



The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



Electronic Crop Update for September 12, 2013

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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)

Dear Grower,

With the growing season winding down we will go to an every other week schedule for the Electronic Crop Update. The next Crop Update is scheduled for September 26, 2013. You can look for Electronic Crop Updates: Oct. 10, 24; November 7, 21; December 5, 19 to finish out 2013.

Please continue to look for other emails from us such as *Veraison to Harvest*, *Upcoming Events notices*, and other information we need to share with you as necessary!

As always, if you have any questions or need help with the website or email, please do not hesitate to contact me at emb35@cornell.edu or 716-792-2800 ext. 209.

NYS IPM FACT SHEETS FOR GRAPES:

- Downy Mildew: http://nysipm.cornell.edu/factsheets/grapes/diseases/downy_mildew.pdf
- Powdery Mildew: http://nysipm.cornell.edu/factsheets/grapes/diseases/grape_pm.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>

FROM NORTH EAST, PA.: Bryan Hed

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Phenology: Here by the lake, our Concord is averaging about 14 brix and our Niagara about 13 brix. Wine varieties like Vignoles have shot up to over 22 brix, however acids remain high.

Diseases: Continue to scout your vineyards for signs and symptoms of downy mildew as this disease can quickly strip leaves from vines and leave you with less ripening power to mature the crop and green canes going into winter. The presence of active sporulation, which will appear downy white, provides the potential for spread of the disease should conditions remain wet at your location. Under the right conditions, this disease can manifest itself just 4-5 days after infection and populations of the pathogen can explode. This is particularly dangerous for wine varieties that are very susceptible to this disease and need all the help they can get surviving the winter. Pay attention to pre-harvest intervals if you decide to make another application of fungicide at this time.

Bunch rots are developing in our tight-clustered wine varieties like Vignoles, Chardonnay, Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, and Riesling here at the North East lab. Most worrisome is the development of sour rots aided by the recent bout of extremely warm weather we've had. There are few, if any, fungicides that will effectively reduce sour rots. In our 2013 trial with Vignoles, adequate control of bunch rots was only achieved by applying a cultural treatment (pre-bloom leaf removal in the cluster zone) that reduced the compactness of clusters. Compared to our untreated check plots (that is, no attempt to control bunch rot) synthetic fungicides provided little control without the aid of looser clusters (35 % reduction in rots) and biological fungicides like Botector and Serenade Max provided no control. When aided by a treatment that loosened clusters, bunch rot control levels jumped to 70-75%, when compared to the check. However, waiting until the ripening period to perform leaf removal in the cluster zone, will have limited value for bunch rot control 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 in terms of rot control.

GRAPE INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT: Tim Weigle

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With Niagara and Concord harvests rapidly approaching, there is little in the way of insect management that can be accomplished. While Ted Taft Jr., LERGP at CLEREL staff, reports that he is still finding [grape berry moth \(GBM\)](#) eggs on clusters during his pre harvest evaluations, the very dense canopies we are seeing at this time of year makes coverage difficult. If you are thinking that another insecticide application is necessary for GBM in parts of your vineyards, make sure you check the label for the pre harvest interval of the insecticide you want to use.

Something you can do to limit the amount of grape berry moth damage in your vineyards this fall is to continue to scout your vineyards to find out where the greatest damage is occurring. Armed with this information you can start taking targeted sugar samples from those areas to assist you in developing a harvest plan. Harvesting grapes in the areas most affected by grape berry moth as soon as possible (once minimum sugars have been met) is the best way to reduce the chance of GBM damage reaching a level where economic crop loss can occur or loads are rejected.

As always, you will need to put a pencil to paper to determine the economics of moving equipment from one vineyard to the next to get the grapes off the GBM areas first. If vineyards are spread across a large geographical area it will make sense to schedule harvest of the vineyard where the greatest potential for grape berry moth damage is found.

The time taken to scout your vineyards for grape berry moth damage, take targeted sugar samples, and developing a harvest plan will easily pay for itself once the hectic harvest season hits.

GRAPE CULTURAL PRACTICES: Luke Haggerty

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Weather this past week was warmer than average and we accumulated more growing degree days than last week. September 10 and 11th were ideal weather conditions with highs in the mid to upper 80's and lots of sunshine. The eastern portion of the grape belt is getting a little dry with some areas not receiving any precipitation for over two weeks. However, some central and western areas are seeing more rain than normal. Rain in these areas has prolonged the battle against downy mildew and botrytis bunch rot. Riesling, Vignoles, and the Pinots are generally more susceptible to botrytis bunch rot because of their tight clusters. With any luck, the weather will dry out and these infections won't cause too many problems.

The National Grape CO-OP reported a tentative start date of Sept. 20 for Niagara at the North East, PA receiving location. The Concord harvest will start the following week. The big question we are all asking is whether or not the sugars are where they need to be.

The Concord crop load is defiantly having an effect on the ripening process as variation is starting to show between vineyards that have been mechanically fruit thinned and the ones that have not. On average the areas that **have** been thinned were showing a soluble solid content of 13.5°Brix. Vineyards that **have not** been thinned and left with a heavy crop load are moving much slower with reports of Brix levels between 9 and 10. The area Concord average is approximately 12.2°Brix. Now is the time to get out and sample! For more information on sampling see the [August Newsletter](#) (use your password).

If you have not already set up a site visit with me I encourage you to do so, I will even test your soluble solids while I'm there. Call me at (716) 792-2800 Ext. 204 or email me at lh85@cornell.edu to set up a site visit.

WEATHER DATA THROUGH SEPT. 11: Edith Byrne

Weather Data

DATE/YEAR	HIGH	LOW	DAILY PRECIP.	GDDs	TOTAL APRIL GDDs	TOTAL JAN GDDs
Week 8/28/13	79	69	0.08	24	2047	2072.5
Week 9/4/13	71	57	0.00	14	2186	2211.5
Week 9/11/13	88	74	0.00	31	2300.5	2326
Week 9/11/12	75	58	0.00	16.5	2526	2656.5
AVERAGE	73.9	55.6	0.05	14.75	2355.14	2330.22
Actual GDDs accumulated 9-1 through 9-11, 2013 = 185.5			Average GDDs accumulated 9-1 through 9-11 = 188.44		Actual GDDs accumulated 9-1 through 9-11, 2012 = 200.50	
Average GDDs accumulated September 1-30 = 413.06						
GDDs accumulated Aug 2013 = 568.00				GDDs accumulated Aug 2012 = 601.00		
GDDs accumulated July 2013 = 653.5				GDDs accumulated July 2012 = 725.50		
GDDs accumulated June 2013 = 455.0				GDDs accumulated June 2012 = 532.50		
GDDs accumulated May 2013 = 260.5				GDDs accumulated May 2012 = 393		
This year compared to AVERAGE: JAN. GDD: <i>BEHIND</i> 0.29 / APR. GDD: <i>BEHIND</i> 3.70						
This year compared to 2012: JAN. GDD: <i>BEHIND</i> 22.41 / APR. GDD: <i>BEHIND</i> 15.29						
<u>2013</u>			<u>2012</u>			
Average High Sept 1-4	74.45 (last week 73.50)			76.0 (last week 81.75)		
Average Low Sept 1-4	59.27 (last week 62.00)			60.45 (last week 63.75)		
Sept Rainfall amount = 0.84"		August Rainfall amount = 3.15"		JULY Rainfall amount = 3.27"		
Rainfall accumulation 1/1/13 through 9/11/13 = 28.24"						

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 26, 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.

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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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