Important dates:
May 18, 2016- Coffee Pot Meeting, 10:00am- John Mason, 8603 W. Lake Rd. Lake City PA 16423

every Wednesday following: Coffee Pot meetings- see enclosed schedule

June 11, 2016- Hops Conference at CLEREL (see enclosed flyer for additional information)

August 2, 2016- Wine Quality Workshop (rescheduled from April 13, 2016) at CLEREL

September 1, 2016- Cover Crop Conference at CLEREL

****Crop Updates will be circulated on a weekly basis beginning with this edition.****
2016
Hops Production in the
Lake Erie Region
Conference
June 11, 2016
9 AM - 4 PM
Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory
Meeting Room and Hop Yards
6592 West Main Road, Portland, NY 14769

Featured Speakers

Brad Bergefurd - Ohio State University
Margaret Kelly - NYS Ag & Markets
Jimmy Walsh - Brewer, Five & 20 Spirits & Brewery
Mario Mazza - Owner, Five & 20 Spirits & Brewery
Stephan Schmidt - Schmidt Farms
Justin & Chris Whipple - Whipple Brothers Farms
Samuel Fuller - Empire State Development
Kevin Martin - LERGP Penn State
Tim Weigle - NYS IPM Program & LERGP

Becoming profitable with Hops Production
This workshop is designed to provide background and start up information related to hops production, as well as, offer information on the techniques that will help you to become profitable with hops production.

Topics will include choosing the right plants, site selection, trellis layout, and nutrition. Also covered will be how to work with a brewery to give them the hops they are looking for, and in what form.

There will be in-field opportunities to interact with speakers in the CLEREL hopyards.

Registration: $75 per person

To Register:
Contact Kate at (716) 792-2800 x201 or kjr45@cornell.edu
For credit cards please visit our website at:
http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu

Class size is limited to 80 each day, sign up early to reserve your spot
2016
LERGP Coffee Pot Schedule

May 4- 10:00am Betts 7365 East Route 20, Westfield NY 14787
May 11-10:00am Ann & Martin Schulze-2030 Old Commer Rd. Burt NY 14028
May 18-10:00am John Mason 8603 W Lake Rd. Lake City PA 16423
May 25-10:00am Dan Sprague- 12435 Versailles Plank Rd. Irving NY 14081
3:00pm Peter Loretto-10854 Versailles Plank Rd. North Collins NY 14111
June 1-10:00am Phillip Baideme- 7935 Route 5, Westfield NY 14787
3:00pm Tom Meehl Cloverhill Farm 10401 Sidehill Rd North East PA 16428
June 8-10:00am Earl & Eileen Blakely 183 Versailles Rd. Irving NY 14081
3:00pm- Paul Bencal 2645 Albright Rd Ransomville NY 14131
June 15- 10:00am Leo Hans-10929 West Perrysburg Rd. Perrysburg NY 14129
3:00pm -Evan Schiedel/Roy Orton- 10646 West Main Rd. Ripley NY 14775
June 22-10:00am Archer Pratz 9210 Lake Rd North East PA 16428
3:00pm-Alicia Munch-761 Bradley Rd. Hanover NY 14136
June 29-10:00am Kirk Hutchinson-4720 West Main Rd. Fredonia NY 14063
3:00pm Fred Luke 1755 Cemetery Rd. North East PA 16428
July 6- 10:00am David C. Nichols Farm 1906 Ridge Rd. Lewiston NY 14092
July 13-10:00am Beckman Bros. 2386 Avis Dr. Harborcreek PA 16421
July 20- 10:00am Brant Town Hall- 1294 Brant North Collins Rd. Brant NY 14027
July 27-10:00am Tom Tower 759 Lockport Rd. Youngstown NY 14174
Practicing Discretion: Maintaining Vineyard Care with Crop and Price Variability

Researchers are working toward technology and data supported decision-making for variable rate management and extension is working toward commercializing that technology. In the meantime, it is important to remember the low hanging fruit. A bit of spring frost this year continues the trend toward justifying differential block management. There is again a potential for significant variability of crop size.

As a result differential block management has the ability to produce significant efficiency gains. Spray programs, from a cost perspective, should be fairly uniform until post-bloom. Later sprays, nitrogen, and cover crops all have the potential to create variable production practice costs. Further on in the year potash, harvest speed, and pruning techniques for 2017 can all vary based on 2016 yields.

For 2016 crop estimation and, potentially, thinning will be highly variable. We know some blocks have already been adequately thinned. Higher than normal variation in wood quality and pruning practices could lead to higher variability in yield.

These production practices typically add between $30 and $50 per acre in cost, per practice. Within that range, if the practice is necessary, usually costs are easily recouped. Adding these costs without regard for specific needs can just as easily result in lower profitability. The following list is hypothetical. While no grower does everything on this list, it is a fairly comprehensive list of practices done as an insurance policy, without regard for actual need. For the sake of sustainability and efficiency, rather than buying insurance, always make these enhancements when you think they’re necessary.

