

Great Plains Vegetable Growers Conference - 2008 Speaker Information

Stacy Adams, Firth Flower Farm, Firth, NE. Stacy and his wife grow seasonal specialty planters, baskets and large containers of annuals in their family greenhouse and field operation for direct marketing through local farmers markets. Stacy is employed at the University of Nebraska as Horticulture Greenhouse and Field Manager and teaches Greenhouse Management. 10500 Gage Rd., Firth, NE 68358. (402) 472-2513. sadams1@unl.edu

Art Barnaby is a professor in Agriculture Economics at Kansas State University, 304E Waters Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506. He conducts statewide extension programs on financial planning, risk, government commodity programs and crop insurance. He is an author of the KSU Risk Management web page located at: <http://www.agmanager.info> (785) 532-1515. barnaby@ksu.edu

Chris Blanchard works with wife, Kim, raising vegetables and herbs on their 12-acres at Rock Spring Farm in Iowa. Rock Spring Farm distributes produce in the Twin Cities and Rochester, Minnesota through a CSA, farmers market and sell to retail stores. 3675 Highlandville Rd., Decorah, IA 52101. (563) 735-5613. chris@rsfarm.com

Patrick Byers is a Fruit Grower Advisor at MSU State Fruit Experiment Station, 9740 Reed Spring Rd., Mountain Grove, MO 65711. (417) 547-7519. plbyers@missouristate.edu

Lynn Byzcynski is the editor and publisher of *Growing for Market*, the monthly newsletter for direct-market farmers. She and her husband, Dan Nagengast, have been market gardening since 1988 and over the years have sold at farmers markets, natural food stores, to chefs, and florists. PO Box 3747, Lawrence, KS 66046. (785) 748-0605. growing4market@earthlink.net

Ted Carey is the Extension Specialist for Food Crops, Kansas State University, at the Olathe Research & Extension Center. He conducts applied research on vegetable production in eastern and south-central Kansas with emphasis on season extension. 35125 W. 135th St., Olathe, KS 66061. (913) 645-0007. tcarey@ksu.edu

Ray Cloyd is the Extension Entomologist at Kansas State University, 123 Waters Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506. (785) 532-4750. rcloyd@ksu.edu

Andy Daniels and his wife, Tannie, own and operate Daniels Produce in central Nebraska near Columbus. They have been farming for 31 years and 19 years ago they diversified into fresh market vegetable production due to a lack of opportunities in conventional farming. Today they raise only fresh market vegetables on 500 acres, eighty percent which is dispersed throughout Nebraska, Kansas, Missouri, Texas and Florida. 37831 205th St., Columbus, NE 68601. (402) 897-4253. daniels@megavision.com Their website is: <http://www.danielsproduce.com>

Kathleen Delate, is an Associate Professor and Extension Organic Specialist in the Agronomy/Horticulture Department at Iowa State University. Kathleen does extensive work with the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture with special interests in organic soybean, herbs, and vegetable production. 106 Hort Bldg, ISU, Ames, IA 50011. (515)-294- 7069. kdelate@iastate.edu

Diana Endicott is the founder and Coordinator of Good Natured Family Farms, a brand name for selling a range of products produced on small family farms around Kansas City. She has been heavily involved in helping family farmers to produce and market a range of products including produce, particularly through Balls Foods, a Kansas City grocery store. Farm: (620) 939-4933. Cell: (913) 636-9989. Fax: (631) 739-0357. allnatural@ckt.net

Eldon Everhart is a Horticulture Specialist for Iowa State University. He has conducted research on watermelons, potatoes and other crops and has helped many businesses get started or expand. 906 6th St., Harlan, IA 51537. (712) 755-3104. everhart@iastate.edu

Brandon Fahrmeier, Tailor Made Farm, Wellington, MO.

Mary Fandrey is the Retail Food Program Coordinator at the Missouri Public Health Department. 930 Wildwood, Box 370. (573) 751-6095. mary.fandrey@dhss.mo.gov

Pete Garfinkel is a graduate student at Kansas State University, 2021 Throckmorton Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506. (785) 313-4033. krvfoods@ksu.edu

Rebecca Graff and Tom Ruggieri established Fair Share Farm in 2003 after apprenticing on CSA farms in the northeast and Midwest. Situated on Graff family land, the farm grows a wide variety of vegetable, herbs, flowers and small fruit for its CSA (Community Supported Agriculture) members. 18613 Downing Rd., Kearney, MO 64060. (816) 320-3763. tom@fairsharefarm.com

Lane Greer, Ph.D., has been an Assistant Professor, a specialist and author for ATTRA, and a commercial cut flower grower. In her Ph.D. work she studied the vase life of cut flowers, investigating new and old techniques to get longer-lasting flowers. Her first book, *Beautiful Branches*, focuses on woody cuts and will be published by Timber Press in January, 2009. 5128 SW Mitchell St., Portland, OR 97221. (503) 977-5199. lanegreer@msn.com

