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

April 17, 2014- Training Your Customers: Effective Tasting Room Techniques
CLEREL- RESCHEDULED to MAY 20, 2014
Deadline for pre-registration- Wednesday, May 13, 2014

May 7, 2014- COFFEE POT MEETINGS** begin- a schedule for these is included in this Crop Update and they are listed by date on the web-site.

May 20, 2014- Training Your Customers: Effective Tasting Room Techniques at CLEREL
Rescheduled date- Deadline for registration-Wednesday May 13, 2014

June 10, 2014- TAP reimbursement information meeting with Mary Lynn Laver
CLEREL from 4:00pm-5:00pm

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 presented at the Brocton Central School 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: lergrp.cce.cornell.edu

The password for the LERGP web-site changed last week. An e-mail was sent to everyone who has renewed their membership for the 2014 year with the new password. If you believe your name has been omitted in error, please give me a call at the office 716-792-2800 ext 201 or stop in and we can review.

Thank you!
Katie
Continued Uncertainty, Though Some Price Stability in Potash
Kevin Martin
LERGP, Penn State

Back in January it looked like Potash prices were stabilizing. We have seen some price stability but no recovery that many analysts were predicting. First China made its annual purchase at a negotiated rate of $302 per ton. India negotiated a rate of $317 per ton. These purchases represent almost 20% of global demand. Potash Corp of Saskatchewan announced the company’s realized potash price was $250. This compares with $363 from the prior year.

Most recently investors have been betting for prices to rise as a result of the Russian-Ukraine conflict. The theory being that US economic sanctions may disrupt the flow of potash, create areas of short supply, and allow the price to rebound. Potash Corp disagrees. While figure one shows that the US is extremely reliant in imports, figure two clearly shows the continent is a net exporter. Russian production cannot satisfy Asian demand. While Potash has been imported from Russia, occasionally, it is not typical.

Of course, world conflict is not known for its kindness to the business cycle. Potash Corp. could be overly bearish in interpreting this conflict. As I mentioned in January, there continue to be indicators in both directions. Smart analysts and investors are in strong disagreement.
The only thing that is clear, at these prices Potash mines are substantially less profitable. The slim margins at these prices will not allow most companies to expand production. Demand for potash will inevitably rise; as a result production will need to expand. Companies will not plan expansion at these prices. Going forward, we will see more volatility and higher prices.

Timing of Bud Break
Luke Haggerty  
Viticulture Extension Educator  
Lake Erie Grape Program

A common question I’ve been getting this week is, “When is bud break going to be?” Although we don’t have a specific date, we can take a look at a couple of factors. Cells within grape buds naturally want to stay dormant if the temperature is cool to prevent damage. On the flip side, when it’s warm, plant development is accelerated. We have had some of both in the past few weeks. Plant cells also monitor development by a ‘clock’ that responds to light detected or day length. Currently, we have roughly 14 hours of daylight signaling many different plant metabolisms. Right now the vines are in a bit of a tug-a-war between air and soil temperature and amount of daylight. The contributing factor that would speed things along right now is heat.

So where are the buds at right now? Right now the sap is flowing and the buds are rehydrating making them less resistant to cold temperatures. Of the 47 stages of shoot development, Concord buds are between ‘bud swell’ and ‘woolly bud’. The next stage is bud break or bud burst, when that first green leaf emerges from the bud. Looking at Lake Erie’s temperature (posted in this crop update) we see that water temperatures are rising slowly as there is still ice out in the middle of the lake. Dr. Bates compared this year’s Lake Erie temperature to that of 1996, 1997, 2002 and 2003. Bud break fell on May 15 in 1996, May 20 in 1997, April 19 in 2002, and May 5th in 2003.

After going over all that information we get back to the original question, “When is bud break going to be this year”? Your guess is as good as mine as the weather and Lake Erie need to warm up before buds will begin to push.
Lake Erie GDD Accumulation
Dr. Terry Bates  
*Director, CLEREL*

There is still ice on Lake Erie with an average surface water temperature just a few degrees above freezing. The correlation between May 1 Lake degree day accumulation and Concord bloom suggests a bloom date of June 20th and veraison on Aug 27th. 2014 is tracking similar to 1996, 1997, 2002, and 2003 with bloom dates of 6/20, 6/26, 6/19, and 6/24, respectively.
Coming Soon to a Label You May be Using
Tim Weigle
NYSIPM, LERGP

Over the years you have heard the statement “the label is the law” so often that you are starting to believe it. I was at a CORE credit meeting yesterday where Andy Muza was giving a talk on pesticides and pollinators. This topic has gotten a lot of press lately as a multitude of problems associated with the health of honey bees has arisen. While a limited number of pesticides have been shown to be part of the problem – especially if they are misused or applied in ways other than stated on the label – this is one of the first areas to see regulations attached to it.

