

Southwest Michigan Field Crops Update February 2025

Here are updates from the MSU Extension Field Crops team in Southwest Michigan. If you have any items you would like me to include in future email updates - whether events you want others to know about or topics you would like to have addressed - please send an email or call the St. Joseph County Extension office.

Contents:

- Announcements
- Oh Deer!
- [Weather Update](#)
- [Calendar](#)
- [MSU Extension Digest Briefs](#)

Tell Us How You Really Feel



IMPORTANT

Every three years, the MSU Extension field crops team sends out a needs assessment. **This is a statewide survey, and I want SW MI to be justly represented, so PLEASE share your honest feedback, both positive and negative!** Share the survey with everyone you know who grows or works with field crops. Just copy and paste this link into a text or email to share with others (and click on it to take the survey):

https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_1ZDVTS01EGJlFIG.

Submit Questions for SW MI ICPM Update: Wednesday, February 5, 2025

It's not too late to submit questions for the crop and soil fertility Q&A with Dr. Kurt Steinke ([click here to submit questions ahead of time](#)) that will be part of the Crop and Pest Update in Dowagiac on Feb 5. Online registration is closed now, but we will still accept late additions: contact the St Joseph MSU Extension Office at 269-467-5511 for help registering or register on-site.

Branch County Farmers Day: Monday, February 17, 2025

Branch County Farmers Day will be held Feb 17 at the Branch Area Careers Center in Coldwater. There will be two separate sessions: pesticide review and field crops education. **Please only register for the field crops sessions OR the review, not both.** Check out [this article](#) for more information. The pesticide review is mandatory for the afternoon testing. Register to attend the pesticide review and take the pesticide applicator test [here](#). Register [here](#) for the educational sessions, including solar, forage management, pumpkin management, a weed update, and more. Questions can be directed to the MSU Extension Branch County office: 517-279-4311 or msue.branch@county.msu.edu.

Park Township Meeting for Farmers: Wednesday, February 12, 2025

A township meeting with special emphasis for farmers will be held on Feb. 12 at the Park Township Office (53640 Parkville Rd., Three Rivers, MI 49093). MSU Extension offers non-biased research, education, and services. This meeting will highlight those services, summarize upcoming events aimed for field crops farmers, and ask for feedback on farmer needs. While this is aimed for those who live and/or farm in Park Township, anyone is welcome to attend.

Field Crops Webinar Series is Back and Will Start Monday, February 3, 2025

Check out [this article](#) for the webinar schedule and more information. Please note that the grain marketing session did not qualify for RUP credits, so only 7 credits are available from the series this year instead of the usual 8. [Register here for the Field Crops Webinar Series](#)

Field Crops Webinar Series Schedule:

2/3/2024	New Corn Planting Strategies	Emerging corn trends: short corn, planting multiple hybrids together, adjustments to agronomics in corn production that could save money
2/10/2024	Economic Considerations of Wheat Production	Discussing wheat production: including management decisions around planting, fungicide applications, fertilizer applications etc.
2/17/2024	Weather Variability	Jeff will discuss the increase in weather variability and what that means for making sound agronomic decisions. Including water stress, temperature stress and the potential impact on diseases etc.
2/24/2024	Harvest Timing Considerations for Alfalfa	Discussion surrounding timing of harvest surrounding alfalfa
3/3/2024	Soil Structure/Tillage	They will discuss soil structure and the effects of tillage on soil structure
3/10/2024	Minimizing Drift and Chemical Names	Pesticides can drift if not applied correctly. This will be an update on different sprays available by chemical name. There will also be discussion of how to minimize drift from pesticide applica
3/17/2024	Grain Marketing	Molly and John will discuss grain marketing. (No RUP credit available)
3/24/2024	Disease Update	Marty will give an update on key diseases that were seen across the area in 2024 including: white mold, tar spot etc. He will discuss the best management practices for these diseases.

Hay Production 101 Online via Zoom Starting Thursday, February 13, 2025

Check out [this article](#) for more information. [Register here.](#)



Hay Production 101

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 7 -8:30 p.m.
February 13 – March 4, 2025

**RUP & CCA
Credits
Available**

Register today: <https://events.anr.msu.edu/2025HayProduction/>

Branch County Farmers Day: Monday, February 17, 2025

Branch County Farmers Day will be held Feb 17 at the Branch Area Careers Center in Coldwater. There will be two separate sessions: pesticide review and field crops education. **Please only register for the field crops sessions OR the review, not both.** Check out [this article](#) for more information. The pesticide review is mandatory for the afternoon testing. Register to attend the pesticide review and take the pesticide applicator test [here](#). Register [here](#) for the educational sessions, including solar, forage management, pumpkin management, a weed update, and more. Questions can be directed to the MSU Extension Branch County office: 517-279-4311 or msue.branch@county.msu.edu.

