LERGP Crop Update
June 2, 2016

Important dates:

June 8, 2016- Coffee Pot Meeting
10:00am- Earl & Irene Blakely, 183 Versailles Plank Rd. North Collins NY 14111
3:00pm- Paul Bencal, 2645 Albright Rd. Ransomville NY 14131

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.****

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

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 Filler - 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.

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

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

Lake Erie Hops At CLEREL

IPM

Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

2016
Hops Production in the Lake Erie Region Conference

June 11, 2016
9 AM - 4 PM
Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Center
6592 West Main Road, Portland, NY 14769

Registration Form

Farm/Business Name_____

Name of Attendee (s) _____

_____

_____

Street_____

City_____ State_____ Zip_____

Email_____ Phone_____

Saturday registration - $75 X number attending _____ = _____

Total $_____

Please make check payable to: Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

To register with a ***credit card***, please visit our website http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu

Questions? Contact Kate at (716) 792-2800 x202 or email at kjr45@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

Kevin Martin
Penn State University, LERGP,
Business Management Educator

Increasing Worker Productivity

In an effort to mitigate the negative impacts of the current labor market, one strategy is to increase worker productivity. The bulk of efficiency investment has concentrated on tractor and operator efficiency. While the economics of such investments often make sense, they do little to limit the exposure to a volatile labor supply.

Increasing the labor productivity of hand labor has not been done in the juice grape market. Some minimal pre-pruning to speed up hand pruning is an unusual practice. High quality pruning shears including air and electric assist have only been used in winery operations. Even shoot positioning, once a common practice, is now unusual. While the ability to increase productivity is real, the ability for growers to invest and share in the cost savings is limited. Growers would first need to build a relationship that more closely resembles a traditional employer/employee relationship.

Preliminary evidence shows that an H2A type of relationship, or even just any hourly pay will allow growers to realize some savings by making pruning times more efficient. Minimal pre-pruning with a very aggressive hand follow-up would require growers to reduce labor costs by 10% to break even. Realistically, average vines per acre would need to improve from 50 vines per hour to 60 vines per hour. We did measure efficiencies gains of 17% by shoot positioning, when cordons and trunks were relatively young. Pruning speed has not been compared in a research trial, but reports are that these gains in speed are realistic. H2A or hourly pruning rates could allow growers to capture these savings. Currently we estimate pruning costs at $14.50 to $16.00 per hour.

I fully expect renewal and tying labor to continue to increase in cost over the next three years. Labor laws involving over-time and minimum wage, whether directly or indirectly impacting agriculture, will adjust the expectations of laborers. Driving the ability of laborers to meet these expectations and demand higher prices will be an ongoing shortage of labor in the industry.

