

HLA Happenings

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Karen Mitchell Interviewed about New Hardiness Zones

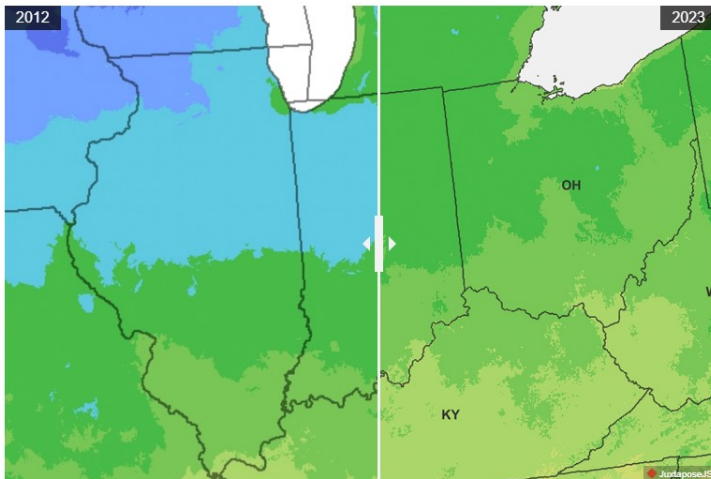


Photo Credits: Before USDA Plant Hardiness Zone maps After Plant Hardiness Zone

Karen Mitchell, Consumer Horticulture Extension Specialist, provided insights in an NPR article titled “[New hardiness zones won’t change much, but Indiana gardeners try out new plants.](#)” Her contributions offer valuable perspectives on the impact of changes to Indiana’s hardiness zones and how Indiana gardeners are adapting. The article includes an interactive map showing the dramatic changes from the 2012 USDA Plant Hardiness Map to the recently released map. “Even though there’s a dramatic change in the looks of the hardiness map, it’s not going to dramatically change how we garden,” Mitchell said.

Ada Martinez Ayala and Marian Luis Attended Great Lakes Expo



Ada Martinez Ayala and Marian Luis (postdocs in **Hoagland Lab**) attended the Great Lakes Expo: Fruit, Vegetable and Farm Market held in Grand Rapids, MI on December 5-7, 2023. They attended topics related to soil health, greenhouse vegetable production, disease and insect pest management, and successful farm practices for obtaining high quality crops.

2024 IHC Poster Session Call for Submissions



The **2024 Indiana Horticultural Conference & Expo (IHC)** will be January 22-23 at the Hendricks County Fairgrounds in Danville, IN. Anyone interested in presenting specialty crop research or extension is welcome to present a poster, which will be on display for the duration of the conference.

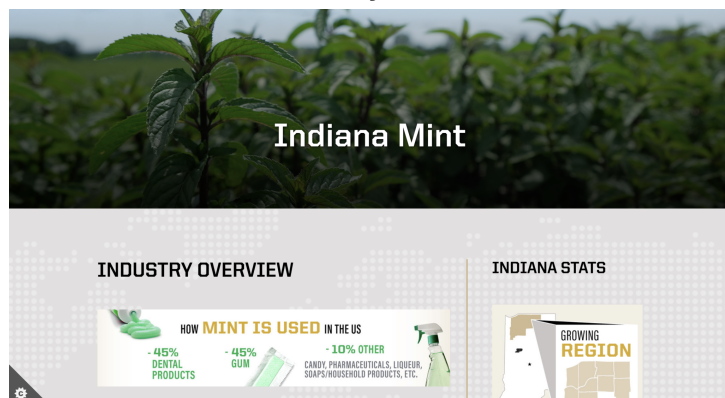
Requirements for all posters:

- Content must be relevant to the specialty crop industry.
- Dimensions should be no greater than 42” x 48”.
- An easel, foam board, and binder clips will be provided.
- Presenters are responsible for placing and removing their poster.

- Posters are not intended to be used for commercial marketing purposes.
- Presenters should be available during the afternoon break on January 22nd from 4 to 5PM to discuss their posters.

