

## MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MSU Detroit Center, Multi-Purpose Room  
3408 Woodward Avenue, Detroit, Michigan 48201

Option to Join via Remote Technology  
Dial: 1-248-509-0316; Conf. ID 386 784 12#

**SEPTEMBER 15, 2021**

TENTATIVE AGENDA – Revised Sept. 9, 2021

- 9:30 a.m. 1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Approval of Agenda (action item)**
3. **Approval of Minutes** from the July 21, 2021, Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development Meeting (**action item**)
4. **Next Scheduled Meeting** (information only)
- November 10, 2021, at AgroLiquid, St. Johns
- 9:35 a.m. 5. **Commissioner Comments and Travel (action item)**
- 9:45 a.m. 6. **Commissioner Issues**
- Retirement Resolution for Terry Philibeck (**action item**)
- 9:50 a.m. 7. **Director's Report**
- 10:00 a.m. 8. **Public Comment on Agenda Items**  
In accordance with the Public Appearance Guidelines in the Commission Policy Manual, individuals wishing to address the Commission must complete a Public Appearance Card and will be allowed up to three minutes for their presentation. Documents distributed at the meeting will be considered public documents and are subject to provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The public comment time provides the public an opportunity to speak; the Commission will not necessarily respond to the public comment.
- 10:10 a.m. 9. **Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) Standards – Approval of 2022 Standards:** Jim Johnson, Division Director and Joe Kelpinski, MAEAP Manager, Environmental Stewardship Division (**action item**)
- 10:25 a.m. 10. **Generally Accepted Processing Practices (GAPPs) – Proposed Revisions:** Jim Johnson, Division Director, Environmental Stewardship Division (**action item**)
- 10:30 a.m. 11. **Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices (GAAMPs) – Process and Introduction of Proposed 2022 GAAMPs:** Jim Johnson, Division Director, and Mike Wozniak, Right to Farm Manager, Environmental Stewardship Division (information only)

- 10:50 a.m.            **Break**
- 11:00 a.m.    12.    **Bovine Tuberculous (TB) Program Update** – Nora Wineland, Division Director and State Veterinarian, Animal Industry Division, and Jared Duquette, Wildlife Division Chief, Michigan Department of Natural Resources (information only)
- 11:30 a.m.    13.    **Commission Policy Manual** – Brad Deacon, Director, Legal Affairs and Emergency Management (**action item**)
- 11:45 a.m.    14.    **Protect Michigan Commission Update:** Chuck Lippstreu, President, Michigan Agri-Business Association; and Meredith Smith, Communications Specialist, Environmental Stewardship Division (information only)
- 12:05 p.m.    15.    **Food and Agriculture Investment Program Grant Amendments** – Jamie Zmitko-Somers, Division Director Agriculture Development Division (**action item**)
- 12:10 p.m.    16.    **Legislative Update:** Ashley Steffen, Legislative Liaison (information only)
- 12:20 p.m.    17.    **Public Comment**  
In accordance with the Public Appearance Guidelines in the Commission Policy Manual, individuals wishing to address the Commission must complete a Public Appearance Card and will be allowed up to three minutes for their presentation. Documents distributed at the meeting will be considered public documents and are subject to provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. The public comment time provides the public an opportunity to speak; the Commission will not necessarily respond to the public comment.
- 12:40 p.m.    18.    **Adjourn (action item)**

# MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

MSU Extension – Lenawee County  
1040 S. Winter Street, Suite 2020  
Adrian, Michigan 49221

and

Microsoft Teams  
Dial:1-248-509-0316; Conf. ID #609 749 224#

## MEETING MINUTES July 21, 2021

### **PRESENT:**

Dru Montri, Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Charlie Meintz, Vice Chair, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Tim Boring, Secretary, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Patricia Bergdahl, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Andy Chae, Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Gary McDowell, Director, Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

### **CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Chairperson Montri called the meeting of the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to order at 9:03 a.m. on July 21, 2021. Commissioner Boring called the roll with Commissioners Bergdahl, Boring, Chae, Meintz, and Montri, and Director McDowell present.

Director McDowell introduced and welcomed Commissioner Chae, who was appointed by Governor Whitmer effective July 7, noting he is an urban farmer from Detroit. Commissioner Chae shared information on his background and his farming operation. Commissioner Montri added the Commission looks forward to working with him.

### **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED TO APPROVE THE MEETING AGENDA FOR JULY 21, 2021. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER MEINTZ. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **APPROVAL OF MAY 12, 2021, MEETING MINUTES**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER BORING MOVED TO APPROVE THE MAY 12, 2021, MEETING MINUTES. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **NEXT SCHEDULED MEETING**

The next scheduled meeting is September 15, 2021.

## **COMMISSIONER COMMENTS, INTRODUCTIONS, AND TRAVEL**

Commissioners shared their background information and details on their current agriculture operations as way of introduction for Commissioner Chae. They also discussed significant quality concerns for Michigan's wheat crop, cropping system issues during extreme weather, the oversupply of dairy milk and its marketing system, and pesticide and crop disease issues.

Commissioner Montri encouraged Commissioners to take advantage of the opportunity to complete the State of Michigan Implicit Bias Training. The topic will be taken into consideration as the Commission undertakes the upcoming biennial review of their policies.

Commissioners Bergdahl, Chae, Meachum, Meintz, and Montri, traveled to attend today's meeting. There was no other travel submitted for approval. Commissioner Montri thanked Commissioners Bergdahl and Meintz for having made the long trip from the UP during peak season to join today's meeting in person.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED TO APPROVE THE COMMISSIONERS' TRAVEL. SECONDED BY COMMISSIONER CHAE. MOTION CARRIED.**

## **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Director McDowell shared details of meetings in which he recently participated, including the dedication of the Senator Tom Casperson Escanaba River Bridge and virtual Midwest Association of State Departments of Agriculture meeting. He reported Laboratory employee Neil Jones celebrated 50 years with the department; the search to replace Environmental Policy Advisor Josh Neyhart is underway, and on July 1, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) launched a year-long celebration of its 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary. He also provided updates on the grand opening of the Peterson Research Station, MDARD's return to the office efforts; Michigan Agriculture and Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) reauthorization; Migrant Worker Rule; Recruitment, Professional Development, and DEI Officer position; MDARD's response to recent flooding; Office of Rural Development; and the Horse Racing Advisory Commission.

In response to question from Commissioner Montri, the Director advised in their search for a new Environmental Policy Advisor, they are looking for someone experienced in agriculture, water quality, and climate change issues, as well as

the ability to work effectively with stakeholders. They hope to have the position filled during August.

In response to inquiry from Commissioner Meintz, the Director advised MDARD is working closely with the Governor's Office, legislators, MAEAP Advisory Council, and stakeholders to ensure the program continues toward improving water quality and the environment. He emphasized how critical it is to protect our precious water resources for the future of agriculture in Michigan.

### **COMMISSIONER ISSUES**

Commissioner Montri reviewed retirement resolutions before the Commission recognizing Gina Alessandri, who worked for the department for 34 years, and Chris Savona, who had been with MDARD for 23 years.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL MOVED THE RESOLUTIONS FOR GINA ALESSANDRI AND CHRIS SAVONA BE ADOPTED WITH BEST WISHES FOR THEIR LONG AND HEALTHY RETIREMENT. COMMISSIONER BORING SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **PUBLIC COMMENT (AGENDA ITEMS ONLY)**

There was no public comment relative to agenda items.

### **MICHIGAN AGRICULTURE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSURANCE PROGRAM (MAEAP) INTRODUCTION OF 2022 STANDARDS: Jim Johnson, Division Director, and Joe Kelpinski, MAEAP Manager, Environmental Stewardship Division**

Mr. Johnson noted the Commission has the statutory responsibility to annually approve the MAEAP Standards. With no issues being identified this past year, there are no recommended changes for the 2022 standards. The Commission will have the next two months to review and formulate any questions for discussion during the September Commission meeting. Any questions in the meantime can be directed to Mr. Kelpinski.

Commissioner Montri requested if there are anticipated changes being considered for the 2023 standards, an introduction to those be presented during the September 2021 meeting.

Mr. Kelpinski advised the MAEAP Systems Committees continue working toward refinement of the standards, and database modifications are also being implemented. Due to maturity of the program, it will be consolidated into only two documents for review in the future to streamline the program for producers and technicians. In addition, the MAEAP Standards will be updated every other year; however, until legislation is changed as requested, the Commission will be required to approve them an annual basis. The Commission expressed support for the consolidation efforts.

**GENERALLY ACCEPTED PROCESSING PRACTICES (GAPPS) INTRODUCTION OF PROPOSED REVISIONS: Jim Johnson, Division Director, Environmental Stewardship Division**

Mr. Johnson advised the Commission is statutorily required to annually approve the Generally Accepted Fruit, Vegetables, Dairy, Meat, and Grain Processing Practices for Noise and Odor (GAPP) as dictated by the Legislature in 1998. Practices were developed specifically around noise and odor related issues, and although the department continues to work with processors, the Right to Process Law has never been used. Processors have been able to handle issues themselves, making whatever changes are needed to address any complaints at the local level. As indicated in the materials provided to the Commission, there are no changes recommended for the 2022 practices. The Commission will have the next two months to review and formulate any questions, and they will be presented for approval during the September meeting.

Dru requested the GAPPs Committee be contacted, advised of the ongoing/current situation with the practices, and offer them the opportunity to make comment prior to the Commission's consideration of the GAPPs during the September meeting. Any comments received should be shared with Commissioners prior to their deliberation.

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT PROGRAM: Jamie Zmitko-Somers, Division Director, Agriculture Development Division**

Ms. Zmitko-Somers introduced one Food and Agriculture Investment Program project for Commission consideration today. The second project in the Commission materials will be brought forward at a future date.

Ms. Zmitko-Somers advised EDSPROP LLC, better known as Great Lakes Potato Chips, has experienced substantial growth, and is constructing a new processing and warehouse facility. MDARD is recommending a Food and Agriculture Investment Fund performance based grant of \$80,000 for EDSPROP LLC.

She introduced Edward Girrback who shared details around their over \$2 million project, noting it will allow them to continue servicing the rapidly growing demand for product both inside and outside the Great Lakes region. Through current efforts, they should be able to source exclusively from Michigan growers. They also work in partnership with Michigan State University (MSU), as well as other universities, toward developing more healthy strains of potatoes.

In response to question from Commissioner Montri, Mr. Girrback advised although they have had the opportunity to present to the Commission about their company in the past, this is the first grant request they have presented.

Due to her being employed by MSU, Commissioner Montri abstained from voting on the grant request.

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MEINTZ MOVED TO APPROVE A FOOD AND AGRICULTURE INVESTMENT FUND PERFORMANCE BASED GRANT OF \$80,000 FOR EDSPROP LLC. COMMISSIONER BERGDAHL SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

### **RECESS AND RECONVENE**

Chairperson Montri recessed the meeting at 10:22 a.m. for a brief break. She reconvened the meeting at 10:38 a.m.

### **BUDGET UPDATE: Sylvia Renteria, Director of Finance and Budget**

Ms. Renteria noted the Legislature by statute is to present an appropriations bill to the Governor on or before July 1; however, we do not yet have an enacted budget. She reviewed the minor differences between the House version and the Executive proposal, as well as critical items in the Senate budget proposal, which are not in alignment with the House or Executive versions. The department will continue working to ensure a fiscally responsible budget for the department, hopefully before October 1.

She next reviewed and answered questions around departmental items for the current fiscal year. She also recognized Financial Specialist Cinda Karlik who had been with MDARD for 37 years and reported she has accepted a promotion with the Department of Technology, Management and Budget. A search for her replacement is in process.

In response to question from Commissioner Meintz, Ms. Renteria advised funding for the Farm Stress Program will provide behavioral health services, primarily in rural areas.

In response to inquiry from Commissioner Chae regarding funding for the Specialty Crop Block Grant Program, the Director advised in partnership with USDA, the program supports the vast variety of specialty crops grown in Michigan for several approved uses. Although program requirements have not changed, the special COVID-related funding recognizes the suffering experienced by specialty crop operations during the pandemic.

### **LEGISLATIVE UPDATE: Ashley Steffen, Director of Policy Development and Legislative Affairs**

Ms. Steffen referred to the MDARD Legislative Update provided to the Commissioners and reviewed the current status and activity around bills of interest to the department.

She noted legislation recently signed by the Governor, including the Open Meetings Act relative to Agriculture Commodity Boards, Senate Bill 4517 clarifying definitions of industrial hemp and marijuana, and UIA legislation relative to manufacturing shutdowns. MDARD has been very busy working with the legislators and other affected agencies involved in the various bills introduced, with a focus on the budget.

In response to inquiry from Commissioner Montri, Ms. Steffen advised the Electric Vehicle Charging Station legislation is not being supported by MDARD due to inability to view the pricing of electricity on the actual device. This is because some providers base their price on mobile phone or vehicle applications, preventing inspections in the manner required by the bill.

Commissioner Meintz questioned if the department has devices to inspect Electric Vehicle charging stations. Ms. Steffen advised she would ask the Laboratory Division and provide information in that regard.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

No public comment on non-agenda items was requested.

Commissioner Montri announced the 2022 GAAMPs Public Comment meeting will be held on August 25 from 9:00-11:30 a.m. Any public wishing to provide comment are welcome to join that meeting.

### **ADJOURN**

**MOTION: COMMISSIONER MEINTZ MOVED TO ADJOURN THE MEETING. COMMISSIONER BORING SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:02 a.m.

#### Attachments:

- A) *Agenda*
- B) *Agriculture and Rural Development Commission Meeting Minutes May 12, 2021*
- C) *Director July 2021 – Issues of Interest Report*
- D) *Retirement Resolutions Honoring Gina Alessandri and Chris Savona*
- E) *Generally Accepted Fruit, Vegetables, Dairy, Meat, and Grain Processing Practices for Noise and Odor*
- F) *Food and Agriculture Investment Program Grant Request for EDSPROP LLC*
- G) *Budget Update for Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development*
- H) *Legislative Status – July 2021*



MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
RESOLUTION COMMENDING

**TERRANCE J. PHILIBECK**

WHEREAS, The Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development is pleased to honor Terrance "Terry" J. Philibeck upon his retirement from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development on September 3, 2021; and,

WHEREAS, Terry was born in Marinette, Wisconsin, and raised in Menominee in Michigan's Upper Peninsula where he grew up on a dairy farm. He is a Menominee High School graduate, and holds a bachelor's degree from Michigan State University in dairy science and vocational agriculture education; and,

WHEREAS, Terry's passion and career path were clear from the very beginning, starting with 17 years at the Michigan Milk Producer's Association. In 1995, Terry continued on that journey with the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) as a dairy safety inspector and within a few years, grew into the position of Dairy West Region Manager. In 2007, he assumed the role of Dairy Division Director at the Indiana Board of Animal Health where he spent six years before returning to his home state and a position with the United Dairy Industry of Michigan. In 2013, Terry returned to MDARD's greener pasture as the Food and Dairy Division's Deputy Director; and,

WHEREAS, Terry's literal lifetime of expertise in the dairy industry not only spans personal and professional, but also local, state, and national levels. Terry's contributions include active roles in both the National Association of Dairy Regulatory Officials (NADRO) and the National Conference of Interstate Milk Shipments (NCIMS), as well as outreach and partnerships with regulatory officials in neighboring Great Lakes states and beyond. His roles include being President of NADRO, and for NCIMS, he co-chaired the Aseptic Pilot Committee from 2013-2020, served on other committees, and was a voting delegate. Additionally, in his capacity with MDARD, Terry served as an associate advisor with the United Dairy Industry of Michigan; and,

WHEREAS, Terry resides in Howell and is proud husband to wife Katie, father to son Tom (daughter-in-law, also Katie!) and daughter Stephanie (son-in-law Clay, granddaughters Savannah and Heidi); and,

WHEREAS, Terry plans to enjoy family time, especially being active in the everyday lives of his grandchildren, while finding time for travel, golfing, kayaking, hiking, being active in his church – and keeping up his daily walks. He and Katie will also stay busy hosting exchange students – at last count, they have hosted 22 in person and 2 virtually; and,

WHEREAS, it is with great honor and gratitude that we acknowledge the impact of Terry's leadership and contributions to the dairy industry. While Terry and his experience will be missed, the impact will be a legacy within the Food and Dairy Division and will be felt for many years to come; and,

THEREFORE, be it resolved that the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development commends Terrance "Terry" J. Philibeck for more than 20 years of loyal service and countless contributions to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, food and dairy safety, and to the people of the State of Michigan. The Commission joins his family, friends, and professional colleagues in wishing him a happy, healthy, and relaxing retirement.



Adopted August 12, 2021  
Lansing, Michigan

Dru Montri, Chair

**DIRECTOR'S UPDATE**  
**September 15, 2021 - Ag Commission Meeting**

**New Environmental Policy Advisor**

Director McDowell will soon be announcing MDARD's new Environmental Policy Advisor.

**Peterson Research Center – Grand Opening Celebration**

On August 5, Director McDowell had the pleasure of participating in the ribbon cutting ceremony at the Peterson Research Station in Hart. The event was very well attended (approximately 200-300 people). If you have an opportunity, I encourage you to tour this impressive state-of-the-art facility – it's much welcomed news for our food and ag processors on the west side of the state.

**Governor's UP Tour & UP State Fair**

Governor Whitmer toured a significant portion of the Upper Peninsula the week of August 16, including visits to Resolute Forest Products, Verso, Connor Sports, Jacquart Fabrics (Stormy Cromer), and Cold Iron Brewing – to name a few. Donna LaCourt played a big part in coordinating these tours, as well as preparing the briefing materials. The Governor rounded out the week by attending the UP State Fair on August 19. From all accounts, she was very pleased with the week-long events.

**Ag Exporter of the Year**

On September 8, Director McDowell presented the 2021 Ag Exporter of the Year Award to Citizens LLC in Charlotte. Citizens has worked tirelessly to increase exports of food grade soybeans around the globe; particularly Natto soybeans. The first commercial sale of Natto was in the fall of 2018. In 2019, the volume of soybeans exported increased 408% year over year. The volume of soybean sales for the 2020 crop was 4,900% over 2019; and similar growth is projected for the next several years. Citizens, in cooperation with the MSU research team, were able to have six natto varieties approved for import by Japan; and 12 additional varieties are currently under evaluation.

