WEATHER FACTS: Edith Byrne

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>DATE / YEAR</th>
<th>HIGH</th>
<th>LOW</th>
<th>DAILY PRECIP.</th>
<th>GDDS</th>
<th>TOTAL APRIL</th>
<th>TOTAL JANUARY</th>
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</thead>
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<tr>
<td>Week 6/19/12</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>71</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>750</td>
<td>880.5</td>
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<td>59</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>16</td>
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<td>68</td>
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<td>27</td>
<td>1077</td>
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<td>July 11, 2012</td>
<td>82</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>1243.5</td>
<td>1374</td>
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<td>July 11, 2011</td>
<td>89</td>
<td>69</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>1206.5</td>
<td>1215</td>
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<tr>
<td>July 11, 2010</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>23</td>
<td>1313.5</td>
<td>1317</td>
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<tr>
<td>AVERAGE</td>
<td>79.7</td>
<td>60.6</td>
<td>0.10</td>
<td>20.13</td>
<td>1092.77</td>
<td>1117.67</td>
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</table>

GDDs accumulated July 2012 = 261

GDDs accumulated June 2012 = 456.5

GDDs accumulated May 2012 = 393

Average High thru JULY 11 | 82.45 | 80.9 |
Average Low thru JULY 11 | 65    | 62   |
Average High June | 75.23 | 73.87 |
Average Low June | 60.27 | 58.30 |

This year compared to AVERAGE: J AN. GDD: Ahead 12.73 / APR. GDD: Ahead 7.49

This year compared to 2011: J AN. GDD: Ahead 7.90 / APR. GDD: Ahead 1.84

July 2012 Pcp = 0.10” / 2012 Total Precipitation through 7/4 = 15.99”

Go to [http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/EventsCalendar.htm](http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/EventsCalendar.htm) for a detailed calendar of events including maps via Google calendar! Scroll to the bottom of the page for Google calendar and click on the event. Please remember to RSVP for those events that require one! UPCOMING EVENTS are also listed toward the bottom of this Electronic Update.

Please remember to let us know if you have changed or are in the process of changing your email address so we can keep the Electronic Crop Update coming to your inbox! Please email Edith at: emb35@cornell.edu.
Here is a brief update from North East PA.

**Weather:** We have accumulated 1396 growing degree days from March 1 to July 11. We haven't had a drop of rain in a week and our July total precipitation is just under 0.4 inches. The short term Skybit forecast for North East PA (Thursday through Saturday) calls for highs in the low to mid 80s and dry conditions through Saturday, July 14. The Accuweather forecast calls for a chance of thunderstorms on Saturday (July 14), with above average temperatures (highs in the low 80s) over the next week.

**Phenology and disease:** Every year for the past umpteen years we have collected a berry sample from one of our Concord blocks on July 10 for analysis of soluble solids and berry weight. This date is about 30 days after bloom which means that the 1.62 grams per berry we recorded for 2012, is about half our final berry weight. Soluble solids came in at 4.8; higher than average, possibly due to the lack of water. This is a bit higher than 1998 (1.48 grams per berry, ss = 3.8), another early year. However, grams per cluster was slightly higher in 1998, due to higher numbers of berries per cluster (likely due to some loss of flowers from frost this year).

We are approximately 5 weeks post bloom and Concord berries at our location are about 12-16 mm in diameter. Concord and Niagara berries are no longer susceptible to powdery and downy mildew, and if you’re not seeing black rot, our attention with regard to disease development shifts to leaves at this point. Powdery mildew is pretty much all that I am observing in area vineyards and it is still in relatively low intensity on leaves at this time. Powdery mildew development is no longer dependent on rainfall and is generating repeating secondary cycles of spores (conidia) that are spread by air currents to germinate and infect dry plant surfaces. However, the sunny conditions have adversely affected the development of these summer cycles of the disease. Juice grape growers with average to below average crops should not have to worry too much about repeating sprays for powdery mildew at this point. For Niagara, continue to scout for downy mildew on leaves if conditions turn wet.