Please submit your name, poster title, and abstract (not to exceed 400 words) to INHortConference@purdue.edu by December 14, 2023. Please include with your submission if you give permission to display your poster on the IHC website. Space is limited to 15 posters. For more information about the conference visit our webpage at www.indianahortconference.org

Petrus Langenhoven Published Website for Indiana's Mint Industry



A website dedicated to Indiana Mint Production was developed and published by **Petrus Langenhoven**. Although the mint industry shrunk over the past few years, it remains the largest specialty crop in Indiana. Website can be accessed at <https://ag.purdue.edu/department/hla/extension/mint.html>.

Li and Dudareva Labs Co-Published New Research Article

Dr. **Ryan Patrick** (Li Lab), Dr. Xing-Qi Huang (Dudareva Lab), and Dr. **Natalia Dudareva** and Dr. **Ying Li** have published a research article on the role of dynamic histone acetylation in the diurnal oscillation of floral scents in *New Phytologist* (<https://nph.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/nph.19339>). A press release will follow in coming weeks.

Dr. Ariana Torres and Collaborators Published Article

Ariana Torres and collaborators published a new article on Green Profit titled "Following the Data: Three Unique Aspects of the Native Plant Market and How Retailers Can Use that Information to Attract Customers." Green Profit, p.21-27. https://www.ballpublishing.com/magazine/gp_23_12/index.aspx#.

Dr. Ying Li's Lab Published Research Article

Dr. **Ryan Patrick** and Dr. **Russell Julian** in Dr. **Ying Li's lab** have published a research article "[Organ-specific characteristics govern the](#)

[relationship between histone code dynamics and transcriptional reprogramming during nitrogen response in tomato.](#)" This research work applied a machine learning method to decipher the relationship between genome-wide histone modifications and global gene regulation during tomato nitrogen responses.

Li, Varala, and Gao (ECE) Won 2023 Agriculture-Engineering Collaborative Projects Competition

Dr. **Ying Li**, Dr. **Kranthi Varala**, and Dr. Jing Gao (from Electric and Computational Engineering) have won the 2023 Agriculture - Engineering Collaborative Projects Competition for their proposal "EpiAwareNet: Integrating Single-Cell Multi-Omics and Deep Learning for Inference of Nitrogen-Responsive Gene Regulatory Networks in Crop Roots".

Petrus Langenhoven and Collaborators Receive Grant

Tian Li (Mechanical Engineering), Lisa Mauer (Food Science), and **Petrus Langenhoven** (HLA) Self-Cooling Water Harvesting Cellulose Mulch for Sustainable Agriculture will focus on evaluating an innovative cellulose mulch developed by Dr Li's [ReNewed](#) lab, in a vegetable production system. The field research will be conducted at the [Purdue Student Farm](#).

Dr. Guan and Dr. Prokopy Attended the Indiana Vegetable Growers Association Meeting

Indiana Vegetable Growers Association had an evening meeting featuring melon variety trials at Southwest Purdue Ag Center (SWPAC) on Nov. 29. Dr. **Wenjing Guan** presented the 2023 melon variety trial results. Dr. **Linda Prokopy** participated in the meeting and delivered the message from administrators to melon growers about the current search for a plant pathologist stationed at SWPAC. The new plant pathologist will replace Dr. Dan Egel as he retires in Feb. 2024.

Indiana Hort Conference and Expo



HORT **INDIANA**
CONFERENCE
& EXPO

Please join us

January 22-23, 2024

REGISTRATION OPENS NOVEMBER 1

Hendricks County Fairgrounds
1900 E Main St, Danville, IN 46122

EDUCATION • PARP, CCA, CCH CREDITS AVAILABLE!
TRADE SHOW • SOCIAL & NETWORKING EVENTS
SILENT AUCTION • CIDER CONTEST

www.IndianaHortConference.org

PURDUE UNIVERSITY Horticulture and Landscape Architecture

Registration is now open: <https://indianahortconference.org/>

Purdue Small Farm Education Field Day



SAVE THE DATE

**PURDUE SMALL FARM
EDUCATION FIELD DAY**

JULY 25, 2024
at the Purdue Student Farm
<https://www.purdue.edu/hla/sites/studentfarm/events/>

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>

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Editor: Pamela J Fisher | Department of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture, 625 Agriculture Mall Dr., West Lafayette, IN 47907