



Mark your calendar! This is one opportunity that you will not want to miss!

**Mississippi Fruit & Vegetable Growers Conference & Trade Show
in conjunction with
Mississippi Agritourism & Gulf South Blueberry Growers Associations
November 14-16, 2011 at the Vicksburg Convention Center in Vicksburg, Mississippi**

The annual conference has been moved to November to better accommodate growers and exhibitors. It will feature educational programs based on a variety of topics that are important to current and potential fruit and vegetable growers, blueberry growers and agritourism businesses.

The conference gives current and potential growers an opportunity to learn valuable tools taught by experts and experienced growers, to network with other growers and talk with exhibitors at the trade show (see our website for a continually updated list of registered exhibitors). There are many exciting seminars tailored to fit each grower's needs and diverse interests. Below is a sample of what topics will be offered(see complete schedule on the website):

Topics and Grower Panels for the Fall 2011 Conference include but are subject to change:

- **General Sessions: Soil Building, Cover Crops, Marketing, Deer Control, New Regulations, etc.**
- **Production Sessions: Blackberries, Peaches, Muscadines, Mushrooms, Advanced Melon Production, Tomatoes, Diverse Greens, Cabbage, Cauliflower, Niche Veggies, Post Harvest, Pest and Disease Updates, etc.**
- **Organic Sessions: Companion Planting, Biofumigation, Farmscaping for Bug Control, Challenges of Mixed Farms, Composting, etc.**
- **Blueberry Sessions**
- **Agritourism Sessions**

Workshops include: Insurance: Man, my worker took my house, Strawberries: Start to Finish, Beginning Farmer Round Table, and Plastic Mulch Laying (weather permitting)

Registration (Early Bird before September 15, 2011):

Registration Options	Prices	
Early Bird Conference Registration	\$75 per person	(\$2 service fee for online registration)
Conference Registration (After September 15, 2011)	\$100 per person	(\$2 service fee for online registration)
Onsite Conference Registration November 14 - 16	\$110 per person	(\$2 service fee for credit card payments)

Fee includes: "Magnolia Fresh" reception on Monday evening, lunch on Tuesday, workshops, classes, drinks and snacks

A "Magnolia Fresh" exhibitor reception will be held from 5-7 p.m. on Monday, November 14th. We will have some great door prizes, and you must be present to win. This will be a great time to mingle with exhibitors and fellow growers.

Association Memberships (Join or Renew)

The 3 associations sponsoring the Fall 2011 conference have put a great deal of time and effort into producing this wonderful learning experience for new and current growers. Each association has its own member benefits, which meet different needs of the agricultural grower and business person. Please take a few minutes to visit each organization's website to see which ones can help you become a better grower and business person. Please indicate on the registration form, which association(s) you would like to join, and you may include those fees all on the same check. This is the time for current members to renew your membership in your chosen organization(s). Remember, the conference would not be possible without membership in the associations. Your participation is greatly appreciated. Fee is for the 2012 year.

www.msfruitandveg.com

www.mississippiagritourism.org

www.gulfsouthblueberrygrowers.com

The membership fees are due when registration is submitted. The conference prices DO NOT include membership fees.

We will be holding a silent auction during the Conference. The proceeds from the auction will benefit a recently created Mississippi Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association College Scholarship Fund. The scholarship is only available to children of MFVGA members (another good reason to join MFVGA). If you are interested in donating an item to the silent auction, please let us know by indicating on the registration form. All auction items will need to be turned in by 4:00 p.m. Monday, November 14th.

The hotels listed below have special rates for the conference (rooms starting at \$56.00). Please see hotel websites for directions and amenities. **Rate is good for rooms booked before Sept. 15, 2011.** A list of additional hotels is available on our website at www.msfruitandveg.com.

