

Julian Vail, LLC NEWS & NOTES



JANUARY 23, 2009



SALMONELLA OUTBREAK

The MDA is currently investigating a 25 case outbreak of Salmonella Typhimurium confirmed in Michigan. For more information go to www. michigan.gov/mda. Click on "Salmonella in Michigan" spotlight.

GOOD HANDLING PRACTICES

See how Meijer does quality control in their produce area as you tour the distribution area. Learn about selling produce to them and maintaining high quality throughout the cooling chain. Free admission.

THURSDAY JAN. 29, 2009 - 1-3 PM

For more info or to RSVP: Michigan Food & Farming Systems (MIFFS) at (517) 432-0712 or miffs@msu.edu

2009 Michigan Legislature Schedule

House of Representatives

■ 1:30 pm - Tuesday, Jan. 27

STATE OF THE STATE

■ 7:00 pm - Tuesday, Feb. 3

SENATE

■ 10:00 am - Tuesday-Thursday, Jan. 27-29

FARMERS CAN EXPLORE THE FUTURE AT MICHIGAN AGRI-ENERGY CONFERENCE

The expanding bioenergy sector offers tremendous potential for Michigan farmers. All members of the agricultural community are invited to learn more about bioenergy and renewable fuels during the Michigan Agri-Energy Conference, March 30-31 at the Kalamazoo Radisson Plaza Hotel in Kalamazoo.

The registration rates are \$125 for the entire conference, \$75 for March 30 only, \$55 for March 31 only and \$15 for a bus tour only. Fees include meals, refreshments and materials. Registrations are due March 13. A special conference room rate at \$81 is available at the Radisson.

To reserve a room at that rate, call 888-201-1718. To register or learn more about the Michigan Agri-Energy Conference, visit www.agenergy.org, e-mail Pennington at pennin34@msu.edu or call ANR Conference Services at 517-353-3175.

AGRICULTURALLY SPEAKING... MICHIGAN'S AGRI-BUSINESS SECTOR ON THE GROW

Don Koivisto, Director, Michigan Department of Agriculture acknowledged and applauded the job growth and retention in the agri-food industry and celebrated its nearly \$64 billion annual impact on the state's economy.

As Michigan's second largest economic driver, our agri-food sector is a multi-billion dollar a year business and produces more than 200 commodities, ranking second only to California in agricultural diversity. Not only does Michigan lead the nation in production of 20 agri-food commodities, but is also 1st and 4th in the nation for floriculture and Christmas tree production, respectively.

Another main component of the agriculture industry's \$64 billion economic impact comes from Michigan's annual exports. As one of the top 20 state agriculture exporters in the nation, Michigan's annual agriculture exports generate more than \$1.2 billion and employ over 13,800 residents.