



## **Maine Tree Fruit Newsletter**

**Saturday, March 21, 2020** Vol 27:2

### **Preseason Tree Fruit Meeting Webinars**

The next of the weekly webinars to replace the cancelled Preseason Tree Fruit Meeting is on Wednesday, March 25. You can log onto the Zoom meeting site starting at 11:30am, with the presentation starting at 12pm. You will be able to comment and ask questions through a chat box. To view the webinar will require downloading a free Zoom application onto your device.

**To Join from PC, Mac, Linux, iOS or Android:** <https://maine.zoom.us/j/132684553>

**Or to join by Telephone:** +1 646 876 9923 or +1 312 626 6799 or +1 346 248 7799 or +1 408 638 0968 or +1 669 900 6833 or +1 253 215 8782 or +1 301 715 8592

Meeting ID: 132 684 553

#### **There will be two pesticide applicator recertification credits for each webinar.**

The Board of Pesticides Control has to maintain credibility that people receiving training are actually paying attention. A couple of days after the webinar, I will post a link to the webinar recording and a link to a 10-question quiz onto a web page (address coming soon). listing all the webinars. People who want to receive recertification credits will need to download the quiz and send it along with your name, email address, and pesticide applicator license number to the Maine Board of Pesticides Control, either as an email attachment or as a paper copy in the U.S. mail. Addresses for where to send the completed quiz are included on the first page of the quiz.

The quiz for the first webinar is attached to this message, and includes the link where you can watch the March 18 webinar recording.

**Week 2** **Wednesday, March 25, 2020**

Introduction		12:00 PM
<b>Vincent Philion</b> Agroenvironment Research and Development Institute, Quebec	<b><i>New Insights on Apple Scab Biology and Fungicide Protection</i></b>	12:05 PM
Q&A		1:00 PM
<b>Dr. Renae Moran</b> University of Maine Cooperative Extension and Maine Agricultural Experiment Station.	<b><i>Highmoor Farm Research Update</i></b>	1:15 PM
Q&A		1:45 PM
Adjourn		2:00 PM

**Week 3** **Wednesday, April 1, 2020**

Introduction		12:00 PM
<b>Jon Clements</b> University of Massachusetts	<b><i>Innovations in Orchard Monitoring Technologies</i></b>	12:05 PM
<b>Dr. Leslie Forstadt,</b> UMaine Cooperative Extension - Director, Maine Agricultural Mediation Program.	<b><i>Farm families, Transition, &amp; How to Communicate in Difficult Conversations</i></b>	12:50 PM
Q&A with Jon and Leslie		1:30 PM
<b>Earl Bunting</b> Doles' Orchard, President Maine State Pomological Society.	<b><i>Maine State Pomological Society update</i></b>	1:45 PM
Adjourn		2:00 PM

## COVID-19 Response

Many farms across Maine have added alternative ways customers can obtain farm products to accommodate for social distancing in light of the COVID-19 outbreak. Maine farmers are updating a new database to increase public access to their farm products during this time. You can view the website and map at this farm product directory webpage.

<https://extension.umaine.edu/agriculture/farm-product-and-pickup-directory/>

To have your farm added or to update directory information go to <https://extension.umaine.edu/agriculture/farm-product-and-pickup-directory/submission-form/>

For assistance please contact Rebecca Gray at [rebecca.gray@maine.edu](mailto:rebecca.gray@maine.edu) or 207.781.6099. Many thanks to Allison Lakin of East Forty Farm and Dairy for initiating this important resource.

2. There is now a persistent page to host a streamlined list of resources to support farmers in the Covid-19 pandemic, including food safety, recommendations, and federal support programs. It is updated daily by agricultural organizations agencies across the state including UMaine Cooperative Extension, Maine Department of Agriculture, Conservation, and Forestry, and the Maine Organic Farmers and Gardeners Association. If you would like something added to the list, please email [bdennis@mofga.org](mailto:bdennis@mofga.org).

<https://docs.google.com/document/d/1xcWWU7YZcWkEc8mahncJdY3NiERTfZ6SN7IaTjKT1m0/edit>

3. Agricultural organizations agencies across Maine collaborated on a survey to assess the impact COVID-19 is having on Maine farms and how we can provide assistance:

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSeIW63-VpVgT22rLols7nHsLVulJidiuKbERDqJ1wZ1WeCjEQ/viewform>

## Contacting Highmoor Farm

When you call Highmoor Farm (933-2100), the person most likely to answer is Caitlin Ramsay, the new Administrative Specialist. Welcome aboard Caitlin!

If you need to mail something to Highmoor, the mailing address is:  
Highmoor Farm  
P.O. Box 179  
52 US Route 202  
Monmouth, Me 04259-0179

## Closing Words

"Things have come to a head, so we must come to the heart."

"Truly the heart of the matter is the matter of the heart."

"So to establish heartland security, we must recognize that our true security is in the land of the heart. And the best way to leave the static in the head for the ecstatic in the heart is hearty laughter."

"You want to uplift humanity? Begin by uplifting the corners of your mouth in a smile, and by using the super-power of levity you can uplift the world.

Think I'm kidding? Of course I am. And you should be kidding too.

Before engaging in any political conversation, take a vow of levity:  
'All for fun, ... and fun for all!'

May you take your humor seriously, and your seriousness humorously. May the FARCE be with you. May you wake up laughing and leave laughter in your wake."

~ Excerpts from an article in the April 2020 edition of the *Funny Times* ([funnytimes.com](http://funnytimes.com)), by Swami Beyondananda, cosmic comic, pundit, and uncommontator, whose favorite yoga pose is tongue-in-cheek. Online at [wakeuplaughing.com](http://wakeuplaughing.com).

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### Dr. Renae Moran

Extension Tree Fruit Specialist

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