

HLA HAPPENINGS

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STEPHEN MEYERS DISCUSSES PUMPKINS IN MEDIA APPEARANCES

Stephen Meyers spoke with WLFI reporter Marlee Thomas about Indiana pumpkin production for a news story and report that aired Monday October 10: [What to do with your pumpkins after the fall season | News | wlfi.com](#)



He also spoke with Purdue Marketing and Communications about pumpkins. The video interview was made available to the Associate Press and has been used in more than 60 markets across the country including Fox 32 Chicago.

THE PURDUE 1869 TREE PLANTING MASTER PLAN WINS AWARD AT FROM INASLA

The **Purdue 1869 Tree Planting Master Plan**, an initiative that involves planting 3738 trees by fiscal year 2025, won an award this fall in the "Environmental Sustainability Category" from the Indiana Chapter of the American Society of Landscape Architects (INASLA). The total number of trees proposed for planting on campus was determined by doubling 1869, which is the year Purdue was founded. Professor **Paul Siciliano**, Director of the **Purdue Arboretum**, is a leading member of the team carrying out this ambitious plan. Others involved in this team effort include the Purdue University Grounds Department and the Purdue Office of Campus Planning, Architecture and Sustainability. We are proud to have our landscape stewardship efforts recognized by INASLA.

YIWEI HUANG AND WANTING ZHANG PRESENTED AT INDIANA ASLA CONFERENCE

Yiwei Huang and her graduate student **Wanting Zhang** gave an invited presentation for the Indiana ASLA conference, titled "Landscape Performance: Introduction and Reflections."

LI LAB PUBLISHED NEW RESEARCH ARTICLE

Dr. Li's group has published a research article on the roles of histone methyltransferases in regulating nitrogen signaling in tomato. [Histone methyltransferases SDG33 and SDG34 regulate organ-specific nitrogen responses in tomato.](#)

HLA BOWLING TEAM THIS WEEK

Our team **Split Happens** played against Spin Doctors Monday afternoon at Mike Aulby's Arrowhead Bowl for Week 7 of the Purdue Staff and Students league. We won all 8 points, placing our team in 3rd for the week.

In the Men's Category, **Chris Adair** placed 6th with scratch game scoring a 182, placed 3rd with scratch series scoring a 499, placed 8th with handicap game scoring a 252, and placed 3rd with handicap series scoring a 709.

Robert Luecke placed 5th with handicap game scoring a 258 and placed 9th with handicap series scoring a 693.

In the Women's Category, **Ashley Adair** placed 8th with scratch game scoring a 140, placed 10th with scratch series scoring a 348, placed 2nd with handicap game scoring a 265, and placed 2nd with handicap series scoring a 723.

HLA FALL SEMINAR: DR. ESTHER VAN DER KNAPP



Dr. Esther van der Knapp, Distinguished Research Professor
College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences, Institute of Plant Breeding, Genetics & Genomics
Thursday October 20th, at 3:30pm
VIRTUAL ONLY

“The hidden gems in semi-domesticated germplasm: the surprising levels of genetic diversity in fruit quality traits in tomato”

Abstract:

Esther van der Knaap¹, Manoj Sapkota¹, Lara Pereira¹, Elizabeth Frick², Denise Tieman²

¹University of Georgia, Athens GA

²University of Florida, Gainesville FL

Wild relatives and semi-domesticated germplasm of cultivated plants provide a significant reservoir of genetic diversity for key regulators of quality traits. Future crop improvement relies on harnessing this diversity.

However, mining semi-domesticated and wild germplasm for beneficial alleles is not straightforward because fruit quality is typically a quantitatively inherited trait. One critical quality trait is the flavor of produce such as tomato is a combination of taste and smell. Taste is determined by the levels and balance of sugars and acids in the fruit. The smell is thought to be contributed by up to ~ 400 different volatiles that are emitted by the fruit, especially when consuming the produce. We have analyzed the genome sequence and the volatile aroma of a diverse tomato population ranging from fully wild *S. pimpinellifolium* to fully cultivated *S. lycopersicum lycopersicum* accessions collectively called the Varitome Collection. GWAS and mapping for one such volatile, methyl salicylate, resulted in the discovery of a new gene that encodes a methyl esterase, responsible for the conversion of methyl salicylate to salicylic acid. The research also showed that the locus encodes up to four methyl esterases and that the genetic variation at the locus is huge, especially in the wild parents *S. pimpinellifolium*. Mainly driven by genome structural variants, the function of the different methyl esterase haplotypes and interaction with other loci in tomato will be discussed.

This work is funded by NSF IOS 1564366 and IOS 2151032.

WORKSHOP ON HYDROPONICS AND FLORICULTURE PRODUCTION

Purdue University Controlled Environment Horticulture

Workshop on Hydroponics and Floriculture Production

November 3, 2022 (8 am to 5 pm)
Room 241, Pfendler Hall of Agriculture, 767-799 W State Street, Purdue University, West Lafayette

Learn about crop management, insect and disease control, and environment/crop monitoring from Purdue extension specialists and industry professionals

Registration link:
https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_ePW5cXYdfNky7xI

Registration fees: \$25 (covers breakfast, lunch, and snacks). Register for workshop by October 20, 2022

Contacts for additional information
Lori Jolly-Brown (765-494-1296; ljollybr@purdue.edu)
Dr. Krishna Nemali (kemali@purdue.edu)

PURDUE UNIVERSITY Extension | **PURDUE UNIVERSITY** Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

HLA FALL EVENT

HLA FALL EVENT

Friday, October 21, 2022
5:30pm - 8:00pm

Join us at MEIGS
(Purdue Ag Center)
for a cookout, yard games, farm tours, &
pumpkin picking!
We will also have face-painting & fall
crafts for the kids!

RSVP Link

**There will be limited seating available. Please
bring a lawn chair or blanket if you can.
6024 S 100 E, Lafayette, IN 47905

Join the social committee at MEIGS (Purdue Ag Center) for a cookout, yard games, farm tours, & pumpkin picking! We will also have face-painting & fall crafts for the kids!

Please RSVP at your earliest convenience so we can get a headcount. We hope to see you there! [RSVP Link](#)

Newsletters

- Facts for Fancy Fruits: <https://fff.hort.purdue.edu/>
- Vegetable Crops Hotline: <https://vegcropshotline.org/>
- Purdue Landscape Report:
<https://www.purduelandscape.com/>
- Greenhouse and Indoor Production of Speciality Crops: <https://mdc.itap.purdue.edu/newsearch.asp?subCatID=425%20&CatID=10>

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