



GREAT PLAINS VEGETABLE GROWERS CONFERENCE

St. Joseph, Missouri

On Thursday, January 7, choose between the High Tunnel Workshop or Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) Mini-School.

January 7, 2010

High Tunnels – Essential Tools for the Market Farmer
Fulkerson Center, Kemper Recital Hall

- 8:00 **Registration**
- 8:30 **Course Introductions**
- 9:00 **“High tunnels: Costs, benefits and how-to in an organic production system”** Zaid and Haifa Kurdieh
- 10:30 **Break**
- 11:00 Zaid and Haifa Kurdieh (continued)
- Noon **Lunch** (provided with registration fee)
- 1:00 **“Year-round crop planning for low-cost hoop-houses”** Patrice Gros
- 2:30 **Break**
- 3:00 **Grower - Extension Medley** - Area growers and extension specialists provide their experiences and perspectives
 Rob Hemwall, Pierpont Farms, Columbia, MO
 Pov Huns, Huns Gardens, Kansas City, KS
 Rex Rees, Rees Fruit Farm, Topeka, KS
 Dennis Hatfield, Hatfield Farm, Pierce City, MO
 Henry Taber, Iowa State University
 Patrick Byers, University of Missouri Extension
 Others to be announced
- 4:30 **Workshop adjourns**

WORKSHOP INSTRUCTORS:

Zaid & Haifa Kurdieh, business partners in Norwich Meadows Farm, LLC, have been organically farming since 1998. NMF currently serves over 1300 CSA members and eight farmers markets primarily in New York City—including the famous Union Square Farmers Market. NMF currently has over 45 acres in vegetable and fruit production of which 4 acres are under high tunnels. NMF also produces chicken, eggs, turkey, lamb, and goat. The farm grows over 500 varieties from Asparagus to Zucchini. The strategy for NMF is to produce high quality (taste and appearance) products to be marketed to CSA members, farmers market customers, and chefs. Our current area of expansion is door to door deliveries of CSA shares and restaurant orders. NMF has many famed restaurant clients such as Blue Hill, Gramercy Tavern, and Il Buco. Website: <http://www.norwichmeadowsfarm.com>

Patrice Gros is a full-time organic farmer and co-founder of two successful farmers' markets (Berryville and Eureka Springs, AR). He owns and manages Foundation Farm and its associated farming school. Website: <http://www.foundationfarm.com>

Come enjoy refreshments & snacks in the Trade Show Area during breaks and also a special wine reception from 4-6:30 pm.