

# VegNet *The Vegetable and Fruit Crops Teams Newsletter*

<http://vegnet.osu.edu>

**Editor: Brad Bergefurd**

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## **Tomato Grafting at South Centers**

*from Thom Harker, Research Assistant,  
OSU South Centers*

Participants of the high tunnel workshop Wednesday got the opportunity to try their hand at grafting tomato plants during a working lunch session. Matt Kleinhenz gave a short presentation on the process of cleft grafting. Then, participants worked with Matt Kleinhenz and Thom Harker to get some hands on grafting experience. After learning to graft, they made their way to the healing chamber to look at the chamber design and grafts that had been grafted the day before by OSU South Centers staff.



# 2014 Upcoming Events

- ♦ **May 22-** Strawberry Plasticulture Field Night, South Centers in Piketon (see p. 2 )
- ♦ **July 15-** Bramble, Blueberry and Wine Grape Field Night, South Centers in Piketon...details to come.

*To list your upcoming events in future additions of the VegNet newsletter, please send details to [bergefurd.1@osu.edu](mailto:bergefurd.1@osu.edu)*

## Wayne County Update

*from Rory Lewandowski, Extension Educator,  
Agriculture and Natural Resources*

The Wayne County IPM scouting program has started the 2014 season. Traps for codling moth were put out in orchards last week. At right is a photo of stage development on some apple trees as of April 24, 2014.



**Apple stage development.**

Photo by Rory Lewandowski

## Strawberry Plasticulture Field Night to be held on May 22

*from Charissa McGlothin, Program Assistant, Horticulture, Soil, Water, & BioEnergy*

Strawberry Plasticulture Field Night will be held at the OSU South Centers on Thursday, May 22, 2014 from 6 to 9 p.m. Plasticulture and matted-ow strawberry field research will be showcased. Topics to be covered will include: winter protection techniques, Israeli drip irrigation demonstration and management, row cover management, cultivar evaluations, pest and disease control, Spotted Wing Drosophila monitoring and trapping, and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) techniques. The cost to attend is \$15.00. Registration deadline is May 19th. To register for the workshop, please contact Charissa McGlothin at [mcglothin.4@osu.edu](mailto:mcglothin.4@osu.edu) or call 740.289.2071 ext. 132.



**Plasticulture Berries.**

Photo by Brad Bergefurd

# North Central Update

*from Timothy Malinich, Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources, Erie County*

This past week cool temperatures prevailed which kept crop development down to a slow pace. There are enough dry days between rains for orchards and fields to continue to dry. Fields are starting to get prepped. Initial cover sprays in orchards are underway.

## Crop Stage

Apples are at ½" green to tight cluster. Raspberries are budding out well in stark contrast to blackberries, where dead canes predominate. Hops bins are already 8" long for some varieties.

## Weed Control

Don't forget that many pre emergent herbicides require irrigation or rainfall for proper activation. Make note if the products you are using require irrigation and take advantage of some of our spring thunderstorms to provide the proper amount of moisture.



**Hops Bines**

Photo by Timothy Malinich

# South Centers Berry Update

*from Ryan Slaughter, Horticulture Research Assistant*

Summer and fall bearing raspberries were planted last week for variety trials and growing in tunnel vs. non-tunnel research. Some varieties are Joan J, Caroline, Heritage and Himbo Top. Blackberries in our winter injury study are showing differences among varieties. Although last winter was not good for our heating bills, it will be an excellent year to study winter hardiness among all fruit. Grape buds are beginning to emerge among a few varieties.



**GAJ Blackberry Continuing Emergence.**  
Photo by Ryan Slaughter



**Chambourcin Grape Bud Emergence**  
Photo by Ryan Slaughter



# Ohio High Tunnel Training a Huge Success

*from Brad Bergefurd, OSU Extension Educator, OSU Extension Scioto County and OSU South Centers*

A three-day advanced and beginner high tunnel training program was conducted in southern Ohio at the OSU Piketon Research & Extension Center April 28 to April 30. Farmers and Educators from throughout Ohio as well as Wisconsin participated in the in-depth training. High tunnel specialists from the Ohio State University, West Virginia University and the University of Kentucky taught the high tunnel program. The first day of training consisted of tours of high tunnel farms throughout Jackson, Hillsboro, Bainbridge, Cynthiana and Greenfield, Ohio. High tunnel crops observed and toured included colored bell peppers, tomatoes, lettuce and cucumbers. The highlight of the tour was a tour of a recently-constructed high tunnel that was



**A 45 foot wide by 400 foot long high tunnel was toured as part of the training this week.**

Photo by Brad Bergefurd

longer than the length of a football field at 400 feet long, 45 feet wide and 23 feet tall. The training also included an hands-on grafting workshop where participants learned how to graft tomato plants. From the participants evaluations received from after the training, another more in depth training on specific high tunnel topics will be planned for the future.



**High tunnel tomatoes in bloom at Hillsboro, Ohio.**

Photo by Brad Bergefurd



**Attendees of the training stop to eat lunch at the Bainbridge Produce Auction.**

Photo by Charissa McGlothlin

## Muck Crops Research Station Update

*from Robert (Bob) Filbrun, Assistant Manager, OARDC Muck Crops Research Station, Willard, Ohio*

Growers were able to make some forward progress with the warmer and drier conditions throughout last weekend. Ground preparation continued and sprayers continued to roll with “burn down” applications. Beds were “pulled up” for peppers in hopes of warmer days ahead. Most growers agree that we are at least three weeks behind schedule and soil temperatures are still hovering at or below 51 degrees F.

