Crop Update for March 28, 2014

Upcoming Event Dates to put on your calendar:
Please note the deadline for each event.

Bud Assessment Workshops:
April 8, 2014- Penn State Extension, 850 East Gore Rd. Erie PA. 16509  4:00pm-5:00pm
**call  Luke at 716-792-2800 ext 204 to register or e-mail at llh85@cornell.edu**

April 8, 2014- NEWA Training at CLEREL 10:00am-Noon**
NEWA Training at Penn State Ext Office, 850 East Gore Rd. Erie PA  2:00pm-4:00pm
Class agendas are identical, 2 location offerings
Deadline for pre-registration- April 1, 2014

April 17, 2014- Training Your Customers:Effective Tasting Room Techniques
CLEREL
Deadline for pre-registration-Friday, April 11, 2014

May 7, 2014- COFFEE POT MEETINGS** begin- a schedule for these is in progress. Check the web-site for updates as they become available. Dates will also be posted in the Crop Update.

June 21, 2014- Hops Production in the Lake Erie Region
Full day conference focusing on the process of commercial Hops production. The morning program will consist of oral presentations and then after lunch the group will move outside to the hopyard at CLEREL.
Deadline for pre-registration: Friday June 13, 2014

Information and registration forms for all of the listed events are available in this update.
Registration is also available on-line for most programs at our web-site:
lergp.cce.cornell.edu
Accelerated Depreciation

Kevin Martin

As tax deadlines for most growers pass, changes in accelerated depreciation brought new challenges. Accelerated depreciation was a drug small businesses have been addicted to for the better part of a decade. Complicating the drug use was the typical constant background noise of the expiration of the deduction. Both the media and this crop-update publicized the changes in tax law just over a year ago. Growers were mostly aware of the change but some were caught a bit off guard on the impact it had on their operation.

Graduated depreciation actually makes a lot more sense from a business standpoint. The taxable definition still remains more aggressive than actual depreciation. No longer will farmers have large gains on selling lightly used equipment. Also, there is less of a temptation to use new paint as the sole tax management strategy. Numerous researchers point out that shortening equipment life for tax reasons is less efficient over the long-term anyway.

Over the short term there is the immediate problem that growers often have little to no depreciation expenses carried over from before 2013, all of those investments were accelerated. Additional capital expenditures will not fix the problem, as they continue to be averaged over a longer period of time. In part, growers that consistently relied on accelerated depreciation will have to accept higher tax rates for a short period of time. There are some basic strategies to help with this burden.

- Shift non-capital expenses toward 2014 when possible and away from 2015
- Be careful with long-term capital gains
  - Rates are now progressive, avoid realizing gains if you are in a bracket that is unusually higher than your typical rate
  - If income is unusually low, realize capital gains to take advantage of low rates
- Go for broke
  - Use higher income to avoid FICA
  - Marginal total tax rates are typically lower between 117,000 – 175,000 as compared to 73800 – 117,000.
  - If shifting expenses won’t get you below 73,800, it may be advantageous to use those expenses in 2015.
- Consider SEP, Simple or Keogh IRA
  - Profitable years like 2014 may provide flexibility in personal finance
  - SEP IRA
    - Higher contributions rates
    - Employee + Employer
  - Simple IRA
    - Employee + Employer program
    - Low contribution limits
- Keogh
  - More expensive to administer
  - Extremely high maximum contributions
  - Cannot have common law employees

Please keep in mind I am not an accountant. Talk to your accountant about these and other strategies. Grape growing does provide a unique payment schedule relative to other businesses and crops. In some ways you and I will understand that side of the business better than your accountant.
Winter Injury Assessment & Upcoming Workshop

Luke Haggerty  
Viticulture Extension Educator  
Lake Erie Grape Program

With the cold weather it’s hard to believe that this was our first week of spring. Although it’s cold and the ground is still frozen in most vineyards, the vines are beginning to wake up. In this week’s differential thermal analysis (DAT) shown in the figure below we can see the buds are becoming less hardy as the average temperature increases. DAT is used to estimate the temperature a bud can withstand before death by recording the ‘Low Temperature Exotherms’ (LTE). The purple shading shows the temperatures throughout the winter season and even though it does not seem like it, the temps are rising. To follow bud hardiness LTEs for the Lake Erie or other New York grape regions go to:  
http://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/cals/grapesandwine/outreach/viticulture/weather.cfm

