



VERMONT VEGETABLE AND BERRY GROWERS ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING

Tuesday, January 30, 2024

[DoubleTree Hotel and Conference Center](#), S. Burlington, Vermont. (802) 865-6600

Moderator: Vern Grubinger, UVM Extension

To view the slides from this meeting [click here](#)

- 8:00 **Registration**, Refreshments, Visit Trade Show
- 9:30 **President's Remarks**. Justin Rich, [Burnt Rock Farm](#), Huntington
- 9:40 **The Flood of 2023: Our Experiences, Bad and Good**. Joie Lehoullier, [Foote Brook Farm](#), Johnson
- 10:00 **Demystifying Crop Insurance for Diversified Farms**. Mary Staak, [Risk Management Agency](#)
- 10:20 **Growing Veggies and Herbs for Live Plant Sales**. Eli Hersh, [Honey Field Farm](#), Norwich
- 10:40 **31 Years of Growing Strawberries**. David Marchant, [River Berry Farm](#), Fairfax
- 11:00 **A Tour of Reduced Tillage Systems on Vegetable Farms**. Becky Maden, [UVM Extension](#)
- 11:20 **Potato Production at Sparrow Arc Farm**. Matthew Linehan, Guildhall
- 11:40 **1-Minute Introductions - Trade Show Exhibitors** summarize their products and services
- 12:00 **Hot Lunch Buffet** and Visit Trade Show
- 1:30 **Business Meeting**. Election of directors
- 1:40 **Overview of Our Flower Growing Season**. Nicole D'Agata, [The Painted Tulip](#), Waterbury Center
- 2:00 **Scaling up Blueberry Production and Efficiency**. Adam Hausmann, [Adam's Berry Farm](#), Charlotte
- 2:20 **Best of Brushes, Brooms, Bins, and Beyond**. Andy Chamberlin, [UVM Extension](#)
- 2:40 **Growing and Marketing African Eggplant to New Americans**, [Janine Ndagijimana](#), Colchester
- 3:20 **Managing Fruit Load in Tunnel Tomatoes**. Jacques Thériault, [Climax Conseils, Quebec](#)
- 3:40 **Vegetable and Berry Pest Updates**. Ann Hazelrigg, [Plant Diagnostic Clinic](#), UVM Extension
- 4:00 **Adjourn**



VVBGA 2024 ANNUAL MEETING TRADE SHOW EXHIBITORS

Addison County Relocalization Network (ACORN)
American Farmland Trust
Brookdale Farm Supplies
Center for an Agricultural Economy
Community Accreditation for Produce Safety (CAPS)
Crop Growers & Farm Credit East
Deep Root Organic Cooperative
Extension Agricultural Business- UVM
Fish Brew
Frazer Insurance
Harris Seeds
High Mowing Organic Seeds
Johnny's Selected Seeds
Johnstone Farm & Field Resources
Natural Resources Conservation Service (USDA) - Vermont
Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont
Orchard Equipment Supply Company
Reliable Labor Services / Bookends
Rimol Greenhouse Systems
Rural Vermont
Salvation Farms
Seedway
Sun Run Solar Vermont
Stokes Seeds Inc.
UVM Extension Agricultural Engineering
UVM Extension Pollinator Support Program
Vermont Compost Company
Vermont Economic Development Authority
Vermont Nursery & Landscape Association
Vermont Produce Program, Vermont Agency of Agriculture
Vermont Public Interest Research Group
VHCB Vermont Farm & Forest Viability Program
Wellscroft Fence Systems
White River Natural Resources Conservation District

Annual Meeting Sponsors: Farm Credit East, Harnois Greenhouses, High Mowing Seeds, Northeast Organic Farming Association of Vermont, Rimol Greenhouse Systems, Vermont Compost Company, Vermont Economic Development Authority, Vermont Produce Program, and University of Vermont Extension. **Thank you!**

To register go to <https://vzbga.org/user/register> and log in to your VVBGA account or create an account. Renew your membership and then pre-register for the Annual Meeting. The fee is \$50 per day, per person, for VVBGA members. The non-member fee is \$60 per day, per person. Please contact vzbga@uvm.edu to pre-register as a non-member, or if you need financial assistance.

Pre-registration closes on January 26, 2024. Add \$10 per person for walk-in registrations. All registrations include morning coffee with snacks and a hot buffet lunch.

If you need overnight lodging, please make your own room reservations by contacting the DoubleTree Hotel. Ask for the VVBGA room rate. There are also other nearby lodging options.

VVBGA member dues for 2024 are \$70 per farm, \$80 after January 31. If this payment poses a barrier to participation, a lower payment can be selected, no questions asked. Go to vzbga.org to pay dues, register for the annual meeting, sign up for CAPS produce safety program, and/or donate to the VVBGA's research and education fund.

Commercial membership in the VVBGA is \$100 per company or organization, per year. Membership includes a ¼ page ad in the Annual Meeting booklet if submitted by December 29. Go to: <https://vzbga.org/commercial-membership> to join, register for the Annual Meeting, sign up for an ad in the Annual Meeting booklet, and/or to request an exhibitor table (space is limited).

VVBGA member benefits include:

- Access to the VVBGA listserv, to buy/sell plants and equipment and share farming information.
- Use of VVBGA web site for produce safety, pollinator support, PYO marketing, and soil health plans.
- Email subscription UVM Extension's Vermont Vegetable and Berry Grower Newsletter.
- Discount of \$10 on registration fee for events like the VVBGA Annual Meeting.
- Camaraderie, enhanced communication, and fellowship among commercial growers.

2 pesticide applicator recertification credit will be available in categories 1A, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and 10.

To request disability-related accommodation to participate, please contact Virginia Jaquish at vzbga@uvm.edu by January 3, 2024, so that we may assist you.

Questions? Vern Grubinger, UVM Extension, 802-656-7534, or vernon.grubinger@uvm.edu.

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