

ALTERNATIVE CROPS FOR NORTHERN MICHIGAN A SEMINAR FOR FARMERS FEBRUARY 18 AT 3:30 PM

at Grand Traverse Culinary Oils, 2780 Cass Rd, Traverse City, MI 49684

Grand Traverse Culinary Oils will host a farmer seminar to promote local production of canola and spring hard red wheat. Learn from experts in the field of canola and wheat farming and take a tour of the local oilseed production facility.

The seminar is FREE but a reservation is required.

Call Bill Koucky at 231-590-2180 for more info and to reserve.

CANOLA PRODUCTION IN MICHIGAN

Dr. Russ Freed and Jerry Linquist will talk about canola production in Michigan and will answer any question regarding their experiences with growing canola over the last decade.

Dr. Russ Freed, plant breeder and administrator, has been involved in international development and breeding for over 40 years, working 8 years for IRRI, living in Sri Lanka, Indonesia and the Philippines (1972-80) before coming to MSU in 1980. He ran the wheat breeding program for two years before taking over the oat and barley breeding program in 1982. He began working on canola in 2000, mainly looking at canola varieties for Michigan. In addition to his breeding program, Dr. Freed was Deputy Director for the Bean/Cowpea CRSP for 10 years, Acting Associate Dean and Director of the Institute of International Agriculture for 2.5 years, 2 year sabbatical with the World Bank (Washington DC), Acting Director of Partnership for Food Industry Development – Fruits and Vegetables (2 years) and Associate Chair of the Crop and Soil Sciences Department. Dr. Freed has developed and/or reviewed international development projects for USAID, Ford Foundation, the World Bank and consulting firms. He developed an agricultural research software program, MSTAT, which he sold to researchers in over 120 countries. His teaching responsibilities include a graduate capstone course (CSS 892), plant breeding seminar (HRT 892), plant breeding and biotechnology (CSS441) and international development (CSS294) courses. His professional awards include; the Ralph Smuckler Award - Advancing International Studies and Programs at MSU (2008), Michigan Crop Improvement Association Honorary Membership Award (2002) and the International Service in Crop Science Award (Crop Science Society of America - 1998).

Jerry Lindquist has served as a Michigan State University Extension Educator for 31 years based in Osceola County. In his current role he serves as the State wide Grazing Educator for MSU Extension working with grazing dairy, equine, and livestock farms. He also serves as the point of contact Crops Educator for nine counties in Northwest Michigan. His expertise is in forage management and beef cattle production.

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COLDPRESSED
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PROCESSING OILSEEDS IN NORTHERN MICHIGAN-A SHORT TALK AND TOUR

William Koucky is the owner/operator of Grand Traverse Culinary Oils LLC. William is hosting the talks at his facility in Traverse City and will give a brief informal tour and talk about the small oilseed production facility following the canola talks.

William Koucky opened Grand Traverse Culinary Oils in the fall of 2013 but has been actively involved with promoting canola for the production of oil for the last ten years. He has planted and harvested canola in the area and pressed the seeds originally with the intent to make biodiesel for his other business, Northwest Michigan Biodiesel but currently producing canola and sunflower oils as a high end culinary oil.

GROWING HARD RED SPRING WHEAT IN MICHIGAN

Dan Rossman will give a talk about his experience growing hard redwheat in Michigan, both organically (spring red hard) and conventionally (winter red hard). Hard red wheat is not traditionally grown in Michigan but is the variety of choice for making bread where soft wheat is the choice flour for cereals. Grand Traverse Culinary Oils is actively looking for hard red wheat grown in Michigan to facilitate the opening of a local stone ground milling operation to open in the fall at their facility in Traverse City. Dan has experience with the hard wheat and offers his expertise and experience in a short talk on the subject.

Dan Rossman was raised on a cash crop family farm in Montcalm County. He graduated from Michigan State University with a Bachelors of Science degree in Crops and Soil Science and a Masters degree in Education.

His career began with Michigan State University Extension in 1980 as a field crops agricultural agent and he is now a Senior Extension Educator for Gratiot, Midland, Bay and Arenac counties. He is a member of the MSU Extension Field Crops team and is a counselor for the MSU Product Center. He is a certified crop advisor (CCA), and a certified facilitator for both FastTrac and NxLevel business planning programs. He has additional expertise in farm management and organic farming systems.