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"Still Going Nuts!"

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Faculty in the Agricultural Engineering Department at MSU continue to play a significant role in the development of a chestnut industry in Michigan. The project includes cooperation between Agricultural Engineering, Horticulture, Plant Pathology, Food Science, Packaging,

Midwest Nut Producers Council, Chestnut Growers Inc., and others. The overall goal is to develop the industry with a market driven approach in contrast to the more traditional approach. A key factor in developing chestnut markets beyond fresh market sales is the ability to shell/peel the chestnut. A task of Ag. Engineering has been to get a new Italian built pilot scale peeling line operating and integrated into the emerging industry. We have had a very successful year with the line with much yet to learn in terms of post-harvest product handling and mechanical settings to optimize the peeling process. The fun and rewards of the project are sampling many GREAT chestnut recipes!

If you would like to learn more about chestnuts as a product or about becoming more involved with chestnuts we encourage you to visit the following web sites: www.chestnutgrowersinc.com or www.chestnutgrower.org







Enjoy!!!

