

# HLA HAPPENINGS

Issue 23-26 / July 14, 2023



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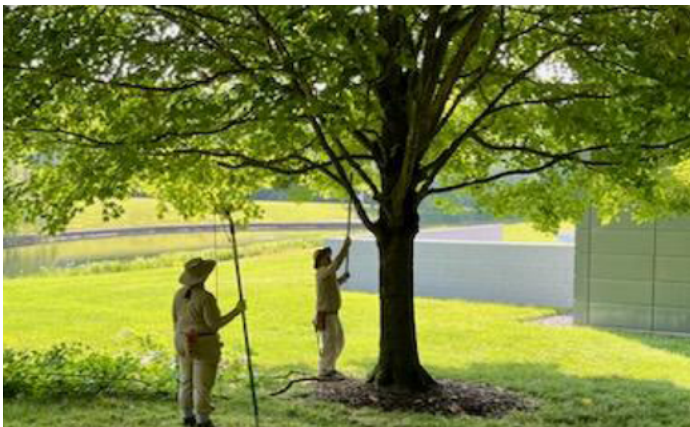
practical experience that helps reinforce the knowledge that is learned in classes. For someone like me who learns more with doing than with reading, it is really helpful!"

## NEMALI LAB PRESENTED AT DIGITAL AG SHOWCASE



**Nemali's lab** was invited to present at the Digital Ag Showcase organized by Purdue College of Agriculture at the Beck Center. **Krishna Nemali** and his graduate student, **Sangrak Son**, presented and demonstrated low-cost smart (IoT) sensors and mobile apps for plant monitoring in agriculture to a group of farmers, educators, faculty, and industry professionals.

## RACHAEL BEHREND'S SUMMER INTERNSHIP EXPANDS ON CLASSROOM LEARNING



**Rachael Behrend** (Horticulture/Public Horticulture; Hometown: Poolesville, Maryland) is currently interning with the Grounds Department at Glenstone Museum in Potomoc, Maryland. Glenstone Museum focus in on Organic Landscaping of its 300 acres, unless it's to deal with a disease or fungal infection. Rachael says that this is the most rewarding part of her experience so far.

Her advice to students: "An internship provides a lot of

## VICKI STIRM HOSTED TWO OUTREACH OPPORTUNITIES



Vicki Stirm hosted two outreach activities this week. The first activity was the C-PASA (Gargill - Purdue

Agribusiness & Science Academy) Summer Program. Nine high school students who were interested in attending Purdue University in the future in a plant science area of study participated in the program. The students were taken on a tour of the Purdue Student Farm and Jules Janick Horticulture Garden. They also engaged in plant propagation and a scavenger hunt.

The second activity was called Grandparents University, where five grandparents and five grandchildren participated. The grandparents, who were Purdue alums, brought their grandchildren aged between 11 and 14 years to explore different departments in the College of Agriculture. Vicki discussed studies and careers in Horticulture, followed by some plant propagation activities.



## **VARALA LAB PUBLISHES ARTICLE IN HORTICULTURE RESEARCH**

**Kranthi Varala** and members of his lab published an article in Horticulture Research titled: "[Chilling stress drives organ specific transcriptional cascades and dampens diurnal oscillation in Tomato](#)".

## **MIRANDA PURCELL ATTENDED SUMMER FIELD TOUR**

**Miranda Purcell** attended the Summer Field Tour for Indiana fruit & vegetable growers at Jacobs Family Orchard in New Castle, IN on Friday, July 14.

## **KRISHNA NEMALI PRESENTED HOME HYDROPONICS TO TIPPECANOE MASTER GARDENERS**

**Krishna Nemali** was invited to present on 'Home Hydroponics' to Master Gardeners from Tippecanoe County. The presentation covered topics related to home-scale commercial indoor farms and hydroponic grow kits for home growers.

## **JEAN PIERRE VARELA PRESENTS POSTER AT DIGITAL AG SHOWCASE**

**Jean Pierre Varela** (Torres' Lab) presented a poster titled "Economic Feasibility of Pest Management Strategies in High Tunnels to Increase the Resiliency of Local Food Systems" at the Digital Ag Showcase on June 14. The Digital Ag Showcase is an event that demonstrates how simple digital platforms can improve logistics and decision-making. His poster aims to deploy online decision-making tools to support the adoption of biocontrol strategies in high tunnel production. He will focus on projected profitability, cost structure, sensitivity analysis, and breakeven analysis in price and yield. Pretesting and collecting data came from high tunnel farms located in urban and peri-urban areas in Indianapolis. His current research is supported by the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI) [Grant No. 2021-51181-35858/Project Accession No. 1027430] from the USDA National Institute of Food and Agriculture.