While collecting canes for bud assessments I found clear evidence of trunk damage. In our V. vinifera blocks there was significant splitting in a few Riesling trunks. In a low spot in our Niagara block I located multiple trunks with sap coming out of cracks (picture above). Small trunk wounds like the cracking in the picture above can be an access point for crown gall infections. Crown gall infections will reduce vigor and can kill young vines. There is no chemical treatment for crown gall. Infected trunks will need to be phased out and replaced by growing up suckers.

Our final bud workshop will be held on April 8th from 4-5:00 pm at the Penn State Extension building 850 east Gore Rd Erie, PA. Please bring 7 to 10 canes from all the varieties you would like assessed.
Promoting a Toxic Free Future in New York State

This is an environmentally safe way to get rid of unwanted pesticides.
Pre-registration is required by calling 877-793-3769 or visit the web-site: info@cleansweepny.org

See the flyer on the following pages for more detailed information.
The collection waste disposal fee to prepare to pay a nominal disposal fee to that are NOT pesticides, please be

If you are bringing in chemical wastes, please be

Instructions

provided with the Clean SweepNY and present your shipping papers that were

Once there, please say in your vehicle

Chemicals to the assigned collection site.

2 Safety transport unstable pesticides and

3

location

include your drop-off date, time and

Clean SweepNY information which will

collection event. Applications will be sent

PARTICIPANTS should be the

April 25, 2014 for all other

products and CSW Cleaners or

PARTICIPANTS WITH UNCONFIRMED

DADLINES: April 4, 2014 for

FORMS TO NSDEC BY THESE

RETURN COMPLETED REGISTRATION

advertisement do not, by e-mail at

Registration packet from NSDEC by

participate in Clean SweepNY. Obtain a

Pre-registration is required to

I Need to Participate

2 Registration Deadline

See "How to Participate" for

Register to Participate

www.CleanSweepNY.org

Collection locations will be posted at:

Five: Niagara, Orleans, Wyoming Counties.

Another AirShiny, Genesee, Livingston, 

During the week of April 28, 2014 and will

The Clean SweepNY Program will be held

Unwanted/Unsafe Pesticides

Be a part of Clean SweepNY!

Clean SweepNY's Spring 2014 Program

NY CLEAN SWEEP
**SPRING CLEANSWEEPNY**

**COLLECTION OF PESTICIDES AND OTHER TARGETED MATERIALS**

CleanSweepNY is sponsored and administered by the NYS Department of Environmental Conservation through its Central Office Pest Management Program in Albany. CleanSweepNY provides for the safe economic collection and disposal of unwanted or usable pesticides, lab chemicals, elemental mercury, and mercury containing devices such as thermometers.

CleanSweepNY also collects for recycling triple rinsed high density polyethylene (HDPE, #2) plastic pesticide containers from agriculture and certain non-agricultural entities.

CleanSweepNY results in enhanced stewardship of the environment through improved management of unusable pesticides and chemicals wastes. These materials can pose human health risks upon exposure and a significant hazard to groundwater and surface water resources. Through CleanSweepNY, these materials are properly collected and disposed.

**SPRING CLEANSWEEPNY**

The next CleanSweepNY event will be held during the week of April 28, 2014 and will target Allegany, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Erie, Niagara and Wyoming Counties

PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED

(See “How to Participate” on reverse side for details)

[www.cleansweepny.org](http://www.cleansweepny.org)

The following is CleanSweepNY information on the types of materials collected, who can participate, and what materials are accepted for disposal at no or low cost:

- Unwanted or unusable pesticides
- School laboratory chemicals
- Elemental mercury and mercury containing devices such as thermometers
- Triple-rinsed HDPE #2 plastic containers
- Compressed gas cylinders (which must be pre-registered and identified)

If unknown materials are present, an onsite visit may be necessary to assess any potential hazard with their transport.

