

## Sessions for 2017

# Organic Intensives

**MOFFA ORGANIC INTENSIVES** is a day-long, concentrated learning experience for farmers and serious gardeners. As participants in the plethora of Michigan conferences, as well as hosting our own conference for many years, we believed that if we could channel our resources into a day of intensive coverage of a limited number of specific topics we could fill a need that currently was not being met. In addition this would allow us, as a volunteer-run non-profit organization, to maximize our resources in a realistic manner.

MOFFA held its first Organic Intensives in March, 2015, and those who have attended found the sessions to be of greater than expected value. Thus we will continue to offer to current and future farmers, as well as serious gardeners, an opportunity to focus intensely on subjects for which there is substantial interest and a desire to reach a level of deep understanding.

For 2017, MOFFA is working with individuals who are recognized experts and educators in one of three topic areas:

- Pest Management for Diversified Farms
- Organic Field Crop Marketing
- Successful Organic Gardening



### Organic Weed, Insect and Disease Management for the Diversified Vegetable Farm

This will be a unique opportunity for organic farmers to pick up some of the most recent information available on successful organic pest management techniques from both researchers and practitioners.



### The Changing Face of Organic Field Crop Markets

This Intensive focuses on what may be changing for organic growers in the future. The session features Heath Dewey, one of the chief architects of the USDA Bi-Weekly National Organic Comprehensive Report as well as representatives from many Michigan organic field crop buyers.



### Successful Organic Gardening: Growing Nutrient Dense Vegetables in a Changing Climate—A Comprehensive In-Depth Discussion

Join a consort of skilled, insightful, experienced Michigan growers for a day dedicated to broadening even the most experienced grower's skill-set and stimulating those who aspire for more knowledge. Presentations on soil biology and fertility management, crop planning, scheduling and cultivar selection, strategies for attracting pollinators and beneficial insects, season extension and crop protection methods, water wise irrigation, and working with/teaching others, culminating with a round table open-ended conversation on our passion for gardens and farms.

More detailed descriptions of the sessions, speakers, and agendas for the day are available on our website at [www.moffa.net/OI-2017.html](http://www.moffa.net/OI-2017.html).

## Date & Place

This year's Organic Intensives will be held on March 9, 2017, at Brody Hall on the MSU campus, during ANR week at MSU.

Registration begins at 8:00 am. Classes begin at 9:00 and last until 5:00, with a one-hour break for lunch at the Brody Cafe, as well as smaller breaks during the morning and afternoon sessions.

The Organic Reporting Session takes place on Friday, March 10. We encourage everyone to stay for what promises to be another enlightening learning opportunity.



The cost for the full day of Organic Intensives is \$75 for MOFFA members and \$85 for non-members—but only **until February 15**. After that date, the registration fee will increase to \$85 for members and \$95 for non-members.



## About MOFFA

The Michigan Organic Food and Farm Alliance (MOFFA) celebrates its 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2017, having been organized in 1992 as a non-profit organization with the mission of promoting organic agriculture and the development and support of food systems that revitalize and sustain local communities. MOFFA was one of the first organizations in Michigan and in the nation to actively promote these principles.

MOFFA welcomes new members to join us and get involved in creating a better food system for Michigan. Our members include organic and other farmers, food coops, educators, environmentalists, food businesses, food and farm activists and concerned citizens throughout Michigan and elsewhere.

Each year MOFFA sponsors and/or exhibits at a number of major conferences and festivals in Michigan, which allows us to reach many more individuals with our limited resources. We also maintain a website, [www.moffa.net](http://www.moffa.net), and a Facebook page, and publish a quarterly newsletter.

All of this activity is made possible by the contributions of our members. If you haven't joined for 2017, we hope you will take a few minutes to lend your support.

### MOFFA

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