



JULIAN VAIL, LLC NEWS & NOTES



JULY 24, 2009



MI Department of Agriculture Goes Social!

MDA unveiled its updated Facebook site, Twitter account @MichDeptofAg, and its miagriculture YouTube Channel as part of its efforts to connect Michigan citizens with their agriculture roots, showcase the state's growing opportunities in the agri-food sector, and quickly notify consumers when their food may be at risk.

Visit MDA's home page at www.michigan.gov/mda and click on the Twitter or Facebook icon for direct link to MDA's pages.

*"Many of life's failures
are people who did not
realize how close they
were to success when
they gave up."*

~Thomas A. Edison

2009 MICHIGAN LEGISLATIVE SCHEDULE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

- 1:30 pm - Tuesday, Wednesday, July 28-29
- 12:00 pm - Thursday, July 30

SENATE

- 10:00 am - Tuesday-Thursday, July 28-30

Michigan Commission of Agriculture Elects New Officers

Charles Velmar Green of Elsie appointed to Commission

East Lansing – The Michigan Commission of Agriculture elected two new officers and welcomed Charles Velmar Green as its newest member during its regular meeting held Tuesday, June 21, 2009 in East Lansing in conjunction with the Ag Expo at Michigan State University.

Commissioner Todd Regis of Lansing was elected as vice chair replacing Ann Jousma-Miller of Gladstone who resigned from the Commission, and Commissioner Don Coe of Traverse City was elected Secretary.

Additionally, Charles Velmar Green of Elsie was appointed by Governor Jennifer M. Granholm to represent Republicans succeeding Dale Norton of Bronson whose term has expired. Green's term runs through December 31, 2012. Green is the owner of Green Meadows Farms in Elsie.

The Michigan Commission of Agriculture is a bipartisan body appointed by the Governor to provide oversight and policy direction for MDA programs, appoint the director of agriculture, and approve the rules and regulations the department promulgates.

Agriculture Leaders Seek Public Comments on Agricultural Management Practices

LANSING - The Michigan Commission of Agriculture and the Michigan Department of Agriculture (MDA) today announced they have scheduled a Public Input Meeting and review period to gather comments on the 2010 drafts of the state's Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPs).

The GAAMPs Public Input Meeting will be held at 8:30 a.m. on Wednesday, August 19, 2009, in the Lake Superior Room of the Michigan Library and Historical Center, 702 West Kalamazoo Street, in downtown Lansing.

The Michigan Right to Farm Act provides nuisance protection for farms and farm operations. In order to have this protection, the farm or farm operation must conform to GAAMPs, which are set by the Michigan Commission of Agriculture. These GAAMPs are reviewed annually by scientific committees of various experts and revised and updated as necessary. Public comment is accepted and considered before final versions of the GAAMPs are approved by the Michigan Commission of Agriculture.

Public comment will be taken on all of the following GAAMPs: Manure Management and Utilization; Site Selection for New and Expanding Livestock Production Facilities; Nutrient Utilization; Care of Farm Animals; and Cranberry Production. The GAAMPs regarding, Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control, and Irrigation Water Use have no proposed changes for 2010.

For a copy of the proposed revisions to these GAAMPs, visit www.michigan.gov/gaamps

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