ALL COMMENTS – LOUISIANA Feb 2014

Lafayette, LA Training Event February 25, 2014

Comments, Pre-Training Survey

*What are your expectations for this training?*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | To learn more about high tunnel growing. |
| 2 | To gain knowledge about hoop houses. |
| 3 | To gain experience in hoophouse/high tunnel system. |
| 4 | To gain learning on organic horticulture & high tunnel production. |
| 5 | Conservation planning for organic production |
| 6 | To have a better understanding of organic & hoophouse production. |
| 7 | To learn how to better use high tunnels for vegetable production. |
| 8 | Soil conservation information; hoophouse management - pest & disease, crop rotation info, organic certification requirements. |
| 9 | Learn a little more about high tunnel production, especially the problems/issues. Learn more about construction/materials construction. |
| 10 | To learn about high tunnel growing. Am a grower for farmers market. Would like to learn more about extending crop production. |
| 11 | Learn more of organic & hoophouse practices. |
| 12 | To learn to better manage high tunel production. |
| 13 | Learn more on the organizations and businesses interested, promoting and implementing sustainable ag practices. Learn some permaculture techniues on a small scale. Learn. |
| 14 | Learn more about high tunnels. |
| 15 | Hope to get helpful info for organic farming & how to make my greenhouses more productive & organized. |
| 16 | To learn more about organic and hoophouse production in order to be able to provide up to date technical assistance to producers involved in those in organic and hoophouse production; to learn practical tips for those systems. |
| 17 | No expectations. |
| 18 | To learn quite a bit and meet lots of people. |
| 19 | Better knowledge and use of the hoophouse. How to incorporate it into my job. |
| 20 |  |
| 21 | Learn more about organic farming practices in small acreage farms using hoop tunnels to improve production and fight disease, insect, and weed pressure (and extend growing season). |
| 22 | To obtain information on organic horticulture and especially on vegetable production with use of hoop houses. |
| 23 | Obtain useful information that will increase my knowledge or organic practices & hoophouse production. Hopeful, this will result in increased production of better produce for my customers. |
| 24 | Your advice on organics. |
| 25 | Economics of high tunnel. |
| 26 | As a farmer I am looking to network with other farmers & NRCS professionals. I want to know how to best work with my NRCS office. |
| 27 | Learn more on hoop house. 30+ year farmer. |
| 28 | Learning more in the hoop house production & hopefully get a hoop/high tunnel house as a farmer for 20 + yrs (female farmer) (Black Female) |
| 28 | Learn more about hoophouse. |

Homer, LA Training Event February 26, 2014

Comments, Pre-Training Survey

*What are your expectations for this training?*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | To gain knowledge about organic farming in hoophouse and construction of hoop house. |
| 2 | Increase organic farming knowledge. |
| 3 | none |
| 4 | Gain a better understanding of seasonal high tunnels and crops grown in them. |
| 5 | Better understanding of organic systems. |
| 6 | To learn more about high tunnel house and maintenance and construction of them. |
| 7 | Techniques to apply organic pest control. |
| 8 |  |
| 9 |  |
| 10 | Learn about potential for agitourism. |
| 11 | To be able to improve my practices (hoppy farm) & present Master Gardener programs on organic farming, answer questions from the public effectively. |
| 12 |  |
| 13 | To learn how to advise farmers in hoophouse growing. |
| 14 | To learn more about using a high tunnel more efficiently & how to obtain one. |
| 15 |  |
| 16 |  |
| 17 |  |
| 18 |  |
| 19 | To learn more about production techniques to share with my clientele. |
| 20 | To become more aware of the terms and practices of organic hort and high tunnel production. |

