
Published on *Center for Agriculture, Food, and the Environment* (<https://ag.umass.edu>)

Twilight Meeting: In-Field Use of UV Light to Reduce Plant Diseases & More ^[1]

Event date/time:

Wednesday, August 18, 2021 - 3:30pm to 5:00pm

Event Type:

In-person

Event location:

Ward's Berry Farm

614 South Main Street, Sharon, MA, 02067

Price:

free

How to Participate:

Please register here: <https://forms.gle/FP1EHZHtTpZgh9tb6> ^[2]

Registration Deadline: Wednesday, August 18, 2021 - 3:30pm

Twilight Meeting at Ward's Berry Farm ^[2]

UV light has been used in several systems including strawberry, squash, and beet to reduce diseases like powdery mildew. In this study funded by the Northeast SARE Novel Approaches for Sustainable Ag, researchers from Mt. Sinai partnered with UMass Extension and Ward's Berry Farm to evaluate efficacy of UV light to reduce downy mildew in cucumbers, a very destructive late-season disease. Jim Ward of Ward's Berry Farm in Sharon, MA worked with the researchers to build a UV-emitting

"sprayer" that can be used in the field to combat disease. Nick Skinner of Mt. Sinai will discuss the use of UV light in several disease systems, Jim will share his experience of building and using the UV sprayer, and Sue Scheufele will discuss the cucumber downy mildew experiments conducted in 2020 and 2021.

In addition, Jim will highlight some other experiments happening around the farm, including a pumpkin variety trial, using the UV sprayer on other crops around the farm including for powdery mildew control in zinnias, and describe his ongoing "experiment" with no-till pumpkins.

Lastly, Sue Scheufele and Andy Radin from URI Cooperative Extension will moderate a roundtable discussion of pest and crop issues seen this season.

Speaker(s) / Instructor(s):

Jim Ward, Ward's Berry Farm

Nick Skinner, Senior Research Coordinator Mt Sinai

Sue Scheufele, UMass Extension Vegetable Program

Andy Radin, URI Cooperative Extension

Contact's name: Sue Scheufele

Contact's email: sscheufele@umass.edu ^[3]

This event will be recorded: No

The UMass Center for Agriculture, Food and the Environment is the home of UMass Extension and the
Mass. Ag. Experiment Station.

Source URL: <https://ag.umass.edu/vegetable/events/twilight-meeting-in-field-use-of-uv-light-to-reduce-plant-diseases-more>

Links

[1] <https://ag.umass.edu/vegetable/events/twilight-meeting-in-field-use-of-uv-light-to-reduce-plant-diseases-more>

[2] <https://forms.gle/FP1EHZHTpZgh9tb6>

[3] <mailto:sscheufele@umass.edu>