



The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



Electronic Crop Update for August 29, 2013

IN THIS UPDATE:

[Grape Cultural Practices](#)

[From North East, PA](#)

[In the Vineyard: Andy Muza](#)

[Business Management](#)

[Weather Data](#)

Please visit our LERGP Website at: <http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/> for a detailed calendar. Please remember to RSVP for those events that require one! UPCOMING EVENTS are also listed toward the bottom of this 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.](mailto:emb35@cornell.edu)

NYS IPM FACT SHEETS FOR GRAPES:

- Powdery Mildew: http://nysipm.cornell.edu/factsheets/grapes/diseases/grape_pm.pdf
- Downy Mildew: http://nysipm.cornell.edu/factsheets/grapes/diseases/downy_mildew.pdf
- Black Rot: http://nysipm.cornell.edu/factsheets/grapes/diseases/grape_br.pdf
- Grape Berry Moth: <http://nysipm.cornell.edu/factsheets/grapes/pests/gbm/gbm.pdf>

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GRAPE CULTURAL PRACTICES: Luke Haggerty

Last week there was plenty of sunshine with temperatures around 80°F - just what we were all hoping for. This week on the other hand we definitely lacked the sunshine. **Hot, wet, and humid**... ideal conditions for [downy mildew](#), but not ideal for fruit ripening.

The concord soluble solids data from the "Nine Sites" study show we **were** off to a good start. At veraison soluble solids were between 6.5 and 9.3°Brix and one week later (8/26) jumped 2-3°Brix. Samples taken on 8/26 showed the "East Bench" area had the highest soluble solids with an average of 11.9°Brix and the "Central Lake" area with the lowest having an average of 9.1°Brix. With this week's rains and less than ideal conditions I don't expect to see a rise of 2-3°Brix when we collect the samples next Tuesday (9/3).

I encourage you, if you have not already set up a site visit with me, to do so! I will even test a few samples while I'm there. Call me at (716) 792-2800 Ext. 204 or email me at llh85@cornell.edu to set up a site visit.

FROM NORTH EAST, PA.: Bryan Hed

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Weather: Here at the North East PA lab, we have accumulated about 502 growing degree days (gdds) during the first four weeks of August, which indicates that we will likely finish the month a couple of days behind average in heat accumulation. Our gdd total since April 1 equals about 2050 which is right around average for our location *for the season*. We recorded just under 0.4 inches of rainfall over the past week, bringing our August total to 1.45" (still very dry for August). Rainfall has been below average for the past 8 weeks and vines appear to be showing some signs of nutrient (potassium?)/water stress (?), especially on leaves in the cluster zone (the most basal leaves). Severely affected leaves will appear scorched along leaf margins. Under dry soil conditions, big vines with big crops may struggle to draw up adequate water and the nutrients dissolved in soil water. The condition is exacerbated by heavy crop load, as fruit become a strong sink for potassium.

Diseases: On the other hand, our wetness sensors indicate that the recent rainfall (August 26 and 27) generated two more [downy mildew](#) infection periods. Although we recorded less than 0.4" of rain, our onsite weather station indicates that humidity levels have remained at saturation since Monday evening (August 26) and plant tissue surfaces remained wet for two extended time periods after rainfall. This means we may not be out of the woods yet for downy mildew control on leaves of susceptible varieties. The message here is to **continue to scout your vineyards** to maintain a handle on this disease, as letting it get out of control can strip leaves from vines and leave you with less ripening power to mature the crop and green canes going into winter. For growers concerned about the presence of this disease in their vineyard, there are many options to choose from that represent several newer chemistries in addition to the old standards like copper/lime, ziram (21 day pre harvest interval), and the phos acids (like Phostrol and Rampart). However, the clock is running out for many of these options so pay attention to pre harvest intervals. Some of the newer materials include Presidio (which must be tank mixed with a different chemistry for downy – read the label, 21 day pre harvest interval), Ranman (which works very well tank mixed with a phos acid product, pay attention to the 30 day pre harvest interval), Reason (also a 30 day pre harvest interval), Revus (the downy mildew component in Revus Top), and then there's Ridomil Gold/Copper (42 day pre harvest interval; only an option for late wine varieties (harvest at mid-October) at this point; be aware of copper sensitivity of certain varieties). For Phos acid products and fixed copper fungicides, pre harvest interval is not a concern and may be the only options for Niagara grapes (except for late harvest Niagara).