Raceland, LA Training Event February 24, 2014

Comments, Pre-Training Survey

*What are your expectations for this training?*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Obtain some inside knowledge to the needs of small/organic producers. |
| 2 | Seasonal high tunnel training. |
| 3 |  |
| 4 |  |
| 5 | Clarity. |
| 6 | Learn about local grower's needs as it involves high tunnel and organic production |
| 7 | Gain a broader view of High Tunnel cropping systems and their use in Organic Production. |
| 8 | Not sure what to expect; wanting to learn about high tunnels. |
| 9 | Learn best practices for high tunnel production application. |
| 10 | Get a better economic and technical understanding of hoophouse growing. |
| 11 | Learn about the vegetables & plants produces in this region. Designing, constructing & using hoophouses & greenhouses. Specific organic questions. Being to help others. |
| 12 |  |
| 13 | Obtain current pest practices and determine existing support programs. |
| 14 | To learn more about organic gardening practices and about the hoophouse. |
| 15 | Learn how organic farming and hoophouses work. |
| 16 | Learn about purpose and construction of hoop houses. |
| 17 | See what it is about. |
| 18 | To learn about planting in the high tunnel. |
| 19 | To learn more about planting in hoop house. |
| 20 | Learn more about high tunnels & organic production. |
| 21 | To learn more about Green Houses |
| 22 | To learn more about greenhouses. |
| 23 | To acquire knowledge in high tunnel operation. |
| 24 | Organic ABCs. Hoophouse possibilities |
| 25 | To learn basics of hoop culture. |
| 26 | Learn more about hoop house production and organics to allow me to assist nonprofits & others. |
| 27 | Gaining knowledge & skills for personal use with hoophouse & organic production. |

Alexandria, LA Training Event February 27, 2014

Comments, Pre-Training Survey

*What are your expectations for this training?*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 |  |
| 2 | To learn more about construction, profitability & management of hoophouses. |
| 3 | Gain knowledge. |
| 4 | High. |
| 5 | Obtain working knowledge of organic farming & hoophouses. |
| 6 | Learn helpful ins and outs of management of hoophouse environment. Control of moisture, fungi, & disease. |
| 7 | To learn best practices in hoophouse production. |
| 8 | To learn more about high tunnels. |
| 9 | Learn what crops are viable for hoophouse production, common pes & disease problems. How to use a hoophouse efficiently. |
| 10 | My expectations for this training is to learn about the requirements and basics of organic and hoophouse production. |
| 11 | My expectations for this training is to learn as much information as I can about organic production and high tunnels to successfully implement these practices in our parish within the NRCS. |
| 12 |  |
| 13 | More knowledge of managing hoop houses. |
| 14 | Learning more about high tunnel -- Production, planting, management and maintenance. |
| 15 | What are the advantages of high tunnel & hoop houses. How to get funding? What can I plant and when to plant it. |
| 16 | Learn about organic certification |
| 17 | To have a good idea on the construction and costs & benefits of hoophouse. |
| 18 | To know more about hoophouse production. |
| 19 | Learn more about hoophouses. |
| 20 | Program information. |
| 21 | Program information. |
| 22 | How do you utilize high tunnel in summer time. |
| 23 |  |
| 24 |  |
| 25 | Learn more about high tunnel Greenhouse for produce |
| 26 | Learn about the use of high tunnel greenhouses and their production value. |
| 27 |  |
| 28 | Information about the hoop house. |
| 29 | Start to develop a plan for specialty crop production in hoop houses. Develop contacts for assistance as we start production. Develop knowledge for planning of construction of structures on our property. |

