



Wednesday, January 11, 2023

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### “In This Issue”

- ♦ 2023 Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention

## 2023 Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention



The Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention (OFVC) (<https://www.ofvc.ca/>) is February 22nd & 23rd at the Niagara Falls Convention Centre. Come for the trade show and the educational sessions. Here is a list of sessions that may be of interest to vegetable growers:

### Wednesday February 22

#### SUSTAINABLE COVER CROPPING IN VEGETABLES

**9:30 Cover Cropping in High Organic Matter Soils**  
Dennis Van Dyk, OMAFRA

**10:00 The Latest on Potato Soil Health Research**  
Griffin Bailey, University of Guelph

**10:30 Improving Soil Health on our Potato Farm Through Cover Crops**  
Kate VanderZaag, P&K Vander Zaag Farms

**11:00 Full-season Cover Cropping at Emre Farms**  
Charles Emre, Emre Farms

#### AGROBOTICS: INNOVATIONS IN WEED MANAGEMENT

**2:00 Novel Weed Control Technology in Grapes and Apples**  
Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie, Cornell University, USA

**2:30 Integrating Robotics, Cover Crops and Herbicides**  
Dr. Darren Robinson, University of Guelph

**3:00 AgRobotics: Innovations in Weed Management**  
Chuck Baresich, Haggerty AgRobotics Company and Haggerty Creek Ltd; Kristen Obeid, OMAFRA

**3:30 Technology Roundup**  
Carbon Robotics, Verdant Robotics, Intelliculture, Naïo Technologies

# **2023 Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention...con't**

## **IRRIGATION**

### **9:30 Sound Irrigation Management in Québec: Soil Moisture Monitoring**

Paul Deschênes, Institut de Recherche et de Développement en Agroenvironnement (IRDA)

### **10:00 Grower Panel: Soil Moisture Monitoring**

Gerbe Botden, Botden Orchards; [Patrick Dol](#), WD Potato

### **10:30 Using Plant Sensors to Improve Irrigation Management and Enhance Fruit Quality**

Dr. Lee Kalcsits, Washington State University, USA

### **11:00 Irrigation Strategies in Water Shortages**

Paul Deschênes, Institut de Recherche et de Développement en Agroenvironnement (IRDA)

## **PROBLEMATIC PATHOGENS OF TOMATOES AND PEPPERS**

### **2:00 Managing Bacterial Diseases of Tomato and Pepper**

Dr. Daniel S. Egel, Purdue University, USA

### **2:40 Phytophthora Control: Lessons Learned in Michigan**

Mary Hausbeck, Michigan State University, USA

### **3:20 Pepper Anthracnose – The Old and the New**

Amanda Tracey, OMAFRA

## **SOIL FERTILITY – MAXIMIZING YOUR FERTILIZER DOLLARS**

### **2:00 An Overview of the Fertilizer Sector and Farm Input Prices**

Ken McEwan, University of Guelph – Ridgetown Campus

### **2:30 Managing Nitrogen Fertilizers to Minimize Loss in Horticulture Crop Production Systems**

Dr. John Lauzon, University of Guelph

### **3:00 Options to Improve Fertilizer Use Efficiency in Horticultural Crops**

Dr. Tejendra Chapagain, OMAFRA

### **3:30 Developing an Efficient Fertilizer Program for Apple Orchards**

Gerbe Botden, Botden Orchards

### **Maximizing Nutrient Use Efficiency in Vegetable Crops**

Joseph Tomecek, Tomecek Agronomy Services

## **HOW TO ENGAGE A DIVERSE WORKFORCE**

### **9:30 Diversity and Inclusion in Agriculture**

Jennifer Wright, Canadian Agricultural Human Resource Council

### **10:00 A Framework for Supporting Workers from Healing to Life Skills**

Stephen Jackson, Anishnabeg Outreach

### **10:30 Best Practices in Health and Safety with International Agricultural Workers**

Eduardo Huesca, Occupational Health Clinics for Ontario Workers

### **11:00 Housing Conditions and Location in the Experiences of Mexican Seasonal Agricultural Workers in Canada**

Louis Helps, University of Guelph

# **2023 Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention...con't**

## **GENERAL LABOUR**

### **9:30 Hiring TFWs Already in Canada Using Ag Stream**

Mary Catherine Stevenson, Mucci Farms; Shawn McGowan, Schuyler Farms

### **10:00 Building New TFW Housing – Grower Perspectives**

Hayden Dooney, Suncrest Orchards; Fred Meyers, Meyers Fruit Farm

### **10:30 Navigating the Permanent Residency Process for TFWs – What Employers Should Know**

Nancy Friesen Thompson, Crossing Canada Citizenship & Immigration Services

### **11:00 Hiring Agricultural TFW Workers from Countries Outside of the SAWP Program**

Tania Casco, Honduras Embassy (Ottawa); Juan Higuera, Cannexion

### **2:00 University of Guelph Co-op Programs & Wage Subsidies for Employers Hiring Students**

Paula Stortz, Hope Long, University of Guelph; Nadee Imran, , CAHRC

### **2:30 Completing a Productive and Successful Workplace Health and Safety Inspection**

Ron Landry, Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Trade and Skills Development