Wine varieties, especially vinifera, will still need protection on leaves to combat powdery mildew development. Keeping vinifera leaves healthy and functional is essential for not only ripening of fruit but maximal cold hardiness of canes, trunks, and buds. For tight clustered wine varieties, growers should be applying the preclosure spray for Botrytis. We have several chemistries available for use on grapes, allowing growers to rotate fungicides for the management of resistance; you should be able to make 4-5 applications of a Botrytis specific material without using any one chemistry more than once per season. Also, we are approaching that time when shoots need their first summer clipping. We like to put this off as long as possible because of the lateral growth it will initiate, but left to grow too long, shoots will flop over impeding the penetration of air, sunlight and pesticides into the cluster zone.
INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT: Tim Weigle

Grape Berry Moth Model on NEWA

Using a standard of May 24, 2012 as the date of wild grape bloom (biofix) the table below shows where we stand across the Lake Erie Region in terms of degree day accumulation and grape berry moth development.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Degree Days on July 12</th>
<th>Forecasted DD July 17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North East Lab</td>
<td>1176</td>
<td>1325</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Harborcreek</td>
<td>1162</td>
<td>1314</td>
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<tr>
<td>North East Escarpment</td>
<td>1164</td>
<td>1314</td>
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<td>Ripley</td>
<td>1184</td>
<td>1337</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland Route 5</td>
<td>1149</td>
<td>1291</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland (CLEREL)</td>
<td>1132</td>
<td>1286</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Portland Escarpment</td>
<td>1142</td>
<td>1297</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Silver Creek</td>
<td>1116</td>
<td>1262</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sheridan</td>
<td>1144</td>
<td>1302</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Versailles</td>
<td>1098</td>
<td>1241</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lockport</td>
<td>1116</td>
<td>1267</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ransomville</td>
<td>1120</td>
<td>1271</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appleton, North</td>
<td>1092</td>
<td>1243</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We are currently in a lull between generations so insecticide applications against grape berry moth will not be effective as the larvae are now inside the berries feeding. Scouting for damage to determine the need to spray for the next generation should take place starting at 1470 DD. If we continue to pick up an average of 30 DD each day we should hit 1470 in some location sometime toward the end of next week. However, forecasts change so the best bet is to continue to access the NEWA website at http://newa.cornell.edu and check out the grape berry moth model for the station(s) nearest you.

If you have any questions on how NEWA can be used in your vineyard IPM strategy, do not hesitate to get in touch with me at (716) 792-2800 x203 or by email at thw4@cornell.edu.

IN THE VINEYARD... with Andy Muza

Grape Berry Moth (GBM) – a very high pressure year expected for GBM

GBM eggs were still being found in border rows at 3 of the 6 High – Severe Risk Concord sites examined in Erie County, PA. The percentage of clusters with GBM eggs at these 2 sites were 16% (4/25 clusters examined) and 12% (3/25).

A total of 25 clusters were also examined for GBM feeding injury at each site. A cluster was recorded as injured if any berries showed signs of GBM feeding. The percent of clusters with injury in border areas at these sites were already very high (28%, 36%, 68%, 72%, 88% and 92%) with 2 more generations to go!

Frequent scouting and monitoring of the GBM Degree Day Model at http://newa.cornell.edu/index.php?page=berry-moth will be critical this season to determine specific GBM
spray timings for your vineyard sites. (Note: For the most accurate determination of GBM DD calculations for your blocks choose the weather station closest to your vineyard and input the Wild Grape bloom date that you recorded for that site).

Contact Tim Weigle (716-792-2800, thw4@cornell.edu) or Andy Muza (814-825-0900, aim4@psu.edu) for questions concerning the use of the GBM Model.

**Japanese Beetle (left) (JB)** – although some leaf feeding was observed, population levels of JB remained low at vineyard blocks I examined this week in Erie County, PA.

**Grape Leafhopper (left) (GLH)** – There are reports of vineyard blocks in the Lake Erie Region with high population levels of GLH. However, levels remained very low at the sites I checked. The only way to know what is occurring at your sites is to scout your blocks.

