

Cornell Cooperative Extension Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

Second Quarter Report 2021

A cooperative program between Cornell and Penn State Universities, Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations in Chautauqua, Cattaraugus, Erie and Niagara Counties, Penn State Extension – Erie County, NYS IPM Program, National Grape Cooperative, Constellation Brands, Walker's Fruit Basket and growers of the Lake Erie Grape Industry



2021 Spray Schedule Program



2021
New York and Pennsylvania Pest
Management Guidelines for
Grapes

Cornell Cooperative Extension PennState Extension

These guidelines are not a substitute for pesticide labeling. Always read and understand the product label before using any pesticide.

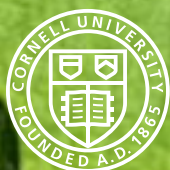
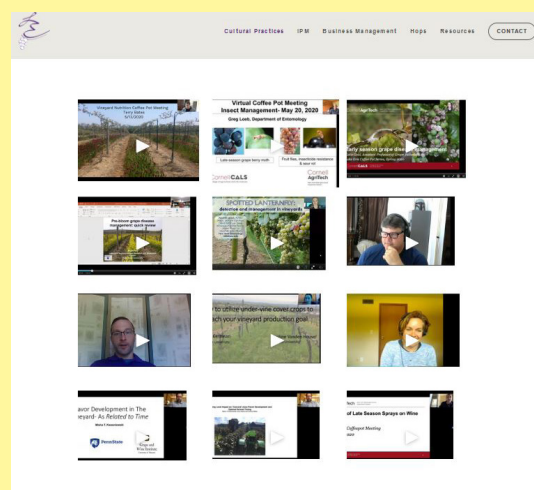
The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program held our annual Spray Program Virtual Meeting for New York and Pennsylvania grape growers. This 2021 Spray Program was led by LERGP team members Andy Muza and Bryan Hed as the main speakers. The pesticide course offered 2 NYSDEC and 4 PDA pesticide recertification credits at a time when the COVID pause had been lifted for pesticide applicator license credits. This meeting was intended to be interactive so that growers would have the ability to ask questions concerning specific pest problems or potential problems in the 2021 season. Topics that were addressed included: timing of spray applications at critical growth stages; pesticide options, efficacy; and resistance management. There were over 50 attendees at this event.

Coffee Pot News

Pandemic regulations continued through this quarter, which forced the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program to continue our Virtual Coffee Pot Meetings. In 2020, we created our Virtual Coffee Pot Meetings for educational outreach, with the use of technologies, that bridged the gap of a paused society and allowed for solutions that would have lasting effects to enhance our program for years to come.

Coffee Pot meetings have been a staple of the extension work done by the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program for many years. During these meetings researchers and extension associates come together with growers in a relaxed setting to share up-to-date information and advice on how to take care of the issues that arise in their vineyards as well as offering time for the growers to collaborate on what works and what doesn't work. In addition, pesticide recertification credits are given to those in attendance who present their pesticide applicator license.

COVID 19 halted in-person meetings and threatened to derail the events where one could obtain pesticide recertification credits. LERGP Specialists worked closely with the New York State DEC



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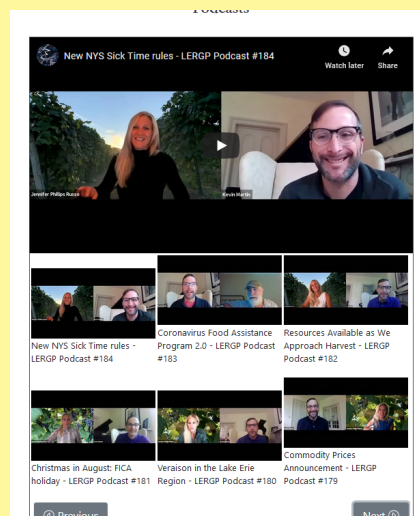
PennState Extension

and Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture to get pesticide recertification credit approval for these courses and were approved for one credit for both New York and Pennsylvania growers for each meeting. We were able to offer 9 chances for recertification credits this second quarter with 110 attendees in May and over 130 in attendance for the month of June.

In addition, the Virtual Coffee Pot Meetings invited guest speakers with expertise in their fields to present their research in an informal setting and entertain grower questions and comments. These facetime interactions with researchers provided an opportunity to share grower experiences, ask questions that may have always been on the forefront of your mind, and influence future research. We have had many compliments from our grower stakeholders and guest speakers about the productivity of these meetings and requests to continue this virtual format throughout the year. Even the growers who were unable to attend in person during the virtual meetings, were pleased with the recorded sessions that are available to watch at their convenience on our website.

Podcasts

After preparation, meetings and discussions with both universities, podcasts officially went live at the beginning of this quarter. 18 episodes were produced with just over 400 downloads during the quarter. This content is also distributed through our youtube channel as a video blog. The video blog has been around for a few years and views are typically just a little bit higher than the podcast. Overall we've increased total viewership by more than 50% due to the increase in distribution methods. Podcasts are also very on trend during the pandemic and a few guest speakers are more than happy to participate in the trend.



