Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University’s heritage. We are a recognized employer and educator valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.
LERGP Member Enrollment is due!

If you have not yet enrolled, please do so ASAP so you don’t miss out on important information. You can enroll through CCE Chautauqua County using this link:

https://pub.cce.cornell.edu/event_registration/main/events_landing.cfm?event=ccechautauqua2016_206

This is a new process this year. If you have any questions, please contact me so I can help get you registered for 2016! We will miss you if you don’t renew!

Employment Opportunity

CLEREL and LERGP are hiring. We currently have 2 part time temporary positions open. The full job descriptions can be found at the following link:

https://cornellu.taleo.net/careersection/10165/jobsearch.ftl

the Job titles and Numbers are as follows:

CLEREL-Field Research Assistant - Job Number 30547

LERGP- Extension Aide I – Web Maintenance – Job Number 30205

The application process can be completed on-line at the above link.
Tentative Schedule for Winter Grower Conference

7:50 AM Welcome
8:00 AM Overview of SCRI
8:30 AM Grape Berry Moth from A to Z
9:30 AM Worker Protection Standard Updates
10:00 AM Break
10:30 AM Update - Waters of the US
11:00 AM Control of Perennial and Invasive Weeds
11:30 AM Modes of Action
Noon Lunch - Visit Trade Show
1:30 PM Breakout sessions

  Breakout session 1
1:30 PM Cover crops and EQUIP
2:45 PM Frost Protection and Delaying Budbreak

  Breakout Session 2
1:30 PM Workforce development and acquisition
   Labor Efficiency
2:45 PM Health Insurance options for vineyard operations

  Breakout session 3
1:30 PM Invasive Species - So What?
   Grape Rootworm
   How to use NEWA in a Vineyard IPM Strategy
2:45 PM Grower experience with using NDVI
LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM
2016 GRAPE GROWERS’ CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM

to be held at SUNY Fredonia Williams Center
on Tuesday, March 22, 2016
Deadline for registration is Friday, March 4, 2016.

Name (1st attendee) ___________________________________ $__________

Farm Name ___________________________________________

Address, City, State, Zip Code ___________________________________________

Phone__________________________________ E-mail_____________________________

Are you enrolled in Lake Erie Regional Grape Program (LERGP)?  Yes______ No______

REGISTRATION FEES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Fee</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LERGP Member 1st attendee</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional attendee on same farm</td>
<td>$40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-member</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Attendees:

*Please add a $25.00 late fee for each reservation made after March 4, 2016

TOTAL $_________

Please make check payable to LERGP (Lake Erie Regional Grape Program) and mail to: Kate Robinson
LERGP
6592 W Main Rd
Portland NY 14769

Date Ck. Rec’d __ Amount __ Call Kate at 716-792-2800 ext 202 with any questions.

Name ___________________________ NY DEC/PA PDA NUMBER ___________________________

Name ___________________________ NY DEC/PA PDA NUMBER ___________________________

Name ___________________________ NY DEC/PA PDA NUMBER ___________________________
Tax Policy Update

It’s time for the annual Section 179 update. This may be the last in the series. Without an act of Congress Section 179 now has a permanence that may be generous enough to last and not so generous as to inspire repeal.

I continue to recommend that tax policy should not influence, in any major way, business decisions on your farm. Of course many growers would much rather see John Deere or Oxbo get their dollars, rather than the IRS. One important factor, though, is the ability of a grower to pay a large tax bill. A large capital investment that is not entirely deductible results in income without cash. Income without cash can make tax payments challenging.

As has been the case for nearly a decade Section 179 and the addictive bonus deprecation did not get sorted out until December of 2015 for the 2015-tax year. The bonus depreciation rate of 50% will be extended until 2017 and then reduced in increments to 30% by 2019 and phased out in 2020.

Section 179 deductions have actually been made permanent at $500,000 adjusted for inflation in future years. 179 deductions continue to be phased out as businesses exceed a total of $2 million in purchases. Fortunately these levels should be easily workable for grape growers. Indexing for inflation ensures, without an act of congress, 179 will remain useful.

Certain limits on the types of property that qualify for 179 deductions are largely unchanged. Many of the restrictions will not significantly impact grape growers. Limitations on passenger vehicles are the most common restriction that impacts most small businesses. Section 179 deprecation is limited to $25,000 for most passenger vehicles. The limit does not apply to vehicles that have a cargo area of six feet in length that is not accessible from the passenger compartment.