### **3:00 Update on SAWP/TFWP and LICC**

Ken Forth, FARMS/LICC

### **3:30 Public Perception of Temporary Foreign Worker Programs**

Stefan Larrass, OFVGA

## **Thursday February 23**

## **BRASSICA PESTS**

### **9:30 Sterile Insect Technology to Manage Cabbage Maggot**

Anne-Marie Fortier, Phytodata Inc.

### **10:00 The First Year Without Lorsban in Root Brassicas**

Dr. Ben Werling, Michigan State University Extension, USA

### **10:30 New Developments for Managing Swede Midge in Brassicas**

Christy Hoepting, Cornell Cooperative Extension, USA

### **11:00 Cabbage Maggot Control without Chlorpyrifos: The New York Experience**

Christy Hoepting, Cornell Cooperative Extension, USA

## **BUSINESS**

### **9:30 New Programs on the Horizon**

Margaret May, OSCIA

### **10:00 Improve Your Profitability and Growth with the Right Operational Data and Financial Reporting**

MNP

### **10:30-11:30 Farm Business Update**

Erich Weber, OMAFRA

### **Drip Irrigation Workshop**

#### **9:30 – 11:30 Develop Your Farm Specific Drip Irrigation Schedule**

Rebecca Shortt, OMAFRA

1. Farm Water Requirements: Crop peak flow and annual water requirements.
  2. Plant Water Requirements: System operating time and schedule for various crop growth stages.
- Bring a calculator and a pencil.

# **2023 Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention...con't**

## **PUMPKINS AND SWEET CORN**

**2:00 Adopting Strip-till and Minimum Till Practices in Fresh Market Sweet Corn Production – Experiences and Reflections**

Richard Reesor, Rouge River Farms

**2:30 Québec Cucurbit Production: Emerging Pests**

Isabelle Couture, MAPAQ

**3:00 Tools to Support Native Pollinators in Cucurbit Crops**

Dr. Susan Chan, University of Guelph

## **SOIL HEALTH**

**2:00 Soil Health- Dollars & Sense**

Cameron Ogilvie, Soil Health Institute

**2:30 Soil Biological Health: Tales from the Ontario Living Lab Initiative**

Dr. Lori Phillips, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

**3:00 Soil Health and Vegetable Production – Grower Panel**

TBA

**3:30 The Challenge – Better Soil Health in Vegetable Production**

All speaker panel

## **SPECIALTY VEGETABLE**

**2:00 Growing Sweet Potatoes in Ontario**

Dr. Melanie Filotas, OMAFRA; Dr. Valerio Primomo, Vineland Research & Innovation Centre

**2:30 Growing Peanuts in Ontario: Past, Present & Future**

Peter White, University of Guelph (retired)

**3:00 An Introduction to Jerusalem Artichoke and Tigernuts**

Dr. Jim Todd, OMAFRA

**3:30 Opportunities and Challenges with Non-traditional Root Crops in Ontario**

Evan Elford, OMAFRA

## **TRANSITION PLANNING**

**2:00 Financing Solutions**

Erich Weber, OMAFRA

**2:30 Estate Planning: Legal Considerations**

Erica Blythe (Van De Laar), Martin Sheppard Fraser LLP

**3:00 Business Transition Planning – Income Tax Considerations**

Jack Kingma, Randy Momot, Grant Thornton

**3:30 Transition Planning Q & A With the Experts**

Erich Weber, OMAFRA; Erica Blythe, Martin Sheppard Fraser LLP; Jack Kingma, Grant Thornton; Randy Momot, Grant Thornton

A full list of sessions/workshops can be found at [https://www.ofvc.ca/sessions\\_day1.html](https://www.ofvc.ca/sessions_day1.html).

Session calendars taken from the OFVC highlights brochure([https://ofvc.ca/assets/img/pdf/OFVC\\_Highlights-Brochure\\_2023L.pdf](https://ofvc.ca/assets/img/pdf/OFVC_Highlights-Brochure_2023L.pdf)) are found online