

66th ANNUAL IFTA CONFERENCE AND TOURS

RESILIENCY - *Adapting and Thriving in a Challenging Future*

Grand Rapids, MI - Schedule of Events

SUNDAY, FEBRUARY 12

4:00 PM **Welcome Reception hosted by Young Professionals**

MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13

Morning Session:

Taking Stock of Future Challenges

8:00 AM **Welcome** - *Jim Engelsma, IFTA Board Member*

8:05 2022 Regional Round-Up, IFTA Board

8:25 The Changing Climate, Dr. Jeff Andresen, MSU Geography

8:55 The Dynamic Markets

9:25 Farm Labor in the 2020's, Dr. Philip Martin, UC Davis and Dr. Zach Rutledge, MSU

9:55 Panel Q&A - Speakers and Audience

10:10 **Break**

Taking Stock of Future Varieties

10:35 Robert Carlson Lecture: The Heritage of Honeycrisp
- Dr. Jim Luby, University of Minnesota

11:10 Fruit Flavor Profiles, Dr. Emily Mayhew, MSU Food Science

11:30 Intricacies of Peach Fruit Texture, Dr. Ksenija Gasic, Clemson University

11:50 Growing Evercrisp, Moderator: Bill Pitts, Grower Panel

12:15 Morning Wrap-Up

12:20 – 1:20 **Lunch**



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MONDAY, FEBRUARY 13 (Cont.)

Afternoon Session:

Taking Stock of Future Rootstocks

- 1:20** Wallace Heuser Presidential Lecture: Matching Apple Rootstocks to Cultivars
- Dr. Rich Marini, Penn State University
- 2:00** NC140 Cherry Rootstock "lightning" Update, Dr. Greg Lang, MSU
- 2:10** NC140 Pear Rootstock "lightning" Update, Dr. Todd Einhorn, WSU
- 2:20** Apple Rootstock Nursery Perspective, Panel
- 3:00** Speaker / Panel Q&A
- 3:20** **Break**

Maintaining a Productive Efficient Orchard

- 3:50** Introduction to Session, Jim Engelsma, Moderator
- 3:55** Multileader Apple and Pear Systems, Dr. Todd Einhorn, MSU
- 4:20** Light and Kordia Sweet Cherry Fruit Quality on Krymsk 5 in 2D and Steep Leader Systems in Tasmania, Multileader Cherry Systems, Dr. Dugald Close, University of Tasmania
- 4:35** Multileader Peach Systems, Dr. Greg Lang, MSU
- 4:45** Multileader Training Systems - Young Growers Panel
- 5:30** Afternoon Wrap-Up - Amy Irish-Brown
- 6:30 - 9:30** **Social Event 2023 - IFTA / MI Pomesters / MAIA**

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14

8:00 AM to 5:00 PM

Orchard Tours

Buses begin boarding at 7:30 and leave promptly at 8:00

6:30 PM to 8:30 PM

Women's Network Event (ticketed event)

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WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 15

Maintaining a Healthy Resilient Orchard

- 8:00** **Welcome**
- 8:05** Building Dynamic Soil Biodiversity, Christie Lee Apple, CropScout
- 8:35** Orchard Irrigation, Dr. Brunella Morandi, University of Bologna
- 8:55** Tree Fruit Nutrition, Dr. Lee Kalcsits, Washington State University
- 9:25** Bacteriophages / Biopesticides, Dr. George Sundin, MSU
- 9:55** Speaker Q&A
- 10:15** **Break**

Orchard Plant Growth Regulator Updates

- 10:45** Auxin and Bitter Pit, Dr. Todd Einhorn, MSU
- 11:05** Commercial Applications of Accede PGR: What We Have Learned So Far and Future Steps, Eric Ott, Valent
- 11:25** Retain/Harvista Grower Panel - Anna Wallis, Moderator
- 12:05** IFTA Awards and Business Meeting
- 12:30-1:30** **Lunch**

Taking Stock of Future Orchard Technologies

- 1:30** Orchard Protective Covers - Shade/Hail, Dr. Lee Kalcsits, WSU
- 1:55** Self-Ventilating Rain Cover Effects on Orchard Microclimate and Sweet Cherry Tree Water Use and Fruit Quality, Dr. Dugald Close, UTAS
- 2:20** Orchard Covering Systems Panel, Greg Lang, Moderator
 Justin Finkler, Riveridge - Richard Vollebregt, Cravo - Mark DeKleine, Trell-X
- 3:00** **Break**
- 3:30** WTFRC Technology Updates, Jeff Cleveringa, Starr Ranch, WTFRC
- 4:00** Smart Weed Sprayers, Dr. Sushila Chaudhiri, MSU
- 4:15** PACMAN - **P**recision **A**pple **C**ropload **MAN**agement, An SCRI Project Update, Dr. Terence Robinson, Cornell University
- 4:45** Cropload Technology Grower Panel, Anna Wallis, Moderator
 Jamie Kober, Riveridge - Liz Pauls, Wittenbach Orchards - Dan Zemaitis, LTI
- 5:15** **Conference Wrap-Up** - *Upcoming IFTA Study Tours and Conference*

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