



JULIAN VAIL, LLC NEWS & NOTES



JULY 31, 2009



*The former Vice President of the Michigan Contract Security Association, **John Rutherford**, passed away on May 25, 2009. Our thoughts and prayers go out to his family.*

Upcoming Fresh Produce For The Month of August

VEGETABLES	FRUITS
Beets	Apples
Cauliflower	Black berries
Sweet Corn	Cantaloupe
Cucumbers	Melons
White Potatoes	Plums
Squash	
Tomatoes	

The Michigan Farm Fresh Produce Availability Calendar can be found in the 2009 Farm Market Directory at www.MichiganFarm-Fun.com

*“Life at any time can become difficult.
Life at any time can become easy.
Good or Bad, they are Seasons on Life.
It all depends upon,
how you take on life and adjust to these seasons.”*

~Pravs World

2009 MICHIGAN LEGISLATIVE SCHEDULE

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

▪ No Session

SENATE

▪ 10:00 am - Tuesday-Thursday, August 4-6

JV LEGISLATIVE UPDATE:

Animal Initiative Bills Pass House Ag Committee

HB 5127 and HB 5128

On Thursday, July 30th, the State House Agriculture Committee, Chaired by Representative Mike Simpson, took final testimony on HB5127 and HB 5128. At the completion of the testimony, the two bills were voted out of committee. The vote was 7 Yeas and 1 No, with 3 passing. Both bills will now move to the full House for consideration. The date of when the full House will take up the vote is unknown.

Michigan’s farmers care about the land, animals and communities they live in. They want consumers to feel confident enjoying meat, milk and eggs from contemporary Michigan farms, raised by farmers with traditional Michigan values. With that in mind, Michigan farmers are supporting oversight of animal care with third party verification to assure all Michigan families that the Michigan food they enjoy has been grown and raised with science-based animal care standards. The legislation before you is NOT a package of environmental bills, but it specifically does the following:

- Clarifies the Department of Agriculture and the Agriculture Commission as the sole authority regulating livestock health and welfare.
- Codifies into statute scientific-based animal care standards, providing a requirement for farms to comply by 2020.
- Provides opportunity for revisions to the animal care standards or additional livestock specie standards through an Animal Care Advisory Council that will provide recommendations to the Department and Agriculture Commission for inclusion in rules.
- Utilizes a third-party audit system that would require little infrastructure or cost to the state for managing the program.
- Provides for science-based specie specific input into animal care requirements through the Animal Care Advisory Council and subcommittees appointed thereby.

By supporting this legislation you are helping to ensure the viability of Livestock Agriculture while assuring the public that there is third party assurance and verification that the Michigan Livestock Industry is caring for their animals as well as supplying a superior, safe, high quality food supply right here in Michigan.

We strongly support this legislation and urge you to also support this legislation. Please visit www.legislature.mi.gov to locate your representative.

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