Progress slowed again Monday afternoon as rains entered the area. By Tuesday morning, over 1.4” of rainfall had fallen and all field work ceased.

## North Central Research Station Update

*from Matt Hofelich, Research Station Manager  
College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences North Central Agricultural Research Station*

This past week's (April 20-27) warmer and drier conditions allowed growers to hit the fields. Progress included broadcast fertilizer applications, tillage and bedding operations, as well as herbicide applications. Additionally early sweet corn was planted this past week but soil temperatures remain cool at 50 to 55 degrees F. With last week's favorable weather conditions, processing and fresh

market cabbage growers were able to transplant as well. Reports indicate that approximately 15% of processing cabbage was transplanted last past week. This week looks to keep growers out of the field with a chance of rain forecasted through Saturday May 3. The past 2 days here at the Station we have recorded 1.1 inches of rainfall.



**Cabbage transplants**

Photo by Matt Hofelich



**Fields newly transplanted**

Photo by Matt Hofelich



# Southern Ohio Vegetable and Fruit Update

*from Brad Bergefurd, OSU Extension Educator, OSU Extension Scioto County and OSU South Centers*

Field work continued almost 24 hours a day throughout southern Ohio the past week, until storms rolled in on Monday morning (4/28) halting field operations through today (4/30). Temperatures approached the high 70's to mid 80's on Saturday (4/26). Field tomatoes were transplanted on 4/18 and 4/19 in Lowell and Cynthiana, Ohio.

Cantaloupe were transplanted to fields in Lowell, Ohio on 4/27.

Sweet corn planted under plastic a month ago seems to have grown out of the cold damage experienced on 4/15 and 4/16.

Tomatoes that had been planted to the field on 4/14 prior to the freeze event were so damaged that they have been torn up and replanted this past week. High tunnel tomatoes and colored bell peppers continue to be planted in Jackson, Hillsboro, Rainsboro and Cynthiana, Ohio.

Sweet corn continues to be planted on both bare ground and plastic. Green beans have emerged in Lowell, Ohio and continue to be planted throughout the region.

Sweet onions continue to be planted. Fertilizer, lime and anhydrous continued to be applied. Pre-emergent and contact herbicides continue to be applied with some reports of suspected 2,4-D type of herbicide injury being reported on vegetable transplants.

*article continued on the next page*



**Cantaloupe were planted on April 27**  
Photo by Witten Farms



**Plastic sweet corn was being planted with cool weather forecasted**  
Photo by Brad Bergefurd



Pruning of blackberries, blueberries, apple and grapes continues. Plasticulture and matted row strawberries are in bloom. Plowing and working ground continues and planting of cover crops continues. Plastic mulch was laid and beds were formed this past week for tomatoes, peppers and melons.

Harvest of asparagus is in full swing with good yields, quality and market demand being reported. Tomatoes are the size of softballs in January and February-planted high tunnel tomatoes. Fertigation of nitrogen continues on plasticulture and matted-row strawberries. Lettuce and greens continue to be planted in high tunnels in Lucasville, Ohio. Seeding of all vegetable and melon crops continues in greenhouses.



**Ground continued to be worked and plowed last week**

Photo by Brad Bergefurd



**Green beans have emerged in Lowell, Ohio**

Photo by Witten Farms



**Tomatoes planted to the field 4/18 in Cynthiana, Ohio and covered with floating row covers**

Photo by Brad Bergefurd



**Tomatoes were planted on April 18 & 19 in Lowell and Cynthiana, Ohio**

Photo by Witten Farms



# Cuyahoga County Update

from *Jacqueline Kowalski, MA, Extension Educator, Agriculture and Natural Resources*

Land prep continued over the weekend. However, there has been heavy rain early in the week causing "standing water in the field" conditions.



**Urban farm site ready for planting.**  
Photo by Jacqueline Kowalski



**Endive being grown for Cleveland Zoo.**  
Photo by Jacqueline Kowalski

## North Central Ohio Update

from *Dr. David Francis, Professor, College of Food, Agricultural, and Environmental Sciences, Horticulture & Crop Science*

Warmer temperatures and rain are starting to push up Asparagus in North-Central Ohio. The initial harvest is delayed approximately two weeks compared to past years. Information is lacking about the effects of the extreme cold that Ohio experienced this winter on Asparagus crowns. Recent work from the University of Guelph in Ontario Canada suggests that fall and spring freeze-thaw fluctuations in relationship to dormancy may be more important to winterkill than winter low temperatures.

For more information, see the article by Elaine Roddy, Vegetable Crops Specialist/OMAF and MRA and David Wolyn, Department of Plant Agriculture, University of Guelph:  
<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/crops/hort/news/hortmatt/2014/04hrt14a1.htm>



## VegNet Newsletter

COLLEGE OF FOOD, AGRICULTURAL, AND  
ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES

Editor, Brad Bergefurd  
[bergefurd.1@osu.edu](mailto:bergefurd.1@osu.edu)  
740.289.2071

<http://vegnet.osu.edu>

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## Submit Articles:

To submit an article to VegNet newsletter, please send the article and any photos to Brad Bergefurd at [bergefurd.1@osu.edu](mailto:bergefurd.1@osu.edu) or for questions regarding the newsletter, call 740.289.2071 ext.136

## About the editor

### Brad Bergefurd

Bergefurd is an Extension Educator, Agriculture and Horticulture Specialist with Ohio State University Extension, with statewide responsibilities for outreach and research to the agriculture and commercial fruit and vegetable industries Brad has offices at the OSU Piketon Research & Extension Center in Piketon and at



### Brad Bergefurd, MS

Extension Educator, Agriculture and Horticulture Specialist with Ohio State University Extension