Wine grape growers of varieties with compact clusters will need to maintain control of [Botrytis](#) bunch rot. We have been observing this disease developing in our Vignoles and Chardonnay. Fortunately, we have several effective materials that are also relatively rain fast (Elevate, Rovral, Vangard/Switch/Scala, Endura). Applications of these fungicides should be standard procedure for growers of Riesling, Pinot Noir, Pinot Gris, Vignoles, Chardonnay, and other varieties with compact clusters. Pay attention to pre harvest intervals as you plan your next Botrytis fungicide application. Leaf removal in the cluster zone will have limited value for bunch rot control if performed this late in the season and may leave fruit open to sunburn, especially on the south or west side of the trellis (depending on your row orientation). Trials with leaf removal timing have indicated that the earlier leaves are removed, the greater the benefit and cost effectiveness, and the lower the risk of sunburn damaging fruit.

IN THE VINEYARD with Andy Muza

Grape Berry Moth (GBM) – **ALERT!** – *GBM eggs found in High/Severe Risk Sites.*

Seven **High – Severe Risk** Concord sites were examined this week in Erie County, PA. A total of 25 clusters were examined for GBM eggs in rows bordering woods at each site.

At all 7 sites unhatched GBM eggs were found. At 4 of these sites the percentage of clusters with at least 1 unhatched GBM egg ranged from 28 – 44%.

Late in the season, at problem GBM sites, there can be an extended period of egg laying due to high population levels and an overlapping of generations. Even if an insecticide was applied for the third generation, SCOUT HIGH RISK SITES TODAY, to determine if injury levels have increased or eggs are still being laid. If unhatched eggs are found in border areas at these sites then an additional insecticide should be applied in the next few days before eggs hatch. Check the preharvest interval before using any insecticide.

Remember that the vineyard sites that I check have a history of high GBM pressure.

However your sites may be entirely different. Every site is unique and should be managed accordingly. For this reason we stress that scouting should be an integral component of your GBM management strategy.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Kevin Martin

Licensing of Farm Products Dealers

In this week's crop update Article 20 of NYS Agricultural and Markets law is worth mentioning. This law sets forth the requirements of a stated grape price. Those dealers required to state a price did so and that information is available to the Department of Agricultural and Markets as well as contracted growers. Also, the Department is stepping up its enforcement of Farm Product Dealers. The growth in smaller farm products dealers has led increased the number of non-licensed dealers.

§ 250-f Stated Grape Price

New York State cash market prices for Concord and Niagara trended downward in 2013. With soluble solids expected to be lower than last year, average actual price paid may decline by as much as 20%. Average prices for ConCORDS used in wine have proven to hold up somewhat better. Overall, prices are down less than 10%.

The Hybrid and Vinifera market remains variety specific. While some varieties have maintained demand better than others, overall prices remain relatively unchanged in larger markets. The demand for specific practices and more complicated agreements, in the pursuit of quality, continues to grow.

Cooperative payments have been relatively unchanged thus far. Since payments by Cooperatives are necessarily exempt from the requirements of section 250f, cooperative prices paid for the 2013 crop would be speculative at this point in time. Payments for 2012 have slowed somewhat, likely in preparation for the 2013 harvest advance. 2012, you'll recall, announced cash pricing was relatively flat. In some markets the price actually paid was significantly higher, due to higher than average brix.

2012 prices in California were surprising. The 2012 crop was the highest yielding on record. Overall prices were also the highest on record at 734 per ton. Excluding table and raisin markets, nearly all varieties average over \$325 per ton. Growth in the wine industry supporting these high prices continues to alleviate the indirect competition California traditionally provides.

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§ 246 - § 250

The farm license program is designed to ensure prompt payment to producers. It is also a funding mechanism to reimburse producers that have not been paid by licensed dealers.

