

**Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
HORT Fund  
Final Report  
August 14, 2018**

**Project Title:** Systems Approach to Management of Pests and Pathogens in Nursery Crops

**Project MDAH #:** 791N7700489

**Principal Investigator:** Robert E. Schutzki, Department of Horticulture  
Michigan State University

**Reporting period:** 6/1/17 – 8/15/18

**Accomplishments:**

The topic was presented by R. Schutzki at the 2018 Great Lakes Trade Exposition conducted by the MNLA. The program titled “HACCP, SANC and the future of Nursery Certification”. There were approximately 60 people in attendance.

A two day program was offered on February 21-22, 2018 in Okemos Michigan. The agenda featured Thomas Buechel, production manager of McKay’s Nursery and participant in the SANC pilot study conducted by American Hort and the National Plant Board. Registration materials were sent to MDARD Nursery license holders and the nursery production members of the Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association. The program was attended by MDARD nursery inspectors and nursery producers.

Registration materials and an article promoting SANC was published in the January 2018 issue of the Michigan Landscape.

Grant funds were used in promoting and conducting the workshop including travel and a honorarium for the guest speaker. Participants received a notebook of pertinent SANC forms and checklists. All grant funds were not used due to less than expected attendees at the conference. The unused funds were returned to MDARD by MSU Contracts and Grants.

A series of articles is being written for the 2019 issues of the Michigan Landscape to include: SANC Critical Control Points; Best Management Practices; Systems Audits; Organizational Structure and Pest Management Plans.

**Impacts:**

A systems approach to management of pests and pathogens in nursery crops is being piloted by the National Plant Board and American Hort. Knowledge of the systems approach and its influence on pest and pathogens is becoming more important in the production and distribution of nursery stock both domestically and internationally. Information both generated and shared through this project will prepare Michigan and regional producers for future regulatory

requirements, enhance their production strategies, maximize distribution of crops and minimize the potential losses from the spread of damaging pests and pathogens.

**Funding partners:**

Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development  
Department of Horticulture, Michigan State University  
Michigan Nursery and Landscape Association

**Publications/ outreach activities related to project:**

An article was published in the January 2018 issue of the Michigan Landscape.

A presentation was given at the 2018 Great Lakes Trade Exposition

A regional meeting was conducted in February 2018 in Okemos, MI.

A series of articles is being written for the Michigan Landscape (2019).

A presentation is scheduled for the 2019 Great Lakes Trade Exposition, Lansing, MI featuring risk audits for nursery producers