



# The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



Crop Update for March 13, 2014



## Upcoming Event Dates to put on your calendar:

Please note the deadline for each event.



**March 20, 2014-** Winter Grape Growers Conference at SUNY Fredonia\*\*  
Deadline for registration- March 14, 2014

**March 17, 18 & 19, 2014 8:00 AM to 4:00 PM each of the three days**  
Commercial Driver's License (CDL) Training for Agricultural Producers and Employees  
Erie2CCBOCES, Ashville, NY-see registration info in this Crop Update  
REGISTRATION DEADLINE-MARCH 12, 2014

### Bud Assessment Workshops:

**March 25, 2014-**Schulze Farm Vineyards, 2030 Old Coomer Rd, Burt NY 14028 **10:00am-Noon**

**March 27, 2014-** Bud Assessment Workshop, CLEREL, 6592 West Main Rd. Portland NY 14769 **1:00- 2:00pm**

**April 8, 2014-** Penn State Extension, 850 East Gore Rd. Erie PA. 16509 **4:00pm-5:00pm**

**\*\*call Luke at 716-792-2800 ext 204 to register or e-mail at llh85@cornell.edu\*\***

**April 8, 2014-** NEWA Training at CLEREL 10:00am-Noon\*\*

NEWA Training at Penn State Ext Office, 850 East Gore Rd. Erie PA 2:00pm-4:00pm

Class agendas are identical, 2 location offerings

Deadline for pre-registration- April 1, 2014

**May 7, 2014-** COFFEE POT MEETINGS\*\* begin- a schedule for these is in progress. Check the web-site for updates as they become available. Dates will also be posted in the Crop Update.

Information and registration forms for all of the listed events are available in this update.

## Affordable Care Act

*Kevin Martin, LERGP, Penn State University*

Sole proprietorships, like family farms, have some of the highest rates of uninsured. This year, those without health insurance may be subject to a penalty. Given the average age of most growers, I would assume most are not rolling the dice on health care. If you use the system without insurance things get very expensive quickly. However, if you have anybody in your life that you claim as a dependent or could claim as a dependent, you may find yourself subject to a penalty.

More than a few times I have heard of friends' parents taking in teens from troubled homes, or extended families banding together in challenging times. In difficult times, sometimes dependents come from unexpected areas. Next generation farmers may also find themselves more likely to avoid health insurance costs, hoping to remain healthy.

Individuals that do not purchase health insurance by March 31<sup>st</sup> will be subject to a penalty. The penalty has two calculation methods; whichever one is higher is the one the taxpayer is subject to.

- \$95 per year per adult in household and \$47.50 per child under age 18. The maximum penalty for a large family is \$285. OR
- 1% of all household income above the IRS tax filing threshold. The threshold for a family of four is \$27,100. This calculation also has a ceiling. The maximum penalty is the national average premium for a bronze plan or approximately \$9,500 for a family.

These regressive penalties, on their face, seem entirely unaffordable for low-income individuals. The income-based subsidies discussed in previous articles offer a modicum of protection. If the insurance costs more than 8% of household income, that household would be exempt from a fee.

Avoiding the fee requires the household obtain qualifying insurance, typically from an employer or the marketplace, by March 31<sup>st</sup>. Since insurers must cover preexisting conditions, a drop dead date to obtain coverage during an open enrollment period helps prevent their exposure to pre-existing condition liability.

Given the potentially high rate of uninsured growers, or at least their dependents, understanding these penalties is important to small business owners. Much of the media has described the Affordable Care Act but to simplify it has described this penalty as a \$95 penalty. That simplified version of the penalty may have individuals assuming that it is more of a nuisance than a penalty of significance or consequence. In reality, this penalty is specifically designed to influence the behavior of individuals by making the purchasing of insurance economically rational.