Rainbow Hotel Casino (use code MFVGA)

1350 Warrenton Road
Vicksburg, MS
601-638-7111

www.rainbowhotelcasino.com

River Walk Casino Hotel (use code MSFV11)

1046 Warrenton Road
Vicksburg, MS
601-634-0100

www.riverwalkvicksburg.com

Diamond Jacks Casino Hotel (use code MFVGA)

1046 Warrenton Road
Vicksburg, MS
601-636-5700

www.legendsgaming.com

Please send your registration to:

MFVGA
143 Countryside Cove
Madison, MS 39110

Or register online at:

www.msfruitandveg.com

If you have any questions you may contact:

Candi Adams at 662-534-1916 or email: cadams@ext.msstate.edu or info@msfruitandveg.com

Updated schedule and general information about the conference /trade show are available at:

www.msfruitandveg.com

All workshops are free with your paid registration.

Please indicate on the registration form which workshops you will be attending so we will be able to provide enough seating and snacks.

Insurance Workshop: “Man, My Worker Took My House” - (Monday, Nov. 14, 2011 from 1-5pm)

From the smallest one person backyard farm to the largest operation, everyone needs to know what types of insurance are available. Think you have nothing to lose or your homeowner's policy covers everything? Think again. In this age of “sue happy” people, you must arm yourself with insurance knowledge. This workshop will start with the needs of the smallest farms and progress to large operations with multiple employees. This will also include additional insurance information pertaining to employees. Nobody will be trying to sell you insurance, only educating you on what types are available and should be considered for your farming level. So many people say after something happens, “I didn't know I needed insurance for that” or “I didn't know that type of insurance was available”. Don't let this be you...keep your farm and home...attend this workshop!

Strawberries: Introduction to Plastics Culture Strawberries - (Monday, Nov. 14, 2011 from 1-5pm)

Program covers a one year cycle, July 1 to July 1. Topics will include: site and ground preparation, fertilizer and bed preparation, plant establishment, winter care, spring fertigation, frost/freeze control, harvesting and marketing, plastic removal and cover crop.

Instructor: Jim Goodson has 28 years experience in strawberry production. He and his wife Donna are owners of Goodson Berry Supply and partners in G & W Nurseries. He is president of the MidAmerican Strawberry Growers Association. The success of their business is related to their willingness and ability to teach the plastics culture strawberry system.

Beginning Farmer Roundtable - (Monday, Nov. 14, 2011 from 6:30 - 8:30pm) No Reservation needed

Just started growing or just thinking about growing? This is an excellent opportunity to ask questions you might feel uncomfortable asking in more advanced classes. A panel of established and new growers will answer all your questions about becoming a new grower and selling opportunities available to you. This will be a great lead into Tuesday's classes.

Plastic Mulch Laying - (Wednesday, Nov. 16, 2011 from 2-5pm)

Want to use plastic mulch, but it seems too complicated? Weather permitting, this on farm demonstration will start with untouched land and take you through all the steps to lay plastic mulch with drip irrigation.



MISSISSIPPI FRUIT & VEGETABLE GROWERS

CONFERENCE & TRADE SHOW

VICKSBURG, MS

NOVEMBER 14-16, 2011



REGISTRATION FORM

FARM/BUSINESS NAME _____

CROPS/BUSINESS TYPE _____

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ STATE _____ ZIP _____

PHONE _____ CELL _____

EMAIL _____

Item Description	Quantity	Amount	Total
Early Bird Conference Registration		\$75	
Conference Registration after September 15, 2011		\$100	
Conference Registration at the door November 14-16, 2011		\$110	
Association Options, fees are per farm not per person (optional but highly encouraged):			
Mississippi Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association www.msfruitandveg.com		\$20	
Mississippi Agritourism Association www.mississippiagritourism.org		\$25	
Gulf South Blueberry Association www.gulfsouthblueberrygrowers.com		\$30	
TOTAL AMOUNT DUE			\$

Please List Registrants' Names and Workshops Attending:

1. _____ 2. _____

3. _____ 4. _____

How many of the above registrants will be attending the workshops? _____ Insurance (Monday, Nov. 14, 2011 from 1-5pm)

_____ Strawberry (Monday, Nov. 14, 2011 from 1-5pm)

_____ Mulch Laying Workshop (Wednesday 2-5pm)

Make your check out to:

MS Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association

Mail this form and your check to:

MFVGA

143 Countryside Cove
Madison, MS 39110

Questions? Contact Candi Adams at 662-534-1916 or email: cadams@ext.msstate.edu or info@msfruitandveg.com