Michiana Irrigated Corn and Soybean Conference in Elkhart, IN: Wednesday, March 5, 2025

This will NOT be held at the Blue Gate as in years past (but don't worry - a delicious lunch is still included with registration). The Michiana Irrigated Corn and Soybean Conference will be held on March 5 at the Elkhart County Fairgrounds Ag Hall in Goshen, IN, on March 5 with registration starting at 8:30 am. Check out [this article](#) for more information. Registration for the conference is only \$25 for those registered by Feb. 25 (\$35 after that date). [Register here](#). Contact the MSU St. Joseph County Extension Office at msue.stjoseph@county.msu.edu or 269-467-5511. After Feb. 25, contact me (Nicolle Ritchie, ritchi67@msu.edu or 269-858-8739) for help registering.

VAN BUREN COUNTY: Farming for the Future Conference

Wednesday, March 12, 2025

Please join the Van Buren Conservation District on March 12th from 9 AM-3:00 PM at the Lawrence Conference Center. We have a fantastic program scheduled this year and you won't want to miss it. This program is free and lunch will be provided. Registration is required and space is limited, so sign up today!

Our Keynote speaker is Jeremy Sweeten, a consultant from "Understanding Ag". Jeremy has first-hand experience switching his farm over from yield-driven to a profit building farm model. He will speak on the 6 principles of regenerative agriculture practices that any farm can adopt in this next growing season. Along with Jeremy we have invited a great list of speakers to come and share practical, innovative and conservation-focused topics to our conference. We'll have three breakout tracks this year including a Grain, Livestock and Perennial track.

Please RSVP for this event so we can plan accordingly for lunch. There are many ways to register for this event:

- Email Colleen Forestieri at agconservation@vanburencd.org
- Call the district at 269-657-4030 x 3093
- Sign up online: https://vanburencd.org/mc-events/farming-for-the-future-2025/?mc_id=253



Farming for the Future offers an opportunity for farmers and ag professionals to come together to learn and discuss how conservation practices on farmland can improve productivity, profit, and our natural resources.

KEYNOTE SPEAKER JEREMY SWEETEN

"CREATING OPTIMISM & PROFIT ON THE FARM"

Jeremy Sweeten is a first generation farmer from the Upper Peninsula. He has seen first hand how regenerative farming practices can improve soils, livestock and profitability. Jeremy will talk about his journey of shifting his attitude and farm from yield-driven to profit-building.



As a consultant for "Understanding Ag," Jeremy is passionate about helping farmers solve problems through his practical experience and education.

AGENDA

8:30 AM	Registration & Refreshments
9:00 AM	Welcome & Introductions
9:35 AM	Keynote Address
10:40 AM	Breakout Sessions
11:40 AM	Lunch
12:50 PM	Breakout Sessions
2:00 PM	Breakout Sessions
3:00 PM	End

MARCH 12, 2025

9:00 A.M. - 3:00 P.M.

FREE EVENT - LUNCH INCLUDED

VAN BUREN CONFERENCE CENTER

490 S PAW PAW ST.

LAWRENCE, MI 49064

RUP Credits
MAEAP Phase I Credit

BREAKOUT SESSIONS

	GRAIN	PERENNIAL	LIVESTOCK
10:40 AM	Slugs in High Residue Systems John Tooker, Penn State University	Managing Invasives on Your Farm and Forest Abbie Bristol, VBCD	Grass -Finishing Livestock Jeremy Sweeten, Understanding Ag
12:50 PM	Managing Low Profitability Zones on the Farm Jason Stegink, Wide Angle Agriculture	Regenerative Ag for Specialty Crops Jeremy Sweeten, Understanding Ag	Diversified Markets & Sheep Rotational Grazing Kalli & Matt Hensley, Hoddinott Acres Farms
2:00 PM	Farmer Perspective: Profitable Conservation Marc Hasenick, Hasenick Farms	Converting Unproductive Ground into Pollinator Habitat Brook Wilke, KBS LTAR	Starting from Scratch: A Grass-Fed Beef Journey Bob and Rob Egly, Egly Land and Cattle

