



The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



Crop Update for May 15, 2014



Upcoming Event Dates to put on your calendar:

Please note the deadline for each event.

May 20, 2014-Training Your Customers: Effective Tasting Room Techniques at CLEREL

Rescheduled date- Deadline for registration-Wednesday May 13, 2014



May 21, 2014- COFFEE POT MEETING at Leo Hans, 10929 West Perysburg Rd. Perrysburg NY 14129

June 10, 2014- TAP reimbursement information meeting with Mary Lynn Laver
CLEREL from 4:00pm-5:00pm

June 21, 2014- Hops Production in the Lake Erie Region

Full day conference focusing on the process of commercial Hops production. The morning program will consist of oral presentations presented at the Brocton Central School and then after lunch the group will move outside to the hopyard at CLEREL.

Deadline for pre-registration: Friday June 13, 2014

August 20, 2014- Thompson Ag Pig Roast- more info to come-

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

Registration is also available on-line for most programs at our web-site: lergp.cce.cornell.edu



The password for the LERGP web-site changed on April 24th. An e-mail was sent to everyone who has renewed their membership for the 2014 year with the new password. If you believe your name has been omitted in error, please give me a call at the office 716-792-2800 ext 201 or stop in and we can review.

Thank you!
Katie

Business Management

Production Practice Early Season Investments

Kevin Martin, LERGP, Penn State University

It is investment time for the 2014 crop. As we discussed last year, the 2012 crop will start to create cash flow problems for some growers in late 2013 and those problems can extend into 2014. Some growers have expressed concerns regarding upcoming expenses. When thinking about what you “can afford” and what you “cannot afford”, being conservative does not always make the most sense.

When you think about the costs of production practices, some basic practices are just necessary to remain sustainable. Others practices represent investments that increase efficiency to varying degrees. Basic practices, such as pre-bloom sprays, modest amounts of nitrogen, potassium and lime, and effective but cost conscious weed-control, should be non-negotiable. It always makes sense to use credit to accomplish these practices, unless the alternative is exiting the business.

When considering investments that result in efficiency gains, consider your expected payments. At this time of year we are starting to get a good idea of payment expectations from processors based on their performance thus far.

Assuming constant and level payments for the typical duration, compare that to prior years. For growers that expect significantly higher payments, due to a large crop size, some investments in efficiency may make sense. Interest costs are fairly low and an accurate income forecast could show short-term debt payments to be sustainable.

Production practices for growers that had a lot of success, but are simply waiting for payment could easily consider more expensive practices. Depending on the needs of the vineyard, those practices could include an additional (3rd?) pre-bloom spray, a more expensive pre-emergent weed control program, cover cropping, enhanced nutrient applications or an additional insecticide or fungicide spray if necessary.

In total, these production practices could add an additional \$300 per acre. Most growers will also spend an additional \$675 per acre on basic practices between now and November. Responding to the needs of the vineyard becomes a critical benchmark for efficiency. All of the “enhanced” management practices can produce efficiency gains, even accounting for interest costs. However, it would be very unusual for an entire farm to require all of these enhanced practices in the same year.

Enhanced production practices that are ineffective and do not contribute to vine health or yield can quickly eliminate profits. Median household income in our region is just over \$40,000 per year. Realizing that income over 200 acres takes a mere \$200 per acre. The difference between breaking even and realizing a profit equal to median household income could be as simple as two or three unnecessary production decisions.

The costs of the ultra-conservative vs. the over-investor, typically only vary by 1 – 2 ton per acre, when looking at production practices costs. Keeping this in perspective helps to analyze the necessary gains to justify any beneficial production practice. Equipment purchases, of course, is an entirely different ball of wax.

The contract situation, price variation and crop load variation in 2013 make bold and universal recommendations more difficult than ever. Less than ideal fruit thinning results, challenging harvest schedules and contract situations left a small minority of growers with smaller than average yields sold.

Cultural Practices

Bud Break and then some!