Comments, Post-Training Survey

*Were your expectations for this training met by this event?*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | I now have a better understanding of hoophouse production practices. Everyone was very informative. Looking forward for more training in the future. |
| 2 | Learned how to integrate useful organic practices, which will benefit me greatly this year. |
| 3 | Good overview of organic & hoophouse production. Also a very good networking opportunity. |
| 4 |  |
| 5 |  |
| 6 | I came to this training with very little knowledge about High Tunnels and now I have some insight. |
| 7 | Enjoyed listening to speakers and meeting other like minded people. |
| 8 |  |
| 9 | Learn more about high tunnel & specifics. |
| 10 | Information on construction and planting was presented very well. |
| 11 | Confirmed what I thought I knew. |
| 12 | Learned about organic practices & hoop house use and construction. |
| 13 | Operation of larger scale farms |
| 14 | Learn more on hoop house. |
| 15 | Enjoyed listening to Mark Cain & his experiences. |
| 16 | Excellent speakers & info. Wish I could have gotten someone from my NRCS office to attend. |
| 17 | Conservation practices were discussed & on farm site visit demonstration showed some of these practices. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 20 | Received helpful info on how to organize greenhouse. |
| 21 |  |
| 22 | A thorough training & understanding of organic hoophouses & production. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 26 | Good info on culturing practices and update on EQIIP. |
| 27 | Learned quite a bit. Met lots of people. |
| 28 | Yes, wish I had had it before I built the tunnel. |
| 29 | Learned from farmers and consultants many tips and do's and don't's. Lots of thought provoking material to take home & into the classroom. Gread ideas for a small scale garden. |

Comments, Post-Training Survey

*Were your expectations for this training met by this event?*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Opportunity to see practice in place. The field representatives were very well informed and professional. |
| 2 | More than expected. Thanks. |
| 3 | Excellent meeting; good presenters, excellent location, broad experience level of presenters. |
| 4 |  |
| 5 | Explained how high tunnel funding works. |
| 6 |  |
| 7 | Excellent presentations. Learned a lot of information. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 13 | I am much more knowledgeable about High Tunnels and organic practices. This was a fantastic event. |
| 14 | I learned quite a bit of info that I can share with my clientele. |
| 15 | Have some good ideas to bring back for the community gardeners. |
| 16 | I learned more about organic and tunnel house. |
| 17 | Enjoyed hearing about NRCS programs, Arkansas horticulture. |
| 18 | Very good presentations. |
| 19 | Excellent -- great speakers and so nice to have had NRCS and farmers learning together & teaching each other. |

*Were your expectations for this training met by this event?*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 |  |
| 2 | Great speakers and great high tunnel demonstration etc. |
| 3 | Absolutely!!! Hands-on, informative & very applicable. |
| 4 | Excellent -- Instruction & practical application. |
| 5 | I learned all about High Tunnels and growing produce. |
| 6 | Yes I learned about construction & the purpose. |
| 7 |  |
| 8 |  |
| 9 | Great presentations -- Much info. |
| 10 | I have more understanding of high tunnel structures & the benefits. |
| 11 | I learned a great deal about the NRCS programs that provide funding for hoophouses. I also learned the necessary activities needed for organic production. |
| 12 | Learned significant amount regarding hoop house construction and techniques for weed control. |
| 13 | I gained knowledge that will be very useful in acquiring, citing, and using a hoophouse. |
| 14 |  |
| 15 | Learned what I wanted to know about high tunnel production. |
| 16 |  |
| 17 |  |
| 18 |  |
| 19 |  |
| 20 |  |
| 21 | Very informative; Very knowledgeable speakers. |
| 22 |  |
| 23 | Learn more about high tunnels. Got a lot of different about what to and how to plant and take care of them. How to open & close. Lots of information.  |
| 24 |  |
| 25 |  |
| 26 |  |
| 27 |  |

*Were your expectations for this training met by this event?*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Fully understand the basics of organic production and high tunnels. |
| 2 | The presenters did a great job of explaining the processes of creating and maintaining an organic and hoophouse operation. |
| 3 |  |
| 4 | Great info on planting & production in the high tunnel. |
| 5 |  |
| 6 | Learned a lot. Mind boggling. |
| 7 | Some things I have done were logic and were verified here. I am excited about solarization which is a new concept for me along these lines. |
| 8 |  |
| 9 | Learned a lot about hoophouses. |
| 10 |  |
| 11 |  |
| 12 | Great.! I learned a lot. |
| 13 |  |
| 14 | They covered how to use efficiently, pest problems, & more. |
| 15 |  |
| 16 | I have vertical hydroponic garden. Many things were not totally applicable. |
| 17 | I learned how a hoop house was constructed. |
| 18 |  |
| 19 | It was more than hoop houses. |
| 20 | Learned a lot about organic farming. |
| 21 | New hoop house grower. |
| 22 |  |
| 23 |  |
| 24 | Excellent. |
| 25 |  |

