

Winchester Regional Commercial Tree Fruit Production School

Monday, February 12, 2024

Virginia Tech - Alson H Smith, Jr., Agricultural Research & Extension Center, 595 Laurel Grove Road, Winchester, VA 22602

- 8:30** **Registration and Pesticide Recertification Sign-in** (*View Exhibits and Coffee Break*)
- 9:00** **Welcome and Introductions**
Mark Sutphin, Extension Agent, Horticulture – Frederick County
- 9:05** **Exploring PGRs, Rootstocks, and Breeding in Virginia Tech's Tree Fruit Program**
Sherif Sherif, Associate Professor of Horticulture, Virginia Tech-Winchester
- 9:35** **Next generation of all-stage fire blight controls and how should we manage apple bitter rot/Glomerella leaf spot**
Srdjan Acimovic, Assistant Professor of Tree Fruit and Specialty Crop Pathology, Virginia Tech-Winchester
- 10:05** **Sponsor/Vendor Brag Session** (*New products, chemicals, improved technologies, etc.; VSHS membership*)
- 10:45** **Break** (*View Exhibits*)
- 11:05** **Rootstock's influence on frost tolerance in apple trees is linked to shifts in soluble sugar levels in the scion's leaves and blossoms**
Amolpreet Kaur, Plant and Environmental Sciences Ph.D Candidate, Virginia Tech
- 11:30** **Emerging insect pest issues in mid-Atlantic tree fruit**
Kevin Rice, Assistant Professor of Entomology, Virginia Tech-Winchester
- 12:00** **Lunch** (*View Exhibits*)
- 12:45** **Industry and Market Perspectives**
Diane Kurrle, Senior Vice President, US Apple
- 1:35** **Thrips species attacking fruit crops and their management**
Doug Pfeiffer, Professor of Entomology, Virginia Tech-Blacksburg
- 2:05** **Break** (*View Exhibits*)
- 2:25** **Spray Bulletin Update/New Chemistries: Regulatory Update and Label Changes**
Tree Fruit Extension Specialists
- 2:45** **Pesticide Legal Update**
Ryan Rutherford, Pesticide Investigator, VDACS Office of Pesticide Services
- 3:30** **Pesticide Recertification Sign-out and Adjourn** (*View Exhibits*)