Business Text Messaging

HeyMarket

LERGP has developed a number of different contact lists for purposes of meeting reminders, phenology updates and other promotional materials. HeyMarket allows us to distribute this material and information via text message.

Growers are able to respond to these alerts and we have been able to quickly answer questions and expand contacts with this technology. We began to use this texting service this quarter and have sent out over 1,000 text messages. A large majority of growers attending virtual meetings prefer to get these reminders via text and report actually receiving them as well. Growers would often get an e-mail reminder prior to a meeting but actually read it after the meeting was over.

Labor

A quick review of vineyard payrolls over the dormant season produced interesting information for growers. In confirming what we already knew, labor costs have increased by 50% or more in the last decade in NY. At least half of the increase is attributable to NYS legislation. We continue to work with growers to inform them of legislative changes, provide strategy to respond, and to update on labor patterns. We have provided updates to growers throughout the year and also used this quarter to develop concrete plans for more information distribution next quarter. In Q3 we will have a coffee pot meeting, podcast, newsletter and crop update addressing these challenges.

Vineyard Improvement Program

One new application from Chautauqua County has been added this quarter for 8.76 acres. This brings the total applicants to 28 and the acreage to 377 acres.

One initial site visit was completed for the new applicant. Proof of Concord was established from the processor and new maps were created. This grower is moving toward organic farming and these particular vineyards are located along woodlines. By removing the two vineyards he is hoping to reduce the presence of Grape Berry Moth and the need to spray multiple insecticides.

One final site visit was conducted – the applicant had corn planted in the footprints of the previous Concord vineyards with no grapevines growing. It was a very thorough job and looks great. A final expense sheet was created with accurate acreage and a work log that accounted for the applicant's removal efforts. An invoice request was submitted at the close of this quarter. The reimbursement is currently pending.

Phone and email consultations again continued through this quarter for both prospective applicants and in support of current applicants.

Information regarding this program was again presented in the crop updates and newsletters from the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program.

NEWA

The East Westfield station was experiencing a strange delay in data delivery after replacing the IP-100 to a cellular TeleMet unit. Rainwise support assisted by advising how to pull out an old SIM card and replace it. This was done and the problem was not solved. It was discovered that there had been an update by Amazon on 4/9/2021 that caused some issues across the Rainwise network. It affected a few of the other stations as well but was remedied by Rainwise.

Ransomville, North East Side Hill, Portland Escarpment, East Fredonia, Silver Creek, Ovid (Hosmer), Sheridan, North East State Line, Brocton, East Westfield, Harborcreek, Forestville, Ripley Escarpment all had at least one instance of not working properly. Emails are initially sent and then site visits made if the problem is not resolved. 45 emails and phone calls were made to remedy the situations. 15 site visits were made for troubleshooting issues or minor repairs.

During this quarter we received 2 Onset HOBO stations. One was used to replace the aging station in Sheridan. The other was donated by Dan Olmstead at the NYS IPM program. This station was set up in Brant NY (Erie County) at Morely and Milestrip Roads. Previously there had been no NEWA stations in Erie County. Both of those stations are now linked to the



NEWA network. The high gain antenna was taken from the old Rainwise station at the Sheridan location and added to the Portland Escarpment station. This has since allowed that station to connect reliably to the network.

At the end of this quarter the East Westfield station is offline due to an ant problem in the TeleMet. The ants were establishing a colony inside the TeleMet and caused numerous shorts and blew some components. This will require a new TeleMet costing \$579. In addition the Harborcreek station has not been connecting consistently. The host is considering moving the internet accessibility to a barn with a closer and less hindered line of sight to the station. A high gain antenna is also being considered.

CAPS (Grape Commodity Survey)

The 2020 Grape Commodity Survey is under way in the Lake Erie Region. There are 108 traps set up in 8 vineyards and 2 nurseries. This year the target moths include *Cryptoblabes gnideiella* (Christmas Berry Webworm), *Lobesia botrana* (European Grapevine Moth), and *Eupoecilia ambiguella* (European Grape Berry Moth).

The traps were set on June 8th and 9th, there was a slight delay of set up in the nurseries due to reentry restrictions from a spray application. These traps are intended to remain in the vineyards and nurseries for 14 weeks and will be serviced (surveyed for the presence of moths) every two weeks for a total of 7 times.

The first service was performed on June 22nd to reveal no target moths. A record of negative samples was recorded: -11 CBW, -235 EGBM, and -37 EGVM. These results are shared with the project coordinator, Juliet Carroll, via google sheets.



2nd Quarter 2021 totals:

Publications - Lake Erie Vineyard Notes Newsletters (3) and LERGP Crop Updates (10)

Podcasts - 18 weekly podcasts available on <http://lergp.com/podcasts/>

Web resources - <http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu>, <http://lergp.com> and

<https://www.efficientvineyard.com>

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LERGP Home Pages: <http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu>; <http://lergp.com> Phone: 716.792.2800