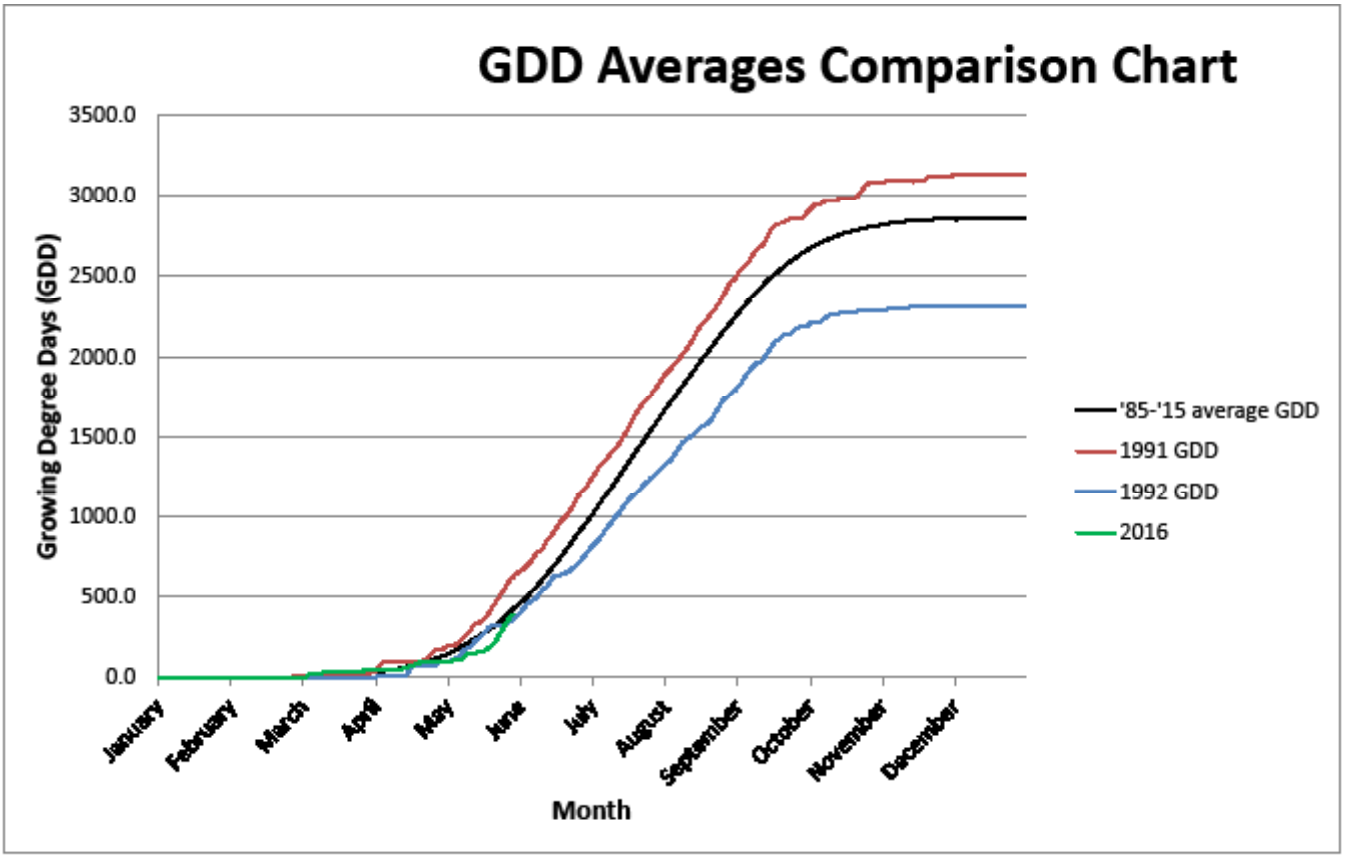
As a secondary priority, increasing labor productivity for tractor work should be focused first on harvest operations. Not only are investments a low hanging fruit from a cost perspective, but also the share of labor impacted is greatest. Labor efficiency for harvest begins with de-mogging units, continues through field gondolas, modern harvesters and bulk bins on trucks.

Cultural Practices

Luke Haggerty
Viticulture Extension Associate
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

Welcome Baby Eloise Jo Haggerty!!

Luke and Amy are the proud parents of a baby girl, born on Wednesday, May 25, 2016 at 10:28am. She weighs 8 lbs 3 oz and is 21 inches long.



The 30 year average GDD for June 1 is 425. On June 1, 2016 we are at 391.

IPM

Tim Weigle, NYSIPM, Cornell University,
LERGP Team Leader

IPM Update

Following are some of the IPM observations and questions the team has received over the past week, including some of the discussions at the Coffee Pot meetings yesterday.

Wild grape bloom can be found in a number of spots around the lower Lake Erie Grape Belt (I have not heard from Niagara County yet). Why is this important? Wild grape bloom is the biofix (starting point) for the Grape Berry Moth model on the NEWA website. While the GBM model provides an approximate date of wild grape bloom (developed using phenology and temperature data collected for years and years at the Fredonia Lab) the model allows you to put in the wild grape bloom date specific for your vineyard block(s) allowing the model to provide even better information to you.

What is bloom? Whether it is wild grape bloom or bloom in a Concord vineyard, the official version of bloom spoken by LERGP extension and research staff is when 50% of the florets are open. This is not to be confused with the definition of bloom (any floret open) used when determining when the use of EBDC fungicides should be stopped.

