

**June 5 and 6, 2024**

**This two-day session is organized by the University of Maryland Extension, University of Delaware Extension, and the Maryland Nursery, Landscape, and Greenhouse Association.**

**Location:** Carroll Community College, Westminster, MD; different buildings each day. Building M, Room 157 (June 5) and Building K, Room 100 (June 6)

Can adopting a new approach help make you more profitable? One thing's for sure, if you're not looking at trends and new ways to conduct your horticulture business, someone else just might beat you to the punch.

To help you adopt to the changing world, the University of Maryland Extension is setting up a forward-thinking conference for the horticulture industry.

A 2-day Biological Control Conference with hands-on lab experiences designed to help nursery, greenhouse, arboretums, and landscapers adopt practical biological control methods

We have a hands-on pathology and entomology lab with liquid crystal screens hooked to dissecting scopes so you can see small predators, parasites, and beneficial fungi easily. This spring we have been infesting plant material with diseases, insects, and mites in preparation for this hands-on lab section. We will order beneficial organisms, so you will be working with live specimens. Leading pathologists and entomologists will work with you in the lab section to improve your skills applying entomopathogens, biofungicides, use of on-site serological test kits, and how to evaluate if beneficial organisms are giving you the impact you desire.



We have invited some of the top researchers and practitioners in biological control including John Sanderson, Cornell University, Michael Brownbridge and Eric Clifton, BioWorks, Stephan Jaronski formerly with USDA, Tim Waller, Rutgers's University, Matt Krause, Lallemand Bio Company, and Steve Hershfeld, Hillcrest Nursery, who has been using biological control for greenhouse herb production. Drone pilot, Kirk Floyd, KDrone Services, and our UMD drone team will conduct a live demonstration of using drones to apply beneficial mites and low risk fungicides such as MilStop.

On the first day, we will hold two repeat sessions of a hands-on lab handling beneficial organisms, beneficial nematodes, and plant stimulants used in disease control. This part will be limited to the first 60 total participants since this involves lab sessions. On day two, June 6<sup>th</sup> we will have a series of lectures on using biological control in nursery and greenhouse operations and optimizing your impact. This part of the program can handle the first 128 people to sign up.

[Go to IPMnet For Registration Information](#)



## **Biological Control Conference Organizers**

### **Stanton Gill**

Extension Specialist in IPM and Entomology University of Maryland Extension, Central Maryland Research and Ed Center, [sgill@umd.edu](mailto:sgill@umd.edu)

### **David Clement**

Extension Plant pathologist, HGIC, University of Maryland Extension, [Clement@umd.edu](mailto:Clement@umd.edu)

### **Andrew Ristvey**

Extension Specialist in Irrigation and Nutrient Management, [aristvey@umd.edu](mailto:aristvey@umd.edu)

### **Hemendra Kumar**

Extension Agriculture Engineer Specialist, University of MD Extension, [hemendra@umd.edu](mailto:hemendra@umd.edu)

### **Suzanne Klick**

Lead Technician, University of Maryland Extension, [sklick@umd.edu](mailto:sklick@umd.edu)

### **Sheena O'Donnell**

Technician, University of Maryland Extension

### **Kirk Floyd**

Drone Pilot, Kdrone Services, LLC

### **Brian Kunkel**

Entomology and IPM Specialist, University of Delaware Extension

### **MNLGA**

**Vanessa Finney**, Executive Secretary

**Kelly Finney**, Vice-President of Quercus, Inc.

**Lauren Bottcher**, Communications and Events Coordinator

The University of Maryland, College of Agriculture and Natural Resources programs are open to all and will not discriminate against anyone because of race, age, sex, color, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry, or national origin, marital status, genetic information, or political affiliation, or gender identity and expression. If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in any event or activity, please contact Suzanne Klick at [sklick@umd.edu](mailto:sklick@umd.edu) on or before May 20, 2024.