If you found this training useful for your service to producers, please specify some of the ways you plan to use what you learned. If not, please explain.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | I plan to erect hoop houses as I can. I think this practice will be very beneficial to my farm to extend my growing season and provide higher qualit products. |
| 2 | Build a hoophouse to extend my growing seasons. |
| 3 | General knowledge & network. |
| 4 | Hoophouse construction. |
| 5 | Planning on building a greenhouse in the near future. |
| 6 | For applicants who come in inquiring about high tunnels and organic farming. |
| 7 | I am a master gardener. This information will be helpful answering questions. |
| 8 |  |
| 9 | High tunnel production in cold weather and make more money. |
| 10 |  |
| 11 | Offer construction/design/production advice. |
| 12 | Building of hoop houses and cost share with NRCS. |
| 13 |  |
| 14 | Learning about hoop house. |
| 15 | Look further into NRCS programs & bring that info to the (??) LIWGA (??) growers. |
| 16 | NRCS program availability. |
| 17 | Learned new techniques of the planning process. |
| 18 | The needs for small farmers. |
| 19 | Funding Hoop House. |
| 20 | Mark's video of his operation. |
| 21 | Financing. |
| 22 | To promote more hoop house & organic production in the Parish. |
| 23 |  |
| 24 | Applying for cost share with NRCS for our community garden. |
| 25 | Explain the hoophouses to growers at local meetings what is available. |
| 26 |  |
| 27 | Learned about opportunities and practices in play. |
| 28 |  |
| 29 |  |

*If you found this training useful for your service to producers, please specify some of the ways you plan to use what you learned. If not, please explain.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | I'll use the information to help with producers within the NRCS. |
| 2 | I can now explain how the organic production process can be beneficial. |
| 3 | I can explain to family why they should sign a lease to help the farm for years & to the next generation. |
| 4 |  |
| 5 | Growing Mayhaw (trees) & grafting to sell. |
| 6 |  |
| 7 | Solarization. |
| 8 | Secure hoop house if possible for mayhaw seedlings. |
| 9 | Will plan to build a hoophouse with the grant we have from USDA CBG. |
| 10 | Know facts concerning location & drainage on construction. |
| 11 | I gained more information about hoop houses. |
| 12 | Practices to control weeds and pests. |
| 13 | I better understand the needs / concerns of organic & hoophouse systems. |
| 14 | In my own future operation, these methods will direct my decision making. |
| 15 | Building a hoop house. |
| 16 | Had some good marketing tips and good info on CSA operation. |
| 17 | Start a single hoop house production. |
| 18 |  |
| 19 | Explained mistakes to avoid. |
| 20 |  |
| 21 |  |
| 22 |  |
| 23 | Do a better job of production and marketing. |
| 24 |  |
| 25 | Relay information learned on to potential customers. |

*If you found this training useful for your service to producers, please specify some of the ways you plan to use what you learned. If not, please explain.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | 1) Encourage hoophouse development for small & limited resource producers. 2) Develop programming to educate for organic production. 3) Self production & marketing. |
| 2 | Helps my ???? Plans in my high tunnel. |
| 3 | New ideas for existing greenhouse practice -- solarization etc. |
| 4 | Program for Master Gardeners |
| 5 | To convince people to use them. |
| 6 | Use woven instead of plastic. |
| 7 | Explain the process to other MG and gardeners. |
| 8 | Suggestions for materials and conditions for construction. |
| 9 |  |
| 10 |  |
| 11 | Some insight into production and marketing. |
| 12 | Organic gardening. |
| 13 | Better understand the lingo when working with folks who grow this way. |
| 14 | I will add info to my talks with groups. |
| 15 |  |
| 16 |  |
| 17 | NRCS programs, soil prep in houses, laying plastic. |
| 18 | Increase recommendations to build hoophouses. |
| 19 |  |