## Winter Injury Assessment & Upcoming Workshop

Luke Haggerty, Viticulture Extension Educator, Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

Another crazy week of weather with temperature close to 50°F on March 11, and near zero on March 13, these drastic changes can be bad for the buds and trunks. As the sun becomes more direct and temperatures begin to rise the vines begin to wake up and come out of dormancy. The differential thermal analysis (DAT) in the figure below shows how last year (2012-2013) the buds became less hardy as the temperatures increased.

The DAT is used to estimate the temperature a bud can withstand before death by recording the 'Low Temperature Exotherms' (LTE). For example, DTA is used to predict the lethal temperature that would kill 50% (LT50) of the buds of a specific cultivar. Bi-monthly cane and bud samples are sent from the Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory in Portland, NY to Geneva, NY as part of the 'Seasonal Bud Low Temperature Exotherm' Project. Figure 2 shows LTEs for Niagara (grape) for the 2012-2013 and 2013-2014 season. The temperatures in purple shading show the temperatures throughout the winter seasons. In January 2014 there were three points where temperatures dropped below zero. The 2012-2013 graph shows how buds become less tolerant to cold temperature as the season warms up and the buds progress out of dormancy. We will be sending in cane samples on Monday the 17<sup>th</sup> and hope the results show the vines are still relatively dormant. To follow bud hardiness LTEs for the Lake Erie or other New York grape regions go to:

<http://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/cals/grapesandwine/outreach/viticulture/weather.cfm>.

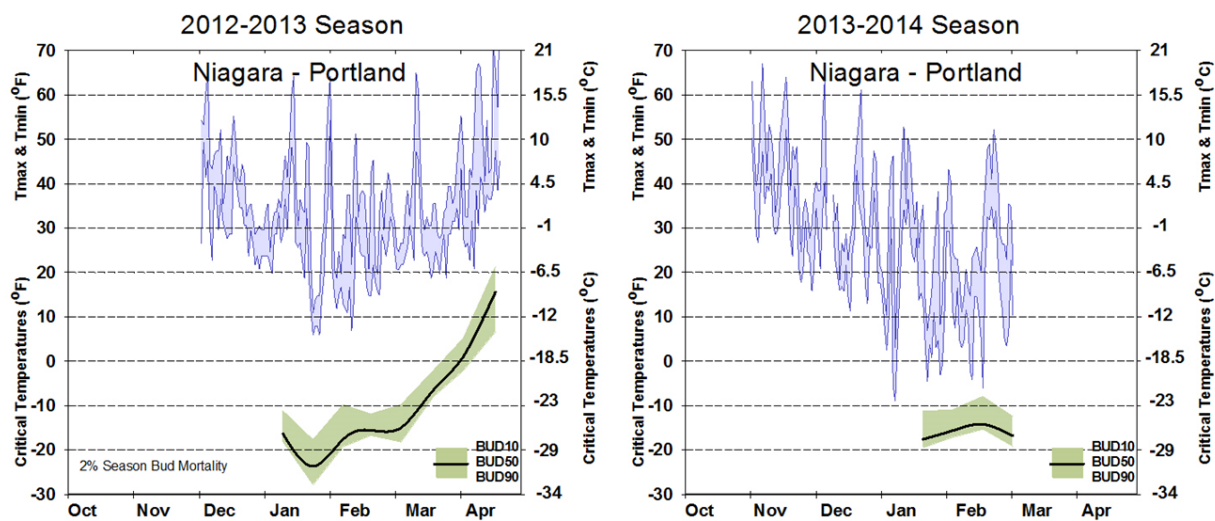


Figure 1. LTEs of grape cultivar 'Niagara' taken from the CLEREL . Graphs produced by Bill Wilsey

Through our bud assessment we work to provide an overall picture of the region's bud damage. However, as damage can vary tremendously by location and variety, it's important to assess your



own vineyard. In order to provide information and training on bud assessment, we will be hosting three workshops within the Lake Erie Grape region. The workshop will allow you to accurately assess bud damage in your vineyard and expand on the assessment of the region.

