Crop Update for April 2, 2015

Monday, April 6, 2015- Worker Protection Standard Training- Frank Bratt Ag Center Jamestown
Thursday, April 9, 2015- Wine Workshop at CLEREL
Wednesday, April 8, 2015- Twilight meeting at North East Fruit Growers 6:00pm
Wednesday, April 15, 2015- Twilight Meeting at Militello’s- 6:00pm
Wednesday, April 29, 2015 -PA Core Training at North East & Girard PA (see sheet)
Wednesday, May 6, 2015- Coffee Pot meetings begin (see Coffee Pot Schedule)
Saturday, June 27, 2015- Hops Conference at CLEREL
Sunday, July 26, 2015- Shaulis Symposium at SUNY Fredonia

Use the included forms, go to our web-site or stop in the office to register.

**Check the web-site for more upcoming events and meetings.**
2015 LERGP Coffee Pot Meeting Schedule

May 6- 10:00am-Dan Sprague- 12435 Versailles Plank Rd. Irving NY 14081
May 13- 10:00am- Phillip Baideme- 90 Bliss St. Westfield NY 14787
May 20- 10:00am- CLEREL, 6592 West Main Rd. Portland NY 14769
May 27- 10:00am-Nick Mobilia- Arrowhead Winery 12073 East Main Rd. North East PA
3:00pm-Evan Schiedel/Roy Orton- 10646 West Main Rd. Ripley NY 14775

June 3- 10:00am- Bob & Dawn Betts- 7365 East Route 20, Westfield NY 14787
3:00pm- North East Lab-662 N Cemetery Rd. North East PA 16428
June 10- 10:00am- Peter Loretto-10854 Versailles Plank Rd. North Collins NY 14111
3:00pm- Dave Nichols-1906 Ridge Rd. Lewiston NY 14092
June 17- 10:00am-Tom Tower  759 Lockport Rd. Youngstown NY 14174
3:00pm-Leo Hans-10929 West Perrysburg Rd. Perrysburg NY 14129
June 24- 10:00am- Kirk Hutchinson-4720 West Main Rd. Fredonia NY 14063
3:00pm- Brant Town Hall- 1294 Brant North Collins Rd. Brant NY 14027

July 1- 10:00am-Ted Byham 9207 West Lake Rd. Lake City PA  16423
3:00pm-Alicia Munch-761 Bradley Rd. Hanover NY 14136
July 8- 10:00am- Rosemary & Brenda Hayes- 6151 Route 5 Brocton NY 14716
July 15- 10:00am-Szklenski Farms- 8601 Slade Rd. Harborcreek PA 16421
July 22- 10:00am- Paul Bencal-2645 Albright Rd. Ransomville NY 14131
Over the past few weeks oil supply has been a closely watched indicator. When prices were over $150 a barrel a few years ago, the indicator was a significant measure that influenced upward price. Any decline in supply was an indicator that producers could not keep up with demand. Big price increases would follow. Now, with prices testing lows below $50 per barrel the supply reserves are watched because we are running out of places to store oil. Theoretically, if we were to run out of storage, prices would fall precipitously. One solution is offshore tanker storage.

This situation mirrored the eastern Concord bulk market. Not only did the large 2014 crop outstrip demand, it did so by a large margin. Immediately after harvest it became clear that buyers were nervous about buying a product experiencing such price volatility. Buyers needed to see a price floor, to be reassured that those who waited would not see significantly lower prices. The market needed a floor to begin selling in volume and juice needed to be sold in significant volume to avoid 2015 containment challenges. Much like the oil industry, when containment becomes a problem low price is redefined.

In 2015, in part because of USDA buybacks, a price floor had a solid establishment. This floor happens to be located in a deep basement, but the floor is exactly what this market needed. With it, volumes became consistent and processors began selling juice and surplus juice at a pace that will eliminate storage concerns in 2015.

For the wine grape growers among us, over supply has also been a concern, albeit a fairly minor one. On the higher end, 2013 winter damage unfortunately alleviated any downward pricing pressure. On the lower end, competition from California and nations with weak currencies will likely be an issue for the next couple of years. This pressure, so far, has not been nearly as severe.

The question I keep getting relates to the winter injury in our region. There seems to be an idea that this kind of disaster can alleviate demand. You can see the problem with that kind of solution when you look at OPEC's reaction to the over supply in oil. Operating with the understanding that they do not control enough of world reserves to manipulate the price on a whim, they've realized that cutting production to raise prices results in a net loss. As our region is just one of three major concord producers and one of many juice producers, our levels of production do not substantially influence price. There is a real concern, depending on variables outside of our control, that prices will be low and crop will also be low.