**Diseases**
- **Black Rot** and **Downy Mildew** – none found in areas checked. No surprise considering the continued hot, dry weather.
- **Powdery mildew** (PM) – levels remained low in Concord blocks that were scouted this week.

**REMINDERS FOR PENNSYLVANIA GROWERS:**

**Crop Report Reminder**
According to Nancy Lewis (FSA office in Waterford, PA), “Growers are required to file annual crop reports. Annual crop reports are required to qualify for the various subsidy programs. July 16th is the deadline to file their acreage reports, even on perennial crops. Late file fees are $46 per farm. Since this office has no way of knowing what is planted on the producer's acreage, it's necessary for the producers to come to the office to file their acreage report. Another option is that aerial photos of the producers' farms can be emailed to them for completion”.

To avoid late fee, growers should contact their local FSA office to inquire about filing a Crop Report.

**FOR PA GROWERS:**

**U.S. Department of Agriculture/Farm Service Agency Seeking Nominations**
The U.S. Department of Agriculture/Farm Service Agency is accepting nominations for a County Committee member to serve agricultural producers residing in North East, Harborcreek, Millcreek, Fairview, Girard and Springfield Townships.
The Farm Service Agency County Committee makes important decisions about disaster and conservation programs, commodity price support loans and other agricultural issues affecting local agricultural producers.
Nomination forms are available online at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections or may be obtained from the local FSA Office located at 12723 Rte 19, Waterford, PA 16441.
Deadline to submit nomination forms to the Erie County FSA office is August 1, 2012.

*Flyer is included at the bottom of this update!*
I will be out of the office on maternity leave until the first week of August. In the meantime, growers can contact one of the other LERGP team members.

Go to [http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/EventsCalendar.htm](http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/EventsCalendar.htm) for a detailed calendar of events including maps via Google calendar. Scroll to the bottom of the page for Google calendar and click on the event. Please remember to RSVP for those events that require one!

### COFFEE POT MEETING
**DATE:** Wednesday, July 18, 2012  
**TIME:** 10am – 12Noon  
**LOCATION:** Paul Bencal vineyard, 2645 Albright Rd. Ransomville NY 14131

*Coffee Pot Meetings are free and no RSVP is required. Come join us and your colleagues for timely discussions about what is happening in our local vineyards!*

### Monday, July 23, 2012: REGISTRATION DEADLINE for GRAPE TWILIGHT MEETING & ERIE COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY’S ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ

Register by calling Penn State Extension Erie County at (814) 825-0900. This meeting will be assigned 2 Category pesticide re-certification credits pending approval by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Pesticide re-certification credits have also been applied to NY DEC for New York growers. Farm Equipment Display by various vendors; Insect and Disease Management Updates; Chicken BBQ

### 2012 LERGP SUMMER GROWERS’ CONFERENCE
**DATE:** Wednesday, July 25, 2012  
**LOCATION:** North East Lab, 662 N. Cemetery Road, North East, Pa 16428

Registration form link below and at bottom of this Update:  
Agenda link below and at bottom of this Update:  
[http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/2012%20LERGP_SummerGrowersConference_Agenda.pdf](http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/2012%20LERGP_SummerGrowersConference_Agenda.pdf)

**REGISTRATION DEADLINE:** July 11, 2012 / $25.00 fee for Late Registration  
Lunch is included with registration.

### 2ND NORTH EAST VINEYARD EQUIPMENT SHOW AND DEMONSTRATION
**DATE:** Wednesday, July 25, 2012 and Thursday, July 26, 2012  
**TIME:** 9am – 4:30pm  
**LOCATION:** Anthony Road Vineyards, 1020 Anthony Road, Penn Yan, NY 14526 on Route 14, between Geneva and Penn Yan

Andrew Landers of Cornell University is hosting a vineyard equipment show and demonstration in the heart of the Finger Lakes grape growing region on July 25th and 26st 2012, at Anthony Road Vineyards, 1020 Anthony Road, Penn Yan, NY 14526 on Route 14, between Geneva and Penn Yan (by kind permission of John and Peter Martin).

