MSU Agriculture Innovation Day Focus on Fruit and Vegetable Technologies

Niche Market Vegetables: High Tunnels, High Yields **High Tunnel Benefits:**

Season extension and earlier production allowing for off -season higher prices

Reduced disease pressure minimizing fungicide applications

Higher quality through cleaner fruit, larger, longer stemmed, brighter colored fl owers

Greater yield through higher quality and larger size

Reduced fertilizer inputs by 50%

Cautions:

Water - they only get the water you give them

Crop rotation can be difficult

Light characteristics change as plastic ages.

High temperature may limit mid-summer production for some crops

Crop management is diff erent in terms of pruning, fertilizing, spacing, etc.

Insects such as thrips and aphids and mites can be more of a problem

