

44TH ANNUAL CONFERENCE
INTERNATIONAL DWARF FRUIT TREE ASSOCIATION
AMWAY GRAND PLAZA HOTEL, GRAND RAPIDS, MICHIGAN
FEBRUARY 17-21, 2001



CONFERENCE AGENDA

Saturday,
February 17

8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Pre-conference Bus Tour, The Hart and Shelby areas of west central Michigan have sandy soils and are not far from the shores of Lake Michigan. The region is an important and diverse fruit area with apples, sweet cherries, tart cherries and cling peaches. Asparagus is also a major crop. It is an important processing area, particularly for juice concentrate and frozen products.

Sunday Afternoon,
February 18

1:30 to 4:30 p.m. Local interest tour by bus to the Frederik Meijer Gardens, a world-class indoor and outdoor garden and sculpture park and to the Robinette's Gift Barn, a family owned and operated fruit farm market, cider mill, bakery and lunchroom with an adjacent gift barn.

Sunday Evening,
February 18

*Session Chair: Phil Schwallier,
Clarksville Horticulture
Experiment Station,
Clarksville, Michigan*

7:00 p.m. All You Wanted to Know about the Michigan Tree Fruit Industry, Featuring the talents of the Extension staff of Michigan State University.

Monday Morning,
February 19

*Session Chair: Jim Hughes
IDFTA Vice President
Picton, Ontario, Canada*

8:20 a.m. President's Welcome, Dr. Steve Blizzard, IDFTA President, Valley Sweet, Tulare, California

Education Director Announcements, Dr. Bruce Barritt, IDFTA Education Director,

Washington State University Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center, Wenatchee, Washington

8:30 a.m.

ROBERT F. CARLSON
DISTINGUISHED LECTURE
How Do Apple Rootstocks
Dwarf Scions

*Dr. Chris Atkinson
Horticulture Research
International—East Malling,
United Kingdom*

9:20 a.m. Management of High Density Pear Orchards, Dr. Tom Deckers, Pomologist, Royal Research Station of Gorseme, Belgium

10:10 a.m. Survival Tactics for the Apple Industry, Panel Discussion. Moderator Matt McCallum, The Fruit Growers News, Sparta, Michigan

11:55 a.m. European 2001 Tree Fruit Study Tour to France, Germany, Switzerland and Italy, Dr. Bruce Barritt, IDFTA Education Director, Washington State University Tree Fruit Research and Extension Center, Wenatchee, Washington

Monday Afternoon,
February 19

*Session Chair: Kent Waliser
IDFTA Board Member
East Wenatchee, Washington*

1:00 p.m. European Sweet Cherry Industry: Germany, France, Italy, Turkey, Martin Balmer, Staatliche Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt Ahrweiler, Germany

1:45 p.m. Virus Sensitivity of New Sweet Cherry Rootstocks, Bill Howell, National Virus-Tested Fruit Tree Program NRSP5, Washington State University Irrigated Agriculture Research and Extension Center, Prosser, Washington

2:00 p.m. Intensive Sweet Cherry

Management Study in Michigan, Dr. Ron Perry and Dr. Jim Flore, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan

2:20 p.m. Sweet Cherry Branching Techniques, Steve Hoying, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Newark, New York

2:40 p.m. Sweet Cherry Tree Densities and Tree Training, Martin Balmer, Staatliche Lehr- und Versuchsanstalt Ahrweiler, Germany

*The world's premier
annual conference
for tree fruit producers.*

3:25 p.m. Sweet Cherry Training Systems, Lynn Long, Oregon State Cooperative Extension, The Dalles, Oregon

3:55 p.m. Critical Concepts for Sweet Cherry Training Systems, Dr. Greg Lang, Michigan State University, East Lansing, Michigan

4:25 p.m. Cherry Question and Answer Session, Dr. Greg Lang, Moderator

4:55 p.m. Hood River, Oregon—Site for 2001 Summer Tour, Lynn Long, Oregon State Cooperative Extension, The Dalles, Oregon

Monday Evening,
February 19

Annual IDFTA Banquet

Featuring the presentation of awards for Outstanding Researcher, Grower and Extension/Educator, Dr. Steve Blizzard, Master of Ceremonies

6:00 p.m. Social Hour

7:00 p.m. Dinner

Tuesday,
February 20

8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Orchard Tour, All day tour by bus will feature high density apples and sweet cherries, farm market, packinghouse/storage, Apogee trials and orchard equipment. The stops will include Bruce and Joe Rasch Farms, Sparta; Joe Klein, Sparta; Phil Brown Welding, Conklin; Kropf Orchards, Belding; Tom Rasch Orchards, Belding; and Steve Klackle, Klackle Orchards, Greenville

Tuesday Evening,
February 20

7:00 p.m. Honeycrisp™—Research and Extension Information, Grower Experience, Market Strategy, David Bedford (University of Minnesota, Excelsior, Minnesota), Moderator of an information and discussion session featuring Honeycrisp™ experts from around the U.S. Participants include Dr. Jim Schupp, NY; Phil Schwaller, MI; Mitch Lynd, OH; Mark Evans, MI; Bill Howell, WA; Dennis Courtier, MN; Paul Woolley, NY; Steve Wood, WI; Randy Steensma, WA

Wednesday Morning,
February 21

Session Chair: Ken Hall

IDFTA Board Member

Poplar Grove, Illinois

8:30 a.m. The Response of Apple Rootstocks to Drought, Dr. Chris Atkinson, Horticulture Research International—East Malling, United Kingdom

9:15 a.m. Commercializing Existing and Future CG Apple Rootstocks, Dr. Terence Robinson, New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, New York

9:35 a.m. Peach Rootstock Trial, NC-140 6-year Summary, Dr. Greg Reighard, Clemson University, Clemson, South Carolina

10:05 a.m. Apple Variety Introduction—A New Paradigm, Garry Langford, Australian Pome Fruit Improvement Program Ltd., Tasmania

10:30 a.m. Pomology 101, Dr. Curt Rom, University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, Arkansas

11:20 a.m. Where Are We Headed with Apple Orchard Systems, Dr. Terence Robinson, New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva, New York

12:00 p.m. Lunch

Wednesday Afternoon,
February 21

Session Chair: J. Bennett

Saunders, IDFTA Board

Member, Roseland, Virginia

1:30 p.m. Bacterial Problems in Pear Growing, Dr. Tom Deckers, Pomologist, Royal Research Station of Gorse, Belgium

FIGURE 1

Güttinger "V" in Switzerland.



FIGURE 2

Slender Spindle in Europe.