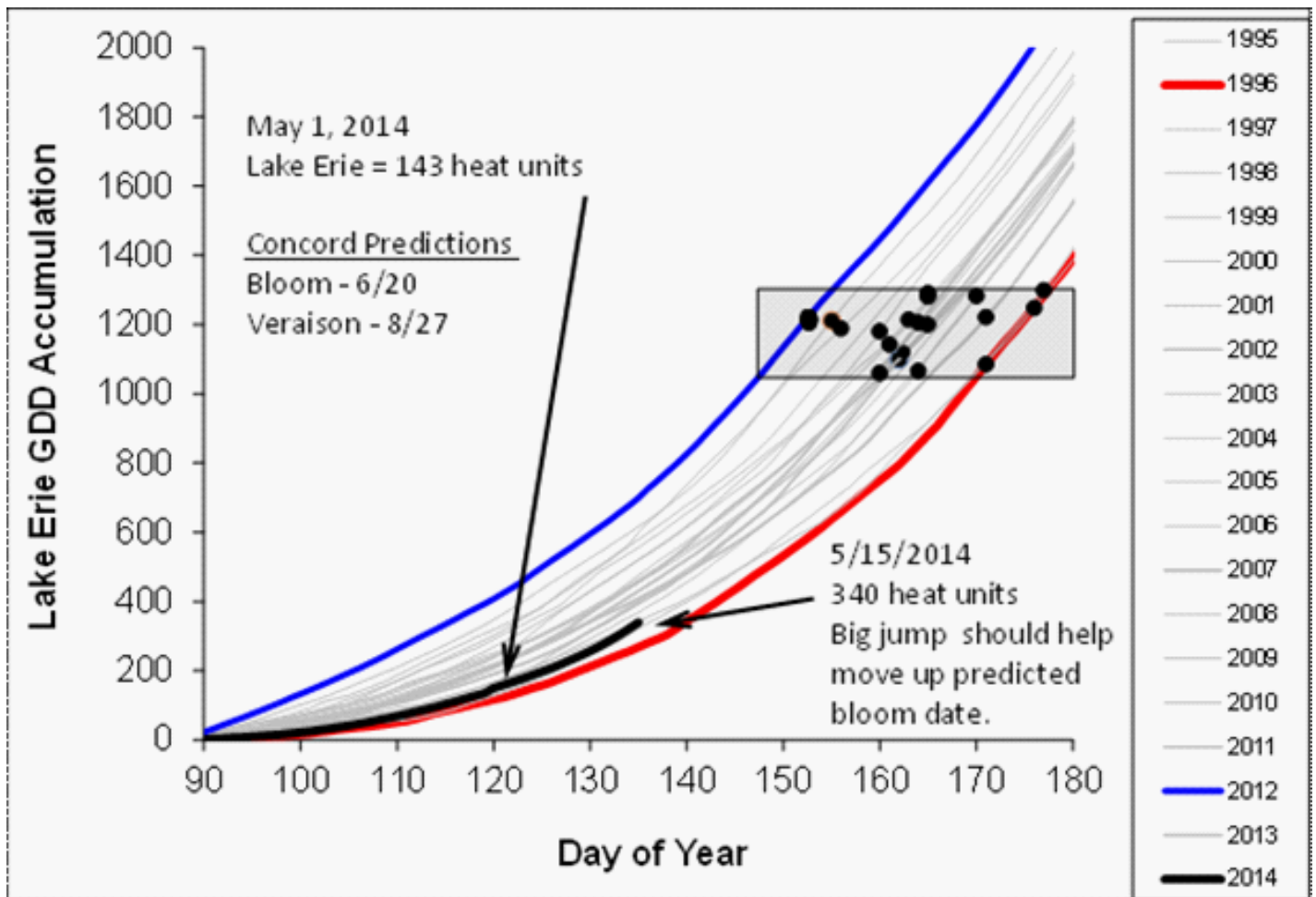
Luke Haggerty

Viticulture Extension Educator

Lake Erie Grape Program



We had a great week of weather for just about everything, but especially catching up on shoot development. Last week I reported we were about 18 days behind average for 10% pink, but with temperatures reaching the high 70's and low 80's for the past week things have been moving fast. Our Research Aide, Kelly Link, called Bud Break on Monday May 12th, at both the Portland and Fredonia sites. Looking at data going back to 1970 the average date for 50% bud break (half or more of leaf edge exposed) at Fredonia is May 4th. So as of Monday we are only 8 days behind average, and there is still plenty of time to continue catching up before bloom.



The above graph was developed by Dr. Terry Bates to show Lake Erie GDD accumulation. As you can see we had a nice jump in heat units, making the June 20th Bloom prediction more solid. Dr. Bates reports that if the trend continues then bloom would be 8 days late (June 22nd). However, when bud break is late, the time between bud break and bloom is usually shortened (i.e. we usually catch up a day or two). The opposite tends to happen if bud break is early. Therefore, Dr. Bates is comfortable sticking with predicting bloom roughly 6 days late at this point (June 20th).

