



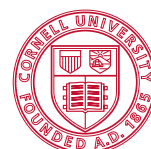
LERGP Crop Update

** October 8, 2015 **



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Cornell University

Crop Insurance Update:

October 28th

21 Brix Winery

7:00 PM

Please join us, LERGP and Rain and Hail LLC for an update on crop insurance on **October 28th at 7PM**. This crop insurance meeting will be hosted and sponsored by Walt Forshee, Rain and Hail LLC., and NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets. This education event is open to all interested in crop insurance. Coffee, desserts and wine tasting will follow after the meeting.

Changes were made to crop insurance in the last Farm Bill. With regulations finalized, it is time for growers to consider changes to their crop insurance policies. More than 70% of regional growers have crop insurance. Most of them have high levels of coverage. Growers now need to consider if these changes in policy warrant changes to their risk management plans.

Trends in bud break and bloom dates continue to expand areas subject to spring frost. Unusual winter low temperatures have hit parts of the region for two years in a row. Even growers with ten consecutive years without a disaster need to consider crop insurance. Thin price margins do not allow for growers to pass on government subsidized risk management plans.

Topics to be discussed include types and levels of coverage, unit division, perils insured against, and Yield Exclusion option that has the potential to increase yield guarantees. We will also discuss the implications of vine loss as the result of the winter damage we experienced last winter.

Presenters will include Kevin Martin, Associate Extension Educator with LERGP, Dave Stull, Lead Adjuster and Cheryl Lekstrom, Insurance Specialist, both with Rain and Hail LLC. This meeting will be held at 21 BRIX winery, 6654 West Main Road, Portland, NY at 7pm.

Cultural Practices

Luke Haggerty
Viticulture Extension Associate
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

Shelling

For most processors, the end of the week (Oct. 11) will mark the third full week of Concord harvest, and on most years, this is the mid-point. The second half of harvest is when we start to see more and more grapes on the ground every day. The occurrence of berries falling to the ground before they can be harvested is referred to as “shelling”. In most grape varieties shelling is not a problem. Unfortunately, it can be a problem for Concord later in the season.

There are multiple reasons for shelling, and most them are vine health related. It is common to see shelling in overcropped vineyards that cannot keep up with the nutrient demand. Low levels of potassium (potash) are often attributed to shelling. High levels of disease such as phomopsis can also result in late season shelling. Grape berry moth (GBM) infestations can cause severe shelling which can dramatically reduce yield.



Shelled berries can be perceived as a stress symptom, though there is very little that can be done this late in the season other than identify the reason for the problem. The best course of action is to harvest areas with heavy shelling as soon as possible.



Tim Weigle, NYSIPM, Cornell University,
LERGP Team Leader

Tim is on vacation, he will be back for the next Crop Update.

In the Vineyard

Andy Muza

Extension Educator, Erie County, PA Extension

In the Vineyard (10-8-15) – Andy Muza, Extension Educator, Penn State University

I have received reports from some growers that Grape Berry Moth injury levels were much higher in certain blocks than they expected. If you haven't been scouting late season for GBM then you may be surprised at the extent of injury that has occurred. Even if 1 insecticide application was applied for each generation, injury levels still may be alarming at high/severe risk sites.

In my opinion, a single insecticide application, especially for the third generation, is not supplying long enough protection to cover the egg laying period at high and severe risk sites. Factors that contribute to this problem include: population levels at each site, choice and longevity of insecticides used, timing of applications, and spray coverage.

What can be done now at these sites?

- Check blocks for GBM injury levels before harvesting.
- Keep records of which areas have problems.
- Determine if injury/rot levels are too high to harvest in sections of blocks. Instead of dumping berries from these areas on the vineyard floor during harvest, consider another option.
- Harvest infested areas and dump berries in a location away from vineyards. Ideally, berries should be buried or at least covered with soil to prevent GBM from emerging next season. This could be done in the down time between loads and before the block was scheduled for harvesting.

Considering the hectic pace of harvest and extra effort this will require, chances are slim that growers will choose this option. However, dropping infested berries in the vineyard only ensures that GBM population levels will remain high in the same areas again next season.

After harvest, examine your spray records in the blocks where GBM infestations were high. Develop a management strategy for next season by determining what changes need to be made (e.g., choice of insecticides, number of applications, spray timings).

Contact the LERGP Extension Team if you need assistance developing a GBM management plan.

Reference the photos on next page.

Shelling caused by GBM injury (right)



Botrytis on Concord berries with GBM injury (left)



Shelled berries with GBM injury (left)

GBM infested Concord cluster (right)



North East PA Update

Bryan Hed-Research Assistant
Lake Erie Regional Grape Research and Extension Center

Our September rainfall total was 5.31", well above average. We have accumulated 0.27" of rainfall in October so far (on the dry side; no complaints here). We had our first zero growing degree day on October 2 and accumulations have slowed quite a bit since the beginning of the month (just 32 gdds in October so far). Growing degree days now total 2676 since April 1. The short term forecast shows rain tonight and tomorrow (Friday, Oct 10), followed by a week of dry weather.

Reflecting on the abundant rainfall earlier this season, one could definitely say this has been the 'year of downy mildew'. Even on Concord, this disease could easily be found in pretty much every vineyard in the belt, and many Concord growers had to apply extra \$ to control this disease on their crop. I want to mention that where we allowed disease to proceed unchecked on Concord (unsprayed vines), we lost 10% of the crop (\$\$!!) to downy mildew (and another 64 and 9% to black rot, with and without mummies in the trellis, respectively) and now have a boatload of inoculum in the vineyard that could cause problems next season. So, don't regret spending a little more to protect your crop this year; there was plenty of potential for substantial loss and I think that the majority of growers did an excellent job of controlling downy and black rot on their fruit this year. However, I did notice from the number of visitors we received at the lab with infected berries in hand, that trying to spread your critical fruit protection sprays (the immediate pre-bloom and first post-bloom) by more than 14 days likely resulted in *some* crop loss this year, a loss that may have been preventable without any extra \$ spent. While we always try to stress that these two sprays should never be spread apart by more than 14 days (and to shoot for 10 days in a season like 2015), this year proved how critical this was.



LERGP Website Links of Interest:

Check out our new Facebook page!!

Cornell Lake Erie Research & Extension Laboratory Facebook page

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Cornell-Lake-Erie-Research-Extension-Laboratory/146971918664867>

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, registration, membership, and to view past and current Crop Updates and Newsletters.





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

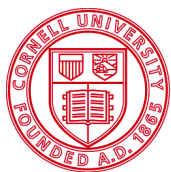
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