## BUD ASSESSMENT WORKSHOP

Please join us for this informative workshop that focuses on how to assess bud injury. This 1-2 hour workshop will address the current damage and provide growers with the skills needed to assess bud damage.

### What to bring:

Collect mature wood that would be expected to yield healthy or viable buds. Canes should be ~10 buds per cane and you should bring 7 to 10 canes per cultivar that you want examined. Canes should be collected 24 to 48 hours prior to the workshop.

Please RSVP to Luke Haggerty at [lh85@cornell.edu](mailto:lh85@cornell.edu)



## Dates/Locations

*Niagara County*  
*March 25, 2014 10-12*  
Schulze Farm Vineyards  
2030 Old Coomer Rd  
Burt, NY 14028

*CLEREL*  
*March 27, 2014 1-2pm*  
6592 West Main Rd  
Portland, NY 14769

*Penn State Extension*  
*April 8, 2014 4-5pm*  
850 East Gore Rd  
Erie, PA 16509

# Get a Jump on Your Vineyard IPM Strategy

Tim Weigle, NYSIPM, LERGP

Our Viticulture Extension Educator, Luke Haggerty, has been taking cuttings from several vineyards and has noticed a tremendous difference in bud damage, not only, between varieties, but between vineyards growing the same varieties. We have heard from numerous growers who are wondering how their buds/trunks/vines fared. We strongly urge you to assess your vineyards on a block-by-block basis (if you need help, give Luke a call and he can give you some great tips and, possibly, a demonstration on bud cutting) to see where you stand.

While it may seem early for some, one of your major considerations going into the growing season should be what, if any, impact will the bud/trunk injury have on your vineyard IPM strategy. Keep in mind that any change in the vineyard canopy has the potential to impact the microclimate available for disease development. While it is too early to develop any definite changes in your IPM strategy, you can start thinking of the various scenarios that may occur during the growing season. While the greatest impact of our low temperatures will be seen with Vinifera, Luke has seen enough damage in some Niagara and Concord vineyards that they should not be ignored.

A few things to think about are:

- Don't immediately revert to a least cost fungicide program. As we have seen repeatedly with early spring frost damage, we can be surprised by the amount of crop on the vines at harvest. Using low cost materials that you know are *effective* is always a good idea as opposed to using materials just because they cost the least.
- If you are planning on eliminating sprays due to the potential lack of crop, wait until after set to determine if it should be done (unless of course there are no clusters to begin with). Research conducted by Wayne Wilcox shows that early season Phomopsis sprays can quickly pay for themselves through retained crop.
- If vine or bud damage is severe, the result will be fewer buds to choose from when pruning. This may mean a less dense canopy, which can lead to increased airflow decreasing the length of the wetting period for infection periods. You may be able to reduce the number of fungicide applications post bloom.
- Remain flexible. Develop strategies to use in case of a warm sunny growing season as well as a cloudy wet one. Having a number of options will help you to react more quickly on a block-by-block basis during the growing season.
- A less dense canopy can promote weed growth under the trellis due to more sunshine hitting the vineyard floor throughout the growing season. Extra scouting may be required to catch problems early.
- Think block-by-block. Using the pest history of each block can provide the information needed to develop your basic IPM strategy.

**LAST CHANCE to REGISTER!**

# **2014 LERGP WINTER GROWERS CONFERENCE**

**MARCH 20, 2014**

**AT SUNY FREDONIA, WILLIAMS CENTER**

**Full Day Conference, 8:00am-4:15pm, with  
morning and afternoon talks, Buffet Lunch and  
Trade-Show!**

- Management Strategies for High Yield
- GIS and Sensor Technology
- GPS Sprayer Technology
- GBM
- Succession Planning
- State of the Market

**Including Discussion panels with input  
from local growers who have experience in  
each related area**

**THE ENTIRE EVENT WILL BE HELD IN THE WILLIAMS CENTER-**

**LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM**  
**2014 GRAPE GROWERS' CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM**

to be held at SUNY Fredonia Williams Center

on March 20, 2014

**Deadline for registration is March 14, 2014.**

Name (1<sup>st</sup> attendee) \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Farm Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address, City, State, Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Are you enrolled in Lake Erie Regional Grape Program (LERGP)? Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