[www.cleansweepny.org](http://www.cleansweepny.org)

**WHO CAN PARTICIPATE?**

- Farmers and owners of former farms
- All categories of NYS certified pesticide applicators
- Cemeteries, golf courses and marinas
- Retailers of agricultural, commercial or home/garden pesticide products

CleanSweepNY collection efforts are directed towards private and professional applicators and schools, and not towards homeowners. See household hazardous waste events in your area at: [www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8780.html](http://www.dec.ny.gov/chemical/8780.html)

**FREE OR LOW FEE?**

- No charge for pesticides.
- Other materials - nominal fee
- Refer to [www.cleansweepny.org](http://www.cleansweepny.org) for pricing

Information provided is kept confidential and there is NO ENFORCEMENT potential for any products turned in such as DDT and other banned pesticides.
Training your Customers:
Effective Tasting Room Techniques

Thursday, April 17, 2014
Registration: 8:30am; Program- 9:00am-4:00pm
Cost:$50.00 per person(includes morning coffee and lunch)
Where: CLEREL, 6592 West Main Rd. Portland NY 14769
716-792-2800 ext-201

Welcome and Introductions
- Who are you, and why are you here?

Typicity Tune-up (tasting) Riesling
- Avoiding ‘cellar palate’ means understanding the market and tasting representative wines of the world

Intro to Viticulture -Growing wine
- Where grapes come from and how they get to the winery

Break

Frequently Asked Winemaking Questions
- Explanations for common questions

Lunch

Selling at the Cellar door Connecting with consumers
- Understanding your customers and reaching them in the tasting room or through social media

Sensory Evaluation & Flaws Training (tasting)
- Basic sensory principles, and a session of wine flaws

Please Register by Friday April 11, 2014

Name of Winery represented:_____________________________________________________
Name(s) of attendees: 1)______________________  2)______________________________
3)______________________  4)_______________________________
Total cost @ $50.00/person x ___person/people = $ ___________

Please make checks payable to LERGP and mail to:
LERGP, 6592 West Main Rd. Portland NY 14769, ATTN: KATE
Contact Kate at kjr45@cornell.edu or 716-792-2800 ext 201 for more information.

***You may also register on-line at http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/. You can register up to 10 participants and pay with a credit card.
Hops Production in the Lake Erie Region

When: Saturday, June 21, 2014
Time: 8 AM – 4 PM
Where: Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory
       6592 West Main Road
       Portland, NY 14769

Cost: $100, $75 for members of the Northeast Hops Alliance

Class size is limited; sign up early to ensure a spot in the class.

To register:
Contact Kate at (716) 792-2800 x 201 or kjr45@cornell.edu
Registration is available on-line at lergp.cce.cornell.edu or you can us the form in this update to mail in.

Participants will learn about commercial hops production; starting with classroom instruction on production practices from commercial hops growers from Pennsylvania and New York as well as Cornell University extension staff. The talks will provide an overview of hops production from before they are planted in the ground to the processing and marketing after harvest.

In the afternoon participants will head out to the CLEREL hop yard for a firsthand look at hop yard construction and a discussion with hops growers on the practices they use in their hop yards. A small scale harvester prototype will be available for viewing in the afternoon.

Topics to be covered:

- Planting a hop yard
- Nutrition basics
- Short trellis hops production
- Processing – what to do with your hops after harvest
- Marketing hops
- Determining pricing for selling hops
Hops Production in the Lake Erie Region

Saturday, June 21, 2014
at
Cornell Lake Erie Research & Extension Laboratory
6592 West Main Rd.
Portland, NY 14769

$100.00 General
$75.00 NeHA Members
(you can join or renew your membership at: www.northeasthopalliance.org)

Name:____________________________________________________________________________________
St. Address:_________________________________________________________________________________
City, State, Zip_____________________________________________________________________________
Phone Numbers: Home______________________cell______________________________________________
E-mail address:_____________________________________________________________________________
# of hills you have:__________________________________________________________________________

