



MIFFS

Michigan Food & Farming Systems

Supporting the Many Faces of Farming

NOVEMBER 2025

WELCOME TO OUR Monthly Newsletter

Greetings Subscriber!

November has arrived and last month we experienced our first frost in the Lansing area. Winter is the time of year that farmers and food producers use to catch up on a lot of tasks that they could not get to during the growing season.

It is a good time of year to take advantage of webinar, conference and workshop opportunities to help you grow and strengthen your operations. Check out our educational opportunities link below for a curated list of events in the Michigan and Great Lakes region.

With the suspension of SNAP benefits this month, many farmers, food producers and local organizations are stepping up to fill in the gaps and get much needed food to the people in need in our communities. We are sharing as many local resources on our social media channels as possible. Please follow, tag, share & comment on our posts with your own creative ideas or resources you have seen so we can help spread the word.

In Solidarity,
the MIFFS Team



Highlight This Month!

ESTATE PLANNING FOR LOCAL FARMERS
DECEMBER 2 10:30 AM - 11:30 AM EST

Join West Michigan Young Farmers and Trevor A. Mason, an attorney specializing in estate planning, for a virtual session on wills, trusts, estate administration and business succession planning. There will be a Q&A session, so feel free to bring all your estate questions.

[Register here.](#)





Educational Opportunities

WEBINARS, TRAININGS & CONFERENCES

EDUCATION



Funding Opportunities

**GRANTS, LOANS &
RESOURCES**

FUNDING



Employment Opportunities

**JOBs, INTERNSHIPS &
FELLOWSHIPS**

EMPLOYMENT



Why Pollinate Squash by Hand?

by Seed Savers Exchange

If you are saving your squash seeds, you need to make sure your squash plant does not cross with any other squash varieties of its own species. In order to avoid crossing, we recommend an isolation distance of 1/2 mile between squash varieties. However, this is a significantly further isolation distance than many other crop types require and is not always practical, especially for home gardeners.

In the absence of isolation by distance, we recommend hand-pollination.

Why is isolation important? Isolation ensures that a crop's flowers are not crossed with pollen from a different variety, which could lead to hybrids. A squash flower that has been crossed with pollen from another variety will not produce seeds that are true-to-type.

We've put together a squash hand-pollination guide on our website.

Read the full article [here](#).

Support Our Mission

Connecting beginning and historically underserved farmers to each other and resource opportunities; ensuring social justice, environmental stewardship, and profitability.

[DONATE](#)

Follow us on social media!



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