



# The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



## Crop Update for May 29, 2014



### Upcoming Event Dates to put on your calendar:

*Please note the deadline for registration for each event.*

**June 4th, 2014- COFFEE POT MEETINGS:** *Note that there are 2 meetings on this date!*

10:00am- Clover Hill Farms 10401 Side Hill RD. North East, PA 16428

2:00pm- Brant Town Hall, 1294 Brant North Collins Rd. Brant, NY 14027

**June 12, 2014- TAP reimbursement information meeting with Mary Lynn Laver**

CLEREL from 4:00pm-5:00pm

*NOTE: This meeting was originally scheduled for June 10th- it has been moved to the 12th.*

**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](http://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

## Urea Prices: How To Guarantee Savings

*Kevin Martin, LERGP, Penn State University*

The price of Urea has fallen considerably since 2012. Bulk F.O.B prices in the Gulf have recently tested the \$300 barrier. Translating lower prices to a savings in production requires in field management. The short answer is, applying just a few weeks prior to bloom will save you just as much as the significant drop in price.

Traditional practices in bulk juice vineyards would have cost \$104 per acre in 2012. This year, those same practices would only cost \$50 per acre. Rather than relying on low natural gas prices, growers can take advantage of savings continually. As we've mentioned before, many growers still apply nitrogen fairly early. Late applications have the potential to substantially reduce the required pounds per acre.

Under the right circumstances application rates as low as 45 pounds of Urea per acre can reduce material costs to \$11 per acre this year. A more typical application would still cost less than \$25 per acre. This provides a great deal of protection from spikes in natural gas prices or bottlenecks in the supply chain. Learning to aggressively manage nitrogen use can keep Urea costs below \$50 per acre, despite price volatility.

For growers reducing application costs with a broadcast spreader, material costs may need to be 10% more than these guidelines. It can be challenging to broadcast urea once shoot growth is more than 20" long. Growers concerned about volatility should also consider applying 5 pounds of Urea in addition to the recommended amount. This additional application represents an over abundance of caution as it is possible that economically insignificant amounts of Urea could volatilize in a very unusual year. If the additional 5 pounds facilitates the adoption of later applications, despite likely being unnecessary, it would still represent a significant increase in efficiency.

To remain competitive in the global market, nitrogen cannot become a significant economic expense for the grape grower. Fortunately, the vine is a fairly efficient plant. This allows growers the opportunity to keep nitrogen costs fairly low. When prices do reach higher levels, it does become important to think beyond the simple steps of late and split applications. At that time cover crops producing nitrogen, rather than providing weed control or decreasing soil compaction, become more important to remain competitive.

# Cultural Practices

## Cluster Counts

Luke Haggerty

*Viticulture Extension Educator*

*Lake Erie Grape Program*

The ten day forecast looks favorable for conducting many vineyard tasks such as fertilizer applications (potash and lime) and putting on herbicide and pre-bloom sprays. Another task that should not be over looked is counting clusters. It's never too early to start predicting the year's crop especially with potential variability that may have been caused by last year's extremely heavy crop. Here at CLEREL, Kelly Link has been counting shoot numbers in preparation for a shoot thinning trial that Dr. Bates is conducting. On one of our mechanically pruned blocks at the Fredonia lab, Kelly counted ~150 shoots (buds) per vine with ~2.5 clusters per shoot which looks to be perfect for conducting a thinning experiment. Here in Portland on our 90 node block there is an estimated ~2.2 clusters per shoot.

As you know there are many factors that contribute to bud fruitfulness, but most of these factors are related to vine health and growing conditions of the previous year. In general, last year was a good growing year, but crop size also plays a role in bud fruitfulness. The Fredonia block mentioned was over cropped in 2012 and the Portland block was thinned down to 7 tons per acre, so we were expecting to see multiple clusters on shoots. Although this may not be the norm for the grape belt, it's important to know what you have hanging. Plus, a benefit of early counting is that the clusters are clearly visible and not covered by the canopy.



