

General Pest Management Workshop
Tuesday, March 24, 2026
Central MS Research & Extension Center; Raymond, MS



- 8:00-8:45 Registration
- 8:45-9:00 Welcome
Moderator: Dr. Rebecca Melanson, Extension Plant Pathologist, Central Mississippi Research and Extension Center (CMREC) / Department of Agricultural Science and Plant Protection (ASPP), Mississippi State University (MSU)
- 9:00-10:00 **Weed Control Update (60 min)**
Dr. John Byrd, Extension/Research Weed Scientist, Department of Plant and Soil Sciences (PSS), MSU
- 10:00-10:30 **Turfgrass Weed Management (30 min)**
Dr. Jay McCurdy, Turfgrass Extension Specialist, PSS, MSU
- 10:30-10:45 Break
- 10:45-11:15 **State of Beekeeping: Varroa Management (30 min)**
Dr. Jeffrey Harris, Extension/Research Entomologist, ASPP, MSU
- 11:15-12:05 **Pesticide Safety and Regulatory Update (50 min)**
Mr. Gene Merkl, Jr., Program Manager-Pesticide Safety Education ASPP, MSU
- 12:05-12:50 Lunch (provided)
- 12:50-1:20 **Understanding Insect damage in Vegetable and Fruit Production (30 min)**
Dr. Jermaine Perier, Extension Entomologist, CMREC/ASPP, MSU
- 1:20-1:50 **Soilborne Diseases: Challenges and Opportunities in Disease Management (30 min)**
Dr. Misbakhul Munir, Research Plant Pathologist, North Mississippi Research and Extension Center (NMREC)/ASPP, MSU
- 1:50-2:35 **Current Ornamental Problems; Freeze & Ice Damage Remediation (45 min)**
Dr. Alan Henn, Extension Plant Pathologist, ASPP, MSU
- 2:35-2:50 Break
- 2:50-3:20 **IPM: Insect Management in Edible Specialty Crops (30 min)**
Dr. Jermaine Perier, Extension Entomologist, CMREC/ASPP, MSU
- 3:20-3:50 **Disease Management Updates in Fruits and Vegetables (30 min)**
Dr. Rebecca Melanson, Extension Plant Pathologist, CMREC/ASPP, MSU
- 3:50-4:00 **Program Survey/Evaluation**
Renewal/Recertification (Bureau of Plant Industry)
Distributed by Dr. Rebecca Melanson, Extension Plant Pathologist, CMREC/ASPP, MSU