



2025 Minnesota Fruit & Vegetable Expo Program Book

January 9-10, 2025 | Pahl Farms Apple Valley

mfvga.org



MFV Expo **SPONSORS**



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How did we do? **Online Post-Conference Survey**

Thank you for attending the 2025 Minnesota Fruit & Vegetable Expo! We will follow-up after the conference by email to request your feedback on our post-conference survey. Your feedback is confidential and will help us better plan for the 2026 MFV Expo.

- Minnesota Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association





2025 MFV Expo **SCHEDULE**



Thursday, January 9, 2025

8:00 AM - 5:00 PM	Trade Show Open	
9 AM - 11:30 AM	Berry/Small Fruit Production 1	Lauer House #1
9 AM - 11:30 AM	Marketing	Lauer House #2
9 AM - 11:30 AM	Systems of Machinery	TBD
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Round Table with MN Agriculture Commissioner Thom Peterson	Head House #1
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Break to lunch and trade show	Barn Area
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	GREENHOUSE TOUR	Meet by registration
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Pumpkins and Winter Squash	Head House #1
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	New Insects and Diseases	Lauer House
1:00 PM - 3:00 PM	Vegetable Production	Lauer House #2
3:30 PM - 4:30 PM	Crop Pesticide and Applicator Safety	Lauer House #1
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	SOIL AND PLANT HEALTH	Head House #1
3:30 PM - 5:00 PM	Minor Hardy Fruit Crops for MN	Lauer House #2
5:00 PM - 6:00 PM	Social Hour	Barn Area



Friday, January 10, 2025

8:00 AM - 1:30 PM	Trade Show Open	Barn Area
8 AM - 9:00 AM	MFVGA Annual Meeting	Barn Area
9 AM - 11:00 AM	Berries 2	Lauer House #1
9 AM - 11:30 AM	Food Safety	Lauer House #2
9:00 AM - 10:45 AM	Farm Profiles/Marketing	Head House #1
11:30 AM - 1:00 PM	Break to lunch and Trade Show	Barn Area
12:00 PM - 1:00 PM	Greenhouse Tours	Meet by registration
12:45 PM - 1:45 PM	Sweet Corn Production	Lauer House #1
1:30 PM	Trade show concludes	
1:00 PM - 2:30 PM	Risk Management In Fruits and Vegetables	TBD
1:00 PM - 2:00 PM	The World of Drones in Agriculture	Head House #1



ROOM LOCATIONS

Berry/ Small Fruit Production

Moderator: Kevin Edberg

9:00 am - 10:00 am

- 2024 in review - Audience Participation - Kevin Edberg

Lauer House #1

10:00 am - 11:00 am

- Investing High Density Strawberry Production in Affordable Controlled Environmental Structures- Andy Petran Twin City Berry Company

Lauer House #1

11:00 am - 11:30 am

- SWD Updates- A nightmare in 2024, Mary Rogers and Madeline Wimmer

Lauer House #1

11:00 am - 11:30 am

- Advances in fungicides

Marketing

Moderator: Rick Abrahamson

9:00 am - 10:00 am

- Whose Buying Local? - Mallory Forsyth and Rachel Wandrel, MN Grown

Lauer House #2

10:00 am - 11:00 am

- Getting Media Coverage For Your Farm- Mallory Forsyth and Rachel Wandrel, MN Grown

Lauer House #2

11:00 am - 11:30 am

- Selecting Crops for Farm to School and other Wholesale Markets- Profitability and Planning- Natalie Hodial, Ryan Pesch, Chengyan Yue, Uma Parasuram, Manlin Cui

Lauer House #2

Systems of Machinery for any Scale with focus on Weed Control

Moderator: Tom Gregor

9:00 am- 11:30 am

- Sam Oschwald Tilton, Glacial Drift will present this full morning session will go into detail on weed control machinery and how to use them, from smallest to the largest. Come and go anytime during the session.

TBD

Round Table With Minnesota Agriculture Commissioner, Thom Peterson.

Host: Dave Nathe/MFVGA Members

11:30 am - 1:00 pm

- Round table and informal chats with Commissioner Thom Peterson

Head House #1

11:30- 1:00 Break to the trade show and lunch

Greenhouse tour- Info available at registration desk

Tour guide- Pahl Farms

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

- Guided group tour of greenhouse operations

Registration desk

Pumpkins and Winter Squash

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

- Pumpkins, Squash, and Gourds- Growing Heirloom Varieties- John and Jenny Thull

Head House #1

2:00 pm - 2:30 pm

- How to not waste space between pumpkin rows- Charlie Rohwer

Head House #1

2:30 pm - 3:00 pm

- Preserving Quality of Pumpkin Stems- Best Practices.- Grower Participation

Head House #1



THURSDAY

ROOM LOCATIONS

Keeping a Watchful Eye on New Insects and Diseases in High Tunnels and Field Production

Moderator: *Ron Branch*

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

- **New and Exciting insects and Diseases in Fruits and Vegetables-** Michelle Grabowski, MN Department of Agriculture