**Reminder:** A representative from the USDA will be here at CLEREL on June 12<sup>th</sup> (4:00 to 5:00pm) to explain the application process for the 'Tree Assistance Program' (TAP) which is designed to reimburse growers for **retraining** and or **replanting** vineyards that have been damaged by this winter's cold temperatures.



# IPM

## It's Orange Slime Time Again

Wendy McFadden-Smith, Tender Fruit & Grape IPM Specialist, OMAFRA

(Editor's note: I was speaking with a grower at yesterday's Coffee Pot meeting and he mentioned he was seeing orange slime associated with some of his pruning wounds. Thought this would be of interest to many of you.)

In the past week, you may have noticed orange slimy growth on bleeding pruning wounds in vineyards. It tends to be associated with wounds that have prolific bleeding. The wet soil conditions of this spring combined with some late pruning are most likely responsible for the excessive bleeding evident on the pruning wounds. The last time we saw this type of growth in many vineyards was 2011 and again before that 2004. The following is taken from a previous Tender Fruit Grape Vine article:



After a lot of culturing in Petri plates, we determined that a number of fungal species (*Fusarium acuminatum*, *Fusicolla merisomoides*, *Epicoccum nigrum* and *Aureobasidium* spp.) and an unidentified yeast were present in most of the samples.

*Epicoccum* and *Aureobasidium* are frequently found growing on the surface of plants and do not cause disease. In fact, they are commonly used as biological control agents for some plant diseases. Yeasts are commonly found on the surfaces of all grape tissues, including wood, leaves, and fruit. No *Fusarium* or *Fusicollo* species is known to cause disease in grape, so these fungi were most likely just present in the air and happened to land on the sap or were benignly present on the wood surface.

Why did these fungi grow so rapidly in the pruning wound sap? Three of the main requirements for fungal growth are water, a nutrient source and warm temperatures. The sap that flows from the pruning wounds contains water and carbohydrates (primarily sugar compounds). Any self-respecting fungus is going to capitalize on a ready source of food and grow; especially when the temperatures are mild. Thus, lots of food, good weather, and opportunistic fungi – voilà, orange slime!



Is it worthwhile to spray for these fungi? No. They don't do anything but live on dead plant material for the most part. They do not infect or compromise wood quality in any way and they also do not infect leaves or fruit during the growing season.

It seems that we find these organisms most frequently in springs following winters in which cold injury is prevalent so they may be “canaries in the coal mine” with respect to cold-injured vines. If a significant number of vines in your vineyard are showing orange slime, please email [wendy.mcfadden-smith@ontario.ca](mailto:wendy.mcfadden-smith@ontario.ca). I’d like to come out and flag those vines and see whether they show signs of cold injury through the growing season.

*(Editor’s note again: Wendy will probably make the trek down to your vineyards but if you are seeing significant amounts of orange slime get in touch with Luke Haggerty at [llh85@cornell.edu](mailto:llh85@cornell.edu) as he is interested in following up on this year’s cold damage)*

# News from the North East, PA Lab

Bryan Hed, Research Support Technologist in Plant Pathology

**Weather:** Our growing degree day (gdd) total for May at the North East lab is 249, about average. Total rainfall during May is at 3.65", again, about average. Predicted temperatures (Accuweather) will remain a bit below average for the rest of May, but gradually climb to above average during the first week in June.

**Phenology:** Grapevine shoots have been growing rapidly over the past week. For example, we applied a mancozeb spray last Tuesday (May 20) at 3-4" of shoot growth for control of early Phomopsis shoot and rachis infections. Concord shoots are now in the 8-12" range here by the lake (9 days and 1.56" rainfall later), which means that about two thirds of the shoot is unprotected (grown out since the spray), and the remaining third (which includes your inflorescences, your crop) probably has about a third of the original concentration of mancozeb residue left on it. Bottom line: time for another fungicide application.



**Disease:** At this stage of shoot growth on Concord, the most basal leaves and internodes of new shoots are closer to being fully expanded and are therefore more resistant to lesion development from diseases like Phomopsis. However, expanding leaves and internodes further along the shoot, as well as inflorescences, are very susceptible. Diseases like black rot can be a concern at this time, but are less important at this stage in vineyards that were kept clean of this disease last year. Downy mildew becomes active about now, making it necessary to control this disease at this time. Keep in mind that if you have heavily damaged wine varieties, you will need to protect the suckers you will be training up as replacement trunks. The inoculum for downy mildew comes from the soil in spring, and so young sucker growth is very susceptible to this disease, especially if there was downy mildew in the vineyard the previous year.