Names of additional registrants:                                                  NeHA Member           Non-member
_________________________________________                          $75.00   $100.00
_________________________________________                          $75.00   $100.00
_________________________________________                          $75.00   $100.00
_________________________________________                          $75.00   $100.00
_________________________________________                          $75.00   $100.00

Total number of registrants:___________________   Total paid:___________________

Registration questions:
Contact: Kate Robinson at 716-792-2800 ext 201 or e-mail: kjr45@cornell.edu

Mail form and payment made out to LERGP to:
LERGP, c/o Kate Robinson 6592 West Main Rd. Portland, NY 14769
2014 Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Enrollment

**This form is for NY Growers ONLY- PA Growers call 814-825-0900 to register**

Fees:

$70.00  $_________ GRAPE Program - Chautauqua county landowner
($45.00 program fee, $25.00 Chautauqua County Base Fee)

$65.00  $_________ GRAPE Program - Cattaraugus, Erie, NY or Niagara
($45.00 program fee, $20.00 County base fee)

$100.00 $_________ GRAPE Program - Out of Program Region Resident

$25.00  $_________ 2014 Cornell Guidelines for Grapes

$25.00  $_________ Hardcopy mailing of Newsletters***

Total  $_________ (Please make check payable to LERGP)

I am interested in the educational work of Cornell Cooperative Extension in Niagara, Chautauqua and Cattaraugus County. Any current recorded enrollee 18 years of age and older shall have voting and nominating privileges to hold office in the Association of their local county.

( ) I am 18 years of age or older and signed__________________________________________________________

( ) New  ( ) Renewal

Farm Name:___________________________________________________________

Name:________________________________________ Spouse’s Name: ____________________

Address:________________________________________ City:_______________________________

State:_________________________ Zip Code__________________________________________

Home phone:________________________ Cell Phone:______________________________

***Due to budget constraints, all correspondence will be conducted through e-mail. Please provide your e-mail address below. If you would like to receive hardcopies, mark the $25.00 additional fee line above and include with payment.***

EMAIL ADDRESS______________________________________________________________

Please return form and payment to:                Feel free to call w/ questions:

LERGP                                            716-792-2800 Ext 201

6592 West Main Rd.

Portland NY 14769

Attn: Katie
LERGP Website Links of Interest:

Table for: Insecticides for use in NY and PA:
http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/submission.php?id=69&crumb=ipm|ipm

Crop Estimation and Thinning Table:

Appellation Cornell Newsletter Index:
http://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/cals/grapesandwine/appellation-cornell/

Veraison to Harvest newsletters:
http://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/cals/grapesandwine/veraison-to-harvest/index.cfm

Go to http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/ for a detailed calendar of events. Please remember to RSVP for those events that require one!

Thank you to all who attended our Annual Winter Grape Grower Conference

Next Crop Update: April 10, 2014
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Team Members:
Andy Muza, (ajm4@psu.edu) Extension Educator, Erie County, PA Cooperative Extension, 814.825.0900
Tim Weigle, (thw4@cornell.edu) Grape IPM Extension Associate, NYSIPM, 716.792.2800 ext. 203
Kevin Martin, (kmm52@psu.edu) Business Management Educator, 716. 792.2800 ext. 205
Luke Haggerty, (llh85@cornell.edu) Grape Cultural Practices, 716.792.2800 ext. 204

This publication may contain pesticide recommendations. Changes in pesticide regulations occur constantly, and human errors are still possible. Some materials mentioned may not be registered in all states, may no longer be available, and some uses may no longer be legal. Questions concerning the legality and/or registration status for pesticide use should be directed to the appropriate extension agent or state regulatory agency. Read the label before applying any pesticide. Cornell and Penn State Cooperative Extensions, and their employees, assume no liability for the effectiveness or results of any chemicals for pesticide usage. No endorsements of products are made or implied.

Cornell University Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities. Contact the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program if you have any special needs such as visual, hearing or mobility impairments.
CCE does not endorse or recommend any specific product or service.

THE LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM at CLEREL
6592 West Main Road
Portland, NY 14769
716-792-2800