Come and meet equipment manufacturers and dealers and see their machines working in a vineyard. Pre-registration is required: contact Gemma Osborn at NYSAES, Cornell University, 630 West North St., Geneva, NY 14456.  
Email: gro2@cornell.edu  
Tel: 315 787 2248, stating which day you will be attending.

Lunch will be available and 4 pesticide credits will be awarded by NY DEC.
TWO WORKSHOPS AVAILABLE: LAKE ERIE WINE TOURISM STUDY RESULTS TO BE RELEASED

DATE: Wednesday, July 25, 2012
TIME: 6:30pm
LOCATION: South Shore Wine Company, 1120 Freeport Rd., North East, PA. 16428
and
DATE: Monday, July 30, 2012
TIME: 6:30pm
LOCATION: CLEREL conference room, 6592 W Main Rd. Portland NY

Pre-registration is required for both workshops. To register, email quadri@nyu.edu.
Donna Quadri-Felitti will present two workshops on the results and how they can be leveraged by local businesses to enhance the tourist's experience. Both workshops are open to local businesses who participated in the study as members of the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau, North East Chamber of Commerce, VisitERIE, Lake Erie Concord Grape Belt Heritage Association, and Lake Erie Wine Country.

GRAPE TWILIGHT MEETING & ERIE COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY’S ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ

DATE: Thursday, August 2, 2012
TIME: Grape Program – 5:00 - 6:00 P.M.
Free Chicken BBQ – 6:00 P.M.
LOCATION: Gravel Pit Park, 10300 West Main Road (Rt. 20), North East, PA 16428
Register by Monday, July 23, by calling Penn State Extension Erie County at (814) 825-0900.

NOTE: Farm Equipment Display by various vendors – 3:30 – 7:00 P.M.
GRAPE PROGRAM: Insect and Disease Management Updates – 5:00 - 6:00 P.M.
Bryan Hed and Jody Timer, Lake Erie Regional Grape Research & Extension Center, North East, PA
Andy Muza, Tim Weigle and Kevin Martin, Lake Erie Regional Grape Extension Team

This meeting will be assigned 2 Category pesticide re-certification credits pending approval by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Pesticide re-certification credits have also been applied to NY DEC for New York growers.

NOTE: The BBQ is free but REGISTRATION is mandatory. If you do not register, a meal will not be reserved for you.

PLEASE NOTE: Next Electronic Crop Update will be Thursday, July 19, 2012

Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Crop Update is an e-mail newsletter produced by the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program and sent out by subscription only. For subscription information, please call us at 716.792.2800 ext 201, or look for subscription forms at http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/Join_Lergp.htm. For any questions or comments on the format of this update please contact Tim Weigle at: thw4@cornell.edu.

Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Team Members:

Andy Muza, Extension Educator, Erie County, PA Cooperative Extension, 814.825.0900
Tim Weigle, Grape IPM Extension Associate, NYSIPM, 716.792.2800 ext. 203
Jodi Creasap Gee, Viticulture Extension Associate, CCE, 716. 792.2800 ext. 204
Kevin Martin, Business Management Educator, 716. 792.2800 ext. 205
Subscribe to Appellation Cornell Newsletter:  
http://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/cals/grapesandwine/appellation-cornell/index.cfm

2011 Appellation Cornell Newsletter Index:  

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

NY Grape & Wine Classifieds – New Address! - http://flgclassifieds.cce.cornell.edu/

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
2012 LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE GROWERS’ SUMMER CONFERENCE
July 25, 2012
North East Lab, North East, PA
662 N. Cemetery Rd. 16428

9:00 AM  REGISTRATION AND TRADESHOW

10:00 AM – 12:00 PM  GENERAL SESSION

10:00 – 10:30  Management of Grape Berry Moth Using the New Degree Day Model
  Andy Muza, Lake Erie Regional Grape Program, Penn State