**Zeeland Farm Service (Ithaca) Open House**

Also on September 8, Director McDowell gave remarks at the ZFS-Ithaca open house. ZFS is a family-owned and operated business with seven decades of service to the agricultural and transportation industries. ZFS employs more than 475 employees with facilities in Zeeland and Ithaca. This new state-of-the-art facility in Ithaca will process 40-50 percent of Michigan's soybeans and will provide Michigan farmers a local processor in Michigan instead of hauling beans to other states for processing. ZFS Ithaca is a 40 million bushel per year soybean processing operation, a 4.5 million bushel grain storage facility, and a feed ingredients transloading site serviced by both rail and truck. ZFS Ithaca is expected to quadruple the state's soybean processing capacity and will impact agriculture in the state for decades.

**Corn Marketing Board Meeting**

The Corn Marketing Board of Directors held their annual meeting on Mackinac Island on September 10. Director McDowell provided an update on MDARD activities.

### **MEDC Stakeholder Collaboration Meeting**

Director Quentin Messer (MEDC) hosted a meeting on September 14 in Detroit with key economic development stakeholders focusing on strengthening Michigan's economic future. Directors McDowell, Liesl Clark (EGLE), Rachel Banks (Treasury), and Paul Ajegba (MDOT) participated on a panel discussion on how we'll be working together to help support businesses and communities around the state.

### **Export "Rising Star Award" Presentation**

On September 16, Director McDowell will be recognizing Schramm's Mead in Ferndale with the "Rising Star Award." The company has grown their sales of Michigan mead into several regions of the world in a short time and have partnered strategically with other Michigan companies along the value-chain. Schramm's is the leading producer of mead, the fermented beverage from honey. They use an extremely conservative production protocol, using natural ingredients and minimal processing. Demand for their product has been very high; some releases sell out within hours. The company's export markets include Great Britain, the mainland of western Europe, and Japan.

### **MABA Annual Meeting**

Director McDowell will be speaking at the annual MABA meeting on Mackinac Island on September 17.

### **NASDA Annual Meeting**

Director McDowell, Ken McFarlane and Mike Philip will be attending this year's NASDA Annual Meeting in Louisville, KY on September 19-22. NASDA is a nonpartisan, nonprofit association which represents the elected and appointed commissioners, secretaries, and directors of the departments of agriculture in all 50 states and four U.S. territories.

### **West MI Food Processing Association 'FutureFood21 Conference'**

On September 24, Director McDowell will be giving remarks at the annual conference of the West Michigan Food Processing Association. The event was originally scheduled to be held in Muskegon; however, it will now be held virtually. Jodi Gruner of our Agriculture Development Division has been assisting with the logistics.

### **Tri-National Accord**

This year's Tri-National Accord will be held October 25-27 in Arlington, VA. MDARD will have representation at this meeting which focuses U.S./Canadian/Mexican agricultural trade and development issues.

### **MDARD Employee Awards Ceremony**

This year's annual Employee Award Ceremony will be held on Tuesday, November 2. At this point, we're anticipating a hybrid ceremony. Details are currently being worked

out. We welcome the Commission's participation in honoring and recognizing our incredible staff.

### **Status of Remote Work for MDARD Staff**

To provide our staff with more time to understand the impacts of the most recent office work requirements (particularly the recent mask mandate and visitor policy), we are now extending our remote work status to 10/1/21.

### **MAEAP Reauthorization Update**

Discussion continues to occur with staff, stakeholders, legislators, and the Governor's Office on improvements to the MAEAP program. Reauthorization is critical to ensure our efforts on water quality and monitoring are realized.

### **Climate Council Update**

MDARD continues to participate on the monthly meeting of the Council for Climate Solutions. At the August meeting, a presentation was made on climate and the environmental impacts on income challenged areas. There was also a presentation on expanding electric vehicles focusing on challenges of scaling, human impacts, and opportunities for economic growth in underserved communities.

Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program (MAEAP) Standards

Can be found at the following link:

[MDARD - Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program \(MAEAP\)](#)

# Generally Accepted Fruit, Vegetables, Dairy, Meat, and Grain Processing Practices For Noise and Odor



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## PREFACE

The Michigan legislature passed into law the Michigan Agricultural Processing Act, (1998 PA 381), which requires the establishment of Generally Accepted Fruit, Vegetable, Dairy, Meat and Grain Processing Practices. These Generally Accepted Processing Practices (GAPPs) are written to provide uniform, statewide standards and acceptable management practices based on standard industry practices. These practices can serve processors in the various sectors of the industry for comparison or improvement of their own managerial routines. New scientific discoveries and changing economic conditions may require necessary revision of the GAPPs.

These practices were developed with industry, university, and multi-governmental agency input. As agricultural processing operations continue to change, new practices or technologies may become available to address the concerns of the neighboring community. Agricultural processors who voluntarily follow these practices are provided protection from public or private nuisance litigation under the Michigan Agricultural Processing Act.

Adherence to these GAPPs does not affect the application of other state and federal statutes.

The Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) website for GAPPs is <http://www.michigan.gov/gapps>.



## I. INTRODUCTION

Like all other segments of our economy, agriculture has changed significantly during the past 50 years and will continue to change in the future. Agricultural processing has also experienced these same economic, technical, and competitive changes, as land use changes around these operations. As a result, processing facilities must have the flexibility and opportunity to change and adopt newer technology to remain economically viable and competitive in the marketplace while being protective of the environment. If a healthy, growing processing industry in Michigan is to be assured, efforts must continue to address concerns of processors and their neighbors, particularly in two areas: (1) processors who use GAPPs in their operations should be protected from harassment and nuisance complaints and (2) persons living near processing operations, who do not follow GAPPs, need to have concerns addressed when nuisance problems occur.

No two processing operations in Michigan can be expected to be the same, due to a large variety of variables, which together determine the nature of a particular operation. Record keeping is an important part of any processing operation. A GAPPs Management and Monitoring Plan is recommended for all processors. This plan will help the processor show conformance with the GAPPs. Processors may request a proactive inspection from MDARD for a GAPPs determination. Upon receipt of a nuisance complaint to MDARD, or as result of a proactive inspection, the processor may be required to develop a management and record keeping plan to verify conformance with the GAPPs. In addition to the information contained in this document, conformance with GAPPs requires that the management, storage, transport, utilization, and land application of fruit, vegetable, dairy product, meat, and grain processing by-products be in a manner consistent with Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices as established under the Michigan Right to Farm Act, 1981 PA 93, MCL 286.471 to 286.474.

### **About This Document**

For quick reference, management standards are first presented as a **bold text** statement. This list is not meant to convey all the information regarding GAPPs. Rather, it is intended to be a useful tool to assist individuals in determining what management practices exist and in what section of this document further information can be found. The remainder of the document provides additional information on each of these management practices. The un-bolded text provides supplemental information to help clarify the intent of the recommended management practices.

Appendix A provides an outline for development of a GAPPs Management Plan.

## II. DEFINITIONS

- (a) "Dairy product" means all of the following:
- (i) Dairy product as that term is defined in section 12 of the manufacturing milk law of 2001, 2001 PA 267, MCL 288.572.
  - (ii) Milk product as that term is defined in section 4 of the grade A milk law of 2001, 2001 PA 266, MCL 288.474.
- (b) "Fruit and vegetable product" means those plant items used by human beings for human food consumption including, but not limited to, field crops, root crops, berries, herbs, fruits, vegetables, flowers, seeds, grasses, tree products, mushrooms, and other similar products, or any other fruit and vegetable product processed for human consumption as determined by the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development.
- (c) "Generally accepted fruit, vegetable, dairy product, meat, and grain processing practices" means those practices as defined by the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development. The Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development shall give due consideration to available Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development information and written recommendations from the Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources Extension and the Agricultural Experiment Station in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Food and Drug Administration, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, and other professional and industry organizations.
- (d) "Grain" means dry edible beans, soy beans, small grains, cereal grains, corn, grass seeds, hay, and legume seeds in a raw or natural state.
- (e) "Person" means an individual, corporation, partnership, association, limited liability company, or other legal entity.
- (f) "Processing" means the commercial processing or handling of fruit, vegetable, dairy, meat, and grain products for human food consumption and animal feed, which includes but not limited to the following:
- (i) The generation of noise, odors, waste water, dust, fumes, and other associated conditions.
  - (ii) The operation of machinery and equipment necessary for a processing operation including, but not limited to, irrigation and drainage systems and pumps and the movement of vehicles, machinery, equipment, and fruit and vegetable products, dairy products, meat, and grain products (*cont'd page 5...*)

and associated inputs necessary for fruit and vegetable, dairy, and grain, food, meat, or feed processing operations on the roadway as authorized by the Michigan vehicle code, 1949 PA 300, MCL 257.1 to 257.923.

- (iii) The management, storage, transport, utilization, and land application of fruit, vegetable, dairy product, meat, and grain processing by-products consistent with generally accepted agricultural and management practices as established under the Michigan Right to Farm Act, 1981 PA 93, MCL 286.471 to 286.474.
- (iv) The conversion from one processing operation activity to another processing operation activity.
- (v) The employment and use of labor engaged in a processing operation.
- (g) "Processing operation" means the operation and management of a business engaged in processing.
- (h) "State statutes" includes, but is not limited to, any of the following:
  - ( ) The county zoning act, 1943 PA 183, MCL 125.201 to 125.240.
  - (ii) The township zoning act, 1943 PA 184, MCL 125.271 to 125.310.
  - (iii) The city and village zoning act, 1921 PA 207, MCL 125.581 to 125.600.
  - (iv) The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act (NREPA), 1994 PA 451, MCL 324.101 to 324.90106
- (i) "Unverified nuisance complaint" means a nuisance complaint in which the director of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development, or his or her designee, determines that the processing operation is using generally accepted fruit, vegetable, dairy product, meat, and grain processing.

### III. NOISE

**Noise that arises from the normal and necessary operation of an agricultural processing operation should be managed to the extent practical to avoid creating a nuisance condition for neighboring properties.**

The goal with outdoor noise levels is to reduce the intensity, frequency and duration of the noise and to manage the operation in a way that tends to create a positive attitude towards the operation. Because of the subjective nature of human responses to noise levels, recommendations for appropriate technology and management practices are not an exact science. A variety of practices can be used based upon the type of noise, proximity of neighbors and populated areas, and the time of day the noise levels are at their greatest. Maintaining a noise level of no greater than 75 decibels (dB), based upon an eight-hour time weighted average, measured at the property line is below the established standard for workers inside a building and should prevent creating health concerns for neighbors. Standard operations should be at a minimum maintained below this level to avoid creating nuisance concerns. In addition, the following conditions should be considered:

1. Some common contributors of noise coming from a processing facility include fan motors, evaporators, heating and ventilation systems, and loading/unloading areas. Sound reduction barriers may be utilized to reduce noise from these areas. Sound reduction barriers can take on a variety of forms. They can include the installation of noise reducing materials around the system, earthen berms, or the planting of tree and hedge barriers. The practices installed at a particular facility will vary depending upon the equipment used and the site specific conditions.
2. Assuring source equipment is in good repair and management consistent with industry practices and manufacturers recommendations is essential to maintaining reasonable facility noise levels.
3. Conformance with this GAPP does not relieve the processor of the obligation to comply with lawful and regulatory limits.

#### **Exceptions**

Certain events at a processing facility will create noise levels distinct from normal operations. These events create acceptable exceptions to this GAPP. Three classes of such events are especially relevant.

1. Seasonal Variation. Most food processors use raw agriculture products that have well defined harvesting times which result in peak processing needs for in-plant operation and input logistics (trucks, storage equipment, etc.). During these peak seasonal events, noise levels may exceed those of more normal operations but remain necessary for the effective operation of the processor.

Noise levels exceeding the 75 dB, or normal operation levels, but necessary to temporary peak operations are considered to be in conformance with this GAPP.

2. Maintaining Worker Safety. Due to worker safety concerns and compliance with worker safety requirements, vehicles and equipment may be equipped with safety devices such as back-up beepers or audible warning alarms. This equipment is considered essential to protecting worker safety. Operation and use of these alarms shall be considered to be in conformance with these GAPPs.
3. Construction, Maintenance, and Site Modifications. There may also be unique temporary circumstances which will affect the noise level of a processing site. During time periods where there are temporary disruptions to normal operations, processors should be encouraged to alert neighboring property owners of the circumstances and the duration of the project. Standard practices shall be utilized and the noise associated with those practices should be considered to be in conformance with this GAPP.

### **Documentation and Conformance**

Processing facilities should monitor noise levels outside of their buildings and at the property line. Records should be maintained to show the noise levels detected at various times throughout the operational day and year in order to determine seasonal variations. The records should be maintained on site to show conformance with this GAPP.

Depending on the perceived noise, it may be possible to estimate the noise level without instrumentation. There are various charts available of the noise levels at some distance of common noise generators. If various background noises such as insects, nearby highways, etc. can be used for comparison, be sure to include them in the documentation.

If a noise survey has been performed in the work spaces, it may be possible to conduct a comparison between the various determined zones of noise levels and those outside of the building for an estimate.

Instrument measurements are beneficial when the decibel level is questionable. When instrumentation is used, be aware that noise can originate from multiple sources. Measurements at different distances may be useful to determine if off-site sources are contributing. Building walls, hills, and other structures may reduce noise levels. The drop-in noise levels resulting from the implementation of these practices is highly variable and should be measured on-site to determine actual effectiveness. Alternatively, they can be left out of any measured values and referenced as an additional factor, not included in the measurement, rendering the result as a conservative estimate.

## IV. ODOR

**Odor that arises from the normal and necessary operation of an agricultural processing operation should be managed to the extent practical to avoid creating a nuisance condition for neighboring properties.**

The goal for effective odor management is to reduce the frequency, intensity, duration, and offensiveness of odors, and to manage the operation in a way that tends to create a positive attitude toward the operation. Because of the range of human sensitivities to certain odors, odor management should consider that some people will be more adversely affected by a given odor than others. Selection of appropriate technologies and odor management practices must be determined on a case-by-case basis considering the source and nature of the odors as well as varying human sensitivity. The recommendations in this section are intended to provide a variety of responses that can be used to address odor concerns. The following management practices provide guidance on how to minimize potential odors from processing operations.

The principles upon which the most common and effective techniques for odor control are based include (1) reducing the formation of odor-causing gases and (2) reducing the release of odorous gases into the atmosphere. The degree to which these principles can be applied to the various odor sources depends on the level of technology and management that can be utilized.

One main source of odors are those associated with the anaerobic (in the absence of oxygen) decomposition of organic material by microorganisms. The intensity of odors depends upon the biological reactions that take place within the material, the nature of the material, and the surface area of the odor source. Sources of decomposition can include organic materials stored on-site prior to removal.

Processors should select and implement those practices which are applicable, appropriate, and practical for their operations. Odors may indicate an inefficient or improperly operated activity and opportunities may exist to increase operational efficiencies. The following are several practices that can be considered in reducing odor concerns:

- Avoid storage of materials which will create odor-forming gases to the extent possible. Alternatives should be considered for reducing storage of these materials or reusing them in a beneficial manner.
- Use available weather information to your best advantage. Temperature inversions and hot, humid weather tends to concentrate and intensify odors, particularly in the absence of breezes, while turbulent breezes will dissipate and dilute odors.
- Take advantage of natural vegetation barriers, such as woodlots or windbreaks, to help filter and dissipate odors.

Establish vegetated air filters by planting conifers and shrubs as windbreaks and visual screens between odor sources and residential area.

- The odor of fermented processing materials, such as waste products or products headed to a secondary market, can be minimized by storing them at the appropriate dry matter content (generally no greater than 33 percent moisture). Keeping excessive moisture out of the material will reduce the presence of anaerobic bacteria. Use covered storage if technically and economically feasible and evaluate ventilation systems to prevent buildup of gases, moisture, and heat that may intensify odors.
- Design, operate and maintain by-product and waste handling and treatment systems per established good engineering practices and standards.
- Establish operating procedures for handling and treatment of by-products and wastes. Ensure employees are properly trained in these operational procedures.
- Frequent removal of spilled materials from outside spaces, coupled with appropriate storage will reduce odor potential.
- Avoid disturbing odor sources (such as dredging storage ponds) during times such as holidays and community events to the extent possible. Take advantage of cold weather seasons to complete these activities when feasible. Communicating with landowners as to when these events will occur and the duration of the event can help reduce odor concerns.
- Clean exhaust fans and shutters regularly of dust and debris to maximize warm season ventilation.
- Maintain equipment in good working order and in accordance with normal management practices.
- Maintaining positive community relations will also prevent the occurrence of nuisance complaints. Keeping the facility area esthetically pleasing and participation in community events helps to build positive community relations.

### **Exceptions**

Due to the nature of processing, certain odors may increase in intensity for a limited period of time during process start-up, shut-down, or product changeover. Other activities integral to agricultural processing, such as agitation, cleaning, and maintenance of storage structures or ponds, can occur at various times of the year, depending upon the operational needs of the facility. These temporary changes are acceptable under this GAPP provided they are normal and necessary to the operation. These activities may increase the intensity of the odors but should be relatively short in duration. Some larger facilities, or those with unique circumstances, may require a greater period of time for completing these activities in an appropriate manner. When possible, proper planning should occur prior to the event. Processors should maintain records of when these events occur and evaluate improvements to reduce odors and incorporate those improvements into their Odor Management Plan. Care should be taken to minimize off-site odor impacts to avoid creating a violation under the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, Public Act 451 of 1994.

## **Documentation and Conformance**

Documenting conformance with odor reduction should include routine olfactory observations made around the facility. A processor should evaluate their facility for potential odor sources and determine what practices are appropriate for addressing the concerns. Keeping records of odor events noted by employees, service providers, and neighbors, and determining the source of the concern will help the processor in addressing future concerns and create awareness by the processor of the activities creating potential odor concerns.

The development of an Odor Management Plan can also assist the processor in identification of odor sources and implementation of odor reduction practices. The goal of an effective Odor Management Plan is to identify opportunities and propose practices and actions to reduce the frequency, intensity, duration, and offensiveness of odors that neighbors may experience in such a way that tends to minimize impact on neighbors and create a positive attitude toward the processor. A processor experiencing odor concerns from a neighboring property should develop an Odor Management Plan in order to attempt to avoid neighbor conflicts. Some aspects of an Odor Management Plan include working with employees or routine service providers and asking them to report noticeable offensive odor events as they come and go from the facility and travel the community. The intent is to establish and maintain an effective, open line of communication with immediate neighbors so that they too will be comfortable reporting odor events to the facility.



