LERGP Crop Update May 5, 2016

Important dates:

May 11, 2016- Coffee Pot Meeting, 10:00am-Ann & Martin Schulze- 2030 Old Coomer Rd. Burt NY 14028

every Wednesday following: Coffee Pot meetings- see enclosed schedule

June 11, 2016- Hops Conference at CLEREL (see enclosed flyer for additional information)

August 2, 2016- Wine QualityWorkshop (rescheduled from April 13, 2016) at CLEREL

September 1, 2016- Cover Crop Conference at CLEREL

****Crop Updates will be circulated on a weekly basis beginning with this edition.****





The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University's heritage. We are a recognized employer and educator valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.



2016 Hops Production in the Lake Erie Region Conference

June 11, 2016

9 AM - 4 PM Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory Meeting Room and Hop Yards 6592 West Main Road, Portland, NY 14769

Featured Speakers

Brad Bergefurd- Ohio State University Margaret Kelly - NYS Ag & Markets Jimmy Walsh- Brewer, Five & 20 Spirits & Brewery Mario Mazza - Owner, Five & 20 Spirits & Brewery Stephan Schmidt - Schmidt Farms Justin & Chris Whipple - Whipple Brothers Farms Samuel Fuller - Empire State Development Kevin Martin - LERGP Penn State Tim Weigle - NYS IPM Program & LERGP

Becoming profitable with Hops Production

This workshop is designed to provide background and start up information related to hops production, as well as, offer information on the techniques that will help you to become profitable with hops production.

Topics will include choosing the right plants, site selection, trellis layout, and nutrition. Also covered will be how to work with a brewery to give them the hops they are looking for, and in what form.

There will be in-field opportunities to interact with speakers in the CLEREL hopyards.



Class size is limited to 80 each day, sign up early to reserve your spot







Registration:

\$75 per person

To Register:

Contact Kate at (716) 792-2800 x201 or kjr45@cornell.edu For credit cards please visit our website at: http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu

2016 LERGP Coffee Pot Schedule

May 4-10:00am Betts 7365 East Route 20, Westfield NY 14787 May 11-10:00am Ann & Martin Schulze-2030 Old Commer Rd. Burt NY 14028 May 18-10:00am John Mason 8603 W Lake Rd. Lake City PA 16423 May 25-10:00am Dan Sprague- 12435 Versailles Plank Rd. Irving NY 14081 3:00pm Peter Loretto-10854 Versailles Plank Rd. North Collins NY 14111 June 1-10:00am Phillip Baideme- 7935 Route 5, Westfield NY 14787 3:00pm Tom Meehl Cloverhill Farm 10401 Sidehill Rd North East PA 16428 June 8-10:00am Earl & Eileen Blakely 183 Versailles Rd. Irving NY 14081 3:00pm- Paul Bencal 2645 Albright Rd Ransomville NY 14131 June 15- 10:00am Leo Hans-10929 West Perrysburg Rd. Perrysburg NY 14129 3:00pm - Evan Schiedel/Roy Orton - 10646 West Main Rd. Ripley NY 14775 June 22-10:00am Archer Pratz 9210 Lake Rd North East PA 16428 3:00pm-Alicia Munch-761 Bradley Rd. Hanover NY 14136 June 29-10:00am Kirk Hutchinson-4720 West Main Rd. Fredonia NY 14063 3:00pm Fred Luke 1755 Cemetery Rd. North East PA 16428 July 6- 10:00am David C. Nichols Farm 1906 Ridge Rd. Lewiston NY 14092 July 13-10:00am Beckman Bros. 2386 Avis Dr. Harborcreek PA 16421 July 20-10:00am Brant Town Hall- 1294 Brant North Collins Rd. Brant NY 14027 July 27-10:00am Tom Tower 759 Lockport Rd. Youngstown NY 14174

Business Management

Input costs in 2016 Year to Date

As the lower grape juice prices that began three years ago continue to really start to impact grower finances, downward pressure on operating expenses has become a bit of a silver lining. It is not as though the Concord market is large enough to reduce demand for these commodities. Rather, the economic conditions that resulted in a decline in grape juice prices have continued to broaden their scope to economic areas that reduce input costs.

As commodities have fallen, industries heavily dependent on commodities saw improvements in profitability. Eventually, competition has pressured that sector of the economy to pass along reduced energy and materials pricing to users. In the near future, because some input costs are unsustainably low, I would expect volatility in prices whenever market news hints at reasons for demand uptick.

