



# Hop Quality Improvement, Training and Verification Program

Hop Growers of Michigan  
and Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development

# Hop Growers of Michigan



# Quality

- Who
  - Why
  - What
  - When
- 
- Your input today- survey

# Hop Growers of Michigan



# Quality

## Who

- The Hop Growers of Michigan applied for the grant and will manage it to completion.
- HGM is a non-profit, 100% voluntary Grower's Association
- All Michigan hop growers and processors are welcome to participate
- Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development is the administrator of this Specialty Crop Block Grant
- Hop Growers of America is currently rolling out a quality program that will help establish industry expectations for HGM

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# Quality

## Why

- Increase Quality and Food Safety of Michigan grown hops
- To increase the market share of Michigan Grown Hops sold in Michigan through increased customer confidence
- To improve the image of Michigan Grown Hops nation wide
- To implement an audit system that will add value to growers and processors that use the program. This includes a Hop Growers of Michigan designation of being verified.

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# Quality

## What

- A checklist of recommended practice and record keeping
- Good Agriculture Practices (GAP) and Global GAP (GG) provide existing formats and common practices for employee health, safety, plant care, fertilizer, pesticide and water use.
- Additional practices have been compiled by USA Hops specific to hop harvest.
- Three levels of Audit available: a) self, or b) industry, or c) third party
- This is a perpetual program funded in part by audit fees and HGM

# Hop Growers of Michigan



# Quality

## When

- This will be beta tested 2017 crop year so that it can be refined for year 2018 validation and full implementation.

## Today

- Your input – baseline survey of Michigan craft brewers experience with Michigan hops
  - [\(add link here\)](#)