## V. APPENDIX A - GAPP Management Plan

### Description of Facility:

- Indicate facility type, location and operational times
- Identify times of year where increases in noise and odor levels are expected to be greatest due to operational changes
- Schedule for plan review and evaluation

### Noise Monitoring:

- Identify any areas of noise generation that may create a concern for neighboring properties
- Determine what practices may be utilized to reduce or eliminate noise level concerns
- Determine frequency of noise to determine appropriate monitoring schedule
- Document schedule that will be followed
- Document methodology that will be used to determine noise levels (i.e. comparison to common noise generators, monitoring equipment)
- Keep records

### Odor Monitoring

- Identify any areas of odor generation that may create a concern for neighboring properties
- Determine what practices may be utilized to reduce or eliminate odor concerns
- Determine frequency and quantify intensity of odor to determine appropriate monitoring schedule
- Document schedule that will be followed
- Document methodology that will be used to determine odor levels (i.e. complaints from neighbors, employees, or regular service providers)
- Keep records

## VI. APPENDIX B - REVIEW COMMITTEE

Listed below are the Food Processing GAPP Committee members that developed these Generally Accepted Fruit, Vegetable, Dairy, Meat, and Grain Processing Practices for Noise and Odor for agricultural processing operations.

### **Dr. H. Christopher Peterson, Chair**

Nowlin Chair of Consumer- Responsive Agriculture &  
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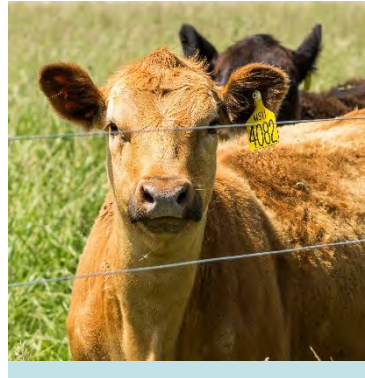
## **2022 Draft Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices (GAAMPs)**

Can be found at the below link:

[MDARD - Right to Farm \(michigan.gov\)](#)

# Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) Program Update

Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development Meeting  
September 15, 2021



**Nora Wineland, DVM, MS, DACVPM**  
State Veterinarian and Division Director  
Animal Industry Division

# Overview

## Key Updates

- **Positive Herds**
- **Bovine TB Program**
- **2021 Bovine TB Deer Surveillance from DNR**
- **Discussions on New MOU**

# Positive Herds Update



# Positive Herds Update

## **Herd # 77 (January 15, 2020)**

- Alcona County beef herd
- Routine annual WHT in MAZ
- *Eligible for verification test in October 2021*

### Found through trace:

- **Herd # 78 (March 10, 2020)**
- Allegan County
- *Released from quarantine on September 15, 2020*
  
- **Feedlot # 6 (March 11, 2020)**
- Saginaw County
- *Released from quarantine on October 31, 2020*

# Positive Herds Update

## Herd # 79 (July 7, 2020)

- Montmorency County small dairy
- Routine annual WHT
- *Released from quarantine on July 13, 2021*

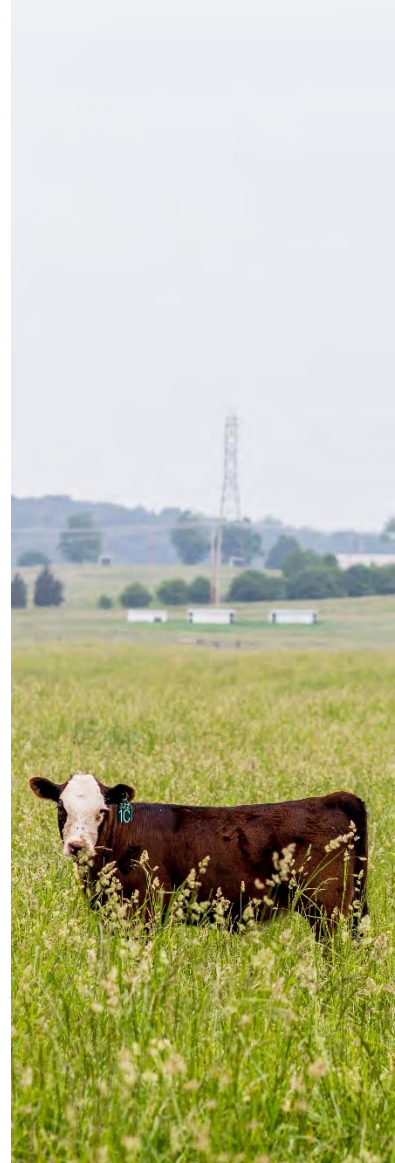




# Positive Herds Update

## Herd # 80 (November 10, 2020)

- Alpena County beef herd
- Routine movement test, October 2020
- Undergoing test-and-removal program
- *Eligible for verification test in December 2021*



# Positive Herds Update

## Herd # 81 (March 11, 2021)

- Cheboygan County beef herd
- Buffer county surveillance
- Undergoing test-and-removal program
- *Eligible for verification test in February 2022*



# Bovine TB Program Update



# Bovine TB Program Update: Protecting Herds

- Deer surveillance conducted by Wildlife Services identified several areas with high deer density outside the EWB
  - Offering cost-share projects to help with infrastructure
  - Using savings from past year to fund
- Suggestions and recommendations from the TB Advisory Committee's subgroup on WRM

# Bovine TB Program Update: Current MOU Requirements

## Presque Isle (PI) County

- January 1, 2021 → Annual WHT
- January 1, 2021 → Movement testing



# Bovine TB Program Update: Current MOU Requirements

## Remaining Buffer Counties:

**Cheboygan, Crawford, Iosco, Ogemaw, Otsego,  
and Roscommon**

- **150 WHTs** per year from combined counties
  - Two years, then reevaluate
    - First year complete
    - Found Herd 81



# Bovine TB Program Update: Current MOU Requirements

- If active sampling of **300 deer per county** is **not** achieved:
  - In 2020, Cheboygan, Crawford, Otsego, and Roscommon fell short of this goal
  - Therefore, WHT is required over a three-year period



Jared Duquette, PhD  
Wildlife Division Chief



Photo: M. Cosgrove, MDNR

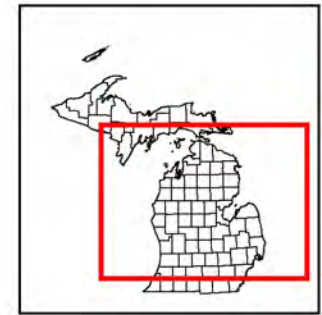
# 2021 BOVINE TUBERCULOSIS DEER SURVEILLANCE





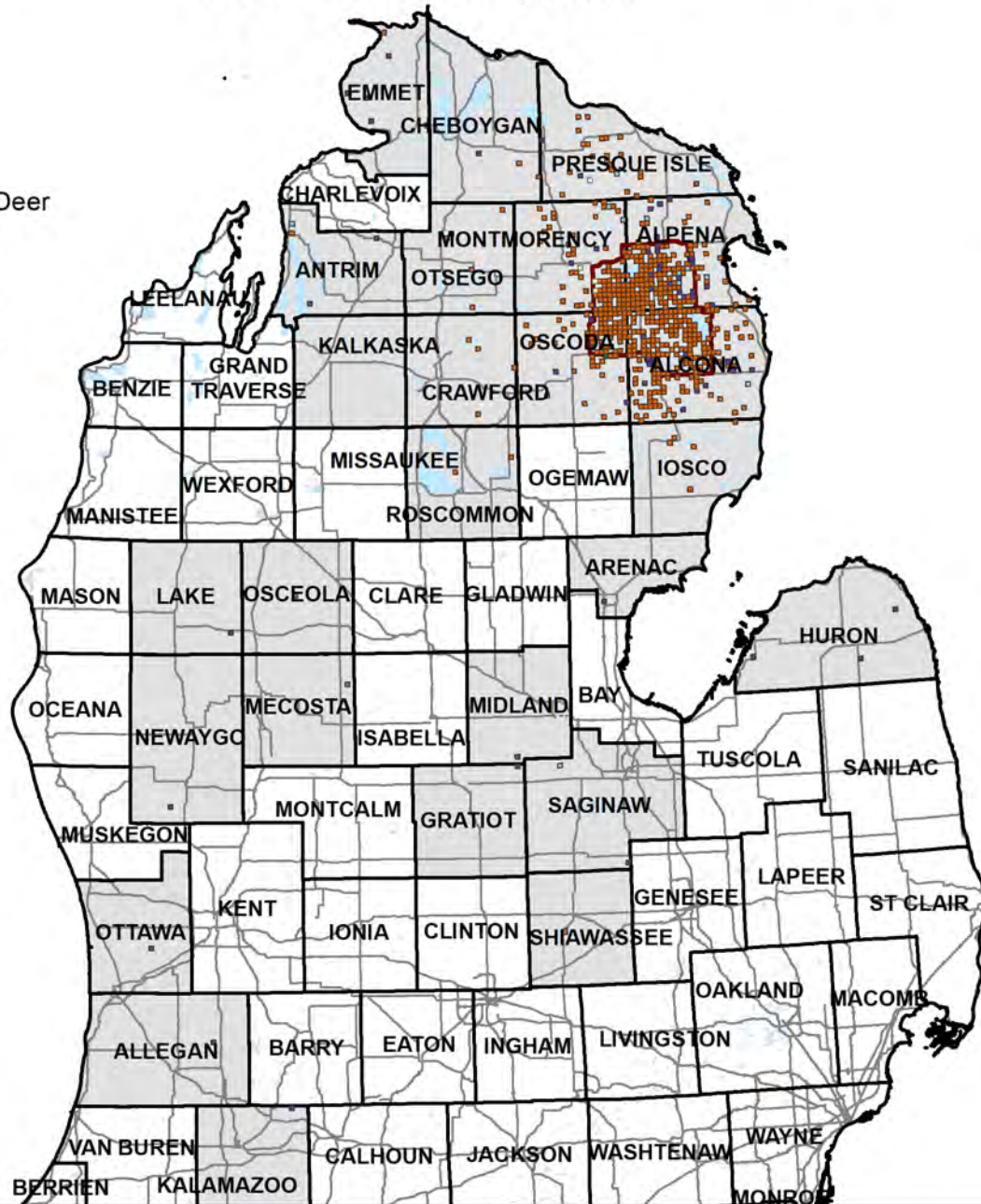
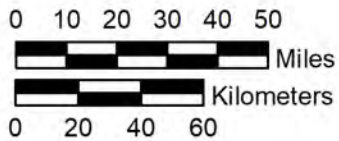
# CONSIDERATIONS FROM 2020

# Bovine Tuberculosis Surveillance in Michigan 1975 - March 22, 2021

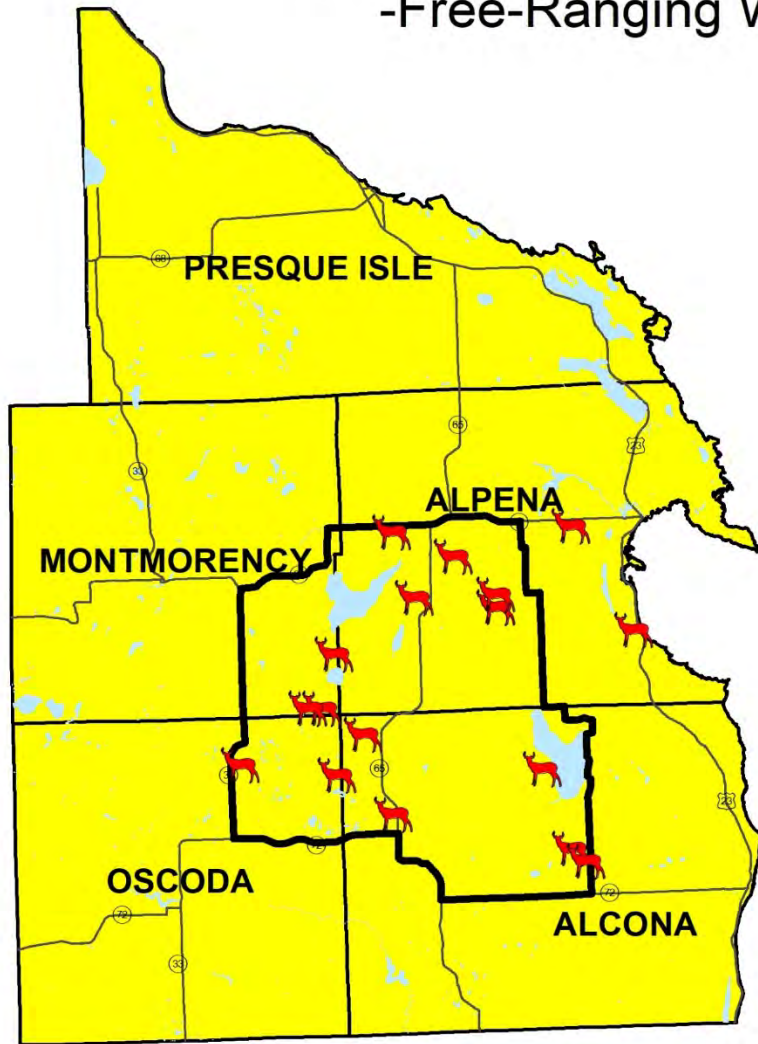


## Legend







- TB Positive Free-ranging Deer
- TB Positive Beef Cattle
- TB Positive Dairy Cattle
- TB Positive Captive Deer
- TB Positive Bison
- DMU 452
- County Boundary
- Major Road



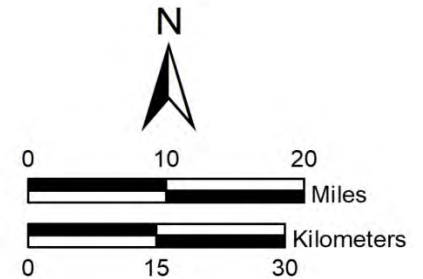
# 2020 Bovine Tuberculosis Survey Results -Free-Ranging White-tailed Deer-



**Legend**

-  Location of TB Positive Deer\*
-  DMU 452
-  County with Positive Deer 1975-2020
-  County Line
-  Water
-  Highway

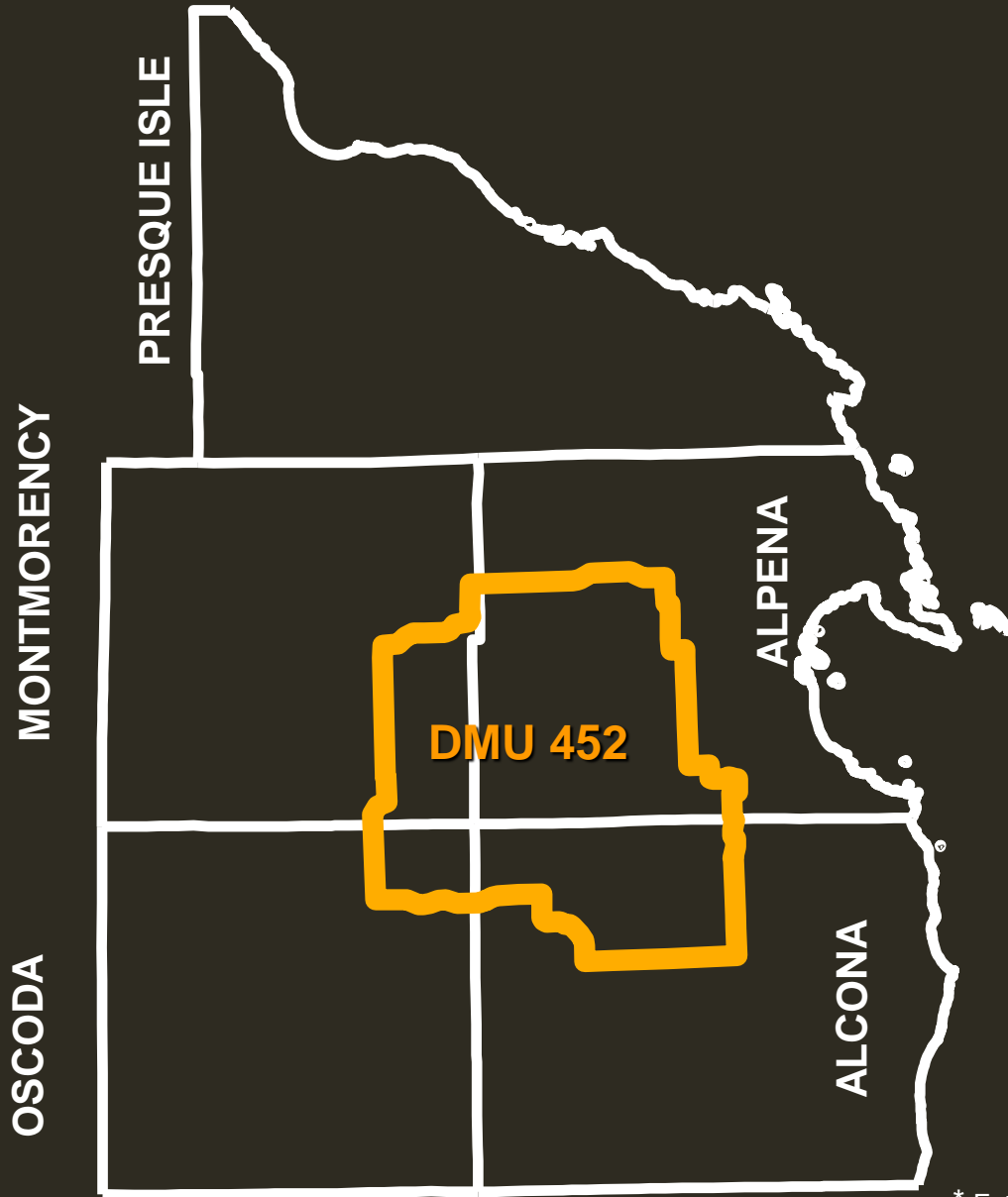
**Positive Deer 2020 = 20**  
**Positive Deer 1975-2020 = 949**



March 12, 2021 (MC)

\*Two deer (1-Alcona, 1-Alpena) not shown due to incomplete harvest locations

# Apparent TB Prevalence in White-tailed Deer



Year	DMU452	5-Co.Outside DMU452
1995	4.9%	(no testing)
1996	2.5%	0.2%
1997	4.7%	0.4%
1998	2.7%	0.3%
1999	2.4%	0.2%
2000	2.5%	0.4%
2001	2.3%*	0.5%
2002	2.6%	0.5%
2003	1.7%	0.2%
2004	1.7%	0.2%
2005	1.2%	0.1%
2006	2.3%	0.3%
2007	1.4%	0.2%
2008	1.9%	0.3%
2009	1.9%	0.4%
2010	1.8%	0.2%
2011	1.2%	0.1%
2012	1.7%	0.3%
2013	1.7%	0.2%
2014	1.0%	0.2%
2015	2.7%	0.3%
2016	2.0%	0.3%
2017	2.3%	0.6%
2018	2.1%	0.1%
2019	2.1%	0.4%
<b>2020</b>	<b>2.1%</b>	<b>0.1%</b>

\* Extrapolated from head-only apparent prevalence; Mandatory head testing.

