

Can We Pick Your Brains? A Saffron Brainstorming Session for Advanced Growers



Vermont Saffron Event

Organized by UVM North American Center for Saffron Research & Development

When: Tuesday, Dec. 14, 2021

What time: 2:00 – 4:00 pm Eastern Time We intend to record it so you can view it later.

Where: ONLINE

This is a chance for advanced growers to share their experiences with saffron cultivation, harvesting and drying and selling. It is also a time for growers to ask questions that other commercial saffron growers might be able to answer. We will have session leaders for the three general topic areas. They will start with a short discussion of their experiences. Other registrants will be encouraged to share their successes and challenges. We will ask growers to identify the issues for highest priorities to help them with commercial saffron production. This will chart the course of saffron research and outreach in the future.

The event will be facilitated by **Cathy Yandow**, UVM Extension Communications Specialist.

Karl McDonald, Meraki Meadows, a 2-year grower, will talk about his challenges with growing saffron in west Texas.

Brian Leven, Golden Thread Farmstead, Stowe, VT, a 3-year grower, will talk about growing saffron in a high tunnel.

Arash Ghalehgolabbehbahani/Margaret Skinner, UVM Saffron Center, will talk about saffron harvesting and drying.

<u>Farhad Saharkhiz</u>, Saharkhiz International Group, Canada, an international saffron seller.

Parker Shorey, Lemonfare Saffron, Ferrisburgh, VT, a Vermont grower and saffron seller.

All of You: There will be time for all the registrants to share their experiences with saffron.

Who should attend: Advanced saffron growers who are growing it commercially, or intend to in the future, and current or future saffron marketers who want to support the emerging North American saffron market. This event focuses on commercialization of saffron, but home gardeners interested in growing saffron are welcome to attend.

How much: Free, but registration is limited to 80 so register now!

Program topics:

- Saffron growing in open fields and high tunnels
- Harvesting and post-harvest handling
- Selling your saffron and saffron-based value-added products

How to register: Online at: https://na.eventscloud.com/ereg/index.php?eventid=656072&

Only register if you plan to log on to the live session. The link to the recording will be sent out via Saffronnet.

Register by December 12th. Upon registration, registrants will receive an event confirmation. Also, on or before December 13th, expect an email from Margaret Skinner with the link to the Zoom online event.

Questions? Contact Margaret Skinner at 1-802-656-5440; Email: mskinner@uvm.edu

Sponsors: UVM College of Agric. & Life Sci. and Extension, USDA Hatch Prog.; VT Agency of Agric., Food & Markets Spec. Crops Block Grant.

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