP Private, 1C)

Getting Started with Hop Production - Rob Srine, MSU Extension

An overview of all aspects of production including: history, biology, cultivar selection, trellis design, setup and cost, pest and disease management, soils and site selection, best management practices, picking and processing, cost of picking and processing, and marketing and sales. (RUP Private, 1C)

Irrigation Expansion Economics in Tight Commodity Markets - Lyndon Kelley, Irrigation Educator, MSU Extension/Purdue Extension

Irrigation has traditionally been fairly easy to pencil on sandy loam soils at $5 per bushel of corn. Now that markets are tighter, can you afford to expand? Learn how to use analytic tools and budgeting to see if you can pencil irrigation. (RUP Private, 1C)

Apothecary Pest of 2014—Linda Whitchell, MSU Extension Educator

The description for this session will be available in future program material.

Local Foods: Determining the Right Business Structure for Your Food Business – Joline Davidson and Mark Thom- as, MSU Extension Educators

When starting a food business one of your first decisions will be what type of legal entity the business will operate as. We will cover avoiding double taxation, limited liability, ease of operation and transfer of ownership. This class will talk about the different types of business structure and the pros and cons of each.

Tomato Diseases, Insects and Disorders - Dr. Ron Goldy, MSU Extension Senior Extension Educator

Tomatoes are one of the most popular summer vegetables, but since they are subject to a number of foliar and fruit problems they are also one of the hardest to grow. This session will help you identify and take steps at controlling many of the issues experienced by commercial growers and backyard gardeners. (Private, 1B)

Adjuvants, Spreader-Stickers and Water Quality—Its all About the Droplets - John Stone, Coordinator, MSU Pesticide Safety Education Program

We know calcium in spray water makes glyphosate less effective. How hard is your spray-water? Water is the largest portion of your spray solution. Do you know how it is affecting your pesticides? (RUP Private, Commercial, 1A, 1B, 1C, 3B, 6)

Session 2 11:00 a.m.—12:30 p.m.

Corn Considerations for 2015 – Bruce MacKellar, Dennis Pennington, Extension Field Crop Educators

In 2014, nitrogen losses had widespread impacts on corn yields. Are there ways to tweak N management to improve corn yields even in fields where we side-dress to compensate for later season N losses? Things to consider when selecting a cost effective weed control program; corn stover management is there an opportunity to profit and control pests from removing these stalks? (RUP Private, Commercial, 1A, CCA)

Understanding Pesticide Use in Fruit Production – Mark Longstroth, Extension Small Fruit Educator

Review of the types of pesticides used in fruit pest management. Pesticide modes of action and pest life stage influence application timings. Weather conditions can affect pesticide effectiveness. Several insect and disease examples will be given to help growers understand how to choose insecticides and fungicides that will be appropriate for pest or disease control in their situation. (RUP Private, 1C)

Introduction to Hop Pest Management - Erin Lizotte, MSU Extension Educator

Learn about insect and disease scouting and management in hops and the related integrated pest management resources available through Michigan State University. (RUP Private, 1C)

Farm Bill Signup Options-What is the right choice for your operation? Part II—Adam J. Kantrovich, Ph.D., Roger Betz, MSU Extension Farm Management Educators

The 2014 Farm Bill will effect Michigan farmers in many ways. To find out what may be the best sign up options for your operation, attend part II of this program which will help you to discover “Farm and Risk Management Implications of the Agricultural Act of 2014”. (RUP Private, 1C)

Marketing Bee- Friendly Plants and the Buzz about Neonicoti- onoids on Pollinators – Heidi Walenga, Extension Educator, Greenhouse & Nursery Production

The effect of the chemical class, neonicotinoids, on pollinators has been a hot topic in the news this past year. Come and learn about the American public’s understanding of pest control practices in plant production and their willingness to pay a premium for plants labeled ‘bee-friendly’. Also learn the truth about the effect of pesticides on pollinators from research conducted at MSU in 2014. (RUP Private, 3A, 3B)

Hands on Pest ID, How well can you identify weed seedlings, John Stone, Coordinator, MSU Pesticide Safety Education Program

Weeds and other pests are there for a reason. Herbicides are a shortcut fix for good cultural practices. What can the weeds that are in the landscape tell us about soil and management condi-
tions? (RUP Private, Commercial, 1A, 1B, 1C, 3A, 3B, 6)

Session 3 1:30—3:00 p.m.

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The 2014 Farm Bill will effect Michigan farmers in many ways. To find out what may be the best sign up options for your operation, attend part II of this program which will help you to discover “Farm and Risk Management Implications of the Agricultural Act of 2014”.

Grape Pest Management – Brad Baughman, Commercial Horticulture Educator

Review the annual production cycle of grapes along with the key insects and diseases that affect grapes at each growth stage. These reviews will allow growers to make effective pesticide choices, understand insect life cycles and disease cycles, and favorable conditions for infection. Pesticide selection will also be covered. (RUP Private, 1C)

Quality Hops for Quality Brew—Jason Salas, New Holland Brewing Company

A brewer’s perspective on the local hop market. Specula-
tion on current and future demand of local hop varieties. Expectations from hop producer and how brewers want their hops handled, processed and stored will be covered in detail. Brief descriptions of how hops are used in beer and their impact on beer quality. (RUP Private, 1C)

Healthy Farm ponds for Irrigation—Brett Clawson and Phil Tocco, MSU Extension Educators

This session will offer practical advice on ways to maintain the health of your farm pond. It will also provide technical considerations for its use as irrigation pertaining to food safety. Learn the best way to track use and application data for reporting. (RUP Private, 1B)

Needlecast & Other Pests of Conifers—Al O’Donnell, MSU Extension

The description for this session will be available in future program material.

Protecting Pollinators, Yields and Keeping Landscapes Beautiful. What other beneficial insects in the land-
scape should we be aware of? John Stone, Coordina-
tor, MSU Pesticide Safety Education Program

Changes will be coming with pesticide products to protect pollinators and beneficials. This session will review the history and the current status of labels for changes that applicators should be on the lookout for. (RUP Private, Commercial Core, 3A, 3B, 1C, 6)