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VEGETABLE CROP UPDATE

TOMATO & PEPPER EDITION

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JANUARY

17

2012

- Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention – Field Vegetable Program
- New Spray Drift Awareness Videos Educate
- New SARE factsheet on tomato grafting for high tunnels
- Coming Events

Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention – Field Vegetable Program

Are you planning a trip to Niagara Falls to attend the Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention this winter? OMAFRA's vegetable team has put together an educational program for field vegetable growers and industry personnel that should make the trip well worthwhile.

The conference runs February 22-23, and has moved this year to the Scotiabank Convention Centre (6815 Stanley Avenue) in Niagara Falls. This location doubles the space available for the tradeshow, compared to the previous site.

The vegetable session features a focus on vegetable disease the morning of February 22, followed by weed management in the afternoon. On day 2, the morning program focuses on sweet corn (although growers of other crops will find the session useful as well), with the afternoon dedicated to topics of general interest across the vegetable sector.

You can find a printer-friendly version of the field vegetable program at <http://bit.ly/OFVCveg>. The program is also listed below.

Online registration is available this year, as well as registration by email, mail, or fax. Learn more at <http://www.ofvc.ca/>.

On [Twitter](#)? Search for **#OFVC12** for information and discussion about (and from) this year's convention. Join the conversation!

Program

Wednesday, Feb. 22

Vegetable Diseases Session – am – Room 208

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| 9:30 am | Late Blight of Tomatoes
Dr. Tom Zitter, Cornell University |
| 10:00 am | Resistance and other management practices for reducing clubroot in Brassica vegetables
Mary Ruth McDonald, University of Guelph – Muck Crops Research Station |
| 10:30 am | Pumpkin and Squash Harvest Rots
Dr. Tom Zitter, Cornell University |
| 11:00 am | Bulb and Stem Nematode in Garlic
Dr. Becky Hughes, University of Guelph - New Liskeard Agricultural Research Station |

Wednesday, Feb. 22

Vegetable Weed Management Session – pm – Room 208

- 2:00 pm Cover Crops and Weed Suppression in Pumpkins
Dr. Darren Robinson, University of Guelph – Ridgetown Campus
- 2:30 pm Perimeter Weeds – Impact and Identification
Dave Bilyea, University of Guelph – Ridgetown Campus
- 3:00 pm Herbicide Resistant Weeds in Ontario
Kristen Callow, OMAFRA
- 3:30 pm Sprayer Maintenance and Nozzle Selection
Helmut Spieser, OMAFRA

Thursday, Feb. 23

Sweet Corn Session – am – Room 208

- 9:30 am Western Bean Cutworm
Cheryl Trueman, University of Guelph – Ridgetown Campus
- 10:00 am New Technology Update
Industry representatives
- 10:30 am Remedial Action for a Wet Fall
Anne Verhallen, OMAFRA
- 11:00 am Tillage and Cover Crop Solutions
Dan Brainard, Michigan State University

Thursday, Feb. 23

Vegetable General Session – pm – Room 208

- 2:00 pm Vegetable Entomology Research Update
Cheryl Trueman, University of Guelph – Ridgetown Campus
- 2:30 pm Soil Management for Crop Health and Pest Management in High Tunnel Vegetables
Judson Reid, Cornell Cooperative Extension
- 3:00 pm Introducing Publication 838!
Marion Paibomesai, Elaine Roddy, Janice LeBoeuf, OMAFRA
- 3:30 pm Accessing Niche Markets
Jason Persall, Persall Fine Foods Co.

 New Spray Drift Awareness Videos Educate

Dr. Jason S.T. Deveau, Application Technology Specialist, OMAFRA; Kristen Callow, M.Sc., Weed Management Program Lead – Horticulture, OMAFRA

Pesticide spray drift has become a prominent issue in recent years. Both industry and the farm community take it very seriously, recognizing that even extremely low amounts of spray drift can impact sensitive crops, human habitats or environmentally sensitive areas.

Pesticide drift is the aerial movement and unintentional deposit of pesticide outside the target area. There are two forms of pesticide drift:

Particle drift is the movement of pesticide droplets or solid particles outside the area being treated. Coarser droplets move short distances and fall close to the point of release. Finer particles (i.e. less than 200 microns) can remain suspended on air currents for long periods of time and can

be carried far outside of the target area. For example, a 100 micron droplet takes 11 seconds to fall three metres in still air, and will drift more than 20 metres in an 8 km/h wind.

Vapour drift is the movement of pesticide vapours outside the area being treated. Vapour drift is invisible and can have a considerable impact. Vapours are created when spray droplets evaporate both at the time of application and for some time after the spray has dried on plant or soil surfaces. The potential for vapour drift is more a product of the volatility of the active ingredient, the formulation (e.g. esters) and environmental conditions (e.g. hot and dry) than the equipment used.

CropLife Canada and the Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs have partnered to develop two educational videos on pesticide application best management practices in an effort to educate, and ultimately reduce the incidents of spray drift.

The first video, **'What is Spray Drift?'**, highlights the various causes of spray drift. The second video, **'Equipment and Methods to Reduce Spray Drift'**, focuses on how applicators can modify equipment to reduce spray drift.

The videos describe the newest and best practices in pesticide application using an energetic and fast-paced style geared towards today's growers and custom applicators. Watch drift happening during night spraying under high powered lights, see air induction nozzles prevent drift on a boom sprayer and learn about how spray particles behave from unique computer-animated segments.

The videos were formally launched in January 2012 and are available to educators, pesticide safety organizations, sprayer manufacturers and retailers, agricultural companies and agricultural associations. Translated into French, the videos are posted at ontario.ca/spraydrift. In addition to the videos, this web page hosts the most up-to-date resources on pesticide drift.



Demonstrating how fine droplets drift using food-grade red dye.



Setting up for night-filming to show how air induction nozzles on airblast sprayers can keep more product on target.

🍅 **New SARE factsheet on tomato grafting for high tunnels**

High tunnel tomato growers looking for more information on grafting may want to check out a new factsheet from [SARE](http://www.sare.org) (Sustainable Agriculture Research & Education) called *Tomato Grafting for Disease Resistance and Increased Productivity*. It's available as a pdf at <http://bit.ly/SAREgrafting>.

🍅 **Coming Events**

January 24-25

Ontario Processing Vegetable Industry Conference, London, Ontario
(<http://www.opvg.org/conference/>)

March 6

OPVG District 1 Tomato Day, Countryview Golf Course, Chatham-Kent, Ontario

Questions? Comments?

Give me a call at (519) 674-1699 or email janice.leboeuf@ontario.ca.

See the update online at <http://onvegetables.com/> 
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