Declining energy prices, as we discussed in detail back in 2008 – 2010, are not a long-term deflationary force. As a result, declining input costs are sector specific. Fertilizer, imports, and fuel all get cheaper. Labor, equipment and parts pricing has continued to rise. Overall, when removing volatile factors, inflation has been very consistent at 1.8% over the last three years.

As a practical management strategy over the short term it is essential to focus on labor costs rather than equipment purchases and fuel efficiency. When weighing a practice that results in additional tractor passes through a vineyard, the benefits are steadily increasing if such passes result in a decrease in labor.

Tier 4 final tractor technology continues to evolve. Hardly an expert in such matters, I only know what I have observed. Tractor prices are rising quickly and the clean diesel technology, while finalized 2 years ago, was modified in some brands after VW's diesel controversy. The updated technology corresponded with 5% - 15% price hikes in MSRP. It seems rational to hope that waiting out the technology, where there is not an immediate need for new tractors, would be beneficial.

Despite the implementation of tier 4 final standards in specialty diesel engines, currency changes may justify the purchase of a grape harvester. Capitalizing on the benefits of currency swings do require a bit of luck. The current harvester should be fully owned and capital investment to minimize financial would need to be available. That said, if a harvester is in a 3-year plan, acceleration of that plan may be justified.

Cultural Practices

Luke Haggerty Viticulture Extension Associate Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

Phenology update and Frost Damage

Phenology: Despite the cool weather bud progression is moving right along. As expected, there is variation across the region. As part of our phenology project Ted Taft, has been collecting data on bud progression. The average for bud break is May 5th and although we have not declared bud yet it should happen soon. Bud break is called when 50% of the buds have an exposed leaf; on May 4th the Portland lab was at 15%. With warm weather in the forecast for this weekend bud break will be called before the next issue of the crop update.



Freeze/Frost Damage: I traveled across the majority of the belt last week looking for frost damage from the frost event on April 26/27th. I found severe (90%) damage in part of Cattaraugus, Erie and north eastern part of Chautauqua counties. Damage in this area **was not confined** to low spots or frost pockets and could be found vineyard wide.

As I move west, most areas (Sheridan to Westfield) were unharmed but I could find frost damage is low spots and frost pockets. Most of the damage in this area **was** confined to low spot and frost pockets. Vineyards west of Ripley



seemed to have escaped this frost event, but I urge all growers to check their vineyards.



Steely Beetle and Climbing Cutworm

As of this writing we are at 14% bud break in the CLEREL phenology block. Looking at the forecast it appears we will continue to be in the bud swell to 3-inch shoot growth stage for at least the near future, creating the conditions for a potentially banner year for steely beetle and climbing cutworm. You can start scouting for both of these pests at bud swell and it is recommended that you concentrate your efforts in areas of vineyards where these pests have been a problem in the past. Both steely beetle and climbing cutworm are considered to be secondary pests and they do not require routine insecticide applications each year.





Steely beetle is often found at the vineyard edges adjacent to brushy areas or woods. The steely beetle feeds directly on the bud, hollowing it out and destroying it. Scout the edges of vineyards where steely beetle has been a problem in the past and treat if damage reaches 2% bud damage or above for balanced pruned vines. However, the more buds that are left on the vines after pruning is completed the

higher the damage threshold could be raised. While both steely ould not be

beetle and climbing cutworm are secondary pests they should not be ignored as they have the ability to cause economic damage quickly. As shown in the photo, steely beetle can reduce bud numbers on vines to the point where it appears a freeze event has killed the vegetation (note that a few rows over from the edge the canopy is growing normally).

Climbing cutworm does its feeding at night and moves down into leaf litter or into areas of vegetation on the vineyard floor during the day. Therefore, vineyards with poor weed control last year should be targeted for scouting as this can dramatically improve the habitat for climbing cutworm. We have seen in the past that vineyards with weed growth up to the base of the vine are much more prone to



damage from climbing cutworm than are vineyards that have a weed free strip under the row. Climbing cutworm also prefer lighter, sandier soils. Scouting for climbing cutworm will involve looking for the distinct damage of the shoots being fed on and "cut" off the shoot. For balanced pruned vines a threshold of 2% bud damage has been used to trigger treatment against this pest. As with steely beetle, in those vineyards where more buds are available after pruning, a higher threshold should be used.