9:00 AM - 3:00 PM, MARCH 12, 2025
REGISTER ONLINE: [VANBURENCD.ORG/FFF-2025](https://vanburencd.org/fff-2025)
QUESTIONS? CALL 269-657-4030 x3093

MSU Extension Scouting School 2025 to Be Held in Southwest Michigan

MSU Extension Scouting School will be held in SW MI in 2025. This is the second year of the program, and it will rotate locations in Michigan each year. Don't miss having it so close by this upcoming year! For more information or to register, [click here](#). Reach out to me (Nicolle Ritchie, ritchi67@msu.edu or 269-858-8739) with questions.



Oh Deer!

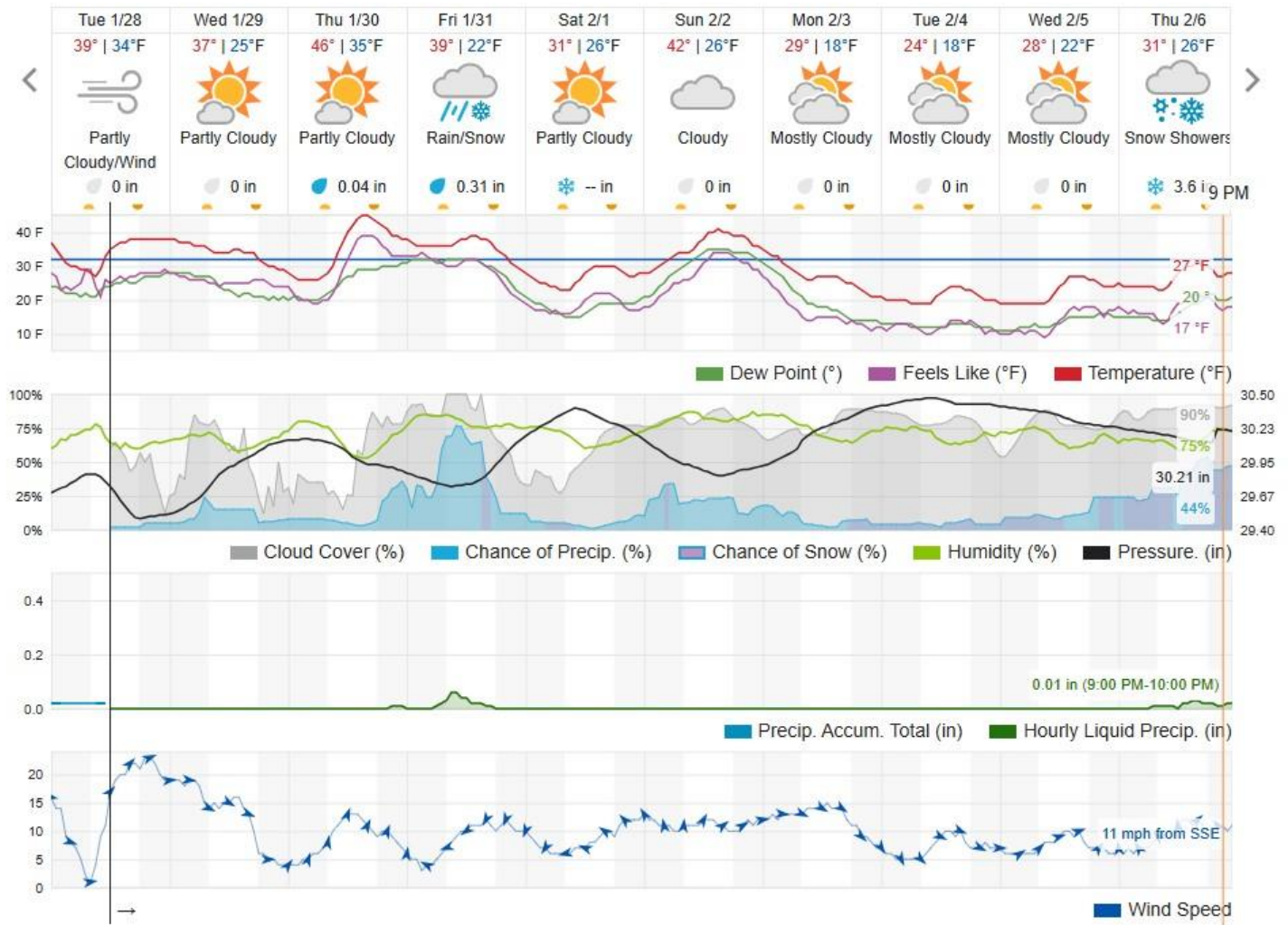
Every year, deer are a major pest of soybeans and corn. Field edges bordering woods are especially high-risk for deer damage. The soybean plants shown here were heavily grazed by deer all summer long. This photo was taken at the very end of July. Unfortunately, there is no easy solution out there for managing deer or for evaluating deer damage. If you're attending the Great Lakes Crop Summit this week, consider attending the Thursday afternoon session on deer damage management for more in-depth information. For now, here is a short summary of some of the deer research taking place and options for you to manage deer populations.



