

# Arkansas Vegetable Growers Conference

Arkansas Cooperative Extension State Office  
2301 S. University Ave., Little Rock AR. 72204

## Agenda

Thursday, February 19 <sup>th</sup>		
8:00 AM	Registration opens, Breakfast and Visit with Vendors	
Vegetable Production Session		
9:00 AM	Welcome	<b>Dr. John Anderson</b> <i>Senior Associate Vice President for Agriculture University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture</i> <b>Dr. Obadiah M. Njue</b> <i>Assistant Dean of Extension and Outreach for UAPB School of Ag, Fisheries and Human Sciences</i>
9:15 AM	Vegetable Production in Arkansas	<b>John Gavin</b> <i>County Extension Agent (retired) University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture</i>
10:00 AM	Managing Weeds in Vegetable Crops	<b>Dr. Matt Bertucci</b> <i>Assistant Professor University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture</i>
10:30 AM	Break and visit with vendors	
10:50 AM	Experienced Grower Panel	<b>JoJo Thomas</b> – WSBZ Farm <b>Kyle Manning</b> – Fat Rabbit Farms <b>Shawn Peebles</b> – Peebles Organic Farms
11:50 AM	<b>Secretary Wes Ward</b> Secretary of Agriculture for the State of Arkansas	
12:00 PM	Lunch and visit with vendors	
1:00 PM	Building and Managing Soil Health	<b>Dr. Henry English</b> <i>Small Farm Director/Extension Specialist University of Arkansas Pine Bluff</i>
1:30 PM	Disease and Pest Identification and Management	<b>Dr. Aaron Cato</b> <i>Horticulture IPM Extension Specialist University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture</i>
2:15 PM	Transitioning to Organic Production	<b>Heather Friedrich</b> <i>Director of CAFF University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture</i>
2:45 PM	High Tunnel Vegetable Production	<b>Taunya Ernst</b> <i>High Tunnel &amp; Urban Ag Instructor University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture</i>
3:15 PM	Break and visit with vendors	

Food Safety and Post-Harvest Handling Session		
3:30 PM	Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Vegetable Production	<b>Iris Cole-Crosby</b> <i>Extension Specialist</i> <i>University of Arkansas Pine Bluff</i>
4:00 PM	<b>Classroom</b> Post-harvest Packing Shed Demonstration - Washing, cleaning, sanitizing and product flow	<b>Amanda Perez</b> <i>Food Systems and Food Safety Specialist</i> <i>University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture</i>
	<b>Conference Room</b> Drip Irrigation 101: Parts, Pieces, and Proper Design (Demonstration)	<b>Taunya Ernst</b> <i>High Tunnel &amp; Urban Ag Instructor</i> <i>University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture</i> <b>Keilah Barney</b> <i>Program Associate - Horticulture</i> <i>University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture</i>
5:00 PM	<b>Conference concludes for the day</b>	
Friday, February 20 <sup>th</sup>		
8:00 AM	Registration opens, Visit with Vendors	
<b>Grower Resources Session</b>		
8:50 AM	Welcome	<b>Dr. Shane Gadberry</b> <i>Assistant Vice President for Agriculture</i> <i>University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture</i>
9:00 AM	FSA Numbers, Loans and Crop Insurance	<b>Stephen Walker</b> Extension Associate University of Arkansas Pine Bluff
9:30 AM	Heirs Property: Land Health and Wealth	<b>Karen Lee</b> <i>Small Farm Program Extension Program Specialist</i> <i>University of Arkansas Pine Bluff</i>
10:00 AM	Break and visit with vendors	
10:15 AM	Grower Resource Panel	<b>Amanda McWhirt</b> <i>University of Arkansas Extension Specialist</i> <b>Brennan Washington</b> <i>Sustainable Agriculture Research Education</i> <b>Heather Friedrich</b> <i>The Center for Arkansas Farms and Food (CAFF)</i> <b>Kandi Williams</b> <i>UAPB Small Farms Program</i> <b>SeRena Hill</b> <i>Southern Risk Management Education Center</i> <b>Travis Caudle</b> <i>Natural Resource Conservation Service</i>
11:15 AM	Arkansas Agriculture Laws and Regulations	<b>Rusty Rumley</b> <i>Senior Staff Attorney</i> <i>University of Arkansas System Division of Agriculture</i>
11:45 AM	Closing Remarks	
12:00 PM	Workshop concludes – To-go Lunches	