Early EBDC Sprays in Frost Damaged Vineyards

A question came up at the Coffee Pot meeting yesterday concerning application of early season (\sim 3-inch) EBDC sprays (Dithane, Manzate, Penncozeb, etc.) in vineyards affected by the spring frost. The discussion that followed provided the following guidelines; 1) the cost of an EBDC application is relatively inexpensive (around \$18/acre, including material, wear and tear on equipment and labor) so it does not make sense to skip this application in vineyards with a history of Phomopsis. In vineyards where Phomopsis has been held in check over the years, you could potentially skip the 3-inch application but with the understanding of the risk of allowing the development of infections that will provide inoculum for years to come.

Cost of Establishment and Production: Concord Grapes in the Lake Erie Region of New York

As part of the SCRI proposal, LERGP staff are working to create benchmark costs for the establishment and maintenance of Concords. We've completed our first roundtable discussion for hand pruned Concord operations. Small groups of growers discuss their operation and help researchers validate assumptions that are used to compile a benchmark budget. We appreciate the help of growers that already participated, as it involves a two-hour time investment.

As we compile the data, one thing that is really jumping out is the consistency between operations. We specifically selected larger hand-pruned Concord vineyards. In doing so, we have found the operations to be managed much more similarly than expected. As a result, we would like to see how these patterns change in more mechanized operations.

As we compile this data we would like to continue the gathering of data for different operation types. The two largest variables left to consider are farm size and pruning methods.

If you're interested in participating and you operate a farm greater than 90 acres and your operation preprunes that acreage, please fill out the survey below. Also, if you're interested in participating and you operate a farm that is less than 40 acres, please fill out the survey below. For our small farmers, the type of pruning does not matter. We'd be interested in hearing about your experiences either way. <u>http://goo.gl/</u> <u>forms/jLnsjA]Tp6</u>

At this time the focus of this cost survey is exclusive to native varieties. A cost survey of hybrids is already complete and published (thanks participants!). A cost survey of vinifera, specific to the Lake Erie region, is not yet practical because of the number of acres grown in the area. There is already a guide for the Finger Lakes. <u>https://dyson.cornell.edu/outreach/extension-bulletins</u>

2016 eNEWA Grape Project Subscription Sign-Up

Subscriber information	
Name	
Email address	
City	

Select Location(s) (circle as many as you like, or write in below)

Lake Erie Region	Sheridan	Lakemont
Appleton, North	Silver Creek	Lansing
Appleton, South	Versailles	Lodi (Lamoreaux)
Dunkirk	Finger Lakes Region	Lodi (Shalestone)
Erie	Aurora	Lodi (Standing Stone)
Harborcreek	Branchport	Penn Yan
North East Escarpment	Dresden (FLGP/FLCC)	Romulus (B. wood Grove)
North East Lab	Dundee (Weimer)	Romulus (Thirsty Owl)
Portland	Fayette 3 Brothers	Varick (Swedish Hill)
Portland Escarpment	Geneva	Watkins Glen
Portland Route 5	Geneva (Bejo)	Watkins Glen (Lakewood)
Ransomville	Hector	
Ripley	Interlaken (Airy Acres)	

Select eNEWA Delivery Times (write in times below) Delivery requests should be on the hour.

Mail to: Tim Weigle, CLEREL, 6592 West Main Road, Portland, NY or scan and email to thw4@cornell.edu

North East PA Update Byran Hed Research Technologist

Lake Erie Grape Research and Extension Center

Update from North East PA

Weather: We accumulated 2.01" of rainfall in April, about 1.25" shy of our average over the past 15 years. Last month was also the coldest April since 2000, accumulating just 29.4 growing degree days (gdds) by the lake (compared with 28.3 gdds in 2000). April was also colder than March, which was warmer than average this year. The first four days of May have delivered 1.52" of rainfall to our site; an effort to make up for last month (?) However, gdd accumulation is still proceeding at a crawl with zero gdds so far in May (and also zero gdds over the past 12 days!).