Lauer House #1

2:00 pm - 2:30 pm

- **High Tunnel Year in Review-** Terrance Nennich

Lauer House #1

2:30 pm - 3:00 pm

- **Insect and Disease Monitoring-** Micheelle Grabowski

Lauer House #1

Vegetable Production

Moderator: *Dave Nathe and Gary Pahl*

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

- **Vegetable Production Year in Review-** MFVGA Board

Lauer House #2

2:00 pm - 2:30 pm

- **Sprouting Broccoli Varieties-** Cindy Tong

Lauer House #2

2:30 pm - 3:00 pm

- **Aster Yellows in Garlic Production -** Carl Rosen and Cindy Tong

Lauer House #2

3:00 pm - 3:30 pm

- **Advances in Pre and Post Harvest Handling Techniques-** Cindy Tong

Lauer House #2

3:00-3:30 Break To Trade Show

Soil and Plant Health

Moderator: *Rick Abrahamson*

3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

- **Micronutrients in Vegetable Production-** Carl Rosen

Head House #1

4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

- **Tissue and Sap Testing-** Midwest Labs

Head House #1

4:30 pm - 5:00 pm

- **Fertilizing After the Floods-** Carl Rosen

Head House #1

Crop, Pesticide and Applicator Safety

3:30 pm - 4:00 pm

- **Whats all this about HRAC Codes in selecting crop protectants?**

Lauer House #1

4:00 pm - 4:30 pm

- **Private Pesticide Applicator Training Updates for 2025**

Lauer House #1

Minor Hardy Fruit Crops for Minnesota. What to Grow and How.

Moderator: *TBD*

3:30 pm - 5:00 pm

- **Josta Berries, Gogiberries, Currents, Gooseberries, Saskatoon, Elderberry and Kiwi-** Honeyberry USA

Lauer House #2

Social Hour 5:00-6:00 Barn Area

Entrance area



FRIDAY

ROOM LOCATIONS

Berries 2

Moderator: Terrance Nennich

9:00 am - 9:30 am

- Honeyberry Production for Beginners - Honeyberry USA

Lauer House #1

9:30 am - 10:00 am

- Incorporating Fruit Crops into Diverse Vegetable Growing Operations

Lauer House #1

10:00 am - 10:30 am

- Advanced Honeyberry Production- Honeyberry USA

Lauer House #1

10:30 am - 11:00 am

- Rhubarb Production from Planting to Harvest- Dave Nathe, Riverside Farms

Lauer House #1

Food Safety

Moderator: Gary Pahl

9:00 am - 10:00 am

- Food Safety Modernization Act Updates (FSMA)- Annalisa Hultberg, U of M Extension and Nichole Baysal, MN Dept. of Agriculture

Lauer House #2

10:00 am - 11:00 am

- Spray Drift, Prevention, and Consequences- a major problem in specialty crop production.- Christine Wicks, MN Dept. of Agriculture

Lauer House #2

Farm Profiles/ Marketing

Moderator: Janssen Hang

9:00 am- 10:00 am

- Farm Profile- Frootz Farms

Head House #1

10:00 am- 10:45 am

- TBD

Head House #1

Greenhouse Tours- Info available at registration desk

Tour guide: Pahl Farms

12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

- Guided group tour of greenhouse operations

Head House #1

Risk Management in Fruits and Vegetables

Moderator: Erick Heimark

1:00 pm - 1:30 pm

- Whole Farm Income Protection- Farm Service Agency, USDA

TBD

1:30 pm - 2:00 pm

- Crop Insurance Operations for Specialty Crops- Kevin Begin, Begin Insurance

TBD

2:00 pm - 2:30 pm

- Predator Control Options, Department of Natural Resources- Brandon Kaiser, DNR

TBD

The World of Drones in Agriculture

Moderator: Tom Gregor

1:00 pm - 2:00 pm

- Drones in Specialty Crop Production from Picture Taking to Crop Protection Applications- Bear Bouwman, AeriAll Spray and Survey

Head House #1

Sweet Corn Production

Moderator: Gary Pahl

12:45 pm - 1:15 pm

- Evaluating tools to manage tar-spot in Sweet Corn- Ananda Gevens, University of Wisconsin

Lauer House #1

1:15 pm - 1:45 pm

- Latest Information for Corn Earworm, Trapping Data, BT Resistance, Efficacy Trials- Dr. Bill Hutchinson and Dr. Fie Yang U of M

Lauer House #1



MFV Expo **EXHIBITORS**

- AeriAll Spray and Survey
- Ag Resources
- All Solar Energy
- Carlin
- Compeer
- DNR Wildlife
- Edney Distribution
- Frootz Plantz
- Glacier Valley
- Honeyberry USA
- Midwest Fence
- MN Dept of Plant Protection
- MN Dept of Solar and Industry
- Prographic
- Rispen Seeds
- Prographics
- Rupp Seeds
- Stillwater Greenhouse
- Stokes Seeds
- Tenacity Ag.
- USDA Farm Services
- WestRock

