

Northwest Ohio Greenhouse Resource Guide



USDA/Agricultural Research Service
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University of Toledo
 Scott Leisner – Plant Viorologist
 John Gray – Plant Biologist
 Scott Heckathorn – Plant Biologist
 Alison Spongberg – Soil Scientist

Area of Focus: Research

USDA/Agricultural Research Service has a cooperative agreement with the University of Toledo to conduct fundamental and developmental research. Relates to new and improved application technologies to protect floricultural, nursery, landscape, turf, horticultural, and field crops against damage from diseases, pests, and adverse environmental conditions, while safeguarding environmental quality, food and worker safety. Expected benefits of the project are increased profitability for growers, enhanced plant quality and improved knowledge of soilless media production.



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Area of Focus:

Cluster-based economic development springs from the idea that a geographic region and the businesses contained therein can compete more effectively when everyone in the region works together to the common benefit of all the stakeholders. Clusters by definition include businesses, trade associations, financial institutions, vocational training providers, universities, economic development agencies, and other entities deemed important to the cause. The goal of Maumee Valley Growers is to enable producers to build and support the local greenhouse economy through a branding program and with a network of additional resources.



**Ohio State University Extension Agricultural Business Enhancement Center
(ABE Center)**

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Contact: Dr. Beth Fausey, Floriculture Program Manager
Email fausey11@ag.ohio-state.edu

Area of Focus: Extension

The ABE Green Industry Center's floriculture extension program assists growers by providing timely, research-based information on crop development, nutrition, insect and pest management, as well as marketing and business support to increase the productivity and profitability of greenhouse producers and businesses.

The floriculture program provides support services to greenhouses in the region including a monthly newsletter featuring current issues and research results, on-site visitations, educational seminars, short courses, and tours as well as customized programs for individual business needs

Contact: Becky McCann, Program Assistant
Email mccann.52@osu.edu

Area of Focus:

The ABE Green Industry Center's horticulture program, as an outreach arm for The Ohio State University, is to make the resources of The University and industry experts available to all in the area of horticulture and its related fields:

- Garden Centers and Nurseries
- Landscape and Maintenance
- Lawn Care Services & Recreational Turf
- Tree Producers and Arborist

The horticulture program support is provided by customized programs for individual business needs, educational seminars, tours, Internet updates featuring current industry issues and research results and product development, as well as individual consultations.

Contact: Mary Donnell, Director
Email donnell.8@osu.edu

Area of Focus:

The focus of this program area is to increase the profitability of floriculture and hydroponic vegetable greenhouse businesses in Ohio by providing research-based horticultural, marketing, business planning, and greenhouse design support. The support is provided by individual consultations, seminars, tours, interactive Internet web sites and product development.



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Area of Focus: Energy

Conduct a study of all components of a greenhouse operation's total energy costs. The resulting data will represent an "energy profile" that will segment total energy expense by operation, by use, and by product. The data will form the basis for evaluating the justification for new technologies, materials, design modifications, or other techniques resulting in a reduction in energy consumption and costs. Through consultation with industry experts, literature reviews, and suppliers to the industry various systems, equipment, practices, design changes, product selections and other items reducing energy costs will be assembled and catalogued.



Toledo Area Flower and Vegetable Growers Association

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Area of Focus: Networking

The Toledo Flower and Vegetable Growers Association supports the greenhouse industry in northwest Ohio through educational programming and providing networking opportunities. The association serves as the voice of the northwest Ohio greenhouse industry to horticultural suppliers, governmental entities, universities and trade associations.

**The Ohio State University**

Contact Beth Fausey, Becky McCann or Mary Donnell to be connected to OSU Floriculture specialists.

The Ohio State University, www.osu.edu

The OSU Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center, www.oardc.ohio-state.edu

Floriculture Industry Roundtable of Ohio, www.ag.ohio-state.edu/~firoo

C. Wayne Ellet Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic, <http://ppdc.osu.edu/>

Area of Focus: Research & Extension

Greenhouse Entomologist: Detects and identifies insect pests and provides research-based recommendations on chemical and biological controls.

Greenhouse Plant Pathologist: Detects and identifies plant diseases and provides research-based recommendations on chemical and environmental controls.

Greenhouse Agricultural Engineers: Specializes in the construction of greenhouses, automated controls and energy delivery systems.

Greenhouse Horticulturist: Diagnoses and treats horticultural problems including nutritional and environmental issues.

C. Wayne Ellet Plant and Pest Diagnostic Clinic: Located on the OSU main campus, and for a small fee, the clinic diagnoses insect and disease problems using laboratory testing methods. Treatment recommendations are also provided to the growers.