# 2020: NOTABLE DATA

Measured prevalence in DMU 452 likely an **underestimate**

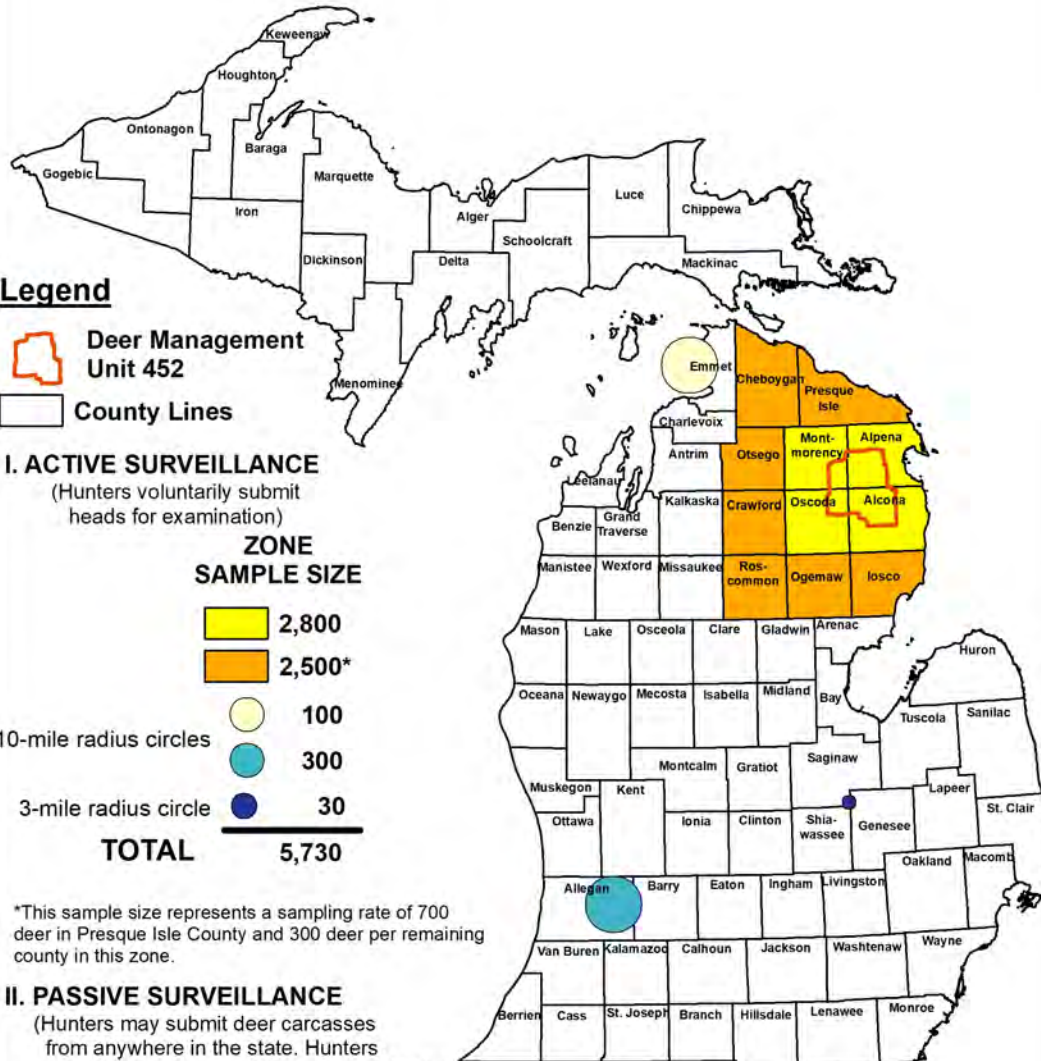
- Fewer bucks tested (**285**); 54% of 5 yr. avg. (**526**); lowest since 1995 (**191**)
- Bucks more likely to be TB+ than does (**~3 - 9X depending on age**)

Positive fawn; first since 2001 and only the third ever





# 2021-2022 SURVEILLANCE

# 2021 Michigan Bovine Tuberculosis (TB) Surveillance Plan for Free-Ranging White-Tailed Deer



## Legend

-  Deer Management Unit 452
-  County Lines

## I. ACTIVE SURVEILLANCE

(Hunters voluntarily submit heads for examination)


### ZONE SAMPLE SIZE

-  2,800
-  2,500\*

 100

 300

10-mile radius circles

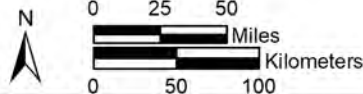
3-mile radius circle  30

**TOTAL** **5,730**

\*This sample size represents a sampling rate of 700 deer in Presque Isle County and 300 deer per remaining county in this zone.

## II. PASSIVE SURVEILLANCE

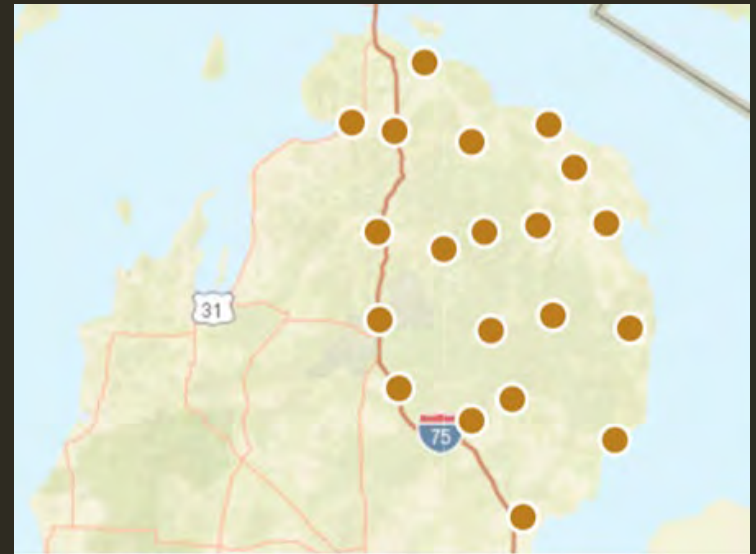
(Hunters may submit deer carcasses from anywhere in the state. Hunters are educated through information and color pictures of TB lesions in the Hunting and Trapping Guide and TB brochure.)



# DEER CHECK STATIONS & DROP BOXES

Check stations will return to pre-2020 operation. Additional station open at the Indian River DNR Field Office in Cheboygan County.

Fourteen 24-hour hunter self-service drop boxes 1 Oct – 4 Jan, including one in Cheboygan County.



*Locations of deer check stations and 24 hr hunter self-service drop boxes in 2021*



# DEER HEAD COLLECTION REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

Program to reimburse processors and taxidermists who assist with head collection in TB zone has been expanded from the pilot last year. Thirteen cooperators are enrolled covering both the MAZ and adjacent counties. They can be reimbursed at two levels:

- **\$10/head** – tag head + harvest info data
- **\$20/head** – tag head + harvest info data + enter data into system

# DEER HEAD COLLECTION REIMBURSEMENT PROGRAM

1. Hunters must consent to the testing of their deer heads before they are submitted
2. Supplies for head collection will be provided by DNR
3. Processors work with DNR staff to arrange for the pick-up of collected heads
4. Processors notified when the quota in a county is reached—at that point, reimbursement for further head collection from that county will cease

# APHIS WILDLIFE SERVICES

- Localized sharpshooting to reduce deer density
- Provided greater Wildlife Division funding this year to dedicate to TB zone

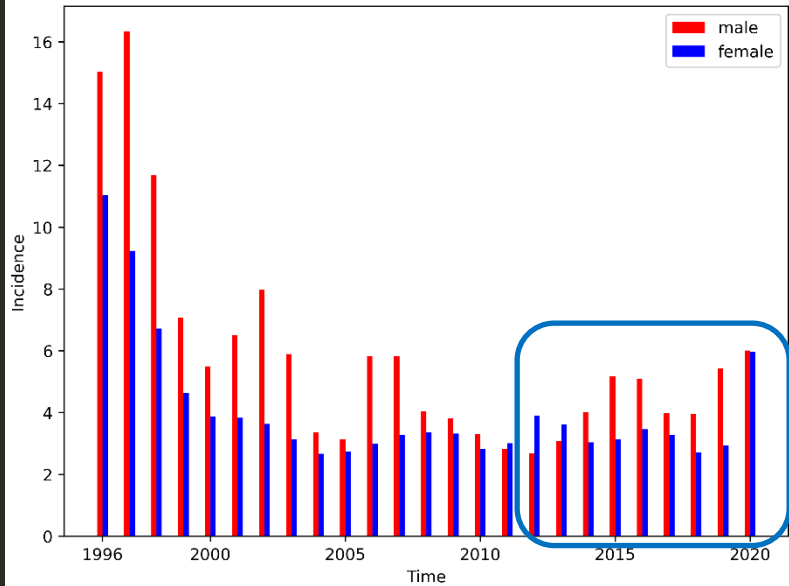


**MOVING FORWARD**

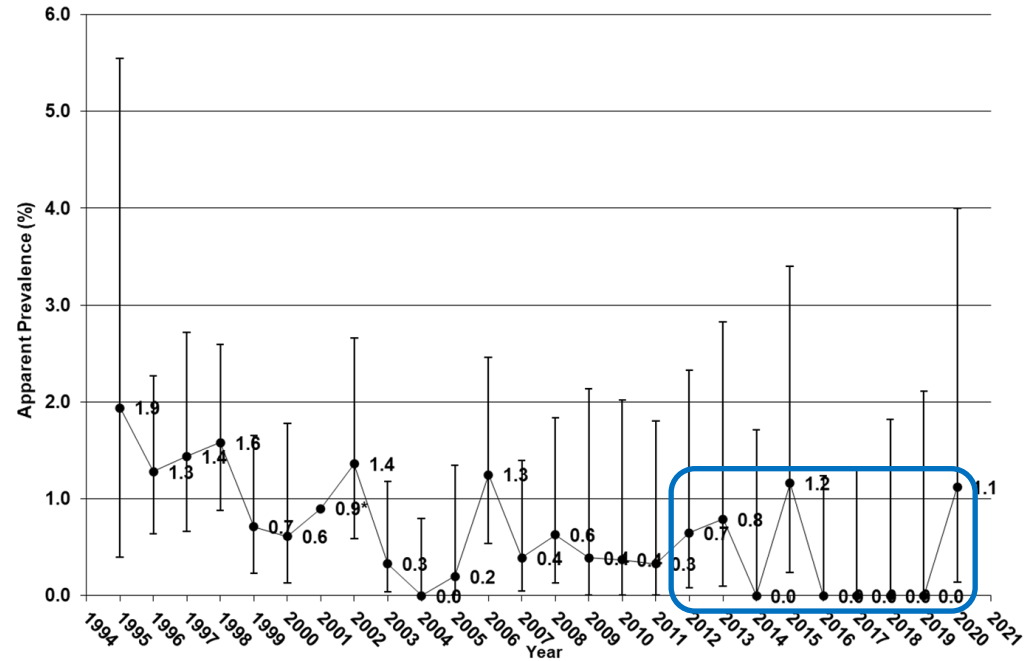
# NEW TOOL: FORCE OF INFECTION (FOI)

- New cases/1000 deer vs. % tested that are positive
- Better portrays TB transmission rate at a given time
- Reduces time lag between increased transmission and knowing that it's happening
- Overcomes some sampling biases (e.g., few yearlings tested)

# Incidence



# Prevalence

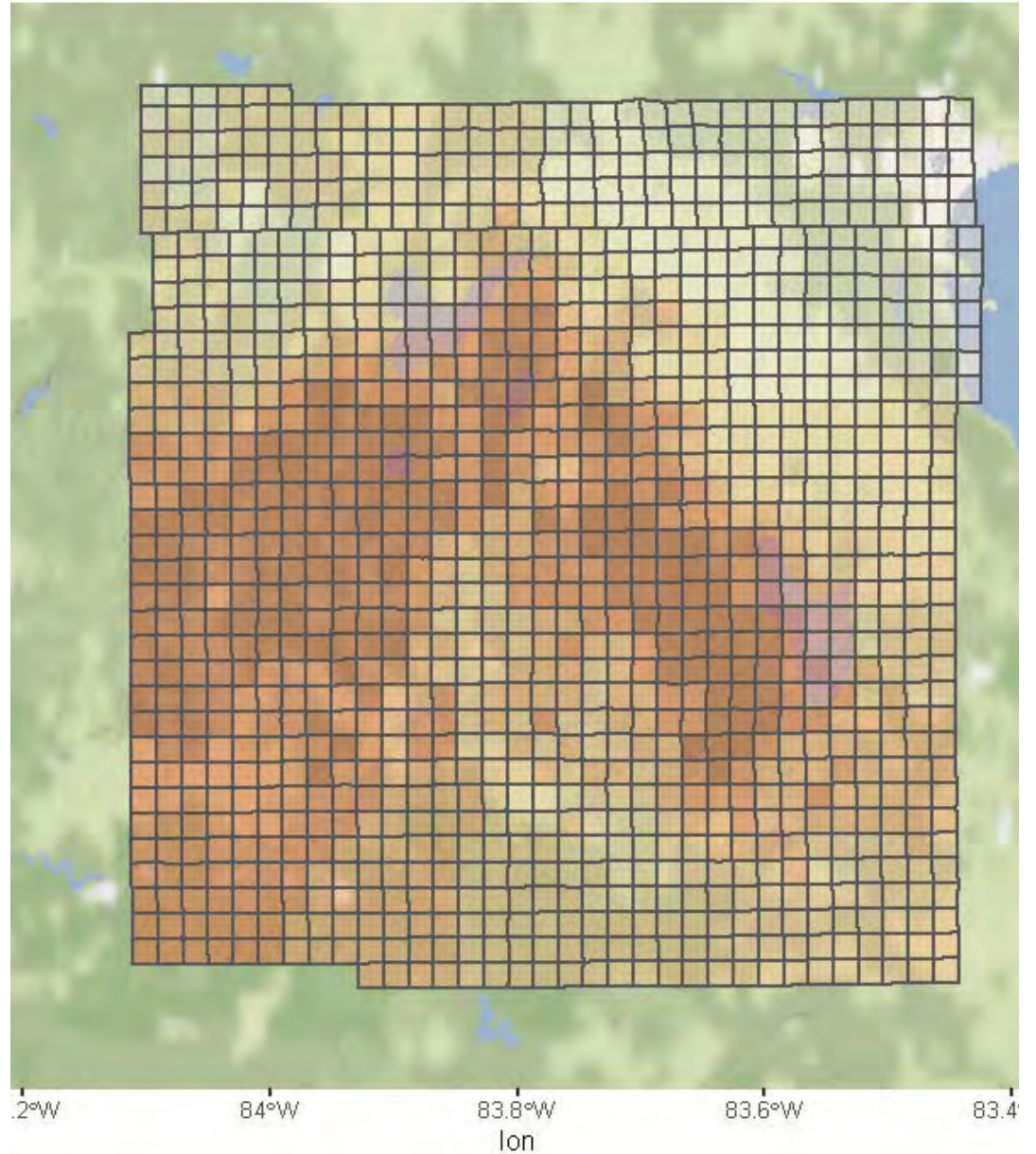


*Incidence* increasing since at least 2012 while *prevalence* was mostly flat

# FOI PREDICTION

---

TB Hazard, all ages, core outbreak area, 1996-2020



# ONGOING VACCINE STUDY

- USDA National Wildlife Research Center
- Lyophilized bait
- Currently determining best delivery method





THANK YOU!



# Discussion on New MOU Update



# Discussion on New MOU Update

**MOU has been extended to April 15, 2022**

**Weekly discussions are being held with USDA**

**Currently, evaluating approach to buffer surveillance**

# QUESTIONS?



@MIDeptofAgriculture



@MichDeptofAg



Michigan Department  
of Agriculture & Rural  
Development



@MichiganAgriculture



Michigan Department  
of Agriculture & Rural  
Development



GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GARY MCDOWELL  
DIRECTOR

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY MANUAL  
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# MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT POLICIES

## OVERVIEW

This overview includes individual sections covering the following:

- Statement of Purpose
- Responsibilities
- Legal Authority
- Procedures
  - Officers
  - Compensation and Expenses
  - Meetings
  - Voting
  - Ethics
  - Policy Manual
- Resolutions
- Legislative, Legal, and Media Issues
- Public Appearance Guidelines
- Duties of the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development
- Policy Development

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE

The Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development has the responsibility to recommend, and in some cases determine, policy on food, agricultural, and rural development issues.

As gubernatorial appointees subject to the advice and consent of the Senate, the Commissioners are representatives of the Executive branch of government and cooperate and collaborate with the Governor in the development, creation, implementation, and communication of policy. Effective and efficient administration requires a significant degree of interaction, especially in the implementation of Executive Orders and Executive Directives issued by the Governor that apply to the Commission and to the department.

Michigan's multi-billion-dollar food and agriculture industry needs ongoing focus and support for it to continue to grow. To this end, the Commission encourages diverse, equitable, and inclusive partnerships of government, private industry, trade associations, and residents working toward common goals of protecting the public health, growing our economy, and preserving our environmental heritage.

The Commissioners strive to generate statewide interest and mobilize support for issues important to the food and agriculture sector and to promote the future health and growth of Michigan's vast food and agriculture economy.