While section 179 cannot justify an acceleration of equipment replacement it can improve cash flow for growing businesses and younger growers. The permanence of this new legislation will allow growers to make business decisions with some degree of confidence throughout the course of the year. For more established growers, the use of section 179 should dramatically decrease the need for financing capital purchases like tractors and harvesters. At a time when credit was crunched, financing capital investments was a real challenge. With credit available again, the lack of prior year assets to depreciate makes getting off 179 a real tax challenge. It appears that bonus depreciation is not really being phased out but 179 is here to stay.

The relatively recent expansion of 1099 filings seems to be garnering more attention. Unless a payment was made to a corporation or was a payment for a tangible good (posts, wire, etc.) any individual that was paid more than $600 should be receiving a 1099-Misc. This seems to be undermining a few relationships; it may have been common practice for small operations to not declare income that was being deducted by grape growers. Going forward, the inability to send a 1099 without undermining a relationship will render a grower unable to deduct expenses in certain cases.
Right Amount of Cold

This week scientists reported that 2015 was the warmest year in recorded history. With the snow and freezing temperatures we are receiving now, hearing the word “warm” sounds good. It’s not. In fact, the current forecast of below freezing temperatures is exactly what we need. We want it cold, but not to be a repeat of last year. Temperatures above 0°F but below 32°F are what we are looking for.

In the past few crop updates, I talked about the need for colder temperatures to acclimate the vines in order to ready them for extreme lows. Another need for colder temperatures is to cool down Lake Erie, but like the vines, preferably not cold enough to freeze it. The moderating effects of Lake Erie are an important factor to why we grow grapes in this region. Lake Erie combined with the other Great Lakes help take some of the chill out of artic fronts that pass over them and in most cases prevent the area from falling below zero. If the lake freezes it loses its moderating capability. However, we do want the temperature of Lake Erie to get colder as long as it does not freeze.

In a few months when we start to see signs of spring we want the water temperature of Lake Erie to be low. Again we are hoping for the Lake to moderate temperature, just the opposite of what we want now. We want it cold then and need low temperatures now to drop it to as close to 32°F as possible. When the air temperature starts to rise, the cold waters of Lake Erie help to keep the air from warming too quickly. The moderation can delay the time of bud break resulting in less frost risk. The current forecast is calling for the perfect amount of cold.
“CORE” Pesticide Training and Pesticide Applicators License Exam  
April 5, 2016  
Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory (CLEREL)  
6592 West Main Road  
Portland, NY 14769

Space is limited --- Pre-registration is required for both sessions

CORE TRAINING
WHEN: 9 AM to 12:15 PM  
WHERE: CLEREL Meeting room  
COST: $15

3.0 Pesticide recertification credits in the CORE category have been applied for.

The CORE training session is also designed as a review prior to taking the Commercial or Private Pesticide Applicator exam but is not required prior to taking the exam.

Preregistration for the training using the enclosed course registration form is required by March 30, 2016.

Questions on the training session should be directed to Kate at (716) 792-2800 ext 201

PRIVATE AND COMMERCIAL NYS PESTICIDE EXAMINATIONS
WHEN: 1 PM  
WHERE: CLEREL Meeting room  
COST: $100

REGISTRATION: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) requires you to register for entrance to the exam session with the Buffalo DEC office at (716) 851-7220.

DEADLINE for registration to take the test is March 30, 2016. To register, call the DEC at (716) 851-7220. You will then be sent an exam application form and test instructions by the DEC.

Any questions about your eligibility to take an exam or the status of your current certification should be directed to the Buffalo DEC office at (716) 851-7220.

Commercial Applicators: You will need the “Core Manual” and the category manual for the area(s) in which you will be certifying.

Private Applicators: You will need to get the “Core Manual” plus the private category manual for the area in which you will be certifying.

CORE and category training manuals are available through the Cornell Store by using the attached order form or by calling (800) 624-4080 or the web-site link: http://store.cornell.edu/c-876-manuals.aspx

Questions on Pesticide Examinations should be directed to the NYS DEC at (716) 851-7220.
Space is limited – pre-registration is required.

To register for the training, fill out and return registration form to:

ATTN: Kate
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program
CLEREL
6592 West Main Road
Portland, NY 14769

Name(s) __________________________________________
__________________________________________
__________________________________________

Address __________________________________________
__________________________________________
__________________________________________

Phone ________________________________________

Number attending __________

Registration and payment by Thursday, March 30, 2016 ($15 per person) __________

Make Checks Payable to: Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

IMPORTANT: This registration is for the CORE training session only.

If you wish to take the exam for a NYS DEC Pesticide Applicators License you must contact the Buffalo office of the NYS DEC by calling Mike Nierenberg or Shaun Conrad at (716) 851-7220 no later than March 28, 2016 to provide ample time for them to provide you with an exam application form and test instructions.
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 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

Cornell University Cooperative Extension