10:30 – 11:00  Using Sensor Technology to Identify Vineyard Vine Variability
  James Taylor, Lake Erie Regional Grape Program, Cornell

11:00 – 11:30  Invasive Insects: Who are they? Where are they? Do we have them? Can we kill them?
  Jody Timer, Dept. of Entomology, Penn State

11:30 – 12:00  Clonal Selection for Fruit Quality Improvement in Vignoles
  Peter Cousins, USDA, Geneva Experiment Station

12:00-2:00 PM  LUNCH, VISIT VENDORS

2:00-4:30 PM  GENERAL SESSION

2:00 – 2:30  Variability of site and weather parameters on vine growth and yield (nine site study).  Terry Bates, Director, CLEREL

2:30 – 3:00  Impacts of Phomopsis Control Strategies on Yield in Concord and High Brix Niagara Grapes, Bryan Hed, Department of Plant Pathology, Penn State

3:00 – 3:30  Vine Size Variability: Economic Value of Lost Crop Potential, Kevin Martin, Lake Erie Regional Grape Program, Penn State

3:30 – 4:00  Using NEWA Resources in Your Vineyard IPM Strategy, Tim Weigle, NYS IPM Program

4:00 – 4:30  NE-1020 Variety Trial Project and Farm Tour, Bryan Hed, Jody Timer, Andy Muza

4:30 PM  ADJOURN

NY AND PA CREDITS HAVE BEEN APPLIED FOR
LERGP 2012 Summer Growers Conference

Wednesday, July 25, 2012
662 N. Cemetery Rd. North East PA 16428
Registration Deadline- July 11, 2012

Name:____________________________________________________________________
Street Address:____________________________________________________________________
City:_________ State:_________ Zip:_________
Phone Number:____________________________________________________________________
E-mail address:____________________________________________________________________

**Lunch is included with registration**

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<tr>
<th>Per person price</th>
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<th>Total:</th>
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<td>$10.00</td>
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<td>Non- Member</td>
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<tr>
<td>In county Membership and conference</td>
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<td>Out of County Membership and conference</td>
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<tr>
<td>TOTAL:</td>
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Note: You will be charged a $25.00 fee for late registration

Please send form and check to:
LERGP
c/o Kate Robinson
6592 W Main Rd.
Portland NY 14769

Questions:
Katie-716-792-2800 ext 201 kjr45@cornell.edu
Kevin-716-792-2800 ext 205 kmm52@psu.edu

Names of additional attendees:
1
2
3
4
5
It’s all about the vista, baby!

Lake Erie wine tourism study results to be released

For release: June 14, 2012

AMES, Iowa — An Iowa State University alumnus will present results of the recent Lake Erie Wine Tourism research study later this summer. Donna Quadri-Felitti, a clinical associate professor at New York University Tisch Center for Hospitality, Tourism, and Sports Management who recently earned a Ph.D. in hospitality management from Iowa State, will conduct workshops on how to enhance wine tourism based on the study’s findings. One finding shows it is the region’s vista and scenic beauty that is most prized by visitors.

A native of Erie, Penn., Quadri-Felitti’s research examined the “experience economy” in the Lake Erie wine destination. Made popular by business consultants Joseph Pine and James Gilmore’s best-selling book, “The Experience Economy: Work is Theatre & Every Business a Stage,” the authors’ explain that businesses that create memorable experiences for consumers maintain a competitive advantage.

The study’s results prove that, the “4Es” of the experience economy—education, esthetics, entertainment, and escapist—were found to significantly influence visitors’ future intentions to return to and to recommend the destination. The data revealed visitors value the destination’s esthetics more than any of the other elements.

“Wine country esthetics was measured by the landscape particular to the grape-growing economy, called a winescape—the natural, social and cultural aspects of the setting—experienced during a tourist’s visit,” Quadri-Felitti said. “The region’s esthetic dimension is the one area tourism operators and visitors agreed added the most experiential value to the destination.”