## RESPONSIBILITIES

The Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development should assist the Governor in protecting Michigan's health, economy, and environment through policies that:

- Align with State of Michigan statutes, regulations, and Governor-issued Executive Directives and Orders;
- Protect public health, safety, and welfare of the people of the State of Michigan by reporting information about imminent threats;
- Enhance food safety;
- Prevent and mitigate diseases and pests of humans, plants, and animals;
- Promote land and water stewardship, including implementing the Domestic Action Plan for Lake Erie to decrease phosphorus by 40 percent by 2025;
- Develop land-use policies allowing for long-term agricultural viability;
- Develop, diversify, and expand agriculture's economic potential including encouraging opportunities for all businesses;
- Protect all consumers and ensure fairness in the marketplace;
- Recognize and celebrate the heritage of agriculture, including the events and activities that make Michigan a great place to live, work, and play;
- Promote and foster efforts supporting viable rural communities;
- Promote public awareness of Michigan agriculture, food, and fiber;
- Promote good stewardship of public resources, including reporting of irregularities relating to public money or public property;
- Coordinate and partner on food, agricultural, and rural development interests with government agencies at the federal, state, and local levels; the private sector, academia, and the many diverse and interested organizations to achieve these goals; and
- Participate from time to time as a group in food and agriculture industry tours.

## LEGAL AUTHORITY

The Michigan Commission of Agriculture was created under Act 13 of 1921 (attachment A); and reorganized under Act 380 of 1965, as amended (attachment B); and named in other statutes that provide specific duties and responsibilities. Executive Orders 2009-45 (attachment C), 2009-54 (attachment D), and 2011-2 (attachment E) further explain the role, powers, and duties of the Commission. Executive Order 2011-2 also renamed the Commission into the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development.

The Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development shall consist of five members, not more than three of whom shall be members of the same political party, appointed by the Governor and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The term of the office of each member shall be four years. A member appointed to fill a vacancy occurring other than by expiration of a term shall be appointed for the unexpired term. Each member of this commission shall hold their office until the appointment and qualification of their successor. The Commission shall elect from its members such officers as it deems advisable, and not later than March 31 of each year the Commission shall designate a Chair to serve in that role through March 31 of the following year, unless a new chair is elected prior to that date. A member may not serve as Chair for consecutive annual periods. Commissioners "shall be knowledgeable about modern agriculture or food supply and committed to the protection, promotion, and preservation of the food, agricultural, conservation, and economic interests of the People of the State of Michigan." (Executive Order 2009-54).

A majority of the Commission members serving is required to constitute a quorum.

The business of the Commission shall be in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Act 267 of 1976 (attachment F); and records of the Commission are subject to the Freedom of Information Act, Act 442 of 1976 (attachment G).

The chief executive officer of the department is the Director of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. The Director is appointed by the Governor and with the advice and consent of the Senate. The Director shall consult with the Commission on agricultural policy matters and the Commission may provide advice to the Director on matters relating to the department, including, but not limited to, agricultural policy.

The Commission has specific responsibilities as delegated within various pieces of legislation:

- a) Michigan Renaissance Zone Act, 1996 PA 376: responsibility to act on Agriculture Processing and Renewable Energy Renaissance Zones.
- b) Julian-Stille Value-Added Act, 2000 PA 322: responsibility to act on Value Added Grants and the Agriculture Development Fund.
- c) Insect and Plant Disease Act, 1931 PA 189: responsibility to act on Nursery Inspection Fees.



- d) Michigan Right to Farm Act, 1981 PA 93: responsibility to define and review annually the Generally Accepted Agriculture and Management Practices; and, make recommendation to the Director when a review of a Livestock Siting Suitability Determination is requested.
- e) Michigan Seed Law, 1965 PA 329: responsibility for prohibition of local ordinances unless reviewed by Commission.
- f) Anhydrous Ammonia Security Act, 2006 PA 417: responsibility to establish Safety and Security Practices.
- g) Michigan Organic Products Act, 2000 PA 316: responsibility to determine Registration Fees.
- h) Animal Industry Act, 1988 PA 466: responsibility for determination of Livestock Zoning and Movement Restrictions.
- i) Pseudorabies and Swine Brucellosis Control and Eradication Act, 1992 PA 239: responsibility to establish fee for testing of animals.
- j) Michigan Agricultural Processing Act, 1998 PA 381: responsibility to define Generally Accepted Practices for Processors.
- k) Food Law Act 92 of 2000, as amended: responsibility to consult on fees if the Local Health Department ceases their inspection.
- l) State Potato Industry Commission, 1970 PA 29: responsibility to provide permission for Potato Commission to re-apportion districts.
- m) State Bean Commission, 1965 PA 114: responsibility to provide permission for Bean Commission to re-apportion districts.
- n) Agricultural Commodities Marketing Act, 1965 PA 232: responsibility to provide permission for re-apportionment of 232 Check-Off Programs.
- o) Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Act, 1994 PA 451: responsibility to determine agriculture purpose within surface water discharge provisions; approval of conservation easement practices; approval of pesticide container recycling program; provision for reviewing local pesticide use ordinances; approval of Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program conservation practices; provision for reviewing local fertilizer ordinances; development and approval of voluntary groundwater stewardship practices; approval of members to Conservation Species Advisory Panel; identify jointly with Michigan Department of Environmental Quality 2,500 acres for cranberry production; definition of agriculture purpose for water diversions; water conservation measures and within the Generally Accepted

Agriculture and Management Practices; approval of scoring for purchase of Development Rights; spending of Ag Preservation funds; agriculture practices/Generally Accepted Agriculture and Management Practices within hunting / conservation practices; and orders on restricted species/invasives.

- p) Horse Racing Law of 1995, 1995 PA 279: promulgation of rules for premiums at fairs.

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## PROCEDURES

### Officers

Not later than March 31 of each year, the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development shall designate a member of the Commission as the Chair through March 31 of the following year, unless a new Chair is elected prior to that date. A member of the Commission may not be designated as Chair for consecutive annual periods. The Commission may also designate a member to serve as Vice Chair and as Secretary.

In the absence of the Chair, the Vice Chair, or in the absence of both, the Secretary, shall serve as Acting Chair.

### Compensation and Expenses

Members of the Commission shall serve without compensation (Executive Order 2009-54). Members of the Commission may receive reimbursement for necessary travel and expenses consistent with relevant statutes and the rules and procedures of the Civil Service Commission and the Department of Technology, Management, and Budget, subject to available funding.

Each Commissioner shall submit a signed expense voucher and statement of respective work completed to the Commission Assistant for payment.

### Meetings

The Commission shall hold meetings as it deems necessary.

The yearly meeting schedule will be set at the preceding November meeting, but is subject to change with proper notification.

The Commission reserves the right to cancel meetings or hold special meetings at the direction of the Chair and in accordance with the law.

The Commission shall:

1. Ensure at least three Commissioners, a quorum, are present at the posted meeting location;
2. If possible, post the alternate locations or technological attendance options as permitted by law as part of the formal Open Meetings Act notice, allowing the public to attend and participate through public comment;
3. Shall prohibit the use of texting, or other forms of electronic communication among its members during an open meeting that constitute deliberations toward decision-making or actual decisions in a manner violating the Open Meetings Act.

The Director, in consultation with the Chair, shall develop a proposed agenda for each meeting to include action items, staff reports, presentations, and public comment.

All Commission meetings shall be compliant with the Persons With Disabilities Civil Rights Act (attachment H).

The statement of purpose and agenda (when possible) shall be included in/with the posted Meeting Notice.

The Commission shall avoid meeting in facilities or areas subject to public access restrictions.

Minutes will be kept of all meetings of the Commission and retained per the Open Meetings Act and the State of Michigan Records Retention and Disposal Schedule.

### Voting

Unless otherwise requested by a Commissioner, voting on matters before the Commission is by voice vote. If any Commissioner requests a roll call vote, the Executive Assistant to the Commission shall record the vote of each Commissioner.

### Ethics

The members of the Commission shall adhere to basic principles for ethical conduct as outlined in statutes, rules, and Executive Directives.

A member of the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development:

- 1) Shall discharge the duties of the position in a nonpartisan manner, in good faith, in the best interests of this state, and with the degree of diligence, care, and skill that a fiduciary would exercise under similar circumstances in a like position.
- 2) Shall not make or participate in making a decision, or in any way attempt to use his or her position as a member of the Commission to influence a decision, on a matter before the department or the Commission regarding a loan, grant, or other expenditure in which the member is directly or indirectly interested.
- 3) Shall not be interested directly or indirectly in any contract with the department or the Commission that would cause a substantial conflict of interest.
- 4) Shall not use public resources to make contributions or expenditures.
- 5) Shall disclose governmental waste, fraud, and abuse to appropriate authorities.
- 6) Shall not represent a personal opinion as the opinion of the Governor, the Office of the Governor, a state department or agency, or any other governmental entity.
- 7) Shall not divulge to an unauthorized person, in advance of the time prescribed for its authorized release to the public, confidential information acquired as a result of their performance of governmental duties.
- 8) Shall report any alleged violation of these standards of ethical conduct to their department head.

- 9) Members of the Commission shall comply, and the Commission shall adopt policies and procedures for members to comply, with the requirements of this paragraph, State of Michigan statutes and regulations, Governor Directives and Orders, and all of the following:
- a) 1978 PA 472, MCL 4.411 to 4.430 (Lobbyists, Lobbying Agents, and Lobbying).
  - b) 1978 PA 566, MCL 15.181 to 15.185 (Incompatible Public Offices).
  - c) 1968 PA 318, MCL 15.301 to 15.310 (Conflicts of Interest).
  - d) 1968 PA 317, MCL 15.321 to 15.330 (Contracts of Public Servants with Public Entities).
  - e) 1973 PA 196, MCL 15.341 to 15.348 (Standards of Conduct for Public Officers and Employees).
  - f) 1976 PA 169, MCL 15.401 to 15.407 (relating to political activities by public employees).
  - g) 1976 PA 388, MCL 169.201 to 169.282 (the Michigan Campaign Finance Act).

#### Policy Manual

The Commission Policy Manual shall be reviewed, revised as necessary, and re-approved on at least a biennial basis.

## RESOLUTIONS

The Commission may adopt resolutions to honor or recognize individuals and organizations, or to represent the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development's position on a specific issue, topic or activity, and to convey that information or a request for action.

- A. For resolutions meant to represent the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development's position on a specific issue, topic or activity, or to convey a request of action on the part of others, the following procedure should be followed:
- A Commissioner with a resolution request should contact the Chair at least 20 days prior to a regularly scheduled Commission meeting;
  - The Director is contacted and appropriate staff, with particular expertise in the subject area, will be assigned to draft the resolution;
  - The draft resolution is returned to the Commission Chair and the Commissioner making the original request for review;
  - The draft is distributed to all Commissioners in the pre-meeting mailing one week prior to a regularly scheduled Commission meeting.
  - If it is deemed necessary to draft a resolution on the day of the Commission meeting, a Commissioner may request that the Commission Chair consider the resolution for placement on the agenda. If the Chair places the resolution request on the agenda, the Commission shall vote to approve the addition of the resolution to the agenda. Once formally placed on the agenda, the full Commission may consider the resolution.
- B. To qualify for a Commission Resolution upon employee retirement or other celebratory occasion, each individual or organization must meet at least one of the following criteria:
- Retirement after 15 years or more of employment with the state of Michigan and outstanding service as an employee of the department when recommended by division director and approved by the Director.
  - Outstanding contribution to an industry serviced by this department when recommended by the Director.
  - Any individual or organization so designated by the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development.
  - Other special circumstances.

- When possible, the draft resolution is presented for approval at the next Commission meeting. If the resolution is needed prior to that date, it may be approved at the discretion of the Commission Chair and presented for final approval at the next Commission meeting.

When appropriate, departmental retirees not qualifying for a Commission resolution shall receive a letter of commendation from the Director of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Procedures for writing resolutions shall be established by the Office of Communications with approval of the Commission Assistant and the Director.

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## LEGISLATIVE, LEGAL, and MEDIA ISSUES

Commissioners shall refer all legal, legislative, and media contacts relating to the duties of the Commission to the Director of the department or the Director's designee.

To remain informed on important public policy matters before the Legislature, the Commission asks for regular updates on legislative activities, and for the department to advocate positions on legislation in accordance with Commission policies and those policies established by the Governor.

The Commission shall occasionally be required to meet legislative obligations as included in appropriations boilerplate language.

When legislative urgency requires a response from the department, and there is no applicable policy from the Commission or the Governor, the Commission may call a special meeting pursuant to the Open Meetings Act.

Outside of Commission meetings, individual Commissioners may express their opinions to the Director on legislative issues.

While each Commissioner as a member of the public is free to contact their legislators and voice opinions during the legislative process or to the media, no Commissioner shall speak on behalf of the Commission to the media or on legislative matters unless done in coordination with the Director.



## PUBLIC APPEARANCE GUIDELINES

Public comment and input are important to the development of public policy. As a public body, the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development needs and wants to hear from the public. In the interest of fairness and ensuring there is adequate time for as many voices as possible, the Commission operates under the following guidelines:

1. Public appearances will be scheduled during the Public Comment period of a regular session of the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development. If there is a change in this scheduled time, it will be noted on the original agenda distributed in advance of the meeting. Those registering in advance (prior to noon on Friday before the week of the Commission meeting) of the meeting will be notified.
2. Persons addressing the Commission will be requested to identify their: name, address, and the organization (if any) they are representing. In those instances in which a person is representing an organization, the presenter should indicate whether the presentation represents the official views of the organization.
3. All persons wishing to address the Commission must declare their intent by completing a Public Appearance card prior to or during the Public Appearance portion of the meeting, unless they have already contacted the Assistant to the Commission, and their names appear on the agenda. For virtual meetings, those wishing to speak should note that in the chat function, and for those joining by telephone, the Chair will provide those wishing to speak opportunity to identify themselves and time to speak. For all meetings, the Chair will ask if there is anyone wishing to speak before closing the public comment period.
4. The public comment period(s) (time(s) allotted on agenda of the meeting will last until closed by the Chair or by vote of the Commission.
5. Anyone wishing to address the Commission is limited to a presentation of no more than three (3) minutes. Extensions shall be at the discretion of the Commission Chair or by vote of the Commission.

In instances where there are several speakers on the same subject, the Chair is authorized to request that the group appoint a representative to address the Commission on the group's behalf -or- each individual presentation shall be limited to three (3) minutes. If a spokesperson is designated, that individual may be granted 10 minutes.

- a. A group of persons speaking on a common subject are encouraged to choose a spokesperson for their group.

- b. The Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development will make every attempt to accommodate all individuals who wish to speak, and may set time frames different from those referenced above in order to encourage and allow maximum public input.
  - c. Questions asked by Commissioners and/or department staff will not be considered part of the three minutes allotted for public comment.
6. Fifteen (15) copies of written comments (if possible) should be provided to the Executive Assistant to the Commission for distribution, either prior to or at the meeting. This will allow the presenter to include detail and background not possible within the allowed time frame scheduled for oral presentation. These written comments will become a part of the formal Commission record and will provide the Commission and staff with a precise, clear reference upon which to base their response to concerns.

All documents distributed at the meeting will be considered public documents and are subject to provisions of the Freedom of Information Act. It is the responsibility of the presenter to make sure all statements made are accurate and based on fact.

7. The Commission, at its discretion, may or may not hear matters relative to litigation. The Commission will not comment on or question presentations made relative to matters that are in litigation. Contacts on legal matters made to the Commission should be referred to the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.
8. The public comment time provides the public an opportunity to speak. The Commission will not necessarily respond to the public comment.

DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE  
MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE and  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT

It shall be the responsibility of the Director to provide leadership and administrative oversight in the day-to-day activities of the department and to carry out the tasks as designated under law.

- A. The Director shall have authority over all employees, agents, and entities operating under the jurisdiction of the department.
- B. The Director shall assist the Commission in policy decisions for the department, the industry, and government, including policy decisions that may require consultation with Michigan's federally recognized Indian tribes, per the department's Tribal Consultation Policy. The Director shall also recommend adjustments in administrative policies both in the development and implementation thereof.
- C. The Director shall report to the Commission on a monthly basis or otherwise as the Commission requests, and shall direct appropriate staff to report as needed.
- D. The Director shall make recommendations to the Commission on issues that require Commission approval.
- E. The Director is the chief budget officer for the department. It is the duty of the Director to secure appropriate funding and human resources to carry out the department's programs and to recommend program adjustments where needed or required.
- F. The Director is the chief spokesperson for the department, including legislative matters, and shall be responsible for recommending changes in current law or to recommend new laws that further the goals and commitment of the department.
- G. The Director is the appropriate person to respond to Commission issues regarding department operation.

## POLICY DEVELOPMENT

Accurate information, based on scientific and economic research, is essential to development of sound policies. Recognizing its close operational relationships, the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development would work cooperatively with the Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy, the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, and the Michigan Natural Resources Commission as it strives toward promoting quality of life in Michigan; and, would seek input and expertise from other State of Michigan agencies and organizations as appropriate in developing policies to meet the objectives of the Commission and the department to serve the citizens of the State of Michigan. Further, public understanding is necessary to gain support of such policies.

The Commission may adopt policies as either overarching goals for, or as specific direction to the department.

An intensive ongoing communications effort should be developed to generate public awareness and support of policies recommended.

Policies adopted by the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development will be communicated to the Governor, Legislature, stakeholders, and the general public as necessary.

In the Policy development process, the Commission:

1. Recognizes the value of agricultural diversity in Michigan's agriculture sector. This diversity – in crop type, ownership, size of operation, etc. – contributes heavily to Michigan's economic success.
2. Recognizes the value of diversity, equity, and inclusion in Michigan's food and agricultural sector with inclusion of people in all protected classes as defined by the State of Michigan in the decision making process. This diversity of thought and inclusion contributes heavily to Michigan's economic success.
3. Recognizes that social change has led to greater consumer demand for wider food choices and consumer interest in food and agriculture systems and seeks to support new opportunities to meet these demands.
4. Recognizes that access to healthy food is an important issue to be addressed in underserved communities.
5. Recognizes the value of vibrant local food networks which provide greater stability for small farms and contribute to the quality of life for Michigan residents.
6. Recognizes the importance of food and agricultural businesses for the state's economic stability, and the vital role of the department's programs in supporting business activity.

7. Recognizes that good public policy requires a balance of competing interests, social and economic values, science, and the political environment. MDARD will consider all of these variables.
8. Recognizes the value of engagement with a broad array of stakeholders including those who have not traditionally been involved in policy development.
9. Recognizes that public policy decisions need to balance responsiveness with short-and long-term impacts, and considerations of those impacts on all of the people of the State of Michigan.
10. Recognizes the value of an intensive ongoing communication effort to generate public awareness and support of policies, including communication with the Governor and legislature, as necessary.
11. Recognizes the importance of climate and renewable energy to the food and agriculture sector, and to all the people of the State of Michigan.
12. Recognizes the importance of recycling and food waste prevention efforts.