*If you found this training useful for your service to producers, please specify some of the ways you plan to use what you learned. If not, please explain.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 3 | Build own hoophouse. Solarization. |
| 4 | Investigate the NRCS grants -- pursue green production. |
| 5 | How to control pest, water, and plant growth. |
| 6 | Helping with financial assistance & technical for producers. |
| 7 | To help customers install high tunnel. |
| 8 |  |
| 9 | Develop practices & methods. |
| 10 | I plan to implement into my farm. |
| 11 | I can use this training in the greenhouse I work in. |
| 12 | Will share info through Master Gardener programs. |
| 13 |  |
| 14 | Look forward & consider production value in plants. |
| 15 |  |
| 16 | Identifying weed control methods w/ producers |
| 17 |  |
| 18 | Pay more attention to health of soil. |
| 19 |  |
| 20 | Working with producers. |
| 21 | I am a producer. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 27 | Tell friends. |

What was the most beneficial part of the event or the most useful information presented?

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Technical info & methods of hoop house production & practices. |
| 2 | Organic horticulture portion. Great information.  |
| 3 | The networking. |
| 4 | Visit to local farm to see production on the farm. |
| 5 | The services that are offered to help farmers that I didn't know existed. |
| 6 | The powerpoints and the onsite visit. |
| 7 | Pictures of high tunnel production. 1st hand look at farm. |
| 8 |  |
| 9 | Mr. Edward & the farmers gave successful information on high tunnels & ways to improve production. |
| 10 |  |
| 11 | Lecture but in field discussion about NRCS programs was great. |
| 12 | Contact with experienced growers. |
| 13 | Presenter from Dripping Springs Farms |
| 14 | Building hoop house. |
| 15 | The discussion @ the on-site tour. |
| 16 |  |
| 17 | Mark Cain's slide show |
| 18 | The construction of hoop houses. |
| 19 | Growing in Hoop House. |
| 20 |  |
| 21 | Cost sharing. |
| 22 | The types of produce & plants grown in the hoop house. |
| 23 |  |
| 24 | NRCS technical assistance, planning, and conservation practices. |
| 25 | Well organized and planned. |
| 26 |  |
| 27 | Building of hoop house & issues. |
| 28 | Production practices that worked for others: Crop choice, water management, pest management. |
|  |  |

*What was the most beneficial part of the event or the most useful information presented?*

*What was the most beneficial part of the event or the most useful information presented?*

*1 Only present for Hoophouse visit & discussion, so gained greater hints for positive production.*

*2 Great discussion group / sharing ideas.*

*3 Experienced organic farm presenters. Experienced NRCS staff & years of knowledge.*