- Urea Application $30
- Immediate Pre-bloom $45
- Third Post-Bloom $65
- Aggressive Herbicide First Application $47
- Feeds and Stickers $35
- Row Middle Mow * 2 $17

The total costs of these practices are $236. Realistically, depending on vineyard conditions, a grower could reduce these costs by $120 per acre. These costs represent the total cost of the practice. Cost reductions are dependent on vineyard conditions. An ongoing battle with aggressive weeds, lagging vine size, or high levels of disease inoculum could actually result in costs higher than those listed above.

Many of these examples were a bit over the top, but expenses can vary considerably based on actual need. It is extremely unlikely a vineyard would just happen to need enhanced practices in all of these different areas simultaneously. The following is a list, given current prices, of an acceptable range.

- Urea Application $0 - $50
- Immediate Pre-bloom $30 - $45
- Third Post-Bloom $0 - $20 (Plus Insecticide)
- Herbicide $20 - $50
- Row Middle Management $12 - $25 (Entire season)
Bud Break

Phenology: A light dose of warm weather has pushed bud progression. The declaration of ‘Bud Break’ officially started the growing season. For over fifty years we have been collecting data on the many growth stages of the Concord vine for the ‘phenology project’. Research support specialist, Ted Taft, records and calculates this information to determine when the vines reach various milestones. On Saturday May, 7th, Taft officially called Bud Break.

The criteria used to determine ‘Bud Break’ is that 50% of the observed buds need to have half or more of a newly formed leaf edge exposed. According to the data, the long term average date for bud break is May 4th, placing the 2016 growing season only three days behind schedule.

I’m already getting inquiries when bloom will be. There is very little correlation between bud break and bloom making it difficult to make an accurate prediction. However, Dr. Bates has found that using the lake temperature is useful for bloom prediction. Based on the heat unit of Lake Erie, bloom is predicted to occur on June 7th. Although this prediction may change, it’s a good place to start. The long term bloom average is June 14th.
Early season IPM

While things are progressing well in area vineyards and have moved the buds past the stage where grape flea beetle (steely beetle) can cause economic damage, we are still at a stage where climbing cutworm can be a problem. Continue to monitor areas where this secondary pest has been a problem in the past. Also, check areas where weeds have become established under the rows. Climbing cutworms feed at night and move down to the ground during the day. Any type of vegetative growth under the row greatly improves their habitat and can increase damage.

We are moving to the 3- to 5-inch shoot growth, where an EBDC should be applied to protect the newly formed cluster from Phomopsis infections. Research by Wayne Wilcox has shown that this spray will help reduce the loss of the cluster shoulder that can occur when infections occur on the newly formed rachises. These infections can easily girdle a tiny rachis causing the shoulder of a cluster to fall off.

There have been a number of questions as to whether or not it is too late for application of pre emergence herbicides. At last week’s Coffee Pot meeting we asked that question of Danny D. from Bayer and he responded that it is not too late and might actually be a better timing that a few weeks ago when the ground was really dry. Soil with adequate moisture will actually help draw the herbicide in and the forecast of frequent rain events should also help move the herbicide down into the zone where it will be effective. If you have weeds already growing under the row you will need to add a post emergent herbicide to kill existing weeds as pre-emergent herbicides will not be effective. Be careful when applying systemic materials such as roundup as there is the potential for injury if it contacts living tissue of the grapevine.

Bookmark the NEWA home page [http://newa.cornell.edu](http://newa.cornell.edu), or the station page of your choice. Bookmarking a specific station page, or pages, reduces the number of pages you need to go through to get to the information you need. Make a habit of checking NEWA first thing in the morning to help in planning your disease and insect IPM strategies.

If you have not already done so, sign up for eNEWA-grapes, the daily email providing you with weather and pest model information from stations you choose in the Lake Erie Region. The signup sheet can be found at the back of the Crop Update.
2016 eNEWA Grape Project Subscription Sign-Up

Subscriber information

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Join us at the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

Annual Winter Grower Conference!

Stop by our booth between 8:00 am and 4:00 pm to be registered to win a prize and learn how we can help protect your grape crop from loss of production.

When: Tuesday, March 22, 2016
Where: Williams Center at SUNY Fredonia - 280 Central Ave., Fredonia, NY 14063

Mark C. Muir Agency
Mark C. Muir
10509 Route 6 - Union City, PA 16438-9707
Phone: (814) 397-0033

DAVID J. MAILLE
Consultant
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Cell: (814) 572-5781
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LERGP Website Links of Interest:

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

Crop Estimation and Thinning Table:

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

Veraison to Harvest newsletters:
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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.

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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

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