Patrice Gros is a full-time organic farmer and co-founder of two successful farmers' markets (Berryville and Eureka Springs, AR). He owns and manages Foundation Farm and its associated farming school. Eureka Springs, AR 72632. (479) 253-7461. mamakapa@yahoo.com Website: <http://www.foundationfarm.com>

Chris Gunter is the Vegetable Production Specialist at North Carolina State University. His program improves the profitability of North Carolina vegetable production by optimizing aspects of crop management, conducting variety trials to determine adaptation of new crops to growing areas and exploring alternative crops and cropping systems. 230 Kilgore Hall, North Carolina State University, Raleigh, NC 27695. (919) 513-2807. chris_gunter@ncsu.edu

Liz Henderson farms at Peacework Organic Farm in Wayne County, New York and has been producing organically grown vegetables for the fresh market for over 25 years. She is a founding member of the Northeast Organic Farming Association (NOFA) in Massachusetts, has been on the Board of NOFA-NY since 1989, and represents NOFA in the national discussions of organic standards. 2218 Welcher Rd., Newark, NY 14513. (315) 331-9029. ehendrsn@redsuspenders.com

Alex Hitt, Peregrine Farm, has been farming outside of Chapel Hill, NC for 26 years with his wife Betsy. An extremely diversified operation, they produce cut flowers, small fruits, turkeys and vegetables, growing more than 200 different varieties. Over 75% of their income is from a two-day a week farmers' market and the rest is in direct sales to one natural foods grocery store and a few restaurants. In 1995 they were named Small Farmers of the Year by N.C. State A & T University, Farm Stewards of the Year by the Carolina Farm Stewardship Assn., and in 2006 they were awarded the Patrick Madden Award for Sustainable Agriculture. 9418 Perry Rd. Graham, NC 27253. (336) 376-6320. abhitt@mindspring.com

Kathy Hohl is the marketing spirit behind 'Kathy's Pumpkin Patch' which started as an FFA project in 1994. It integrated into a 5th generation working farm in eastern Iowa that features over 175 varieties of pumpkins, squash, gourds, and ornamentals through a U-Pick and roadside open air market. A corn maze enhances the fun and is a key asset for offering educational field trips that help keep kids connected with the country. One mile east of Donnellson, Iowa. (319) 470-1558. Web site: <http://kathypumpkinpatch.com/content/view/1/2/>

Rhonda Janke is an Associate Professor of Sustainable Cropping Systems at Kansas State University. 2021 Throckmorton Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506. (785) 532-0409. rrjanke@ksu.edu

Jirak Family Produce. Mark Jirak, Syngenta Crop Manager for Seed Care, owns and operates Jirak Family Produce in Atchison, KS with his family. He is currently the president of the Kansas Vegetable Growers Association. 2107 Greenview Dr., Atchison, KS 66002. (913) 426-2013. mark.jirak@syngenta.com

Megan Kennelly, is the Extension Plant Pathologist at Kansas State University and her position includes extension and research programs in turf, ornamentals, shade trees, fruit and vegetables. 4603 Throckmorton Hall, Manhattan, KS 66506. (785) 532-1387. kennelly@ksu.edu

Norman Kilmer is owner and founder of Morgan County Seeds, which has grown to become his entire family's business. He has undertaken a substantial building project that promises to position Morgan County Seed as a truly unique business blending the seed catalog business with a retail horticulture supply company that caters to the needs of commercial growers. 18761 Kelsay Rd. Barnett, MO 65011. (573) 378-2655.

Ingrid Kirst is the director of Community Crops, a non-profit organization in Lincoln, NE that helps families raise food for themselves and for market. (402) 474-9802. ingrid@communitycrops.org

Sherry Knewton, Horticulture Division, 2021 Throckmorton Hall, Kansas State University, Manhattan, KS 66506. (785) 532-6170. knewton@ksu.edu

Dan Kuhn, Depot Market, 1101 30th Rd., Courtland, KS 66939. (785) 374-4255.

Lisa Markley is a registered dietitian who is passionate about promoting the nutrition and health benefits of local food within her community. She is active with the KC Food Circle, the KC 100 Mile Diet Team, and serves on the board of the KC Center for Urban Agriculture. 7917 W. 54th Ter., Overland Park, KS 66202. (913) 302-4648. magsmarkley@gmail.com

Liz Maynard, Ph.D. has served as Regional Extension Specialist for Commercial Vegetable and Floriculture Crops in the Dept. of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture of Purdue's College of Agriculture since 1992. Prior to coming to Purdue, she completed graduate school at Cornell University. Liz spends most of her time developing educational programs and conducting applied research in the areas of vegetable and organic production. Purdue University, 1401 S. US Hwy. 421, Westville, IN 46391. (219) 785-5673. emaynard@exchange.purdue.edu

Andrea (Annie) Meyer is the Urban Agriculture Coordinator at Gateway Greening Inc. In this role she manages the City Seeds Urban Farm, clients and volunteers, and all vegetable greenhouse production. Before this, she served as a Peace Corps volunteer in rural Honduras working with sustainable agriculture, health, environmental education, and capacity-building workshops. She has a Bachelor's in Urban Forestry, Art and a Spanish minor from the University of Missouri – Columbia. She can be reached at andrea@gatewaygreening.org.

