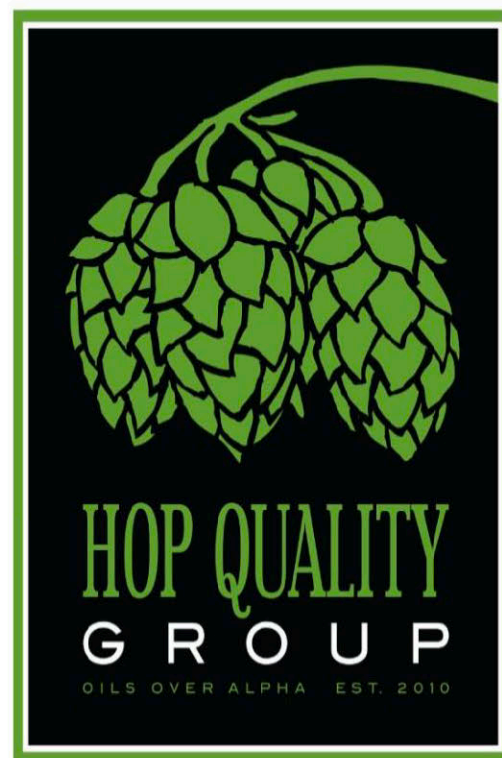


HQG Visit Date:	6-24-2021
Farm/Facility:	MI Local
Picker Name & Grower Number(s):	MI501
Grower Name & Phone:	Mike Moran 231-620-5627
Physical Address of Farm/Facility:	5720 Bates Rd, Williamsburg, MI 49690
Email Address:	mikem@milocalhops.com
Picker Type(s) & Description:	Two Wolf 1000
Merchant Partners/Direct/Both?	Both



HQG Attendee & Brewery	
Alec Mull-Founders	Geoff Wenzel-Industrial Arts
Jason Vrosh-Founders	
Chris Boggess-3 Floyds	
Matt Gallagher-Half Acre	

Operations Description:

<p>Largest hop grower in MI currently farming 187 acres with growth opportunity for up to 600. Grow numerous cultivars and experimentals (including HQG 008-074). Very clean and impeccably maintained state of the art, full Wolf harvesting equipment installed in 2016 and 2017. Two Wolf 1000s, two 3000# blending bins, two Wolf Dryers and six conditioning boxes. Numerous additional food and worker safety components added beyond standard Wolf features. Great homogenization with these processes. Five harvesting trucks with live bed mats so hop bines never touch the ground. This entire picking facility is the traditional German process with some Americanized improvements. It is top notch. Safety of operators is improved as the entire picker is enclosed and all conveyance walkovers are covered. Drip pans are installed on all gear motors. Hop “trash” vacuum is improved and provides an even cleaner bale. Dedicated chemical storage and spray shed and separate break area. Also has Wolf 140 picker for smaller experimental yards that has yet to be integrated but appears in excellent condition. All yards utilize cover crop agricultural practices.</p>
<p>Currently operate a daily single shift during harvest. 3rd party pest control with bug zappers at doors.</p>

Areas of Concern:

<p>None. This is an excellent farm with excellent harvesting equipment. We do have some recommendations, but no real concerns.</p>

Improvements since last HQG visit (if applicable):

Recommendations:

They do have a single magnet in the most critical spot prior to baling, but we recommend more at transitions. Magnets help everyone. Lights over picker and product area are suitable as shatterproof fluorescent, so are NOT a food safety concern, but as they need replacement, we recommend switching to LED fixtures. While the hops never touch the ground here, the harvest truck staging area is a dirt lot, and would be improved if paved to eliminate any concerns of dust. Not really a problem as they spray this area with water to keep dust down if necessary, but paving would be helpful and eliminate the need for sprays and eliminate any dust concern.

Additional Comments:

What hop varieties are grown? Acreage? 187 acres total with opportunity for up to 500 <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Bitter Gold, Cascade, Cashmere, Centennial, Chinook, Crystal, Mackinac, Magnum, Michigan Copper, Nugget, Triumph, Willamette
Does Grower plan any major upgrades in the near future? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No-
Does Grower operate multiple facilities? If yes, how many? Facility names and locations (grower numbers)? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• No
Does Grower custom pick for anyone else? If yes, who? <p>Yes, they pick for a few local growers. (not sure how many or who but has been increasing as local farmers utilize this excellent facility). They do run a Pellet Mill that also pelletizes for others.</p>
What certifications does the grower possess, if any? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Working on Global Gap and is “Verified Source”, Operate with the Good Bines and Green Chief SOPs as process principals.
Additional Comments about the operation? <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Great job! This is an excellent resource for all brewers, especially Michiganders. This is the best picking and processing facility in MI. <p>HQG gives this plant the thumbs up!</p>