## **LANDSCAPE DIAGNOSTIC TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH**

The Purdue Green Industry team is excited to [announce three diagnostic training opportunities](#) in Indianapolis, Elkhart, and Evansville on August 7, 10, and 18. This event will feature Purdue Green Industry Specialists (Janna Beckerman (professor and pathology specialist), John Bonkowski (diagnostician), Tom Creswell (clinical engagement professor and diagnostician), **Kyle Daniel** (nursery and landscape specialist), Ben McCallister (urban forestry specialist), and Cliff Sadof (professor and entomology specialist) addressing plant problems and their treatments while walking through the landscape. The specialists' process of diagnosing plant problems will be discussed so attendees can be confident in diagnosing plant problems at their clients' properties. This educational opportunity will be focused on landscape problems that commercial green industry professionals will encounter in the 'real-world'.

In addition to an afternoon session in English, the morning sessions will be presented in Spanish with translation assistance by Cliff Sadof and Carlos Reichman, Schuetz Insurance. This is an exceptional opportunity within the Green Industry for industry professionals to learn in their primary language.

## **WOMEN OF THE GREEN INDUSTRY'S NEXT MEETING**

The Women of the Green Industry will be meeting after the Purdue Turf and Landscape Field Day on July 18th at 3:30 for a tour of the HLA Greenhouses, followed by a social/networking event in West Lafayette. If you



would like to join the group for a tour, email Kyle Daniel at [daniel38@purdue.edu](mailto:daniel38@purdue.edu).

More information about the Women of the Green Industry can be found here: <https://www.purduelandscape.org/article/women-of-the-green-industry-featured-speaker-beth-berry/>

To join the Women of the Green Industry listserv, click here: <https://lists.purdue.edu/mailman/listinfo/womenofthegreenindustry>

## UPCOMING WEBINAR PRESENTED BY DR. KRISHNA NEMALI

### Webinar Announcement

#### Optimizing Lettuce Yield in Organic Hydroponic Systems

July 18, 2023  
11am to Noon (EST)

Hydroponic lettuce can receive USDA organic label if standard guidelines for organic production are followed. This may fetch premium price for produce. However, the yield of organically-grown lettuce is generally lower. Learn about how to develop organic fertilizer recipes and optimize lettuce yield in hydroponic systems

#### Register for free!

[https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_b7br3WzXp8tgf](https://purdue.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b7br3WzXp8tgf)  
Registration is required to receive a webinar link

Contacts for additional information  
Lori Jolly-Brown (765-494-1296, [lollybr@purdue.edu](mailto:lollybr@purdue.edu))  
Dr. Krishna Nemali ([knemali@purdue.edu](mailto:knemali@purdue.edu))



Purdue Controlled Environment Agriculture Research & Extension



A webinar on producing lettuce in organic hydroponic systems will be presented by Dr. Krishna Nemali. Registration details are above.

## SAVE THE DATE: PURDUE TURF AND LANDSCAPE FIELD DAY 2023

### PURDUE TURF & LANDSCAPE FIELD DAY 2023

#### SAVE THE DATE

JULY 18, 2023  
at the W. H. Daniel Turfgrass Research & Diagnostic Center  
<https://www.mrtf.org/event/turf-and-landscape-field-day>



## SAVE THE DATE: PURDUE FRUIT AND VEGETABLE FIELD DAY

Registration is now open!

### Purdue Fruit and Vegetable Field Day

THURSDAY, JULY 20, 2023

Purdue Meigs Ag Center  
9101 S 100 E, Lafayette, IN 47909

REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!  
<https://cvent.me/5zevYD>



## SAVE THE DATE: PURDUE SMALL FARM EDUCATION FIELD DAY 2023

Registration is now open!

### PURDUE SMALL FARM EDUCATION FIELD DAY 2023

SAVE THE DATE JULY 27, 2023  
at the Purdue Student Farm



REGISTRATION NOW OPEN!  
<https://cvent.me/ewWN3b>

PRESENTED BY:  
PURDUE UNIVERSITY Horticulture and Landscape Architecture



### Newsletters

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

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