



Michigan State University Extension

For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Hannah Stevens – 586-469-6087

Date: February 2, 2012

Integrated Pest Management Academy

Macomb County is home to a wide diversity of market, garden, field and ornamental crops. As growers pass farming operations on to the next generation, it is more important than ever to help them gain knowledge about pest management. The Integrated Pest Management Academy will focus on introducing the concepts of integrated pest management (IPM) and will prepare participants to implement IPM on the farm or in the garden. It is designed to assist newcomers to pest management but can be a valuable review for growers, nurserymen, gardeners, or landscapers looking to brush up their IPM skills or bring new farm workers up to speed.

To kick things off, Dr. Barry Jacobsen from Montana State University will deliver the keynote speech on the philosophy and history of integrated pest management (IPM). Dr. Jacobsen is a world renowned IPM scholar and sits on the board of directors for the IPM Institute of North America.

Additional topics covered on the first day will prepare participants to adopt the latest integrated pest management practices through introductory discussions covering entomology, scouting, plant pathology and more. On the second day of the program, participants will have the opportunity to opt into two concurrent sessions that address pest and disease issues in specific crops including fruit, field crops, vegetables, woody plants and Christmas trees.

The Academy will be held **February 20-21, 2012** at the Kellogg Hotel and Conference Center in East Lansing, MI. Registration for this information-packed, two-day program is only \$225 when you register by **February 13**. Registration includes a notebook with handouts, breakfast, lunch, parking and Wi-Fi connection both days. Certified crop advisor credits (9) and pesticide recertification credits (16) will be available. Certified Green Industry Professional continuing education credits (7) will also be available.

Online registration is open and space is limited. Visit the IPM Academy website at: www.ipm.msu.edu/ipm-academy.htm to access the registration page and learn more about the program or download the agenda. Preregistration is required; walk-ins cannot be accommodated. For more information contact Hannah Stevens at Macomb County MSU Extension (stevensh@msu.edu) or call 586-469-6440.

###