Phenology: Needless to say, grapevine development is slowly creeping forward, inching its way to bud break. Here by the lake, Concord/Niagara grapevine bud development was at 10% pink by about May 1, but we still have not reached what I would call 50% bud burst. A few buds are showing the corner of the first leaf peeling away, but the vast majority of buds here by the lake are still at late bud swell. According to research at Michigan State University (http://orchardkeeper.com/pdf/IllustratedSpringFrostDamageThresholds. pdf), the current stage of grapevine development should be able to withstand temperatures down to 21-25 and 10-16F before we see 10 and 90% bud kill, respectively. The best news is that low temperatures in the short term forecast look to be remaining well above freezing.

Diseases: This is somewhat of a repeat of what I wrote last week, but as is the case every year, the first disease we should prepare to control is Phomopsis. That first spray is applied at about 3-5" of shoot growth and its purpose is to protect the newly exposed inflorescences from this fungus, which can 'bite' off parts of the inflorescence, particularly the 'shoulder', leading to crop loss. This early shoot growth spray is also extremely important for preventing Phomopsis lesions on those first four internodes of new shoots (the ones most at risk at the time that they are expanding during early May). Lesions on these internodes cannot be pruned out later this fall/winter and so this spray can prevent or minimize overwintering lesion formation for next year's infections. Usually, by end of May, those internodes are fully expanded and are not susceptible to lesion development anymore. However, during early shoot growth, lengthy wetting periods are what we need to watch out for; those are the events that often produce the worst lesion development where overwintering inoculum loads are heavy.

Fungicides that contain mancozeb or ziram are the best choice at this time; both are effective. Cost is probably the determining factor, with mancozeb products generally being less expensive than ziram. You don't need to apply the full 4 lb per acre rate at this time either, making this spray rather inexpensive overall. Captan is also very effective on Phomopsis, but check with your processor for any restrictions on its use. Captan also carries a 48-96 hour reentry interval depending on formulation, compared to ziram (48 hours) and mancozeb (just 24 hours); a potential downside if you're struggling (like we are) to get your tying and other early season maintenance done this year. All three materials are strictly surface protectants, subject to wash off by rainfall. The need for this early spray can be determined by considering block history and the amount of overwintering inoculum present on wood. Vineyards that have been machine pruned, rows that border woods and streams, and low areas, are going to be at higher risk and will likely benefit most from this spray. You can scout vineyard blocks, looking for the characteristic 'dark, scabby' lesions on year-old canes, to get some idea of the risk you face. Lots of old wood (hence, machine pruned vineyards) is also a big red flag for high inoculum levels this spring. For this reason, vineyards (particularly Niagara and cold sensitive wine varieties) that have undergone drastic renewal over the past couple of years, may be at a reduced risk due to the lack of old, infested wood in the trellis. However, where old, dead/dying trunks were retained over the past year to act as support for new trunks during the renewal process, a fair level of Phomopsis may have already developed on the new trunks; only an examination of the bark on new trunks (scouting) will tell.

BOLD. POWERFUL. NARROW.

THE NEW T4F AND T4V SERIES TRACTORS COMBINE A BOLD NEW STYLE WITH MORE POWERFUL FEATURES IN A STREAMLINED DESIGN THAT'S IDEAL FOR NARROW ROWS.

Introducing the new face of narrow tractors from the world's leading supplier of narrow tractors: New T4F and T4V Series narrow tractors. A sleek new look, enhanced ergonomics, advanced driver safety and powerful new hydraulic options.

- Powerful, responsive and efficient 4 cylinder, 207 cu. In. engines up to 93 PTO hp
- Choice of open platform, standard Blue Cab[™] or new Blue Cab[™] 4 with cab level 4 protection (meets European Standards for filtration and pressurization EN 15695-2:2009 and EN 15695-1:2009)
- Large rear hitch lift capacity up to 4,400 lbs

AGRICULTURE

Larry Romance & Son Inc 2769 Rt 20 - Box 38 Sheridan, NY 14135 (716) 679-3366 www.LarryRomanceandson.com

© 2016 CNH Industrial America LLC. All rights reserved. New Holland is a trademark registered in the United States and many other countries, owned by or licensed to CNH Industrial N.V., its subsidiaries or affiliates.





LERGP Website Links of Interest:



Check out our new Facebook page!!

Cornell Lake Erie Research & Extension Laboratory Facebook page https://www.facebook.com/Cornell-Lake-Erie-Research-and-Extension-Laboratory-678754995584587/?fref=ts

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-cc_____



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.





Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Team Members:

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



Cornell University Cooperative Extension



College of Agricultural Sciences