The weather in our region looks to be cooperating with the making of this next fungicide application, being mostly dry, with relatively low wind speeds over the next several days. However, rain is predicted for Monday of next week which may generate infection periods for all three diseases. Keep an eye on the weather prediction and get that next spray on before it rains again. Powdery mildew may be a concern at this time as well, especially on susceptible hybrids.

**Bud mortality assessments at the North East lab:**

In our wine grape variety block, we have collected some interesting numbers to compare bud cold hardiness of several wine varieties at the same location, under the exact same weather conditions. Not surprisingly, our four Minnesota hybrids were among the winners, ranging from 20-31% bud mortality. But the real winner was Chancellor, at 17% bud mortality: as good as or better than Concord, and one tough old hybrid! At the current stage of shoot growth, these varieties basically look as though this winter had little effect on them. Norton came in at 37 % bud mortality...not too shabby. Vidal, Noiret, and Chambourcin all suffered around 50% bud mortality, and look rough. NY 81 was the worst of the hybrids, at 71% bud mortality. The canopies of most Vitis vinifera varieties (Cab Franc, Gruner, Pinot Noir and Gris, Muscat Ottonel, Chardonnay, and Syrah), were mostly destroyed and, will likely require renewal from the graft up (with luck), or will need to be replanted. To my surprise, our Riesling look remarkably 'alive' with new shoots and a fair number of inflorescences. Therefore, among the vinifera at our site, Riesling appears to be the winner in terms of bud hardiness. Other observations at our site: Elvira is flourishing after last winter, Corot noir looks rough, and Cayuga has suffered severe bud damage. Some of these observations/comparisons may change as the season draws on and we begin to see vines collapsing from potential trunk damage and crown gall.



## 2014 LERGP Coffee Pot Locations



<b>May 7th</b>	10:00am	Ann & Martin Schulze 2030 Old Coomer Rd. Burt NY 14028
<b>May 14th</b>	10:00am	John Mason 8603 W. Lake Rd. Lake City PA 16428
<b>May 21st</b>	10:00am	Leo Hans 10929 W Perrysburg Rd. Perrysburg NY 14129
<b>May 28th</b>	10:00am	Bob & Dawn Betts 7365 E Rte 20. Westfield, NY 14787
<b>June 4th</b>	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
<b>June 11th</b>	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
<b>June 18th</b>	10:00am 2:00pm	Dan Sprague- 12435 Versailles Plank Rd. Irving NY 14081 Evan Schiedel/Roy Orton -10646 W Main Rd. Ripley NY 14775
<b>June 25th</b>	10:00am 2:00pm	Tom Tower 759 Lockport Rd. Youngstown NY 14174 Archer & Pratz Inc.- 9813 Lake Road, North East 16428
		 <u>2:00pm meeting is an updated address</u>
<b>July 2nd</b>	10:00am	Peter Loretto- 10854 Versailles Plank Rd. North Collins NY 14111
<b>July 9th</b>	10:00am	Kirk Hutchinson- 4720 W Main Rd. Fredonia NY 14063
<b>July 16th</b>	10:00am	Earl & Irene Blakely 183 Versailles Rd. Irving NY 14081
<b>July 23th</b>	10:00am	Fred Luke- 1755 Cemetery Rd. North East PA 16428
<b>July 30th</b>	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](mailto: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](http://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](mailto: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:

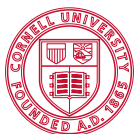
LERGP

716-792-2800 Ext 201

6592 West Main Rd.

Portland NY 14769

Attn: Katie



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## 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: June 5, 2014**



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

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

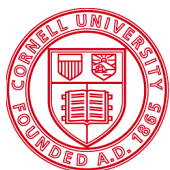
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THE LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM at CLEREL

6592 West Main Road

Portland, NY 14769

716-792-2800



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