2019 Mass Aggie Workshops

Home Garden Series

UMass Extension

STOCKBRIDGE SCHOOL of AGRICULTURE
Home Orchard Pruning - a Hands-on Workshop  
Mr. Jon Clements and Ms. Liz Garofalo  
February 23, 10:00am to 12:00pm  
Park Hill Orchard, 82 Park Hill Rd, Easthampton, MA  
The joy of growing fruit in the home garden is enjoying a renaissance. One of the key steps in successful fruit growing is the act of pruning the trees. This can seem daunting and complicated, but it’s not! Not once you understand the principles involved. Come learn how to properly prune your fruit trees (apples, pears, peaches, etc.). Participants will have the opportunity to conduct actual pruning and gain both experience and confidence in pruning fruit trees in order to produce a bountiful crop.*

Pruning Grapes - a Hands-on Workshop  
Ms. Sonia Schloemann  
March 2, 10:00am to 12:00pm  
UMass Cold Spring Orchard, 391 Sabin St., Belchertown, MA  
Grapes are one of the most universally enjoyed fruits available. Many of the new varieties have excellent taste, are winter hardy, and can make excellent wine. Grapes are fun to grow but present some challenges. One of the biggest challenges is knowing how to correctly prune them. Participants will have the opportunity to conduct actual pruning and gain both experience and confidence in pruning and training grapes in order to produce a bountiful crop. We’ll learn about tool maintenance and sharpening, too. Bring your own tools or use ours.*

For the Love of Cider! - a Classroom Workshop  
Ms. Liz Garofalo  
March 9, 12:00pm to 2:00pm  
Community Harvest Project Barn, 37 Wheeler Rd., N. Grafton MA  
This workshop will provide you with an overview of apples from the forests of Kazakhstan to the modern American orchard; Cider’s long journey to becoming the most American thing you can do with apples. Come learn about these fascinating heirloom and modern varieties and the flavor profiles they create as single varietal ciders or complex blends. Sampling of both Hard and Sweet ciders from local cideries will be included at no additional charge (must be over 21 to participate in the tasting). Space is limited so sign up early for this one!

Grafting Fruit Trees - a Hands-on Workshop  
Dr. Wesley Autio  
March 16, 10:00am to 2:00pm  
UMass Cold Spring Orchard, 391 Sabin St., Belchertown, MA  
Many people do not realize that all apple varieties are reproduced by grafting - they are not grown from seed. For horticultural enthusiasts, one of the most satisfying techniques to master is grafting. Wes Autio will present a hands-on workshop on “bench grafting” and “cleft
grafting” of apple trees. Other grafting techniques will be discussed. Proper tools and sharpening will be included. All workshop participants will graft several apple trees to take home!

**Pruning Blueberries - a Hands-on Workshop**  
Ms. Sonia Schloemann  
**March 30, 10:00am to 12:00pm**  
Tougas Family Farm, 234 Ball St, Northborough, MA  
Blueberries are among the most popular fruits to grow in the home garden. They are healthful and well suited to grow in our New England conditions. Come learn the basics for pruning blueberries for your home landscape. Participants will get some hands-on pruning lessons. We’ll learn about tool maintenance and sharpening, too. Tools provided.*

**Home Orchard Establishment & Basics - a Classroom Workshop**  
Mr. Jon Clements and Ms. Liz Garofalo  
**April 6, 10:00am to 12:00pm**  
Red Apple Farm, 455 Highland Ave, Phillipston, MA  
Horticultural topics covered will be the basics of planting fruit trees, including site selection, choice of variety and rootstock, planting best practices, tree training and pruning, fertilization and ongoing fruit tree care. (In-depth pest management will be covered in the afternoon session.) If weather permits, there will be a hands-on demonstration of planting fruit trees at the Orchard.

**Home Orchard Pest Management - a Hands-on Workshop**  
Dr. Jaime Pinero and Ms. Liz Garofalo  
**April 6, 1:00pm to 3:00pm**  
Red Apple Farm, 455 Highland Ave, Phillipston, MA  
One of the most challenging thing about growing your own fruit is knowing how to identify the insect pests and diseases that might afflict them. Learn the basics of pest and disease identification and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in the home orchard. Hands-on, scouting, monitoring, placement of traps, etc. will be covered.*

These workshops will be partially out of doors, so please dress appropriately for potentially wet, cold, and muddy conditions.
INSTRUCTORS

WESLEY AUTIO, Professor of Pomology, Director of Stockbridge School of Agriculture and Editor of Fruit Notes

JON CLEMENTS, UMass Extension Tree-fruit Specialist, Editor of Healthy Fruit

ELIZABETH GAROFALO, UMass Extension Fruit Field Assistant, Contributor to Healthy Fruit, IPM Specialist

JAIME PINERO, UMass Associate Professor of Entomology and Fruit IPM Specialist

SONIA SCHLOEMANN, UMass Extension Small-fruit Specialist, Leader of the UMass Fruit Program, Editor of Berry Notes and Grape Notes

LOCATIONS

PARK HILL ORCHARD
82 Park Hill Rd, Easthampton, MA 01027

UMASS COLD SPRING ORCHARD
391 Sabin Street, Belchertown MA 01007

COMMUNITY HARVEST PROJECT BARN
37 Wheeler Rd., N. Grafton MA 01536

TOUGAS FAMILY FARM
234 Ball St, Northborough, MA 01532

RED APPLE FARM
455 Highland Ave, Phillipston, MA 01331
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Confirmations and directions will be sent via email whenever possible to reduce costs.

Mail to: MASS AGGIE SEMINARS  
Attn. Doreen York  
101 French Hall, UMass  
Amherst, MA 01003-9294

Make checks payable to UMass.

For more information or to register on-line,  
see our website at  
UMassGarden.com