- 1. Local On-Farm Research:** I am working with a group of MSU Extension educators to place deer exclusion cages in soybean fields throughout Michigan. The purpose of this project is to evaluate how well the cages can quantify deer damage, how practical they are for the average user, etc. We have requested funding to have a total of 4 deer exclusion cages in southwest Michigan—1 cage in each of the following counties: Branch, Cass, St. Joseph, and Van Buren. We haven't received confirmation of funding yet, so more details to come. If this sounds like a project you're interested in learning more about or potentially hosting, feel free to reach out to me, and I'll send you further information and/or updates as they come.
- 2. Deer Repellent Research:** Research in northern Michigan in 2019 evaluated two deer repellants. More information on the project and the results can be accessed [here](#). Since then, other product evaluations have occurred. Although the results are not published yet, an evaluation began in 2024 for a sheep fat based product that may show promise.
- 3. Hunt Michigan Collaborative Farm Tours:** The following was taken from a Farm Tour flyer. "The Hunt Michigan Collaborative (HMC) Farm Tour is in partnership with several organizations, including the National Deer Association (NDA) who covers the liability of the farmer, hunter, and guide. Farm Tour Hunts help farmers reduce crop damage by connecting new and seasoned hunters to the opportunity to hunt farms to harvest antlerless deer through organized hunts led by Hunt Leaders." Check out the [Hunt MI Collaborative website](#), email admin@huntmicollaborative.com, or call 517-861-6197 for more information.
- 4. Deer depredation permits and Deer Management Assistance Permits (DMAP):** This is probably old news to most of you, but there are some permits available for reducing deer populations. Deer depredation permits allow for hunting outside of the normal deer hunting seasons for the purpose of reducing agricultural or horticultural damage. DMAPs can be purchased by the landowner and used during the usual deer hunting season. They can be moved from one hunter to another and do not apply to an individual hunter's seasonal limits. For more detailed information about reducing deer populations, check out [this article](#) or contact the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR).