Over 970 visitors to and 180 business operators working in the bi-state wine trail responded to the survey. The study was conducted over the past year as part of a Sustainable Community Grant from the North East Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education (NE SARE) unit, a USDA-funded program. The researchers determined the typical Lake Erie wine tourist is over 55 years of age — female, college-educated, and relatively affluent — a profile consistent with studies of wine tourists throughout the world.

Ann Marie Fiore, professor and director of graduate education in Iowa State’s Department of Apparel, Events, and Hospitality Management and an expert in experiential marketing design’s effect on consumer behavior, is working with Quadri-Felitti on the study. “Successful, sustainable rural tourism, depends on a shared understanding of what consumers value,” Fiore said.

Quadri-Felitti will present two workshops on the results and how they can be leveraged by local businesses to enhance the tourist’s experience. The first is on Wednesday, July 25 at 6.30 p.m., at the South Shore Winery in North East, Penn. The second workshop is Monday, July 30 at 6.30 p.m. at the Lake Erie Regional Grape Research and Laboratory in Portland, NY. Both workshops are open to local businesses who participated in the study as members of the Chautauqua County Visitors Bureau, North East Chamber of Commerce, VisitERIE, Lake Erie Concord Grape Belt Heritage Association, and Lake Erie Wine Country. Pre-registration is required. To register, email quadri@nyu.edu.

For more information on this grant and other NE SARE programs, visit www.nesare.org.

Key contacts: Donna Quadri-Felitti, phone 917 532-5608, email quadri@nyu.edu
Ann Marie Fiore, phone 515 294-9303, email amfiore@iastate.edu

-30-
GRAPE TWILIGHT MEETING
&
ERIE COUNTY HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY’S ANNUAL CHICKEN BBQ

DATE: THURSDAY, AUGUST 2, 2012

PLACE: Gravel Pit Park
10300 West Main Road (Rt. 20)
North East, PA 16428

TIME: GRAPE PROGRAM – 5:00 - 6:00 P.M.
FREE CHICKEN BBQ – 6:00 P.M.

NOTE: Farm Equipment Display by various vendors – 3:30 – 7:00 P.M.

GRAPE PROGRAM:

Insect and Disease Management Updates – 5:00 - 6:00 P.M.
Bryan Hed and Jody Timer, Lake Erie Regional Grape Research & Extension Center, North East, PA
Andy Muza, Tim Weigle and Kevin Martin, Lake Erie Regional Grape Extension Team

This meeting will be assigned 2 Category pesticide re-certification credits pending approval by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture. Pesticide re-certification credits have also been applied to NY DEC for New York growers.

NOTE: The BBQ is free but REGISTRATION is mandatory. If you do not register, a meal will not be reserved for you. Register by Monday, July 23, by calling Penn State Extension Erie County at (814) 825-0900.

Sincerely,

Andy Muza
County Extension Educator

7/6/12
June 14, 2012

Please publish/ announce the following press release. Should you have any questions, I may be reached at 814-796-6760 Ext 107 or at nancy.lewis@pa.usda.gov.

/s/ Nancy L Lewis, County Executive Director

U.S. Department of Agriculture/ Farm Service Agency Seeking Nominees

The U.S. Department of Agriculture/ Farm Service Agency is accepting nominations for a County Committee member to serve agricultural producers residing in North East, Harborcreek, Millcreek, Fairview, Girard and Springfield Townships.

The Farm Service Agency County Committee makes important decisions about disaster and conservation programs, commodity price support loans and other agricultural issues affecting local agricultural producers.

Nominees are to be currently engaged in the operation of a farm and be well qualified for committee work. A producer is eligible to be a County FSA Committee member if the producer lives in the local administrative area up for election and is an eligible voter. FSA Committee members may not hold positions in certain farm and commodity organizations if these positions pose a conflict of interest with FSA duties.

Nomination forms are available online at www.fsa.usda.gov/elections or may be obtained from the local FSA Office located at 12723 Rte 19, Waterford, PA 16441.

The deadline to submit nomination forms to the Erie County FSA office is August 1, 2012.