Fruit Update - 9/16/24

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2024 New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference

December 17, 18, 19, 2024

Manchester, New Hampshire

at the DoubleTree by Hilton Downtown

REGISTER HERE

Contacts:

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New England Vegetable and Fruit Conference and Trade Show Set for December 17-19, 2024

The New England Vegetable and Fruit Conference and Trade Show will take place on December 17, 18, and 19 at the Doubletree by Hilton Manchester Downtown in Manchester, NH. The event will feature 30 educational sessions over three days, focusing on key topics related to vegetable, berry, and tree fruit crops. Sessions will also cover special topics such as climate resiliency, winter growing, labor management, and cut flower production. The popular "Farmer-to-Farmer" information-sharing sessions will bring speakers and farmers together for informal, in-depth discussions on timely issues of interest to growers. The conference also includes an extensive Trade Show with over 150 exhibitors, a poster session showcasing student research, and social mixers to encourage networking among attendees.

The educational program runs across three days, with five concurrent sessions held each morning and afternoon.

<u>Tuesday, December 17</u>: Sessions will cover sweet corn, strawberries, apples, cut flowers, cucurbits, stone fruit, organic production, equipment, and vegetable technology.

<u>Wednesday</u>, <u>December 18</u>: Topics include climate resiliency, specialty fruits and vegetables, leafy greens, post-harvest handling, reduced tillage, and more.

Thursday, December 19: Sessions will focus on tomatoes, winter growing, blueberries, protected culture, marketing, agricultural labor, and more.

Special sessions include tax preparation for farmers, farm succession planning with Land For Good, WPS train-the-trainer certification, and fourteen farmer-to-farmer sessions.

The steering committee has curated a lineup of expert speakers from both the region and across the country to present the latest innovations and advancements in local fruit and vegetable production and sales. Attendees will have the opportunity to connect with fellow growers, advisors, researchers, and industry representatives, and leave with new ideas and information that can positively impact their farms.

Registration Information

- **Pre-registration fee:** \$115 per person; \$50 for students (high school or college). Students must show a valid student ID when picking up their registration packet.
- **Deadline:** Pre-registration must be completed by November 30, 2024. After this date, the fee increases to \$145 (\$70 for students). Late or walk-in registration is \$160.
- Accommodations: Overnight stays at the Doubletree are available at \$142 per night. To book, call 603-625-1000 and mention the event, or visit <u>Accommodation Information</u>. Additional local accommodation options at a variety of price points can be found <u>here</u>.
- Assistance: For physical, language, or financial assistance, please contact Olivia Saunders at 603-447-3834 or Olivia.Saunders@unh.edu at least three weeks prior to the event, and every effort will be made to accommodate your needs. A block of rooms is reserved for attendees requiring on-site accommodations for mobility reasons.

For more details, including online and downloadable registration materials, visit <u>New England Vegetable and Fruit Conference</u> website.

Sponsors

The event is Sponsored by the New England Vegetable & Berry Growers' Association and the Massachusetts Fruit Growers' Association in conjunction with the Universities of Connecticut, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island, and Vermont, as well as Cornell University, Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association and the Connecticut Agricultural Experiment Station.

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