IPM

Early Season Disease Management

Tim Weigle, NYSIPM, LERGP

According to NEWA, <http://newa.cornell.edu>, the recent rain events across the belt have provided the conditions necessary for Phomopsis, powdery mildew and black rot infection. For Concord and Niagara growers, the only disease of concern at this time would be Phomopsis. Research conducted by Wayne Wilcox has shown that early season sprays aimed at protecting the clusters can easily pay for themselves by reducing Phomopsis rachis infections resulting in the retention of berries on the cluster shoulders. If you have been following Luke's reports on bud mortality you have also read that he saw a correlation between the levels of disease on a vine with bud survivability. The cleaner the vine, the less bud damage was found.

While lagging behind Concords, we are starting to see bud movement in some of the vinifera and hybrids as well. Before making any fungicide applications to these blocks I would take the time to create a damage map. If damage is severe enough that the entire block will need to be replanted, the decision of whether to spray or not will be easy. The difficult decisions will come where damage is spread unevenly across a block where retraining, or replanting, will be required. The key is to get out early and determine the status of each block. Disease management is not something you want to skimp on if you are retaining vines, even if there will be limited crop. Skipping a year of controlling powdery mildew, downy mildew, black rot and Phomopsis can lead to years of playing catch up in trying to eradicate the various diseases. Early season sprays are typically some of the least expensive. As the season progresses continue to monitor your operation on a block-by-block basis to determine the presence or absence of a crop and tailor your fungicide program to the block.

You can get current and forecasted information on infection periods for a weather station near you by accessing the NEWA website <http://newa.cornell.edu>, choosing the station location and then choosing Grape Diseases in the Pest Forecasts box. Figure 1 (on the following page) shows the information provided by the models for the Portland station on May 15.

Grape Disease Infection Events for Portland

	Past	Past	Current	Grape Disease 5-Day Forecast					Forecast Details
	May 13	May 14	May 15	May 16	May 17	May 18	May 19	May 20	
Phomopsis	No	Yes	No	-	-	-	-	-	
Powdery Mildew	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	-	-	-	
Black Rot	No	Yes	No	-	-	-	-	-	

Phomopsis - calculates when weather conditions may allow spores to infect susceptible tissue.

Powdery Mildew - runs from bud break until early bloom; calculates when weather conditions may allow overwintered, primary spores (ascospores) to infect susceptible tissue.

Black Rot - calculates when weather conditions may allow spores to infect susceptible tissue.

Phenological stage: 3-5 inch shoot 

Choose the phenology stage for the grape variety of interest to display management messages. Concord grape phenology is estimated by the model from historical records for this variety.

News from the North East, PA Lab

Weather: Our growing degree day (gdd) total for the first two weeks of May at the North East lab is 125.2. Rainfall during that period totals 0.84", a bit below average, but with today's forecast, that may change. We could get 1-2" of additional rain and 24 hours of continuous wetness when the storm system reaches us this morning (May 15). And, with temperatures in the 50s and 60s, we could rack up a severe infection period for Phomopsis. Hopefully, last week's reminder in this regard was helpful in preparation for this event.

Phenology: We recorded 10% pink in Concord and Niagara right around May 8, with 50% budburst about May 11. Shoot growth in Concord here by the lake is currently (May 15) falling in the range of 1.5-3" in length with inflorescences exposed. Farther inland, shoots have reached that 3-5" range.

Disease: The current early stage of growth raises the potential for shoot and cluster tissue to accumulate infections of Phomopsis that can ultimately lead to crop loss in this season and in future seasons. Phomopsis cluster stem infections during the next few weeks, can lead to berry shelling or fruit rot later in the season. Fungicidal protection is most prudent in vineyard areas where inoculum concentrations have built up from previous seasons; look for scabby lesions on the first 2-3 internodes of year-old canes (from last year's infections in early May), and/or an abundance of old pruning stubs and older and dead wood (over the past several seasons), which is most abundant in hedged vineyards. Although you may save money with hedging over hand pruning, you stand a greater chance of losing crop to Phomopsis when early shoot growth takes place through wet conditions. Although the 1" shoot stage can be vulnerable to damage from this pathogen, the more critical stage is at 3-6" shoots, when more shoot and cluster tissue is exposed and is highly susceptible. Many vineyards are currently at this stage. The worst infection periods are generated by prolonged rainfall and wetting periods that commonly occur at this time of year (and are predicted for May 15-16). **Bottom line:** Temperatures and wetness predicted (Skybit) over the next 24 hours will generate a severe infection event for Phomopsis at a susceptible stage of shoot growth, and I have noticed that some growers have applied or are applying a spray to their vineyards. Mancozeb products can provide good protection, but Ziram and Captan are also options. To soften the blow, full label rates are not absolutely necessary at this early stage.