A directory of NYS farm product dealers can be found here:

<http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/AP/LicFarmProdDealersList.asp>

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Buyers purchasing less than \$10,000 annually to re-sell at wholesale are exempt. Otherwise, unlisted buyers may not be licensed or bonded and in most cases should not be the purchasers of farm products from producers.

These sections touch on the requirements of Farm Products dealers. Those that purchase grapes or juice from a grower or producer are dealers. A person cannot act as a dealer without a license. A dealer must provide a security and deposit. An application for a license will also include financial statements, evidence of good character, and evidence that the licensee has adequate physical facilities for farm products. If a dealer intends to pay for products immediately upon delivery, the dealer may be exempt from filing a bond or letter of credit.

In addition, the law regulates the timeliness of payment. Licensed dealers must provide payment within 30 days of delivery unless otherwise agreed to in writing. In any case, payment may not exceed 120 days.

Copies of forms including Applications, bonds, and complaints can be found here:

<http://www.agriculture.ny.gov/programs/apsf.html>

WEATHER DATA: Edith Byrne

Weather Data

DATE/YEAR	HIGH	LOW	DAILY PRECIP.	GDDs	TOTAL APRIL GDDs	TOTAL JAN GDDs
Week 8/14/13	66	56	0.00	11	1779	1804.5
Week 8/21/13	80	64	0.00	22	1897.5	1923
<i>Week 8/28/13</i>	<i>79</i>	<i>69</i>	<i>0.08</i>	<i>24</i>	<i>2047</i>	<i>2072.5</i>
<i>Week 8/28/12</i>	<i>73</i>	<i>63</i>	<i>0.08</i>	<i>18</i>	<i>2256.5</i>	<i>2387</i>
AVERAGE	78.1	61.5	0.17	19.78	2087.25	2112.17
<i>GDDs accumulated Aug 1-28, 2013 = 500.00</i>				<i>GDDs accumulated Aug 1-28, 2012 = 548.50</i>		
<i>GDDs accumulated July 2013 = 653.5</i>				<i>GDDs accumulated July 2012 = 725.50</i>		
<i>GDDs accumulated June 2013 = 455.0</i>				<i>GDDs accumulated June 2012 = 532.50</i>		
<i>GDDs accumulated May 2013 = 260.5</i>				<i>GDDs accumulated May 2012 = 393</i>		
<u>Average GDDs accumulated through August 28 = 559.76</u>						
<u>Average GDDs accumulated whole month August = 614.48</u>						
This year compared to AVERAGE: JAN. GDD: <i>BEHIND 2.01</i> / APR. GDD: <i>BEHIND 2.03</i>						
This year compared to 2012: JAN. GDD: <i>BEHIND 15.90</i> / APR. GDD: <i>BEHIND 10.59</i>						
<u>2013</u>			<u>2012</u>			
<u>Average High July</u>	75.00 (last week 73.21)		76.86 (last week 77.86)			
<u>Average Low July</u>	60.71 (last week 59.93)		62.32 (last week 64.14)			
August Rainfall amount = 2.43" JULY Rainfall amount = 3.27" JUNE Rainfall amount = 7.69"						
Rainfall accumulation 1/1/13 through 8/28/13 = 26.68"						

LERGP WEBSITE LINKS OF INTEREST –

- **PHENOLOGY INFORMATION:** http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/submission.php?id=66&crumb=cultural%20practices|cultural_practices
- **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:** http://nygpadmin.cce.cornell.edu/pdf/submission/pdf65_pdf.pdf



Go to <http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/> for a detailed calendar of events. *Please remember to RSVP for those events that require one!*

PLEASE NOTE: Next Electronic Crop Update will be Thursday September 5, 2013

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. 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

[Kevin Martin](#), Business Management Educator, 716.792.2800 ext. 205

[Luke Haggerty](#), Grape Cultural Practices, 716.792.2800 ext. 204

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>

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Contact the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program if you have any special needs such as visual, hearing or mobility impairments.

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THE LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM at CLEREL

6592 West Main Road

Portland, NY 14769

716-792-2800