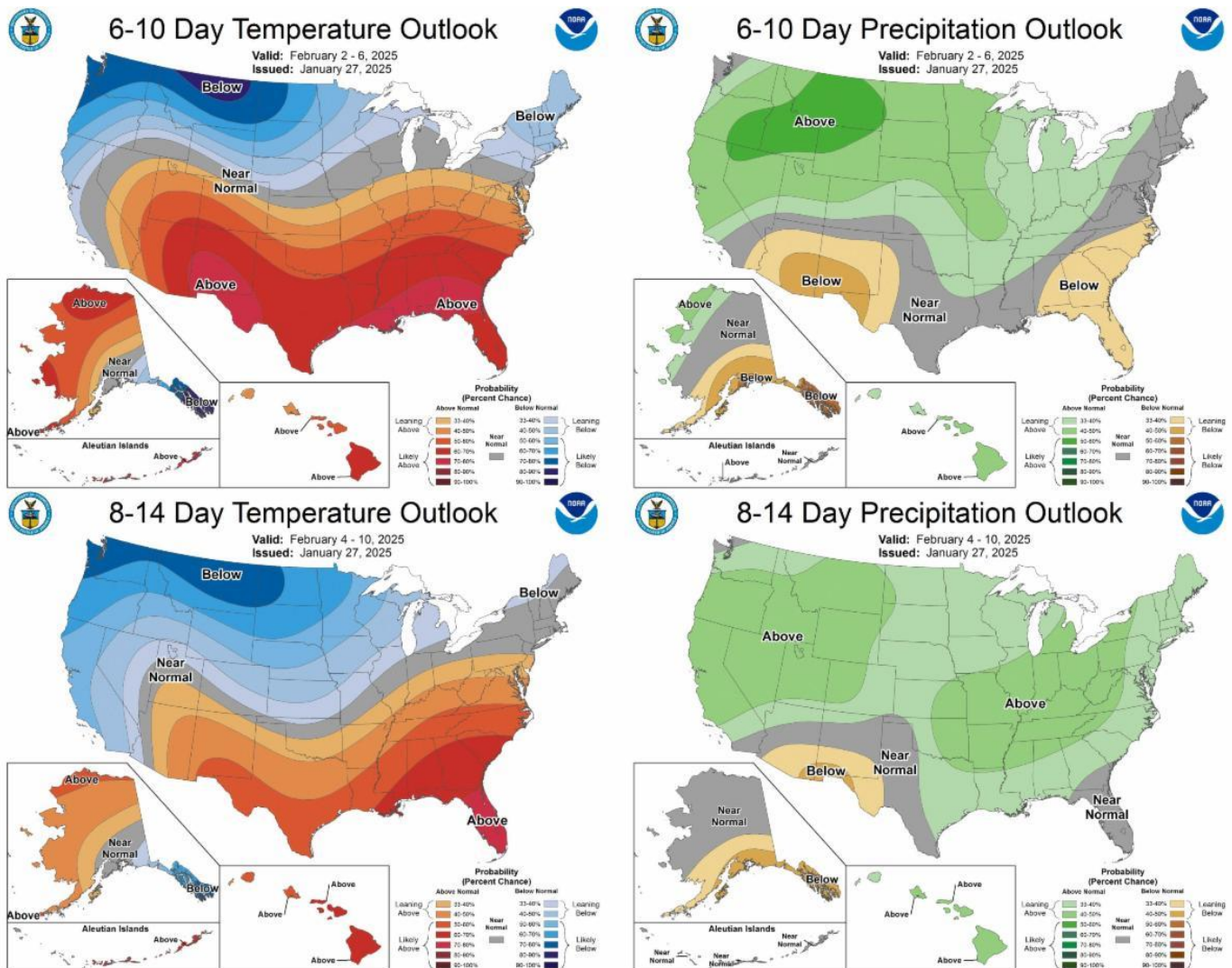
Weather Update

January was a cold month with several days of sub-zero temperatures and even lower windchills. We received a fair bit of snow as well. Snow can act to insulate the ground from cold temperatures and keep it from freezing, but in most cases, the ground is well-frozen throughout southwest Michigan, which is encouraging for reducing insect and pathogen pressures come spring. After the bitter cold, the sun has come out more, and the temperatures have risen to be closer to freezing. In the upcoming week, highs will be above freezing in many areas and even into the 40s if the forecast holds. The end of the next week holds potential for heavy snowfall.



Ten-day weather forecast for Kalamazoo according to wunderground.com.

Southwest Michigan Field Crops Update – February 2025 - 7



The 6-10 day (Feb. 2-6, top) and 8-14 day (Feb. 4-10, bottom) outlooks for temperature (left) and precipitation (right).

Calendar

[Note: Titles are clickable links to online content when highlighted and underlined.]

- Feb 3** [Field Crops Webinar: New Corn Planting Strategies.](#) 7-8 pm. Hear from Manni Singh, MSU associate professor of cropping systems agronomy, and Dan Quinn, Purdue assistant professor of agronomy and extension corn specialist, about what's new with corn. **1 RUP, 1 CCA**
- Feb 5** [2025 SW MI Crop and Pest Management Update.](#) 9:00 am- 3:00 pm. Dowagiac Conservation Club, 54551 M-51 North, Dowagiac, MI 49047. Hear MSU Extension specialists present the latest recommendations for managing weeds, diseases, insects, and nematodes and receive a copy of the updated bulletin E-434 "Weed Control Guide for Field Crops". Cost: \$40. **3 RUP, 3.5 CCA**
- Feb 6** [2025 Cultivating Resilience Winter Conference.](#) 8:30 am- 2:30 pm. The Pinnacle Center, 3330 Highland Dr, Hudsonville, MI 49426. This event is a day of learning and networking for the agricultural community, allowing West Michigan farmers to discover proven strategies to boost soil health and protect your land for future generations. Free.
- Feb 6** [Farmer's Ag and Chats.](#) 9:00 - 11:00 am. Gratiot County MSU Extension Office, 219 N State St, Alma, MI 48801. These Farmer's Ag and Chats events allow you to get out of the house, get some coffee and doughnuts, and spend some time with others experiencing similar things. Free.