REGISTRATION FEES	
LERGP Member 1 <sup>st</sup> attendee	\$ 40.00
Additional attendee on same farm	\$ 35.00
Non- member	\$100.00

**Additional Attendees:**

	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$
	\$

\*Please add a **\$25.00 late fee** for each reservation received after March 14, 2014

**TOTAL \$** \_\_\_\_\_

Please make check payable to **LERGP (Lake Erie Regional Grape Program)** and mail to: Kate Robinson  
LERGP  
6592 W Main Rd  
Portland NY 14769

Name \_\_\_\_\_ NY DEC/PA PDA NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ NY DEC/PA PDA NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_ NY DEC/PA PDA NUMBER \_\_\_\_\_

<u>Date Ck. Rec'd</u>	<u>Amount</u>

Call Kate at 716-792-2800 ext 201 with any questions.



# 2014 Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Enrollment

**\*\*This form is for NY Growers ONLY- PA Growers call 814-825-0900 to register**

## **Fees:**

\$70.00 \$\_\_\_\_\_ **GRAPE Program** -Chautauqua county landowner  
(*\$45.00 program fee, \$25.00 Chautauqua County Base Fee*)

\$65.00 \$\_\_\_\_\_ **GRAPE Program**- Cattaraugus, Erie, NY or Niagara  
(*\$45.00 program fee, \$20.00 County base fee*)

\$100.00 \$\_\_\_\_\_ **GRAPE Program** -Out of Program Region Resident

\$25.00 \$\_\_\_\_\_ 2014 Cornell Guidelines for Grapes

\$25.00 \$\_\_\_\_\_ Hardcopy mailing of Newsletters\*\*\*

Total \$\_\_\_\_\_ (Please make check payable to LERGP)

Program fees do  
not include 2014  
Cornell Guidelines for  
Grapes

I am interested in the educational work of Cornell Cooperative Extension in Niagara, Chautauqua and Cattaraugus County. Any current re-  
corded enrollee 18 years of age and older shall have voting and nominating privileges to hold office in the Association of their local county.

☐ I am 18 years of age or older and signed\_\_\_\_\_

☐ New ☐ Renewal

Farm Name:\_\_\_\_\_

Name:\_\_\_\_\_ Spouse's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address:\_\_\_\_\_ City:\_\_\_\_\_

State:\_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code\_\_\_\_\_

Home phone:\_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone :\_\_\_\_\_

\*\*\*Due to budget constraints, all correspondence will be conducted through e-mail. Please provide your  
e-mail address below. If you would like to receive hardcopies, mark the \$25.00 additional fee line above  
and include with payment.\*\*\*

EMAIL ADDRESS\_\_\_\_\_

Please return form and payment to:

Feel free to call w/ questions:

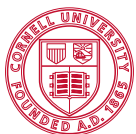
LERGP

716-792-2800 Ext 201

6592 West Main Rd.

Portland NY 14769

Attn: Katie



Cornell University

PENNSTATE



College of  
Agricultural  
Sciences



Cornell University  
Cooperative Extension



## LERGP Website Links of Interest:

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](http://nygpadmin.cce.cornell.edu/pdf/submission/pdf65_pdf.pdf)

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>

Go to <http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/> for a detailed calendar of events.

Please remember to RSVP for those events that require one!



**Next Crop Update: March 27, 2014**

### **Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Team Members:**

Andy Muza, (ajm4@psu.edu) Extension Educator, Erie County, PA Cooperative 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

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.

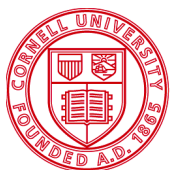
CCE does not endorse or recommend any specific product or service.

THE LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM at CLEREL

6592 West Main Road

Portland, NY 14769

716-792-2800



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