These statements are not intended to be construed as a position on any specific policy issue.

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Overview of the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development Policies

Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

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**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY NO. 1**

Policy Title: **GUIDING PRINCIPLES**

By policy the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development affirms the department's commitment to lead and serve the citizens of Michigan through the following values:

- Integrity** We say what we will do and we do what we say. We shall strive to be role models to ensure that honesty, respect, fairness, impartiality, trustworthiness, and dependability are standards of all employees' personal and professional conduct.
- Excellence** We are committed to getting the work done in a way that we are proud of and that our stakeholders are confident in and impressed with. We are committed to the development of our organization's mission, values, goals, and systems to monitor, measure, and sustain quality.
- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion** We are committed to a sustainable department-wide diversity, equity, and inclusion program that fosters an enhanced workforce and brings added value to its mission in serving the people of the State of Michigan. We include all food and agriculture external stakeholders, members of the public, and every employee of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to be represented and contribute to the important decisions that affect their lives.
- Teamwork** We focus on what we can do together, sharing information, resources, and energy to achieve our vision for the department and the State of Michigan.
- Customer Focus** We provide the highest quality of service to our customers. It is our responsibility to identify customers and their expectations, and to devise ways to address their needs in a timely manner.
- Meeting Staff Needs** We are committed to the development of our entire workforce and encourage participation, learning, and creativity to foster individual achievement at all levels of the organization.
- Effective Communication** We encourage the exchange of ideas and information throughout the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and with our customers and organizational partners.

**Continuous  
Improvement**

We will take responsibility to seek out and advocate new methods for improving our services.

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Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

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**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY NO. 2**

Policy Title: **EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROGRAM**

The Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development is committed to equal opportunity and an inclusive culture in state employment, and promoting diversity, equity, and inclusion in the workforce through involvement and empowerment, where inherent worth and dignity of all people are recognized. The Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development reaffirms the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development's policy, which is attached.

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Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Page 1 of 2



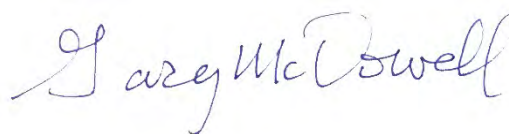
## EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY POLICY

The State of Michigan and the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development will provide equal employment opportunity for all persons regardless of religion, race, color, national origin, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity or expression, height, weight, marital status, partisan considerations, or a disability or genetic information that is unrelated to the person's ability to perform the duties of a particular job or position and will prohibit employment discrimination. Equal opportunities in state contracting and grant and loan programs and prohibiting discrimination in the provision of state services will be ensured.

The Department of Agriculture and Rural Development is committed to a department-wide diversity, equity, and inclusion program that builds upon our values and invests in our employees. We provide an inclusive culture through involvement and empowerment, where the inherent worth and dignity of all people are recognized.

This policy is promulgated consistent with state and federal law, including Governor Executive Directives.

The State of Michigan, Department of Agriculture and Rural Development and I, as the department Director, firmly support equal employment opportunity. I will ensure the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development is committed to reviewing all aspects of employment, including recruitment, selection, retention, and promotion, to identify and eliminate barriers to providing all persons equal employment opportunity. In hiring, the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development will ensure equal opportunity by not inquiring about an applicant's salary history.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Gary McDowell". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Gary McDowell, Director

Dated: January 1, 2021

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY NO. 3**

Policy Title: **DEPARTMENTAL SAFETY**

It shall be the policy of the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to foster the safety and occupational well-being of the department's employees during the performance of their official duties. All departmental employees shall work cooperatively to identify unsafe working conditions involving themselves and others. The department shall strive to meet or exceed federal, state, local and industrial safety and health standards.

This policy shall be implemented within the department by utilizing the following:

- A. An active safety program shall be developed, implemented and annually reviewed.
- B. The Director shall appoint a safety committee, composed of departmental staff, to provide recommendations to the Director regarding safety issues and programs.
- C. The Director shall provide ongoing education for employees on safety and the safe use of materials within the workplace.
- D. The Director shall designate an individual to serve as Departmental Safety Officer.

Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY NO. 4**

Policy Title: **PROMOTION OF AGRICULTURE**

It shall be the policy of the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to foster and encourage the expansion and promotion of all agricultural goods and services and improve public awareness of Michigan food and agriculture products and to strengthen the economy of rural Michigan.

We encourage positive public relations and promotional activities to increase sales of Michigan's products in cooperation with the food and agricultural industry, including commodity marketing programs and individual companies. It is important that consumers everywhere recognize the quality of Michigan products.

We encourage continued cooperation with all partners, stakeholders, and private industry. It is important to provide assistance in identifying and developing opportunities in new and existing markets domestically and internationally. We will provide the food and agricultural industry with current information and compliance assistance to support growth of the agri-food industry.

Further, we encourage the expansion of Michigan food and agriculture through business, education, research, legislative changes, and cooperation with other governmental agencies and organizations.

We are committed to and encourage expanding opportunities and fostering entrepreneurship for innovation and new technology within the food and agriculture sector. The Commission directs the department to assist in the coordination, development, and promotion of the bio-economy to improve the environment and economy of the Great Lakes State.

Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY NO. 5**

Policy Title:           **FOOD SAFETY  
ANIMAL AND PLANT HEALTH  
CONSUMER PROTECTION and INDUSTRY SUPPORT**

It is the policy of the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to help safeguard the health and welfare of all consumers of this state and to protect the food chain by assuring safe, secure, wholesome and accurately labeled food and other consumer products.

In accordance with its statutory duties, the department shall:

- Prevent, control, and eradicate reportable infectious, contagious and communicable diseases of domestic animals; and work with others on the prevention, control, and response to all diseases of animals;
- Prevent, control, and eradicate pests and diseases of plants;
- Prevent and respond to contamination of any portion of the food or feed supply by noxious materials or toxic substances;
- Protect all consumers' health by maintaining a safe and wholesome food supply; and,
- Promote the economic viability of food and agricultural industries in this state through producer security programs; grading, testing, and evaluation certification programs; and industry collaboration programs.

To achieve this, it shall be the mandate of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to:

- A. Enforce laws and regulations that: protect the safety and wholesomeness of foods; govern weights and measures and their respective devices and practices; govern the commercial handling, inspecting, and processing of farm produce; and govern product advertising and labeling;
- B. Provide regulatory response and resource expertise for support of domestic animal health and welfare programs, food and dairy, and weights and measures regulatory programs, and assist the livestock, food, and dairy industries;
- C. Enforce laws and regulations that protect the welfare of the public and the health of the livestock and animal industries of this state and work with the regulated industries and the veterinary profession to promote compliance;
- D. Provide, through laboratory services, accurate scientific analyses and technical data necessary to support the consumer protection and regulatory services of the department;

- E. Provide all Michigan consumers and agri-businesses the necessary technical assistance to ensure wholesomeness and purity of food, dairy, meat, poultry and consumer products;
- F. Conduct investigations and surveys and support research, when necessary, to monitor the state's food chain and recommend changes and modifications to existing standards to protect the food chain;
- G. Recommend necessary changes to existing laws and policies to accomplish these mandates;
- H. Provide personnel and expertise in the management and control of the food chain and animal and livestock industry during a crisis by providing effective emergency services planning and response within the department and participate in a coordinated statewide emergency preparedness program, to ensure the food chain, animal food supply, and livestock and plant industries are free from undesirable substances, diseases, and pathogens;
- I. Seize, control, or quarantine animals and plants, when necessary, to protect the food chain and the animal and plant industries of this state and destroy and dispose of animals and plants in those situations where threat of exposure to the food chain or the environment is imminent;
- J. Seize or otherwise control food and food products to protect the health and welfare of all consumers;
- K. Seize or otherwise control animal feeds and other products to protect animals, and the health and welfare of all consumers;
- L. Work with the dairy, grain, nursery and other industries to facilitate legislatively enacted producer security and inspection programs; and
- M. Collaborate with Michigan's fairs, festivals, and other agricultural events to celebrate Michigan's agricultural heritage and promote understanding and support for Michigan's food and agriculture industry.

Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(date)

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY NO. 6**

Policy Title: **EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT**

It is the policy of the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development that the department maintain an ongoing capability to prepare for, respond to, recover from, and mitigate impacts of emergencies and disasters affecting the food and agricultural resources of this state.

The department will utilize the principles of the National Incident Management System and will appoint an Emergency Management Coordinator to provide leadership, assistance, and support to employees of the department in meeting their responsibilities to the food and agriculture sector and the general public during times of emergency or disaster. The principal duties of the Emergency Management Coordinator are:

- Establish and maintain an emergency management program based on departmental duties and structure that is capable of responding to emergencies and disasters affecting Michigan's food and agricultural resources;
- Maintain the Food and Agriculture support plans to the Michigan Emergency Management Plan as required by Public Act 390 of 1976; and prepare and train departmental personnel to meet the emergency and disaster responsibilities of the department.
- Represent the department and its stakeholders on the Michigan Citizen-Community Emergency Response Coordinating Council to advance the cause of emergency planning in the food and agriculture sector as required by SARA Title III, PL 99-499 of 1968 and Executive Order 2007-18 Michigan Citizen-Community Emergency Response Coordinating Council;
- Cooperate and coordinate with federal, state, and local emergency management agencies in providing emergency and disaster services to the affected public;
- Develop relationships with the food and agricultural community that enhance the delivery of emergency and disaster services; and
- Coordinate with other agencies and the private sector to provide human and animal food and water to victims of disasters and emergencies when normal food and feed delivery systems are unable to do so.

It is further the policy of the Commission that all personnel and divisions of the department will fully support the emergency management program whenever the opportunity to do so arises.

Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY NO. 7**

Policy Title: **ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP AND FARMLAND PRESERVATION**

It is the policy of the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to cooperate with local, state, and federal agencies to protect soil, air, water, and ecology while promoting profitable working lands: agriculture, forestry, aquaculture, and horticulture. This includes but is not limited to:

- Protection of air quality;
- Surface and ground water pollution prevention strategies;
- Minimizing soil loss and promoting soil health;
- Regulation and education regarding agri-chemical use and storage;
- Responsible manure and fertilizer management;
- Promoting energy conservation, efficiency, generation programs;
- Wildlife habitat expansion and enhancement programs for private landowners;
- Forest stewardship programs improving forest health and sustainability;
- Enhanced drainage for agricultural productivity and public health;
- Enhanced drainage for the prevention of flood damage;
- Supporting irrigation strategies improving productivity and water use efficiency;
- Facilitating Conservation District capacity to deliver environmental programming;
- Supporting state tax policies benefitting working lands in Michigan;
- Adoption of technologies for mitigating and adapting to climate change.
- Adoption of testing and monitoring procedures for emerging chemicals in fertilizers, soil conditioners, and related products.

Michigan must also continue to strengthen the economic viability of the food, fiber, and agricultural industry, and to help provide profitable economic opportunities for businesses on working lands. Agriculture, forestry, aquaculture, and horticulture operations must have the protection and freedom to expand or change to remain competitive and profitable. Only in this manner can Michigan create a truly sustainable policy for the protection of natural resources on working lands.

Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Page 1 of 1

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY NO. 8**

Policy Title: **RIGHT TO FARM PROGRAM**

Pursuant to the Michigan Right to Farm Act (Act), P.A. 93 of 1981, as amended, the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development has the responsibility to define Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPs).

When defining GAAMPs, the Commission will give due consideration to available Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) information and written recommendations from the Michigan State University (MSU) College of Agriculture and Natural Resources, MSU Extension, and MSU AgBioResearch in cooperation with the United States Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service, the Farm Services Agency, the Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes, and Energy (EGLE), the Michigan Department of Natural Resources (MDNR), and other professional and industry organizations.

The GAAMPs will be developed, adopted, and revised pursuant to the procedures in the Appendix. The Commission will define GAAMPs by formal vote. GAAMPs will be reviewed annually and revised by the Commission when necessary.

The Commission recognizes commodity diversity in Michigan's agricultural industry, which produces more than 300 commodities using a multiplicity of varied management procedures and techniques, and will strive to define specific GAAMPs encompassing all sectors of the industry. Given the breadth of the industry, it is the policy of this Commission that GAAMPs include any traditional farming practice which is not detrimental to the environment or human and animal health.

The following list includes categories and examples of farm products as defined under the Michigan Right to Farm Act:

- A. Forages, Sod Crops, and Renewable Fuels: forages, grasses, pasture, seed crops, sod crops, and turf.
- B. Field Crops: cereal grains, feed grains, feed crops, field crops, seed crops, soybeans, dry beans, potatoes, sugar beets, mint, hops, ginseng, and other herbs.
- C. Livestock and Dairy: breeding and grazing livestock, dairy cattle and dairy products, beef cattle, veal, swine, equine, sheep, goats, bison, llama, privately owned cervid, and wool. (Livestock does not include dogs and cats.)



- D. Poultry and Ratites: laying chickens and eggs, broiler chickens, turkeys, ducks, geese, guinea fowl, peafowl, ostriches, emus, rheas, cassowaries, kiwis, and game birds that are propagated and maintained under the husbandry of humans.
- E. Fish and Fish Products: aquatic animals such as fish, shrimp and other crustaceans, mollusks, reptiles, and amphibians, aquatic plants, and other aquacultural products reared or cultured under controlled conditions.
- F. Bees and Bee Products: colonized bees raised for pollination or to produce honey, and wax.
- G. Small Fruit: blueberries, grapes, strawberries, raspberries, and cranberries.
- H. Tree and Tree Crops: fruit trees, nut trees, coniferous trees, deciduous trees, saw logs, firewood, pulpwood, and maple syrup.
- I. Vegetable Crops: asparagus, carrots, celery, cole crops, cucurbits, lettuce, onions, peppers, snap beans, sweet corn, and tomatoes.
- J. Greenhouse and Nursery Products: bedding plants, vegetable and flower seedlings, foliage plants, flowering plants, cut flowers, seeds, tree seedlings, shrubs, ornamental plants, and other nursery stock.
- K. Mushrooms: agaricus, shiitake, oyster, morel, and chanterelle.
- L. Fur Bearers: mink, fox, rabbits, and chinchilla.

This listing should not be construed to be all encompassing. Other products may be identified and added to the above list at the discretion of the Commission consistent with the Act.

Pursuant to the Memorandum of Understanding with EGLE, MDARD staff will be utilized for the investigation and resolution of non-emergency environmental complaints and agrichemical spills. MDARD procedures will be followed for the investigation and resolution of other farm-related complaints. MDARD staff will provide public information and education on the Act, the GAAMPs, and other statutes. MDARD and MSU may conduct informational seminars in cooperation with other agencies and individuals concerning the GAAMPs. MDARD staff may request other public agencies, professional and industry organizations, and individuals to assist on Right to Farm issues.

Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

## APPENDIX

### MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT PROCEDURES FOR THE DEVELOPMENT, ADOPTION, AND REVIEW OF “GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL AND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES”

The Michigan Right to Farm Act, (Public Act 93 of 1981, as amended, MCL 286.471 et seq.) says in part:

A farm or farm operation shall not be found to be a public or private nuisance if the farm or farm operation alleged to be a nuisance conforms to generally accepted agricultural and management practices according to policy determined by the Michigan commission of agriculture. Generally accepted agricultural and management practices shall be reviewed annually by the Michigan commission of agriculture and revised as considered necessary. (MCL 286.473(1)).

Annually, the Commission will establish and review policy for the implementation of Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices (GAAMPs). In addition, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) staff will present to the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development (Commission) on the status of all existing GAAMPs and the need, if any, for proposed new GAAMPs. The Commission will direct MDARD staff as to whether significant changes should be examined in any set of GAAMPs or a new set of GAAMPs should be developed.

#### **New and Existing GAAMPs may be developed and/or adopted by the following procedure:**

##### **1) Creation of New Material**

- a) The Commission identifies the need for GAAMPs and takes a vote to proceed with a request to the Michigan State University (MSU) College of Agriculture and Natural Resources or any other resource or topical experts as deemed appropriate to name a Chairperson for a GAAMPs Advisory Committee. MDARD will assist in the formulation and management of the Advisory Committee.
- b) The Advisory Committee develops scientifically-based draft GAAMPs pursuant to the Michigan Right to Farm Act. The Advisory Committee may give due consideration to available MDARD experience reviewing existing language in the field and written recommendations from any other educational, professional, and industry organizations.
- c) MDARD staff reviews the draft GAAMPs and discusses suggested changes with the GAAMPs Advisory Committee, then submits to the Commission.
- d) The Advisory Committee Chairperson presents the new draft GAAMPs to the Commission for review.
- e) The Commission considers the draft GAAMPs and may request other methodologies be used to further identify or define the GAAMPs.
- f) In addition, the Commission may identify existing scientifically-based materials, including but not limited to, publications from university, research and extension sources, documents from other departments, and/or documents from other state agencies or federal agencies that may be adopted by the Commission as GAAMPs.
- g) The Commission votes on whether to adopt the new GAAMPs.

## **2) Annual Review of Existing GAAMPs**

- a) MDARD contacts Advisory Committee Chairpersons to begin the annual review process and to determine if and how new technology, research results, or new regulations may impact the current GAAMPs.
- b) If the Advisory Committee Chairpersons determine that substantial changes to the GAAMPs are warranted, they contact their committee members to reconvene their respective committees to review current GAAMPs and propose recommended changes.
- c) MDARD staff reviews GAAMPs in light of recent Right to Farm program environmental complaints and site selection verification requests for new and/or expansion of existing livestock facilities and provides feedback to the Advisory Committee Chairperson or Committee as part of the review process.
- d) The Advisory Committee Chairperson or Committee completes its review and proposed draft GAAMPs are prepared for review.
- e) MDARD will conduct a Public Input meeting to receive additional comments on the GAAMPs; input is provided to the Advisory Committee Chairperson for Committee consideration.
- f) The Advisory Committee presents revised GAAMPs to the Commission.
- g) The Commission reviews existing GAAMPs, with any changes proposed by the Advisory Committee(s), and votes whether to adopt the revisions to the GAAMPs.

## **3) The appointment of Advisory Committee Chairperson**

- a) Through the retirement of existing Chairperson or the Commission acknowledges the need for new sets of GAAMPs.
- b) MDARD's Chief Deputy Director sends a letter to the Dean of Michigan State University College of Agriculture and Natural Resources formally requesting the appointment of a new Chair to lead the Advisory Committee.