Southwest Michigan Field Crops Update – February 2025 - 8

- Feb 10** [Field Crops Webinar: Economic Considerations of Wheat Production.](#) 7-8 pm. Hear from Dennis Pennington, MSU Extension wheat specialist, and Chad Grote, precision agronomist at Advanced Agrilytics, about increasing wheat profitability. Cost: \$20 for entire series. **1 RUP, 1 CCA**
- Feb 11** [2025 Farm Bill Commodity Program #2 - Farm Policy and Risk Management Series.](#) 6:30 - 8:00 pm. These sessions will help agricultural producers explore their options for 2025 Farm Bill commodity programs. Online via Zoom. *Note: these sessions are contingent on existence of commodity programs based on passage of a new Farm Bill or extension of the 2018 Farm Bill.*
- Feb 13** [Hay Production 101: Hay Industry Overview; Matching Hay Species to Farm Goals.](#) 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Hay Production 101 is designed for participants to build a foundation of knowledge about growing hay. Online via Zoom. Cost: \$85 for the entire series.
- Feb 17** [Branch County Farmers Day Educational Sessions.](#) 8am-12pm. Branch Area Career Center, Coldwater. These sessions will focus on different aspects of field crops management. **Up to 3 RUP credits available**
- Feb 17** [Pesticide Applicator Core Review and MDARD Core Testing.](#) 8am-5pm. Branch Area Career Center, Coldwater. Cost is \$25 for morning training payable to MSU, cost for testing dependent on license type. Morning training session is required before afternoon testing, only core and standards exams (no commercial categories) offered. Other locations and dates available. Register online. **4 RUP**
- Feb 17** [Field Crops Webinar: Weather Variability.](#) 7-8 pm. Hear from Jeff Andersen, MSU professor and state climatologist for Michigan, about what weather variability means for you and your farm. Cost: \$20 for entire series. **1 RUP, 1 CCA**
- Feb 18** [Farmer's Ag and Chats.](#) 9:00 - 11:00 am. Gratiot County MSU Extension Office, 219 N State St, Alma, MI 48801. These Farmer's Ag and Chats events allow you to get out of the house, get some coffee and doughnuts, and spend some time with others experiencing similar things. Free.
- Feb 20** [Hay Production 101: Soil Fertility and Health Management.](#) 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Hay Production 101 is designed for participants to build a foundation of knowledge about growing hay. Online via Zoom. Cost: \$85 for the entire series.
- Feb 24** [Farmer's Ag and Chats.](#) 9:00 - 11:00 am. Gratiot County MSU Extension Office, 219 N State St, Alma, MI 48801. These Farmer's Ag and Chats events allow you to get out of the house, get some coffee and doughnuts, and spend some time with others experiencing similar things. Free.
- Feb 24-Mar 7** [MI Ag Ideas to Grow With.](#) This two-week educational experience features a variety of tracks focused on livestock production, fruit and vegetable production, crop production, beginning farmers, irrigation and drainage, farm stress, the environment, and community food systems. Online via Zoom. Free.
- Feb 24** [Field Crops Webinar: Harvest Timing Considerations for Alfalfa.](#) 7-8 pm. Hear from Kim Cassida, MSU associate professor and Extension specialist of forages and cover crops, and Scott Newell, University of Wisconsin-Madison Extension alfalfa outreach specialist, about timing alfalfa harvest. Cost: \$20 for entire series. **1 RUP, 1 CCA**
- Feb 25** [Hay Production 101: Field Establishment & Renovation.](#) 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Hay Production 101 is designed for participants to build a foundation of knowledge about growing hay. Online via Zoom. Cost: \$85 for the entire series.