2014 LERGP Coffee Pot Locations



May 7th	10:00am	Ann & Martin Schulze 2030 Old Coomer Rd. Burt NY 14028
May 14th	10:00am	John Mason 8603 W. Lake Rd. Lake City PA 16428
May 21st	10:00am	Leo Hans 10929 W Perrysburg Rd. Perrysburg NY 14129
May 29th	10:00am	Bob & Dawn Betts 7365 E Rte 20. Westfield, NY 14787
June 4th	10:00am 2:00pm	Clover Hill Farms- 10401 Sidehill Rd. North East, PA 16428 Brant Town Hall- Back entrance 1294 Brant North Collins Rd Brant NY 14027
June 11th	10:00am 2:00pm	The Winery at Marjim Manor, 7171 East Lake Rd.Appleton NY 14008 Chris Ortolano-2053 Lake Rd. Silver Creek NY 14136
June 18th	10:00am 2:00pm	Dan Sprague- 12435 Versailles Plank Rd. Irving NY 14081 Evan Schiedel/Roy Orton -10646 W Main Rd. Ripley NY 14775
June 25th	10:00am 2:00pm	Tom Tower 759 Lockport Rd. Youngstown NY 14174 Jim Pratz- 9210 Lake Rd. North East PA 16428
July 2rd	10:00am	Peter Loretto- 10854 Versailles Plank Rd. North Collins NY 14111
July 9th	10:00am	Kirk Hutchinson- 4720 W Main Rd. Fredonia NY 14063
July 16th	10:00am	Earl & Irene Blakely 183 Versailles Rd. Irving NY 14081
July 23th	10:00am	Fred Luke- 1755 Cemetery Rd. North East PA 16428
July 30th	10:00am	Carl Vilardo- Walker Rd. Westfield NY 14787

Hops Production in the Lake Erie Region

When: Saturday, June 21, 2014

Time: 8 AM – 4 PM

Where: Brocton Central School

138 West Main Rd.

Brocton NY 14716

Cost: \$75 for members of the Northeast Hops Alliance, \$100.00 for non-members

Class size is limited; sign up early to ensure a spot in the class.

To register: Contact Kate at (716) 792-2800 x 201 or kjr45@cornell.edu

Participants will learn about commercial hops production; starting with classroom instruction on production practices from commercial hops growers from Pennsylvania and New York as well as Cornell University extension staff. The talks will provide an overview of hops production from before they are planted in the ground to the processing and marketing after harvest.

In the afternoon participants will head out to the CLEREL hop yard for a firsthand look at hop yard construction and a discussion with hops growers on the practices they use in their hop yards. A small scale harvester prototype will be available for viewing in the afternoon.

Topics to be covered

Planting a hop yard

Nutrition basics

Short trellis hops production

Processing – what to do with your hops after harvest

Marketing hops

Determining pricing for selling hops



Hops Production in the Lake Erie Region

Saturday, June 21, 2014
at
Brocton Central School
138 West Main Rd.
Brocton, NY 14716



\$100.00 General
\$75.00 NeHA Members
(you can join or renew your membership at: www.northeasthopalliance.org)

Name: _____
St. Address: _____
City, State, Zip _____
Phone Numbers: Home _____ cell _____
E-mail address: _____
of hills you have: _____

Names of additional registrants:	NeHA Member	Non-member
_____	\$75.00	\$100.00
_____	\$75.00	\$100.00
_____	\$75.00	\$100.00
_____	\$75.00	\$100.00
_____	\$75.00	\$100.00

Total number of registrants: _____ Total paid: _____

Registration questions:

Contact: Kate Robinson at 716-792-2800 ext 201 or e-mail: kjr45@cornell.edu

Mail form and payment made out to LERGP to:

LERGP, c/o Kate Robinson 6592 West Main Rd. Portland, NY 14769

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:

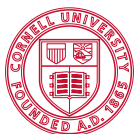
LERGP

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

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: May 22, 2014

Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Team Members:

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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.

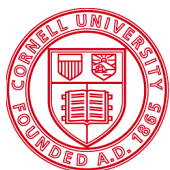
CCE does not endorse or recommend any specific product or service.

THE LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM at CLEREL

6592 West Main Road

Portland, NY 14769

716-792-2800



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Agricultural
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