

Irrigation

Thursday morning 9:00 am

Where: Gallery Overlook (upper level) Room F

MI Recertification credits: 2 (COMM CORE, PRIV CORE)

CCA Credits: SW(2.0)

Moderator: Lyndon Kelley, Extension Irrigation Educator, MSU-Purdue

- 9:00 am Using Soil Moisture Sensors to Improve Profits and Protect the Environment
- Steve A. Miller, Irrigation Specialist, Biosystems Engineering Dept., MSU
- 9:45 am Easy to Use Irrigation Scheduling Tools
- Lyndon Kelley, Extension Irrigation Educator, MSU-Purdue
- 10:15 am Updates on Water Policy in the Great Lakes States: What is New
- Steve A. Miller, Irrigation Specialist, Biosystems Engineering Dept., MSU
- 10:40 am Cooperative Irrigator Programs to Collect Data to Improve Estimates of Impact to Water Resources
- 11:00 am Meeting GAP Requirement Using Irrigation Water
- Don Stoeckel, Midwest Regional Extension Associate, OH
- 11:20 am Discussion
- 11:30 am Session Ends

Meeting GAPs Requirements When Using Irrigation Water

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This session is an introduction for participants who have little or no exposure to the fundamental principles of Good Agricultural Practices, limited to those GAPs that address risks to produce based on water quality and water use during growing produce (irrigation water). Several resources will be valuable to attendees who want to follow up this conversation with more readings or other information that is available on-line.

- The publication by FDA entitled *Guidance for Industry: Guide to Minimize Microbial Food Safety Hazards for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables*. This document was published in 1998 and updated as recently as 2008. It is available online at www.fda.gov/Food/GuidanceRegulation/GuidanceDocumentsRegulatoryInformation/ProducePlantProducts/ucm064458.htm
- The website by USDA covering *Harmonized GAP*, which includes the publication *Field Operations and Harvesting Harmonized Food Safety Standard*, *Field Operations and Harvesting Checklist*, and many other documents. This resource is available online at www.ams.usda.gov/services/auditing/gap-ghp/harmonized
- The website by Cornell's National Good Agricultural Practices Program, which includes a database of produce-safety literature, names of contacts, teaching resources, record-keeping templates, and much more. The National GAPs Program information is available online at gaps.cornell.edu/

The material presented will cover risks assessment of water sources and practices that reduce risks. GAPs that apply to water are discussed within the general structure of the Harmonized GAPs program. Participants will be encouraged to share examples about their on-farm practices, experiences, and concerns so concepts can be applied to relevant on-farm situations.