Why does the GBM model on NEWA use wild grape bloom when Concord bloom would be easier for the grower? The grape berry moth evolved with the wild grape vines so it makes sense that the development of the two would be fairly predictable. While we use the tried and true "Concord bloom will occur 10- to 14-days after wild grape bloom" that is too large a range to make assumptions for the model. And really, if you are diligent about looking for bloom in your Concord vineyard, how difficult is it to add monitoring wild grape bloom? Especially if the improved model information can help decrease grape berry moth damage, increasing yield and quality. With that being said, Dr. Greg Loeb is looking into the possibility of using Concord bloom as a biofix for the model. Stay tuned…

Should I spray before the rain or wait until it is done? You always want to have protection prior to a rain event. Also, once you start spraying (some start at 3- to 5-inches, some at 10- to 12-inches and some at the immediate prebloom - a lot depends on the disease history of the vineyard), you should maintain a 10- to 14-day schedule. The exact spray interval will depend on the amount of rainfall and infection periods since the previous spray. For example, shorten the interval with increased rain events, extend it during dry periods. While we stress the immediate prebloom spray as being important, it does not necessarily mean that it has to be applied as close to bloom as possible, especially if it extends your spray interval past 14 days. Just make sure the last application prior to bloom (typically an EBDC) has a powdery mildew material in the tank mix.
As always, if you have questions about implementing a vineyard IPM strategy in your operation, please give me a call or send me an email at thw4@cornell.edu

North East PA Update

Byran Hed
Research Technologist
Lake Erie Grape Research
and Extension Center

Weather: At our site, we recorded 2.13" rainfall in May, well below our 20 year average of 3.68" for the month. To complement the dryness, the last week in May saw a wild jump in heat accumulation (165 gdds) that pushed us up to dead even with average by the end of the month. In fact, we accumulated almost two thirds (62%) of our gdds for the month during that last week; so much for my prediction that we would finish below average in heat. With that heat of course, came a massive growth spurt and from what I'm hearing, the crop looks good overall as we anticipate bloom soon. We have seen some rainfall this morning (June 2) with possibly more on the way later today. According to Accuweather, thunderstorms will end later this evening with a possibility of more rain Saturday night into Sunday.

Phenology: At our location, average date for start of bloom in Concord is about June 11. As last week's heat pushed development along to more average (?), I'm guessing we'll see bloom begin here around the end of next week.

Diseases: Today's rain will likely generate infection periods for all major diseases (powdery and downy mildew, black rot, and Phomopsis cane and leaf spot). However, last week's phenomenal growth spurt has pushed shoot internodes and leaves at nodes1-3 (maybe even 4?) to full expansion, making today's rainfall much less of a concern for lesion development of Phomopsis and black rot at those nodes/internodes. With the significant lack of infection periods earlier in May, cleaner canes will go into winter dormancy later this fall with less potential for inoculum production next spring. On the other hand, inflorescences will be a concern for a long time to come. The lack of rainfall in May has left sources of overwintering inoculum of Phomopsis and black rot, largely untapped. This means that the period of time that overwintering spore sources can continue to release inoculum, will extend later into the season. For example, in an average year of spring rainfall, we generally see Phomopsis spore sources 'milked out' by around early July or so. Grape clusters are still susceptible at that time, but we tend to see little more infection occur simply because there are few spores left to cause infections. This year's lack of rainfall early *could* change that (it will also be affected by rainfall in June) and we may find ourselves having to extend our spray protection programs for these diseases farther into the post bloom period.

Spring rains at 5-6 leaf stage (NOW) will awaken downy mildew from the vineyard floor and initiate the first primary infection cycles. If you had lots of downy mildew leaf infections last year (many vineyards did) you will need to be especially vigilant about scouting for this disease this year and keeping it well under control; with the abundance of overwintering inoculum, the potential for epidemic development is greater than usual. However, it will still depend heavily on the weather; downy mildew has a very strict requirement for rainfall/wet plant surfaces.

Powdery mildew primary infection periods require rainfall of at least 0.1" with temperatures above 50F. With just two powdery mildew primary infection periods so far this year (back on May 15 and today), powdery mildew epidemic development should be a bit behind average this year, at least at the outset.

With all this said, plan carefully for that immediate pre-bloom spray: use your best materials, full rates, good coverage (every row!), yadda, yadda, yadda. And don't allow more than 14 days to transpire between the immediate pre and post bloom sprays. There's a beautiful crop out there and these two sprays are the most important disease management sprays all year; don't cheat on these two sprays.

2016 eNEWA Grape Project Subscription Sign-Up

Subscriber information

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

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Lake Erie Region	**Sheridan**	**Lakemont**
Appleton, North	**Silver Creek**	**Lansing**
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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)**	

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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.

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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

THE LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM at CLEREL
6592 West Main Road
Portland, NY 14769
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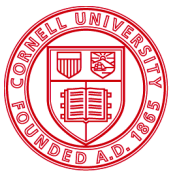

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