

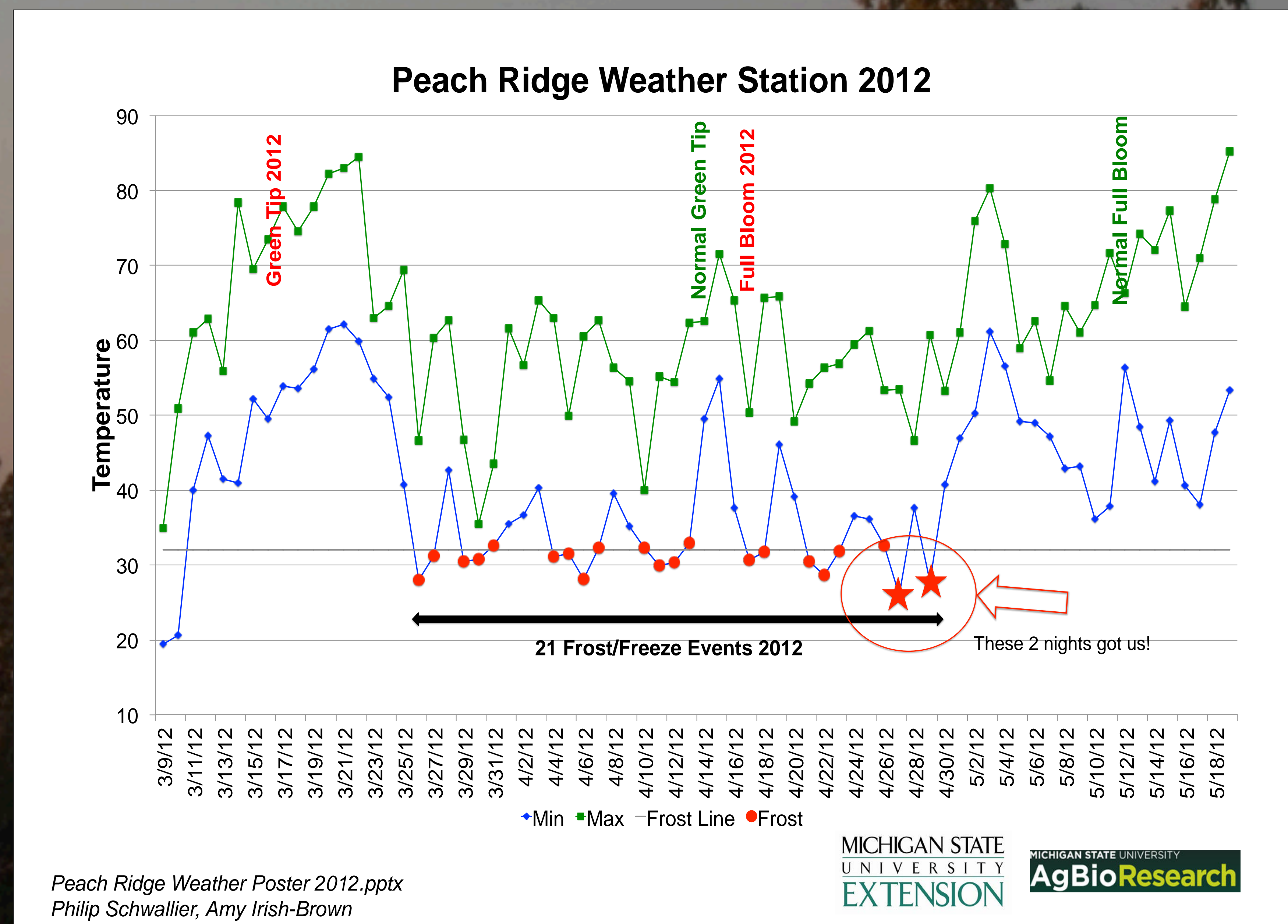
Weather 2012 on the Ridge

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Weather 2012

This 2012 season was surely a year growers will not forget no matter how much they want to or how hard they try. Back in 2011 trouble started with a warm fall and that warm trend continued all through the winter. The warm month of March set us up for the killing frosts in April. Warm March temperatures advanced the budding out of the fruit trees. The green tip apple growth stage occurred on 3/15/2012, a full 30 days ahead of normal. Apple full bloom stage followed suite and occurred on 4/16/2012, a full 25 days ahead of normal. The very sensitive bloom stage was completely covered by multiple frost/freeze events (21 in all). Fruit buds did quite well under the stress of multiple frost events until the last 2 events on April 27 and April 29 when minimum temperatures dropped to the mid and low twenties, just too cold for the blossoms. Numerous fruit blocks across the area and state were devastated. Michigan ended up with a 15% crop, which had not happen since 5% crop of 1945 when the same type weather occurred.



Peach Ridge Weather Poster 2012.pptx
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