



For Immediate Release
December 29, 2011

Contact: Dennis Raymo
Phone: (517) 668-2676

Check-Off Funded Research to be Shared with Farmers

LANSING, Mich. – Every year the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan (CMPM) teams up with the Michigan Soybean Promotion Committee (MSPC) and Michigan State University Extension (MSUE) to bring check-off funded research results to farmers across Michigan.

“By partnering corn and soybean check-off dollars, we can leverage funds while at the same time provide our farmers with cutting-edge corn production information and keep them informed about research projects they are sponsoring to help build future corn markets,” said Jody Pollok-Newsom, Executive Director of the CMPM. “These meetings are just one way the check-off programs are working to keep our farmers up-to-date on our activities -- including the results of our research programs.”

This will be the 13th year check-off funded research has been presented at the Corn and Soybean Winter Research meetings.

“We accomplish a great deal each year and it is important to disseminate information to the state’s farmers who invest in the check-off,” Pollok-Newsom said. “By hosting these meetings, we can share research project results with farmers through one-day programs across the state.”

The information from Michigan State University research projects, funded through the corn and soybean check-offs, will be highlighted during the meetings. Topics include:

- Western Bean Cutworm
- Biomass Processing of Corn Residue
- Environmental Fate of Bt Proteins
- Utilizing Cover Crops in a Strip Tillage System
- Local and regional corn and soybean research updates
- Check-off program updates
- Market Prospects for 2012

“The CMPM board knows it’s imperative farmers stay on the cutting edge of technology to remain competitive,” Pollok-Newsom said. “The winter meetings are an opportunity for farmers to learn about new production information, as well as new corn markets made possible by their check-off investments. These meetings provide information to farmers that could potentially improve their production practices, as well as their bottom line.”

(MORE)

Join the CMPM at the Corn and Soybean Winter Research Meetings, which begin at 9:00 a.m. and conclude at 3:00 p.m., in the following locations:

- January 13, 2012 – Cabela’s, Dundee
 - Natalie Rector, Monroe County MSUE – (734) 240-317
- January 16, 2012 – Bavarian Inn Lodge, Frankenmuth
 - Mark Seamon/Bob Battel, Saginaw County MSUE – (989) 758-2500
- February 2, 2012 – Van Buren ISD Conference Center, Lawrence
 - Bruce MacKellar, Van Buren County MSUE – (269) 657-8213
- February 3, 2012 - Sanilac Career Center, Peck
 - Martin Kagelkirk, Sanilac County MSUE – (810) – 648-2515

To register for one of the meetings, call the county extension agent at the number listed for the location you wish to attend.

Also, as part of the meetings, nominations will be held for the CMPM board of directors from each of the established CMPM districts. Those interested in the board positions may contact the CMPM office for a petition to apply for the board. The petition must be signed by 50 farmers within the applicant’s district and returned to the CMPM office by 5 p.m. on January 12. If petition signatures for two applicants for each district are not received by January 12, nominations for the position will be secured during lunch at the meetings in Dundee, Frankenmuth and Lawrence. All applicants must grow corn within their district.

Two nominations for each district will be submitted to the governor, who will review the nominations and appoint the new members to the farmer board.

In 2012, CMPM is looking for representatives from the following districts:

- District 1 – Allegan, Berrien, Cass and Van Buren counties.
- District 4 – Lenawee, Livingston, Macomb, Monroe, Oakland, Washtenaw, and Wayne counties.
- District 8 – Bay, Gratiot, Midland and Saginaw counties.

The Corn Marketing Program of Michigan (CMPM) is a legislatively established program that utilizes one-cent per bushel of Michigan corn sold and invests in research, education, new uses and market development. Michigan’s corn industry adds more than one billion dollars to the state’s economy annually and in 2010, Michigan’s corn farmers harvested a record-setting crop of more than 315 million bushels. For more information, visit the website of the MCGA and the CMPM at www.micorn.org.

#DR#