All sets of GAAMPs may undergo the annual review process simultaneously to streamline and maximize staff efficiency.

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY NO. 9**

Policy Title: **GENERALLY ACCEPTED AGRICULTURAL AND  
MANAGEMENT PRACTICES  
DETERMINATION OF NON-COMPLIANCE**

It is the policy of the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to determine that a farm/farmer is not following Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices if a Right to Farm complaint case involves air and/or odor issues, and Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development staff is refused access to review practices and/or records related to the appropriate Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices.

DRAFT

Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY NO. 10**

Policy Title: **APPEALS FROM MDARD'S SITE SUITABILITY DETERMINATIONS**

Under the Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices for Site Selection and Odor Control for New and Expanding Livestock Facilities (Site Selection GAAMP), farms may request a site suitability determination from MDARD. MDARD's site suitability determinations are sent to the farmer and the local unit of government, and posted on MDARD's Right to Farm (RTF) website. MDARD's site suitability determination can be appealed to MDARD's Director as provided below.

**A. Who can request to appeal MDARD's site suitability determination**

The following people or entities can request to appeal MDARD's site suitability determination:

- The owner of the proposed livestock facility.
- A person with property within one-half mile of the site of the proposed livestock facility.
- The local unit of government in which the site for the proposed livestock facility is located.
- Local unit of government which is within one-half mile of the proposed livestock facility.

**B. Timing of a request to appeal**

A request to appeal must be filed within 30 days from the date MDARD's site suitability determination is posted on MDARD's RTF Siting website.

**C. Contents of a request to appeal**

A request to appeal MDARD's site suitability determination is made by sending a written description of the appeal including all documentation supporting the appeal to MDARD's Director through the Commission email at:  
[MDA-Ag-Commission@michigan.gov](mailto:MDA-Ag-Commission@michigan.gov).

The request to appeal must identify with specificity the section or requirement in the Site Selection GAAMPs that the requestor believes MDARD failed to or improperly applied when it made its site suitability determination.

The request for appeal must include relevant facts, data, analysis, and supporting documentation for the appellant's position.

A request to appeal that does not identify with specificity the manner in which MDARD failed to or improperly applied the Site Selection GAAMPs or does not provide supporting documentation will be denied. The Director will notify the Site Selection GAAMPs Chair, as well as the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development of this decision. MDARD will send a letter to the entity who submitted the request to appeal stating the reason the request has been denied. A denial of a request to appeal is a final agency decision on MDARD's site suitability determination.

A request to appeal meeting the requirements of this section will be approved and will proceed through the appeal process outlined below. MDARD shall make all determinations regarding requests to appeal within 14 days after the close of the 30-day appeal window.

#### **D. Appeal process**

Once MDARD approves a request to appeal, the following process will be initiated:

1. MDARD will ask the Chairperson of the Site Selection GAAMPs Committee to convene a panel of recognized professionals to review MDARD's site suitability determination. The panel of recognized professionals may include, but are not limited to, personnel from the following: conservation districts, industry representatives, Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes and Energy, professional consultants and contractors, professional engineers, the United States Department of Agriculture - Natural Resources Conservation Service, university agricultural engineers, and other university specialists and shall contain no less than three recognized professionals.
2. Within 28 days, the panel of recognized professionals shall review MDARD's site suitability determination and consider the information provided by the Appellant. The panel of recognized professionals shall create a written report to be considered at the Commission's next scheduled public meeting.
3. The Commission will consider the panel of recognized professionals' reports, oral or written comments from the appellant(s), and other public comments regarding MDARD's site suitability determination.
4. The Commission shall make a recommendation to the MDARD Director. The Commission's recommendation can take one of three forms: (i) approve MDARD's site suitability determination; (ii) reverse MDARD's site suitability determination; or (iii) send the case back to the panel of recognized professionals or MDARD staff with instructions to consider certain factors or issues that were not sufficiently considered during the panel's initial review, including a timeframe for providing the information to the Commission. In the event of a tie vote by the Commission, the matter shall be submitted to the Director without a recommendation from the Commission.

5. The Director shall issue a written final decision regarding the site suitability determination within 14 days of the Commission's recommendation/ submission.
6. Following the Director's final decision, the farmer, appellant, and local unit of government will be sent MDARD's final decision and the final decision will be posted on the MDARD RTF Siting website.

DRAFT

Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT  
POLICY NO. 11**

Policy Title: **ENFORCEMENT**

It is the policy of the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development to utilize progressive enforcement when possible, including, but not limited to compliance assistance, warning letters, settlement agreements, probationary periods, issuance of fine, administrative hearings or a combination of these. The department will consider various factors, such as:

- Nature of the violation
- Establishment compliance history
- Establishment maintenance and/or self-inspection programs
- Establishment probationary status
- Economic benefit for the establishment versus harm to the consumer associated with the alleged violation(s)
- Length of time the requirement has been in effect
- Other evidence/special circumstances offered by the establishment operator

A maintenance and/or self-inspection program is considered an essential component of good business practices and the implementation of these programs will be considered and weighted accordingly.

The department is committed to the fair and impartial enforcement of laws and regulations.

Serious, repeated, and/or multiple violations of laws and regulations may result in criminal prosecution where provided for in law.

Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Page 1 of 1



**MICHIGAN COMMISSION OF AGRICULTURE AND  
RURAL DEVELOPMENT**

**POLICY NO. 12**

Policy Title: **FISCAL CONTROL**

It is the policy of the Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development that sound fiscal control practices be utilized in the conduct of department activities. All memoranda of understanding or other documents which commit department resources shall be reviewed by the Director of Finance and Budget and the department Director.

DRAFT

Re-approved in \_\_\_\_\_  
(Date)

Page 1 of 1

## **ATTACHMENTS**

- A) PA 13 of 1921, Department of Agriculture
- B) PA 380 of 1965, Executive Organization Act
- C) EO 2009-45, Executive Reorganization (Creation of Department of Natural Resources and Environment and Direct Governor Appointment of Director)
- D) EO 2009-54, Executive Reorganization (Restoration of Commission Oversight of Policy)
- E) EO 2011-2, Executive Reorganization (Commission powers and agency name)
- F) PA 267 of 1976, Open Meetings Act
- G) PA 442 of 1976, Freedom of Information Act
- H) PA 220 of 1976, Persons With Disabilities Civil Rights Act

DRAFT

# Protect Michigan Commission

September 15, 2021



Chuck Lippstreu



# Protect Michigan Commission



- [Executive Order 2020-193](#) establishes the Protect Michigan Commission
- Strategy: Vaccinate 70% of Michiganders age 16+
  - Equitable access
  - Inclusive
  - Transparent communications
  - Data
  - Strategic implementation

# PMC Workgroup Goals



- Identify and address barriers that may impede the acceptance of an approved COVID-19 vaccine by Michigan residents.
- Identify resources to assist with the statewide vaccine plan and disseminate critical information to stakeholders and community members about the vaccine.

# PMC Rural Workgroup



## Members

- Michigan State University
- McLaren Greater Lansing
- Michigan Farm Bureau
- Star of the West
- University of Michigan
- Michigan State Police
- Tyson
- Michigan Association of Local Health Departments

## Challenges/Barriers

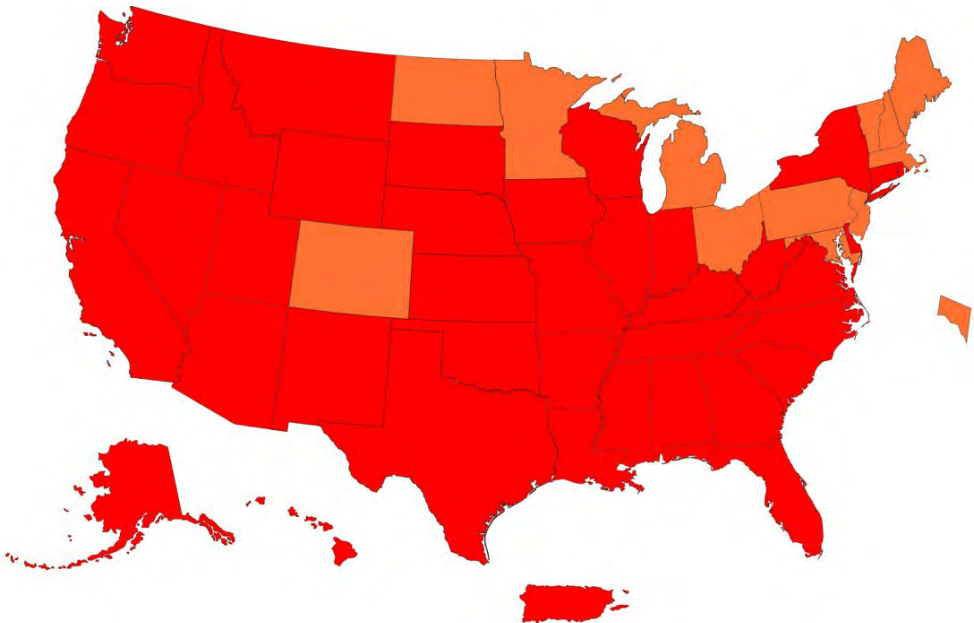
- Fertility issues
- Vaccine approval
- COVID-19 Acceptance

# National COVID-19 Trends

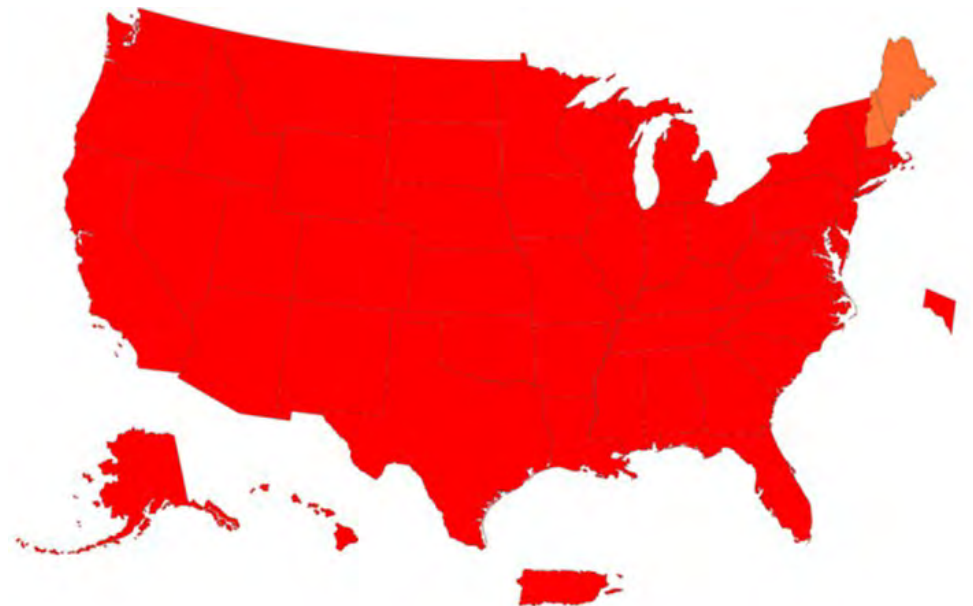
## Level of COVID-19 Community Transmission

- Moderate
- Substantial
- High

Last Week

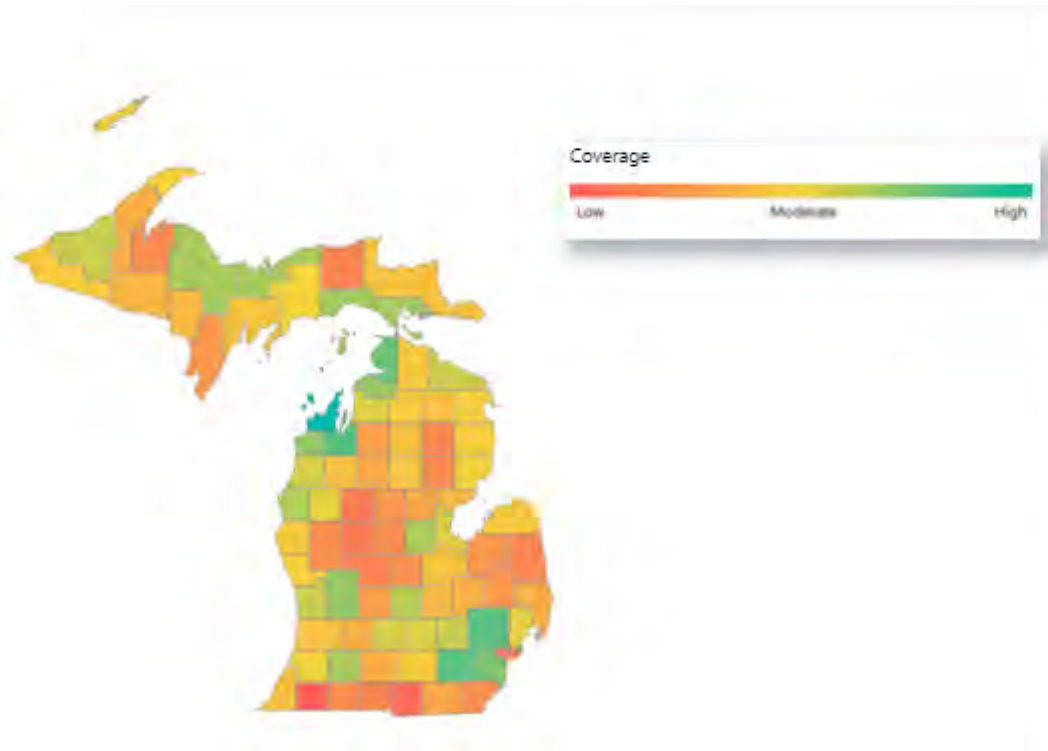


This Week



# Vaccine Progress Statewide

People who received at least one dose of a COVID-19 vaccine by



Residents Vaccinated

**5,156,461**

MI Population\*

**8,594,864**

\*2019 US Census estimates for persons 12 years of age and older



# Community & Mobile Vaccination Strategy



- Goal: bring vaccines into communities to meet people where they live and work.
- Includes providing vaccinations in:
  - community settings
  - people's homes
  - temporary settings
  - settings that prioritize vulnerable or underserved communities



## Clinic lists

- Updates twice weekly

## Request a clinic for an event

- At least 2-3 weeks out
- Won't be able to honor all requests, depends on staffing



# MDHHS Mobile COVID Vaccination and Testing Event Interest Form

This is a Mobile COVID Vaccination and Testing Event Interest Form. If you are interested in hosting a Vaccination and Testing Event, please complete this form and an MDHHS representative will be in touch with you.

Event interest form submission does not guarantee an Event approval and we prefer a 14 day lead time to allow for proper setup and promotion.

If you have any questions/concerns or need to update/cancel please email [Mdhhs-covidtestingsupport@michigan.gov](mailto:Mdhhs-covidtestingsupport@michigan.gov) thank you!

\* Required

## Event Site Details and Point of Contact Info

1. Event Name \*  
*i.e. "YMCA - Motown" or "City Art Fair"*

2. Event Street Address \*



# MI Shot To Win Sweepstakes



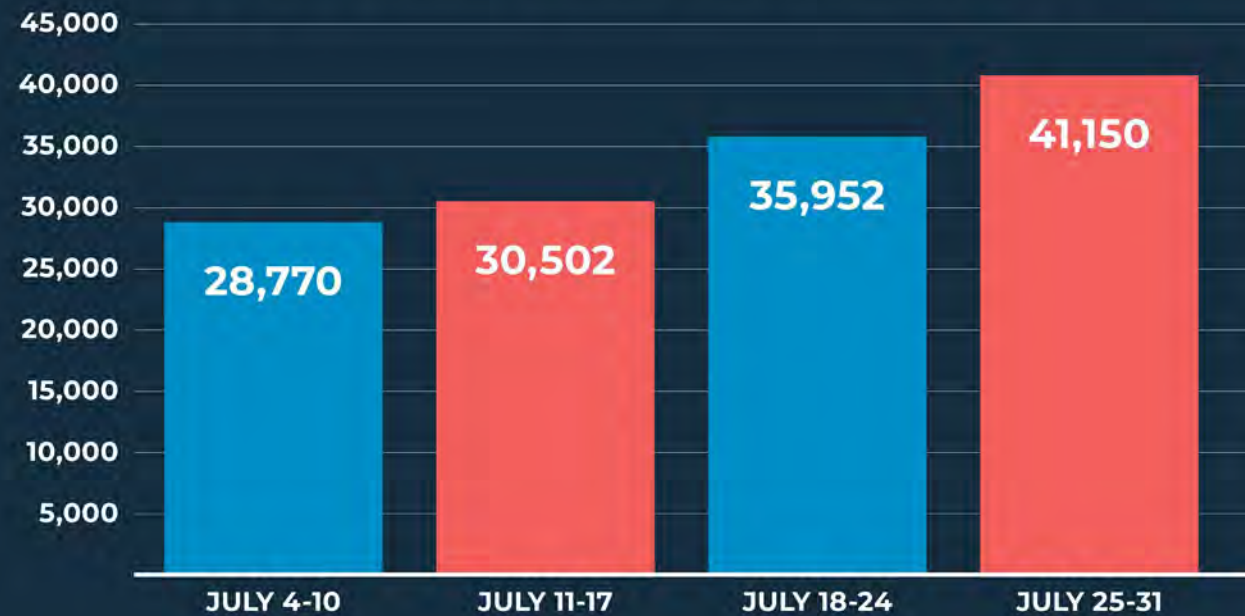
- Campaign reached 771 million people
- 321 articles published
- 158,000 Michiganders received their first dose in July



# MI Shot To Win Sweepstakes



## First Vaccine Dose Administered



Source: Michigan Department of Health and Human Services

# Key Updates



- Full approval of vaccine
- Booster shots
- Vaccine Portal
- 5–12-year-olds
- Newsletter

# Thank You!



## **Chuck Lippstreu**

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## **Meredith Smith**

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STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GRETCHN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

GARY MCDOWELL  
DIRECTOR

**DATE:** September 2, 2021

**TO:** Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development

**FROM:** Jamie Zmitko-Somers, Division Director (AgD)

**SUBJECT:** 2018 Food and Agriculture Investment Program Grant Project – Northern Market

The City of Grayling applied for and was awarded a Food and Agriculture Investment Program – performance-based grant in August of 2018 in the amount of \$250,000 for their project, “Northern Market.” The original proposed investment was \$9,111,510, and an estimated 14 new jobs were to be created. The project purpose was the construction of a 53,500 square-foot year-around Northern Market in Grayling, Michigan. The facility would include two commercial kitchens, one demonstration kitchen, retail boutique, restrooms, community room with shared commercial kitchen, storage, a mezzanine, indoor vendor spaces for a year-around market, outdoor dining area, a roof-top terrace, and parking.