*4 Informal question & answer. Visit to farm.*

*5 Marketing produce.*

*6 How to increase production.*

*7*

*8 Construction and materials used when building hoop houses.*

*9 On site visit and Mark's experience.*

*10 Use of actual organic farmer conducting presentation. Outstanding job.*

*11 Mark Cain.*

*12 Learning how to build the hoop house.*

*13 Seeing it in action at RGB Farm.*

*14 Mark's talk about his farm.*

*15 Seeing the hoop hous up close.*

*16 How to put it together, control weed and pest and heat.*

*17 Construction photos.*

*What was the most beneficial part of the event or the most useful information presented?*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | The most useful information was going to the field and actually seeing the practices in use. |
| 2 | The field observation was the most beneficial because it included a hands-on & actual observation of an organic operation. |
| 3 | Slides and field. |
| 4 | Info on getting a high tunnel and how to have it put up. |
| 5 | Very good learning experience. |
| 6 | Better understanding of operation of hoop house. |
| 7 | Solarization. |
| 8 | financial information. |
| 9 | What you can do with hoophouse. |
| 10 | The heating to rid area of vegetation & pests. |
| 11 | Building a hoop house. |
| 12 | The tour of Inglewood farm. |
| 13 | The farm walk. |
| 14 | The part specific to hoophouse production, & the tour of possibilities. |
| 15 | Everything. |
| 16 | Marketing & product sales (high value crops). |
| 17 | The use of the hoop house to grow multiple crops.  |
| 18 |  |
| 19 | Hoop house construction. |
| 20 | Learned more about organic farming. |
| 21 |  |
| 22 | Hoop house construction. |
| 23 | Hoop house construction. |
| 24 |  |
| 25 |  |

*What was the most beneficial part of the event or the most useful information presented?*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 |  |
| 2 | Both the speakers and the high tunnel demo were great. |
| 3 | Farmer-led presentations. |
| 4 | How to build Hoophouse! How to do the practical. |
| 5 | All of it. |
| 6 | Seeing the hoophouse at Zirette farm. |
| 7 | Video of construction. |
| 8 |  |
| 9 | Contacts & referrals. |
| 10 | Speaking to fellow farmers. |
| 11 | Speakers PP presentations & farm visit. |
| 12 | Hoop house visit |
| 13 |  |
| 14 | I'm still digesting. |
| 15 | Hands on viewing of high tunnel |
| 16 | Weed & fertility info for organic producers. |
| 17 |  |
| 18 | Farmer talk. |
| 19 | Problems in hoop house. |
| 20 | Advantages of hoophouses. |
| 21 | Hoophouses in general; Plan to get one. |
| 22 |  |
| 23 | How to plant in the hoop house. |
| 24 | Person who was a farmer. |
| 25 | Mark Cain's presentation. |
| 26 | Learning from those actually doing what they teach. |
| 27 | Explain it. |

*Please offer recommendations on how we can improve this training.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Great job! |
| 2 | More often. Perhaps quarterly. |
| 3 | None. Weather conditions in South Louisiana are too unpredictable. |
| 4 | N/A |
| 5 |  |
| 6 | The training was great. No recommendations. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 9 | Visit other farmers in high production. |
| 10 | Bathroom provided. |
| 11 | More like it on things such as IPM & business operations/management. |
| 12 | More onsite training. |
| 13 | N/A |
| 14 |  |
| 15 | Schedule time for us to think about our own operations & create a high tunnel planting schedule & have Mark & the NRCS team comment on our plan for what, how, & when we would plant under the high tunnel. |
| 16 | more more more |
| 17 | N/A Good Job |
| 18 | Enjoyed! Useful info. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 21 | All Good. |
| 22 | None at this time. |
| 23 |  |
| 24 | The training is wonderful, enjoyable, and informative. |
| 25 | No recommendations. |
| 26 |  |
| 27 |  |
| 28 | Make more widely available -- more outreach. |
| 29 |  |

*Please offer recommendations on how we can improve this training.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1 | Pretty good training. |
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|  |  |
|  |  |
| 6 | Great presentations. |
| 7 | Contrasting designs on equipment & stakes in a hoop house. |
| 8 |  |
| 9 | Conduct more of the same in other locations. |
| 10 |  |
| 11 |  |
| 12 | More of the same. Thanks. |
| 13 | Show equipment used. |
| 14 |  |
| 15 | Great. |
| 16 | Good. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 19 | Have hoop house example. |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
|  |  |
| 24 | Excellent. Concise. |
| 25 | None. |

*Please offer recommendations on how we can improve this training.*

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| All Good!9More greenhouse handout & data.10An agenda for the event with key speakers information & platform speaking on.11The more pictures the better.12Thought program was really good.1314I can't wait to review with the jump drive.15N/A*Please offer recommendations on how we can improve this training.*

|  |
| --- |
| 1Broaden scope to include Master Gardener, & small farm organizations when possible.2Excellent job. Thanks.34Keep on.5N/A6Add more marketing.13None. It was great.6None. |

25More practical application.2627Have more. |