Southwest Michigan Field Crops Update – February 2025 - 9

- Feb 27** [Hay Production 101: Harvest & Post-Harvest Management](#). 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Hay Production 101 is designed for participants to build a foundation of knowledge about growing hay. Online via Zoom. Cost: \$85 for the entire series.
- Mar 3** [Field Crops Webinar: Soil Structure/Tillage](#). 7-8 pm. Hear from Ian McDonald, crop innovation specialist at Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs (OMAFRA), and Alex Barrie, soil management engineer at OMAFRA, about reducing and repairing soil damage. Cost: \$20 for entire series. **1 RUP, 1 CCA**
- Mar 4** [Hay Production 101: Cost of Production & Marketing](#). 7:00 - 8:30 pm. Hay Production 101 is designed for participants to build a foundation of knowledge about growing hay. Online via Zoom. Cost: \$85 for the entire series.
- Mar 4-6** [2025 Drainage Workshop](#). Farall Ag Engineering Hall, East Lansing. Understand drainage with user-friendly online tools and hands-on exercises. Learn to make contour maps with the QGIS free user-friendly software and export the contours to your GPS design and machine software. View a live demonstration of properly connecting a lateral to a main pipe. And more! Cost is \$210 by Feb 10 or \$300 after.
- Mar 5** [Michiana Irrigated Corn and Soybean Conference](#). 8am-4pm. Elkhart County Fairgrounds Ag Hall, 17746 County Rd 34, Goshen, IN. This conference will address water use and its effect on nutrient, weed and disease management in corn and soybeans for growers around the Michigan-Indiana state line. Cost: \$25 if registered by Feb 25, otherwise \$35. **3 Michigan RUP, 4.5 CCA**
- Mar 6** [MI Ag Ideas Field Crops Sessions](#). 8am-12pm. Online via Zoom. Join us for field sleuthing stories and crop diagnostics. Spoiler: not all mysteries can be solved. Free.
- Mar 10** [Field Crops Webinar: New Technologies and Trends in Weed Control](#). 7-8 pm. Hear from Christy Sprague, MSU professor of weed science, and Bryan Young, Purdue weed science professor, about ways to minimize off-target herbicide application. Cost: \$20 for entire series. **1 CCA**
- Mar 12** [Farming for the Future 2025](#). 9 am-3 pm. Van Buren Conference Center. Farming for the Future is an annual educational event for local farmers and is a great opportunity to learn from agricultural specialists, educators, researchers, businesses, and other farmers. This event is free but pre-registration is required, and space is limited. Please register by March 7.
- Mar 17** [Field Crops Webinar: Grain Marketing](#). 7-8 pm. Hear from Molly Sears, assistant professor in the MSU Department of Agricultural, Food, and Resource Economics, and John LaPorte, MSU Extension farm management educator, about grain marketing. Cost: \$20 for entire series. **1 RUP, 1 CCA**
- Mar 22** [SW MI Farm Bureau Chili Cook-Off](#). 4pm. Griner Farms in Jones. Enjoy the evening sampling chili recipes, networking with other Farm Bureau members from the area, and raising money for Harvest for All to support food security in our local communities. \$10/person.
- Mar 24** [Field Crops Webinar: Disease Update](#). 7-8 pm. Hear from Marty Chilvers, MSU associate professor in field crop pathology, and a mystery guest about what's new in field crops diseases. Cost: \$20 for entire series. **1 RUP, 1 CCA**
- Mar 26** [Pesticide Applicator Core Review and MDARD Core Testing](#). 8am-5pm. GreenMark Equipment, Three Rivers. Cost is \$25 for morning training payable to MSU, cost for testing dependent on license type. Morning training session is required before afternoon testing, only core and standards exams (no commercial categories) offered. Other locations and dates available. Register online. **4 RUP**

MSU Extension Digest Briefs

Published on January 27, 2025

- [Fifth annual MI Ag Ideas to Grow With virtual conference focuses on food and animal production](#) - A virtual experience offering 40 educational sessions with knowledge and resources for farmers, landowners and those interested in food and agricultural production.

Published on January 24, 2025

- [Field crops soil fertility and nutrient management training March 20 in Clinton County](#) - This event offers a deeper dive into soil fertility and nutrient management. Five nutrient management CCA credits are available.
- [Boost your farm or food business: Online grant writing course now available](#) - This free course is self-paced and available online to provide food and farm business owners with a better understanding of the grant writing process.

Published on January 22, 2025

- [Online Hay Production 101 short course is back by popular demand in 2025](#) - Join our team of Michigan State University Extension specialists and educators online in February and March to learn the ins and outs of growing, harvesting and marketing your hay crop.

Published on January 21, 2025

- [Central Michigan Farmer's Ag and Chats: Coffee, doughnuts and listening ears](#) - Markets are low in field crops. Opportunities to visit and vent are offered throughout February in Alma, Michigan.
- [MI Ag Ideas to Grow With webinar highlights mysteries from the field on March 6](#) - Improve your field crops sleuthing skills! Hear from MSU Extension educators about what stumped them in 2024 and the tools they used to figure it out.