Linda Naeve is an Extension Program Specialist at Iowa State University with appointments in the Extension Pest Management and the Environment program. She conducts pesticide safety education programs and is currently working on a Leopold Center-funded project looking at sustainable fruit and vegetable production in high tunnels and light processing for local markets. 8 Insectary, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011. (515) 294-8946. linaeve@iastate.edu

Marilyn Odneal, M.S. Horticulture University of Wisconsin – Madison. She worked primarily in grape, highbush blueberry, bramble and strawberry research and outreach for Missouri State University for over 20 years at the State Fruit Experiment Station at Mountain Grove. Her present work in outreach involves design and development of educational gardens including a horticulture demonstration area, a virtual arboretum, the Centennial Garden, and rain gardens at Mountain Grove and development of public education events. Missouri State Fruit Experiment Stn., 9740 Red Spring Rd., Mountain Grove, MO 65711. (417) 547-7513. MarilynOdneal@missouristate.edu

Wayne Peterson is owner of Midwest Grower Supply which specializes in stocking and supplying myriad chemicals required by fruit and vegetables growers. Wayne launched this family business about 5 years ago when he purchased the chemical supply part of the business from Chesmore Seed Company. Working for Chesmore Seed for 20+ years provided him with years of experience from which to guide growers with their integrated pest management plans. 3527 US Hwy. 169. Stanberry, MO 64489. (660) 783-0006. midwestgrower@sbcglobal.net

David Procter is Director of the Center for Engagement and Community Development (CECD) and Professor of Communication Studies at Kansas State University. 202 Ahearn Field House, KSU, Manhattan, KS 66506. (785) 532-6868. dprocter@ksu.edu

James Quinn is the Horticulture Specialist for the University of Missouri Extension's Central Region. He was a wholesale greenhouse salad green and herb grower for 9 years in Michigan. Since moving to Missouri he has been involved in a wide range of agriculture projects, including greenhouses, vegetables, alternative agronomic crops, IPM, high tunnels, and medicinal herbs. Cole County Extension Center, 2436 Tanner Bridge Road, Jefferson City, MO 65101. (573) 634-2824. QuinnJa@Missouri.edu

Steve Salt, Ph.D., is owner and operator of Green Valley Farm in northern Missouri which produces and markets a wide variety of vegetables, herbs and fruits including a range of ethnic and heirloom varieties. Ethnic produce includes Oriental, Southeast Asian, Indian, Middle Eastern, and Balkan vegetables. Steve is also author or co-author of two books on gardening and numerous magazine articles, and teaches biology, botany, horticulture and other subjects at a community college and state university. 28461, Linderville Trail, Kirksville, MO 63501-8234. (660) 332-7217. stevens@mac.edu

Greg Sellmeyer, Sellmeyer Farm, Fulton, MO.

Dr. Reid Smeda is a Weed Scientist at the University of Missouri, Columbia. He conducts research on characterization and management of herbicide-resistant weeds; biology and management of teasel and poison hemlock; management of difficult to control weeds in pastures, along roadsides, and on railroad right-of-ways; and management of weeds in agronomic and horticultural cropping systems. Plant Science Division, 204 Waters Hall, Columbia, MO 65211. (573) 882-1329. SmedaR@missouri.edu

Joseph & Sarah Stutzman, Jamesport, MO.

Mercedes Taylor-Puckett coordinates the Downtown Lawrence Farmers' Market, the oldest producer market in Kansas. In 2006 the DLFM moved to a larger market site and instituted numerous market enhancements such as a wireless POS to accept food stamps and debit cards, a customer dining area, weekly e-newsletters and a website. The market has also developed partnerships with restaurants, a food writer and area food pantries to promote local food. 4377 Wallace Rd., McLouth, KS 66054. (785) 840-6202. farmersmarket@myvine.com

Joe Wilson works in the finance and insurance business and is a weekend farmer. Joe helped form the Missouri Northern Pecan Growers, LLC. There are 26 organic certified pecan growers netting 1.5 million in annual sales, shipping pecans to every state in the USA, Europe, Middle East and Asia. 19805 Webster, Spring Hill, KS 66083. (816) 804-0915. joe4rivers@yahoo.com