While reading labels of new materials, as well as new labels of old materials, you may run into the EPA’s new Bee Advisory Box (for an example click on the following: Bee Advisory Box example) It is important to read and understand this information even if your vineyards are not near honey bee hives as honey bees will travel up to 4 miles in search of pollen. While grapes do not need cross pollination so do not require pollinators visiting their flowers, there is a good chance that honey bees will be visiting the field of wild flowers near you or the weeds that are in bloom in your vineyard. Also, honey bees are not the only pollinators found in the wild. Sweat bees, carpenter bees, bumble bees and beetles are just a few of the wild things that are helping the honey bee to ensure that 1 out of every 3 bites of the food we eat is available because a flower was pollinated.

Problems with honey bee health will continue to be a story that the public hears and pesticide use, especially insecticides, is going to be linked to it. To keep our industry viable it is important to understand how pesticides can affect the health of honey bees and how we can safely use them to produce our crop. What we do not want to see is a story similar to the one Andy used in his presentation where a newspaper in Oregon reported that 50,000 bumble bees died in a shopping center parking lot. An investigation showed that an insecticide was applied for aphids that were in trees that overhung the parking lot. Aphids produce honeydew which was dripping onto shopper’s cars creating a sticky mess. A landscape company was contacted and they applied an insecticide to the trees to clean up the aphids. Unfortunately, the trees were in bloom which attracted the bumble bees leading to the high death toll.

The following sources will provide more information on Honey Bees and Pesticides;

Protecting Honey Bees from Pesticides; Alabama Cooperative Extension
http://www.aces.edu/pubs/docs/A/ANR-1088/#

Bayer CropScience Bee Care Program
http://www.bayercropscience.us/our-commitment/bee-health
2014 LERGP Coffee Pot Locations

May 7th  10:00am  Ann & Martin Schulze  
          2030 Old Coomer Rd. Burt NY 14028

May 14th 10:00am  John Mason  
          8603 W. Lake Rd. Lake City PA 16428

May 21st 10:00am  Leo Hans  
          10929 W Perrysburg Rd. Perrysburg NY 14129

May 29th 10:00am  Bob & Dawn Betts  
          7365 E Rte 20. Westfield, NY 14787

June 4th  10:00am  Clover Hill Farms- 10401 Sidehill Rd. North East, PA 16428  
          2:00pm  Brant Town Hall-Back entrance 1294 Brant North Collins Rd. Brant NY 14027

June 11th 10:00am  The Winery at Marjim Manor, 7171 East Lake Rd. Appleton NY 14008  
          2:00pm  Chris Ortolano-2053 Lake Rd. Silver Creek NY 14136

June 18th 10:00am  Dan Sprague- 12435 Versailles Plank Rd. Irving NY 14081  
          2:00pm  Evan Schiedel/Roy Orton -10646 W Main Rd. Ripley NY 14775

June 25th 10:00am  Tom Tower  Youngstown NY 14174  
          2:00pm  Jim Pratz- 9210 Lake Rd. North East PA 16428

July 2nd  10:00am  Peter Loretto- 10854 Versailles Plank Rd. North Collins NY 14111

July 9th  10:00am  Kirk Hutchinson- 4720 W Main Rd. Fredonia NY 14063

July 16th 10:00am  Earl & Irene Blakely  183 Versailles Rd. Irving NY 14081

July 23rd 10:00am  Fred Luke- 1755 Cemetery Rd. North East PA 16428

July 30th 10:00am  Carl Vilardo- Walker Rd. Westfield NY 14787
Please note that the Effective Tasting Room Techniques workshop has been rescheduled to May 20, 2014! Please sign up now. Use the form on next page or go the LERGP web-site: http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu
Training your Customers:
Effective Tasting Room Techniques

Tuesday, May 20, 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

Denise Gardner, Extension Enologist, Penn State University
Chris Gerling, Enology Extension Associate, Cornell University
Luke Haggerty, Viticulture Extension Associate, Cornell University
Anna Katharine Mansfield, Assistant Professor of Enology, Cornell University

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)
- We’re all wired differently- but no one likes stink!
- Basic sensory principles, and a session of wine flaws

Please Register by Wednesday, May 13, 2014

Name of Winery represented:________________________________________
Phone:______________________

Email:___________________________________________________________

Name(s) of attendees: 1)______________________  2)______________________ 3)______________________
4)______________________ 5)______________________ 6)_____________________________________

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. This is a great learning opportunity for winery owners and their staff!
Hops Production in the Lake Erie Region

When:    Saturday, June 21, 2014
Time:    8 AM – 4 PM
Where:   Brocton Central School
         138 West Main Rd.
         Brocton NY 14716

Cost: $75 for members of the Northeast Hops Alliance, $100.00 for non-members

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

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
Brocton Central School
138 West Main Rd.
Brocton, NY 14716

$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                                      

**Program fees do not include 2014 Cornell Guidelines for Grapes**
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!

Next Crop Update: May 8, 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