In order to complete the final milestone of commencing construction, the City of Grayling was approved an extension in February of 2020, extending the grant to September 1, 2021. Additional funding needed to complete the milestone has not yet been secured. However, the City of Grayling has been and continues to be actively engaged in seeking the additional funding that is necessary to complete the project.

To date, the city has received \$200,000, leaving \$50,000 remaining. \$1,182,415 has been spent on the project to date. The current estimated cost of the project is \$23,615,026.

The original investment breakdown is as follows:



Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development  
 September 2, 2021  
 Page 2

Expenses	Northern Market Projected Budget
<b>Project Preparation Costs (City of Grayling)</b>	
Legal Fees	\$1,460
Contracted Services	\$64,513
Environmental Studies (\$28,748.80)	
Architectural Design (\$15,000)	
Doug Paulus Consulting (\$10,000)	
Survey (\$10,764.20)	
Purchase	\$163,742
Utilities	\$2,807
Insurance	\$6,957
Taxes	\$5,860
Filing Fees	\$870
Wages	\$5,487
Training	\$988
<b>TOTAL Project Preparation Costs</b>	<b>\$252,685</b>
<b>Construction Hard Cost</b>	
Construction	\$5,100,000
Tenant Improvements	\$970,000
Personal Property (e.g. Kitchen Equipment, Coolers, Freezers, Dry Storage)	\$500,000
Contingency Construction	\$210,000
Lease Holder Improvements (Upper Level, part of scalability)	\$1,217,000
<b>Total Construction Hard Costs</b>	<b>\$7,997,000</b>
<b>Construction Soft Cost</b>	
Architectural Engineering	\$325,825
Schematic Design (\$15,000)	
Design Development (\$82,375)	
Construction Documents (\$146,475)	
Bidding (\$16,500)	
Construction Administration (\$65,150)	
Civil Engineering	\$15,000
Consultants	\$135,000
Environmental	\$150,000
Insurance	\$25,000
Legal/Accounting	\$150,000
Licenses/Permits	\$16,000
Maintenance	\$2,500
Miscellaneous	\$2,500
Property Taxes	\$15,000
Utilities	\$25,000
<b>Total Construction Soft Costs</b>	<b>\$861,825</b>
<b>Total Project Cost</b>	<b>\$9,111,510</b>
<b>Funding Sources</b>	
Grants/Awards	\$3,625,825
MEDC (\$3,000,000)	
DEQ Brownfield (\$175,000 grant + \$175,000 loan)	
USDA Commercial Kitchen Grant (\$37,500)	
Foundations/Other (\$190,197)	
NEMCOG Donation of Kitchen Equipment (\$48,128)	
Cash Contributions (Local Businesses funding event space)	\$725,000
Lease Downpayments	\$35,000
USDA Development Loan	\$4,223,000
Project Preparation Costs (City of Grayling)	\$252,685
<b>Total Funding Sources</b>	<b>\$8,861,510</b>
GAP (Application for MDARD Food and Agriculture Investment Fund)	\$250,000

To date, the following tasks are completed:

Task
Engineering Design Development - 100%
Construction Documents – 100%

This is a request for the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to approve the elimination of Milestone #3 as noted below for the following reasons.

- The city is continuing to work on completing the financing for the project but has not been able to finalize their financing as the cost of the project has increased due to construction costs.
- The main purpose of the grant was accomplished by completing milestones #1 and #2, which provided the City of Grayling with an architectural design and a development contract for the facility.

**MILESTONES:**

1. Execution of an architectural design and development contract with an architect for the Northern Market project in Grayling, Michigan, and;
2. Completion of design development, construction documents, ~~bidding documents~~ and construction administration for the Northern Market in Grayling, Michigan, ~~and;~~
3. ~~Commencement of construction, including groundbreaking for the Northern Market in Grayling.~~



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AND RURAL DEVELOPMENT

GRETCHN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

GARY MCDOWELL  
DIRECTOR

**DATE:** September 2, 2021

**TO:** Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development

**FROM:** Jamie Zmitko-Somers, Division Director (AgD)

**SUBJECT:** 2019 Food and Agriculture Investment Program Grant Project - KDS, LLC d/b/a Schramm’s Mead - “Schramm’s Mead: Developing an ‘Orchard-to-Bottle’ Premium Mead Production Model”

KDS, LLC d/b/a Schramm’s Mead (KDS) applied for and was awarded a Food and Agriculture Investment Program – performance-based grant in March of 2019 in the amount of \$100,000 for their project, “Schramm’s Mead: Developing an ‘Orchard-to-Bottle’ Premium Mead Production Model.” The original proposed investment was \$791,187 to expand capacity through the purchase and development of an orchard for premium fruit growing, and through improvements to its production facility and tasting room. In addition, the Schramm family would purchase a 6.1-acre parcel of R3 (agriculture permitted) zoned land in Rochester Hills, Michigan; 4.85 of the 6.1 acres available for planting would be tart morello-type cherries (Schaarbeek, Balaton), apples, and berries.

The original investment breakdown is as follows:

<b>Project Investment</b>	
Building Construction	\$ 124,664
Building Renovations	\$ 10,000
Site Improvements	\$ 175,574
Machinery and Equipment	\$ 469,619
Staff Training and Certifications	\$11,330
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 791,187</b>

KDS has invested in excess of \$1.4 million thus far and has completed the project with the exception of purchasing a IQF tunnel and/or blast freezer, which is part of Milestone #3.

The pole barn has been completely framed and windows have been installed. The roof and siding are going on this week. Contractor has assured KDS that it will be completed prior to September 30, 2021. They will be ready for a final site visit of the orchard and production facility with financials and supporting documentation this fall.

To date, the following tasks are completed:

- Development of an orchard for premium fruit growing.
- Purchase, installation, and operation of the following new machinery and equipment: skid loader, dump truck, tractor, cider press, apple washer and grinder, commercial cherry pitter, and bottle rinser.
- Pesticide applicator licensing, Black Currant Cultivation permitting, state food processing permits, and local building occupancy permits have been acquired.

This is a request for the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development to approve amending Milestone #3 to eliminate the IQF tunnel and/or blast freezer for the following reasons.

1. KDS has purchased a large capacity freezer which satisfies the company's needs.
2. KDS has determined there is no need for the IQF tunnel and/or blast freezer in the foreseeable future.
3. KDS has spent substantially dollars more than estimated on the project, one reason being that labor was not initially included in the application budget.
4. KDS is not freezing the amount of fruit that would constitute the need for a blast freezer.

Below are the recommended changes to the milestone for consideration by the Michigan Commission of Agriculture and Rural Development:

**MILESTONES:**

1. Construction of a new pole barn and fencing at the orchard facility in Rochester Hills, Michigan, and;
2. Development of an orchard for premium fruit growing in Rochester Hills, and;
3. Purchase, installation and operation of new machinery and equipment, including cider press, apple washer, commercial cherry pitter, bottle rinser, and large capacity storage freezer at the facilities in Ferndale or Rochester Hills, Michigan, and;
4. Documentation of necessary state food processing permits, and local building occupancy permits for the facilities in Rochester Hills and Ferndale, if necessary.

**MDARD Summary of 2021-2022 Michigan Legislature (Prepared 9/7/2021)**

Type	Bill #	Subject	Date of Last Action	Last Action	Primary Sponsor	Position (if applicable)
House Bill	<a href="#">5285</a>	Natural resources: nonnative species; advisory council to combat the online sale of aquatic invasive species; establish.	8/18/2021	Referred to Natural Resources and Outdoor Recreation	Sarah Anthony	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">4603</a>	Civil rights: open meetings; circumstances permitting public meetings of certain public bodies to be held electronically by telephonic or video conferencing; modify.	7/13/2021	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Joe Bellino	Legal took over as lead
House Bill	<a href="#">4516</a>	Marihuana: liability; sale of marihuana to an individual who is younger than 21 years of age or visibly intoxicated; prohibit, and create cause of action for harm that the individual causes.	7/13/2021	Referred to the Committee on Reg Reform	Hauck	LARA/MRA
Senate Bill	<a href="#">4517</a>	Marihuana: other; definition of industrial hemp; modify	7/13/2021	Referred to the Committee on Reg Reform	Rabhi	LARA/MRA
House Bill	<a href="#">5250</a>	Food: other; use of PFAS, bisphenols, and phthalates in food packaging; prohibit.	7/1/2021	Referred to House Agriculture	Rabhi	Pending
House Bill	<a href="#">5250</a>	Food: other; use of PFAS, bisphenols, and phthalates in food packaging; prohibit.	7/1/2021	Referred to Committee on Agriculture	Rabhi	Pending
House Bill	<a href="#">4842</a>	Liquor: spirits; markup on spirits; revise based on distiller's use of Michigan distillate.	6/30/2021	Referred to Reg Reform	Outman	LARA opposed

House Bill	<a href="#">5128</a>	Medical marihuana: other; smoking medical marihuana in public places; expand prohibition against to include food service establishments.	6/29/2021	Referred to Reg Reform	Calley	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">5129</a>	Marihuana: other; smoking marihuana in public places; expand prohibition against to include food service establishments.	6/29/2021	Referred to Reg Reform	Calley	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">565</a>	Appropriations: supplemental; drinking water and water infrastructure improvements supplemental; provide for. Creates appropriation act.	6/24/2021	Referred to Appropriations	Bumstead	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">4801</a>	Public utilities: public service commission; registration procedure for electric vehicle charging stations; provide for.	6/22/2021	Referred to House Energy	Schroeder	No stance in committee/MD ARD opposed going forward
House Bill	<a href="#">4802</a>	Public utilities: public service commission; licensing of electric vehicle charging station operators; provide for.	6/22/2021	Referred to House Energy	Kuppa	No stance in Committee from MPSC
Senate Bill	<a href="#">494</a>	Agriculture: other; certain reporting requirements for environmental assurance advisory council and funding and standards for the MAEAP; modify, and eliminate water quality protection fee sunset.	6/17/2021	Referred to Senate Agriculture	Daley	Opposed
House Bill	<a href="#">4912</a>	Health occupations: veterinarians; veterinarian-client-patient relationship; require and provide for other amendments to the regulation of veterinary medicine.	6/16/2021	Referred to House Agriculture	Bezotte	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">4561</a>	Food: licensing; licensing fees for certain food establishments; make refundable.	6/8/2021	Referred to Committee on Regulatory Reform	Roth	Opposed

House Bill	<a href="#">4823</a>	Removes allocation of revenue cap under the lawful internet gaming act to the Michigan	5/27/2021	Referred to Agriculture	Alexander	Unclear of lead agency
House Bill	<a href="#">4824</a>	Removes allocation of revenue cap under the lawful sports betting act to the Michigan agriculture equine industry development fund.	5/27/2021	Referred to Agriculture	Hertel	Unclear of lead agency
Senate Bill	<a href="#">4895</a>	Agriculture: pesticides; use of neonicotinoid pesticides; regulate.	5/25/2021	Referred to House Agriculture	Kuppa	N/A
Senate Bill	<a href="#">4896</a>	Agriculture: plants; classification of milkweed as a noxious or exotic weed by local governments; prohibit.	5/25/2021	Referred to House Agriculture	Steckloff	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">439</a>	Environmental protection: permits; denial or imposition of additional conditions on; provide for when projects are located in environmentally overburdened communities.	5/25/2021	Re-referred to Transportation and Infrastructure	Runestad	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">4881</a>	Animals: research facilities; certain research facilities to offer certain laboratory animals for adoption before euthanization; require.	5/20/2021	Regulatory Reform	Hertel	Requested
House Bill	<a href="#">4882</a>	Animals: research facilities; reporting requirements and penalties for noncompliance; provide for.	5/20/2021	Regulatory Reform	Brann	Requested
House Bill	<a href="#">4599</a>	Gaming: horse racing; breeders' awards; increase. Amends secs. 8, 19 & 20 of 1995 PA 279	5/11/2021	Referred to Agriculture	Alexander	Neutral
HCR	<a href="#">4600</a>	Gaming: horse racing; references to horse racing law of 1995 in 1951 PA 90; update. Amends sec. 2 of 1951 PA 90	5/11/2021	Referred to Agriculture	Cherry	Neutral

House Bill	<a href="#">4394</a>	Appropriations: zero budget; department of agriculture and rural development; provide for fiscal year 2021-2022.	5/11/2021	Appropriations	Allor	Opposed
Senate Bill	<a href="#">77</a>	Appropriations: zero budget; department of agriculture and rural development; provide for fiscal year 2021-2022. Creates appropriation act.	5/11/2021	Referred to the Committee on Appropriations	Roger Victory	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">353</a>	Food: licensing; waiver for licensing and registration fees for certain food establishments, water bottlers, and water dispensing machine owners for the 2021 to 2022 licensing year; provide for.	5/6/2021	Referred to the Committee on Regulatory Reform	Curtis VanderWall	Opposed
House Bill	<a href="#">354</a>	Health: local health departments; waiver for licensing fees for certain food establishments for the 2021 to 2022 licensing year; provide for.	5/6/2021	Referred to the Committee on Regulatory Reform	Curtis VanderWall	Opposed
Senate Bill	<a href="#">4031</a>	Labor: health and safety; violations of reports of injuries and death; modify	5/6/2021	Referred to Agriculture	Kahle	MIOSHA is opposed
House Bill	<a href="#">4784</a>	Animals: care and treatment; definition of shelter for animals; modify.	5/5/2021	Referred to the Committee on Judiciary	Brann	Pending
Senate Bill	<a href="#">4785</a>	Crimes: animals; cross-reference in revised judicature act; update.	5/5/2021	Referred to the Committee on Appropriations	Brann	Pending
House Bill	<a href="#">4786</a>	Crimes: animals; cross-reference in animal welfare fund act; update	5/5/2021	Referred to the Committee on Appropriations	Brann	Pending
Senate Bill	<a href="#">7</a>	A concurrent resolution to approve a designated open space land application for property in Kent County.	5/4/2021	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Thomas Albert	Support



House Bill	<a href="#">4420</a>	Appropriations: zero budget; multi-department supplemental appropriations; provide for fiscal year 2021-2022.	4/29/2021	Appropriations	Albert	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">370</a>	Environmental protection: hazardous products; glyphosate herbicide; prohibit certain residential uses of.	4/21/2021	Referred to the Committee on Environmental Quality	Rosemary Bayer	N/A
Senate Bill	<a href="#">4611</a>	Animals: birds; issuance of carrier pigeon permits; require compliance with local ordinances and regulations, and prohibit the enactment of local ordinances that prohibit the keeping of carrier pigeons.	4/13/2021	Referred to Committee on Agriculture	Tulio Liberati	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">4550</a>	Courts: juries; postponement of jury service; allow for farmers during certain months.	3/23/2021	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Postumus	SCAO/Legal are lead agencies
House Bill	<a href="#">229</a>	food: licensing; licensing fees for food establishments; provide waiver for 2021 to 2022 licensing year.	3/11/2021	Referred to the Committee on Regulatory Reform	Curtis VanderWall	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">4497</a>	Health; other; aerial spraying of pesticides to prevent and control diseases and environmental health hazards; require department of health and human services to provide notice to the public before implementation.	3/11/2021	Referred to Committee on Health Policy	Brad Paquette	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">186</a>	Agriculture: industrial hemp; regulations for growing industrial hemp; modify.	2/25/2021	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Dan Lauwers	Support
Senate Bill	<a href="#">4246</a>	Trade: business practices; gas tax rates posted at gas pumps; require.	2/16/2021	Referred to the Committee on Transportation	Beau LaFave	Opposed

Senate Bill	<a href="#">136</a>	Agriculture: pesticides; registry of individuals seeking to be notified in the event of the emergency use or application of pesticides on or adjacent to their property; provide for. Amends	2/16/2021	Referred to the Committee on Environmental Quality	Rick Outman	N/A
House Bill	<a href="#">4186</a>	Animals: exotic; applicability of certain provisions of the large carnivore act based on residency; modify.	2/9/2021	Referred to the Committee on Agriculture	Thomas Albert	Opposed
House Bill	<a href="#">4165</a>	Highways: bridges; tractors and farm equipment to cross the Mackinac Bridge; allow under certain conditions. Amends sec. 12 of 1952 PA 214 (MCL 254.322).	2/9/2021	Referred to the Committee on Transportation	Steven Johnson	N/A

<b>Notes</b>
EGLE/DNR leads (MDARD contributed to analysis)
Signed by the Governor on 7/13/21- PA 54'21 with immediate effect
Signed by the Governor on 7/13/21- PA 55'21
Signed by the Governor on 7/13/21- PA 56'21
MDARD is lead, other bill is Irwin's which will be EGLE
Passed House on 6/30/21: 90-7-3

LARA/MRA is lead
LARA/MRA is lead
Multiple agencies are included in this supplemental which appropriates \$2.5 B Federal relief
Passed out of Energy 11-2-3 as substitute (H-2)
Passed out of Energy 11-2-3 as substitute (H-2)
Testimony was taken on 6/17/2021
LARA is lead agency, MDARD is watching, hearing on 6/16 in House Ag
Passed out of Reg Reform 13-0

Passed House Ag 8-3  
on 5/19-on third  
reading

Passed House Ag 8-3  
on 5/19-on third  
reading

Not moving

Not moving

MDOT/SBO are leads

Passed House 106-1  
on 5/11

Passed House 106-1  
on 5/11

Passed House 57-50 on 5/11
Passed the Senate 20-15 on 5/11
Passed out of the Senate 20-16 on 5/6. Referred to House Reg Reform
Passed out the Senate 20-16 on 5/6. Referred to house Reg Reform
Passed House 83-25 on 5/6
No hearing
No hearing
No hearing
Passed out of House Ag on 4/28 10 yeas; 1 nay (Carra), Full House 5/4, adopted and sent to Senate Nat Resources

Reported from Full Appropriations on 4/29/21
MDARD is lead agency, won't likely move
Watching: Probably won't move
Awaiting first hearing
Replaced with SB 353&354
Watching: DHHS is lead agency and is opposed
<a href="#">PA 4 of 2021 signed on 3/25/2021</a>

The Department worked with Sen. Outman to create an alert system outside of the legislative process.

No hearing

MDARD/MDOT are co-leads