

Calendar of Upcoming Events

August 26-28, 1994

1994 Joint Conference: Roots for the Community

Chicago, Illinois

The American Horticultural Therapy Assn. (AHTA) and the American Community Gardening Assn. (ACGA) will host their first joint national conference in Chicago this coming August. About 350 members of the two national organizations are expected to attend the 3-day conference in Chicago.

AHTA promotes the use of horticulture and gardening as a therapeutic means in the lives of people with disabilities. In addition, its work focuses on vocational training related to horticulture for people with disabilities. Association members work in rehabilitation hospitals, training centers for people with developmental disabilities, residences for older adults, and prisons.

ACGA promotes the community gardening and urban greening projects throughout the United States. Its members work with com-

munities and community organizations to create gardens that beautify neighborhoods and produce nutritious food for gardeners. Association members work for municipalities, community centers, botanic gardens, and diverse community organizations.

The joint conference in Chicago will be an opportunity for these related-issue organizations to hold sessions and educate and enhance the expertise of members. A broad range of sessions will focus on the practical issues, such as how to establish community gardens, pros and cons of using treated lumber in gardens, to broader-range topics, including establishing a research program, issues relating to plant/people interactions, and gardens in prisons, etc. A full day of sessions will be presented at the Chicago Botanic Garden by staff from the garden.

For a copy of the program and registration materials, contact the American Horticultural Therapy Assn., Attn: Ms. Joyce Potkay, 362A Christopher Ave., Gaithersburg, MD 20876 (phone 301/948-3010).

September 28-29, 1994

Using Plasticulture Technology for the Intensive Production of Vegetable Crops

Lexington, Kentucky

The American Society for Horticultural Science (ASHS) and the American Society for Plasticulture (ASP) are conducting this seminar on the latest in plasticulture applications immediately following the 25th National Agricultural Plastics Congress of ASP. The 2-day seminar begins with technical presentations on:

- "Plasticulture Vegetable Production Systems—What are the Components?"
- "Microirrigation on Mulched Systems: Design Considerations, Components, and System Capacities"
- "Water Management in Drip Irrigation and Plastic Mulch Systems"
- "Fertilizer Management with Drip Irrigation and Plastic Mulch Systems"
- "Injection of Chemicals into Irrigation Systems: Rates, Volumes, and Injection Periods"
- "Rowcovers and High Tunnels—Growth-enhancing Technology"

The second day features equipment demonstrations and hands-on activities taking place at the Univ. of Kentucky Research Center. Geared to reinforce the previous day's instruction, the demonstration session will show in detail many aspects of plasticulture technology. See pp. 199-200.

For more information and to register, contact ASHS/Seminar, 113 S. West St., Suite 400, Alexandria, VA 22314-2824 (phone 703/836-4606; fax 703/836-2024)

February 20-24, 1995

Harvest and Postharvest Technologies for Fresh Fruits and Vegetables

Guanajuato, Mexico

The Mexican Society of Agricultural Engineers (AMIA) and the International Division of the American Society of Agricultural Engineers (ASAE) are jointly sponsoring a technical conference in Mexico to deal with harvest and postharvest technologies for fresh fruits and vegetables. The location is the Hotel Real DMinas in Guanajuato, in the heart of the Mexican fruit and vegetable production area.

The general theme for the conference is postharvest technology for the preservation of quality in perishable products from the time of production until the product is reaches the consumer wholesome, nutritious, and safe. The emphasis is on fruits, vegetables, and other horticultural crops. More than 100 papers have been proposed for presentation at the conference, covering the technical areas of harvesting, handling, storage, packaging, transportation, quality assessment, and economics.

The conference is timely in view of the recent NAFTA agreement. Persons who should consider attending the conference include producers and distributors, and agricultural and food researchers.

For further information, contact: Jon Hiler, ASAE, 2950 Niles Rd., St. Joseph, MI 49085-9659 (phone 616/429-0300); or Salvador Garcia Barron, C.I.E.I.A.A., Universidad de Guanajuato, Apdo. Postal 483, 36500 Irapuato GTO, Mexico (phone 464-83573; fax 462/41761).