A more realistic conclusion would be to accept our lack of pricing influence and move forward. Moving forward involves maximizing any potential yield that remains. Business success, as I see it, also necessitates crop insurance. Crop insurance commitment to long-term price averages also results in sizeable payments during periods of low prices. The insured value of grapes will exceed the cash market or cooperative market value of grapes in 2015.
The strength of the US dollar cannot be overlooked. That dramatic change this first quarter outweighs any changes in our regional production. International sales of all juice types will be a real challenge. American goods in Europe are 25% more expensive than they were one year ago. In Japan, they’re 15% more expensive. In the UK, the trend has been similar. Overall the dollar is 20% stronger than it was a year ago. That return to strength likely means we return to our position of unstoppable import growth, with the export market (juice included) struggling.
Continued Bud Assessment

With temperatures slowly increasing, so is the sap movement. Although, we are weeks away from any major changes like bud break, the buds have begun to rehydrate and have started to swell slightly. For those of you who are cutting or need to cut buds, this is good news. If there were questionable calls whether a bud was dead or alive in earlier assessments the buds are now showing their true colors. Live buds are a bright vibrant green, and damaged buds have broken down showing their dark colors (black, grey, dark brown). The buds are now slightly larger and easier to work with.

We have continued to assess bud damage throughout the region. We are still finding damage following the temperature trend in our Feb. 26th ‘crop update’ (see link) http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/newsletter.php. Areas that received temperatures of -24 to -27°F should expect to find an average primary bud mortality of 50-60%, and areas where temps were -20 to -22°F we are still finding an average primary mortality of 35-45%. These percentages are averages of multiple sites with a mean deviation of +/- 30%, so it is important to assess individual blocks for more accurate information.

Another method of determining if a bud is alive or dead is simply putting them in water and letting nature takes its course. It takes ~3 weeks for primary buds to break and ~4 weeks for the secondary buds. In our bud assessment we collected two samples: One sample went through our bud cutting process, and the other was put on water to see how many buds would push. The picture to the right shows a duplicate cane sample that was collected on February 26th. I compared two of these samples to their paired bud cutting sample and found the results were within 8%. The only problem with this method of bud assessment is that it takes 3 weeks.

If you are still concerned about freeze damage in your vineyard our March newsletter http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/newsletter.php has step-by-step procedures to follow for assessing bud and trunk damage. If you would like LERGP to assess freeze damage in your buds we charge a fee of $10 for 100 buds and will cut them for you at CLEREL. Please bring in ~100 buds (15 canes) and we will get the results back to you in 2-3 days.
Want to be part of the NYS Mesonet Early Warning Weather Detection System? – It may be as easy as just asking.

Editor’s Note: The recent announcement by Governor Cuomo’s office that a new weather network was to be installed across New York State comes as good news for the growers and users of the Network for Environment and Weather Applications (NEWA). Early indications are that the information collected by the NYS Mesonet will be available for use by NEWA. Please see the following article explaining the mesonet and how you may be able to get a weather station to participate in it.

The New York State (NYS) Mesonet Early Warning Weather Detection System is an advanced, statewide weather station network. This network will be the first of its kind in New York and will consist of up to 125 surface weather stations that will detect weather phenomena across the entire state. This weather detection system will provide federal, state, and local communities with access to high-resolution, real-time data, and more robust predictive models.

Each of the Mesonet’s 125 weather stations will measure surface temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and direction, precipitation, solar radiation, atmospheric pressure, and soil moisture and temperature at three depths. In addition, 17 sites will be outfitted with lidars and microwave profilers, providing wind, temperature, and moisture profiles in the vertical. Another 20 sites will measure snow depth and snow water equivalent for hydrological applications. All of this data will be transmitted in real-time to a central location, where the data will be quality controlled and archived, and then disseminated to a variety of users. Upon completion, real-time data along with graphical products/models will be available to the public via a website.

The NYS Mesonet promises a new generation of local weather observations that will support more accurate, more precise decision-making in agriculture, emergency management, energy, ground transportation and aviation. For example, localized soil moisture and temperature data will improve irrigation efficiency, and various pest models will be much improved with more local data inputs.

The NYS Mesonet is now beginning the search for permanent site locations. Each site consists of a 33 ft tower centered within a 33 ft x 33 ft plot of land. To ensure the highest quality of data each station must be at least 300 feet from the nearest obstacle (tall trees, buildings, etc.) or potential heat sources (pavement). If you would be interested in hosting a Mesonet site, please contact Dr. Jerald Brotzge at jbrotzge@albany.edu. If you would like to learn more about the NYS Mesonet, please visit our website at http://nysmesonet.org.
eNEWA for Grapes Project in 2015

Would you like to see the current weather and grape pest information found on NEWA (Network for Environment and Weather Applications) without having to click through the website? Then eNEWA is for you. eNEWA is a daily email that contains current weather and pest model information from a station, or stations, near you. The email will contain: 1) high, low and average temperature, rainfall, wind speed and relative humidity 2) the 5-day forecast for these weather parameters, 3) GDD totals (Base 50F), 4) 5-day GDD (Base 50F) forecast and 5) model results for powdery mildew, black rot, Phomopsis and grape berry moth. The weather information is provided for not only the current day but for the past two days as well.