Published on January 17, 2025

- [Soybean and wheat seed selection highlighted in newest MSU Extension bulletins](#) - New resources available from MSU Extension's DEMaND series.

Published on January 16, 2025

- [Bulletin E-3505 How to Read a Seed Guide \(Wheat Edition\)](#) - Discussed in this document are definitions and explanations of the types of information you will likely find mentioned across most wheat seed guides.
- [Bulletin E-3431 How to Read a Seed Guide \(Soybean Edition\)](#) - Discussed in this document are definitions and explanations of the types of information you will likely find mentioned across most soybean seed guides.
- [MSU Extension Field Crops Webinar Series returns February 2025](#) - The Field Crops Webinar Series is offered for eight weeks to help prepare for the 2025 growing season.

Published on January 15, 2025

- [The crops don't stop \(at state lines\)](#) - The Michiana Irrigated Corn and Soybean Conference on March 5 will help growers and agribusiness professionals improve fields crops and irrigation management. Three Michigan RUP, 4.5 CCA and Indiana PARP and CCH credits are available.
- [Branch County Farmers Day February 17](#) - The Branch County Farmers Day will feature two simultaneous but separate events: field crops educational sessions and in-person pesticide applicator testing. RUP and CCA credits available.
- [Southeast Michigan Crop and Pest Management Update held in Hillsdale on February 20](#) - Hear from Michigan State University and Ohio State University specialists, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, and get the latest MSU Weed Control Guide for Field Crops.

Southwest Michigan Field Crops Update – February 2025 - 11

Published on January 14, 2025

- [Precision agriculture: Technologies and strategies in today's world](#) - Today's farm is vastly different than those of 30-50 years ago. With advancements in technology, proper utilization can lead to innovations that significantly boost productivity and profitability.
- [MSU Extension and USDA need your feedback on a new resource for farm producers](#) - The Beginning Farmer Resource and Decision Making Guide is a jointly created resource in the works for new farm managers and beginning farmers.
- [Spotted lanternfly resources from MSU Extension](#) - Learn about this invasive species with these publications by the experts at Michigan State University.

Published on January 09, 2025

- [Lessons From Long Term Research: Comparing No-Till to Conventional Tillage Over 30 years](#) - Long-term research on no-till systems at the KBS LTER offers valuable insights into the effects of this practice, which may help address some of the uncertainties surrounding no-till.
- [Passing the torch: Farm transition planning in Northern Michigan](#) - Join MSU Extension in Traverse City on February 13, 2025, for a free day-long seminar on farm succession planning.

Published on January 08, 2025

- [Michigan State University Extension to host Planning for Profit Workshop for farmers](#) - Michigan State University Extension will host a two-day workshop focused on budgeting and marketing in order to maximize producer profit.
- [Michigan Wheat Program preparing for annual Winter Grower Meeting](#) - The annual wheat meeting will take place February 25 at the Saginaw Valley Research and Extension Center.

Published on January 07, 2025

- [Register for 2025 Drainage Workshop offering design concepts to increase profit](#) - Register early for a 30% discount at the Michigan Drainage Workshop.
- [Field crop updates ahead for southwest Michigan](#) - Attend the Crop and Pest Management Update on Feb. 5 in Dowagiac. Local topics include a crop and soil fertility Q&A, weed control updates, how drainage can protect your crop and more. Three RUP credits available (private, 1A).

Nicolle Ritchie
Michigan State University Extension
Field Crops Educator - St. Joseph County
612 E. Main St., Centreville, MI 49032
(269) 858-8739 (Cell)
(269) 467-5510 (Extension Office)
ritchi67@msu.edu



Michigan State University is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer. Michigan State University Extension programs and materials are open to all without regard to race, color, national origin, gender, gender identity, religion, age, height, weight, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, marital status, family status or veteran status. Issued in furtherance of MSU Extension work, acts of May 8 and June 30, 1914, in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Quentin Tyler, Director, MSU Extension, East Lansing, MI 48824. This information is for educational purposes only. Reference to commercial products or trade names does not imply endorsement by MSU Extension or bias against those not mentioned. The 4-H Name and Emblem have special protections from Congress, protected by code 18 USC 707.