We will be conducting the second year of testing of eNEWA for Grapes in 2015. You can choose from any number of stations located near you for delivery of this information via email each day at a time specified by you. Please keep in mind that you will receive a separate email (approximately 3 pages in length) for each station you choose. You will be contacting during the growing season and again after harvest to complete short surveys to assist us in improving the eNEWA for grapes email system. If you would like to be a part of this project just fill out the form found on the next page and return to: Tim Weigle CLEREL 6592 West Main Road Portland, NY 14769 Or, you can scan it and email it to me at thw4@cornell.edu
### eNEWA Grape Project Subscription Sign-Up

**Subscriber information**

Name _______________________________________________________

Email address _________________________________________________

City _________________________________________________________

**Select Location(s)** (circle as many as you like)

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**Select eNEWA Delivery Times** (write in times below) Delivery requests should be on the hour.

Mail to: Tim Weigle, CLEREL, 6592 West Main Road, Portland, NY or scan and email to thw4@cornell.edu
While wineries are heavily regulated in the areas of sales and taxes, they receive relatively little oversight or direction when it comes to plans and procedures to minimize product risk. Every winery should have standard operating procedures (SOPs) for production, sanitation and analysis in order to ensure not just wine quality but also worker and consumer safety. As the Food Safety Modernization Act (FSMA) is implemented, concepts like hazard analysis and critical control points (HACCP) will become more and more ubiquitous. This workshop will teach wineries about identifying, measuring and mitigating potential risk areas while also providing the tools to create SOPs and quality assurance plans.

Please Register by Wednesday, April 1, 2015

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.
THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR HORTICULTURAL SCIENCE (ISHS)

Presents

“II International Workshop on Vineyard Mechanization and Grape and Wine Quality”

July 26- July 29, 2015
Fredonia, New York, USA

Sponsored by the ISHS working group on Vineyard Mechanization and Vine Berry Fruits

In collaboration with
Cornell Lake Erie Research & Extension Laboratory
Portland, NY
and
Cornell University
New York State Horticultural Society
New York State Agricultural Experiment Station, Geneva

Invitation
On behalf of the ISHS Fruit Section Working Group on Vineyard Mechanization and Vine Berry Fruits, we invite you to an International Workshop on Vineyard Mechanization and Grape and Wine Quality to be held in Fredonia, New York, USA.

The II International Workshop on Vineyard Mechanization and Grape and Wine Quality will be held from Sunday, July 26 to Wednesday, July 29th 2015 at SUNY Fredonia. The workshop will kick off on Sunday with a Shaulis Symposium focused on grapevine physiology and mechanized grapevine production. Monday will be a full day technical and winery tour to the Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory and Lake Erie Region wineries. This will be followed by a day and a half of technical presentations and posters on: precision viticulture, sensing technologies, variable rate management, fruit quality, and economics.

Primary Topics of the Symposium
• Horticulture: Grapevine Physiology and Mechanized Production
• Engineering: Mechanized Tools for Vineyard Operations
• Sensing Technology: Spatial Vineyard Measurement
• Variable Rate Management: Zonal Application for Yield and Quality
• Fruit Quality and Economics: Impact of Mechanized Systems

Sponsors

E. & J. Gallo Winery

If you would like to sponsor this event, please call Katie at 716-792-2800 ext 201 for more information.

For detailed information and registration for this event, please use the following link:
http://events.cals.cornell.edu/ishs
PESTICIDE CORE CREDIT
RECERTIFICATION MEETINGS

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 29, 2015

Northeast Township Building - OR - Girard Township Municipal Building
10300 West Main Road (Rt. 20) 10140 Ridge Road (Rt. 20)
North East, PA 16428 Girard, PA 16417

Program 10:00 A.M. to Noon Program: 2:00 P.M. to 4:00 P.M.

Core Credit Topics:
- Protecting Water Supplies from Pesticides
- Sprayer Clean Up
- Drift Control

Presentations will be given by: Andy Muza, Lake Erie Regional Grape Program; and Ruth Benner, Penn State Extension Erie County.

The meeting is approved for 4 core pesticide re-certification credits by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Cost for attending this meeting is $10.00 per person.

Seating is limited so registration is required. To Register: Go to our website at extension.psu.edu/erie, on the right side under “Upcoming Regional Events” scroll down and at bottom click on “More.” Scroll down under April 2015 and click on the title “Pesticide Core Credit Recertification Meetings.” Contact: Questions contact: Penn State Ext Erie Co at 814-825-0900.

This publication is available in alternative media on request.
Penn State is committed to affirmative action, equal opportunity, and the diversity of its workforce.

extension.psu.edu
LERGP Website Links of Interest:

Check out our new Facebook page!!

Cornell Lake Erie Research & Extension Laboratory Facebook page

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, registration, membership, and to view past and current Crop Updates and Newsletters.
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