

LERGP Crop Update

September 29, 2016



Harvest Season is upon us.
Happy and safe harvesting to all of our growers!



The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



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Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Erie County

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

September 2016

Contact: Megan Burley, Farm Business Management Educator

Hoptoberfest 2016

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County (CCE) is offering a workshop on October 20th for individuals who are interested in learning more about growing hops.

East Aurora, NY. Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County will host the 3rd annual Hoptoberfest, a growing hops workshop. This year's workshop will be taught by regional Cornell Specialists and experienced Erie County growers and brewers. This workshop will assist individuals in learning how to grow hops commercially.

In July 2012, Governor Cuomo signed legislation to support and strengthen New York's craft breweries with the goal of increasing demand for locally grown products as well as expanding economic development and promoting tourism by showcasing exceptional food and beverage products through the Taste NY initiative. Under the new law, in order to receive a Farm Brewery License in New York State, the beer must be made primarily from locally grown farm products; 20% local by 2018, 60% local by 2023 and after 2024, 90% of the hops and other ingredients used must be grown or produced in New York.

To help with this initiative, Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County has continued to offer Hoptoberfest the past three years. Hoptoberfest 2016 will begin at the Roycroft Printshop (formerly CCE Erie), parking lot with participants loading a bus to travel to Koester Hops in Eden, NY. The Koester's, previous Hoptoberfest alumni, will give participants an overview and lead a discussion about their successes and challenges as hops farmers and their expanding hops acreage. Following the tour and discussion at Koester's, the group will travel to Big Ditch Brewing Company in Buffalo, NY. Matt Kahn, partner in Big Ditch Brewing Company, will describe their new brew, a NYS Pale Ale, which will be made with local ingredients grown by Erie County farmers. He will also discuss what kind of product he and other brewers look for when purchasing brew products. To complete the evening, Tim Weigle, IPM specialist for the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program, will give a presentation about hops Integrated Pest Management (IPM).

The cost to attend is \$55 per person, and if enrolled in the CCE Erie Agriculture Program the cost is \$50 per person. The cost covers bus travel and appetizers at Big Ditch Brewing. Alcohol is available for purchase only by participants at Big Ditch Brewing Company.. For more information and to register please go to:

<http://erie.cce.cornell.edu/events/2016/10/20/hoptoberfest-2016>

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Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.

October 20, 2016

Register Online at:
erie.cce.cornell.edu

To RSVP or for Questions:

Contact Megan Burley at
716-652-5400 x138 or
msb347@cornell.edu
by Monday, October 17, 2016.
Cash or check at the door.

Hoptoberfest

Hops & Brewery Grains
Workshop
2016



A program of Cornell Cooperative Extension of Erie County



October 20th Agenda

- 3:00pm: **Registration**
- 3:30pm: **Depart for Koester Hops:** Meet the Koester's, Farm Tour, Hops Harvester (Hop Yard Services), Discussion on successes and challenges of a beginning hops grower
- 4:00pm: **Arrive At Koester Hops**
- 5:15pm: **Depart for Big Ditch Brewing Company**
- 5:45pm: **Arrive at Big Ditch Brewing Company; Appetizers and Brews**
- 6:15pm: **Tim Weigle, LERGP; Hops IPM**
- 6:45pm: **Matt Kahn, Big Ditch Brewing Company; NYS Pale Ale, Purchasing hops in NYS**
- 7:15pm: **Option for Brewery Tour/Grower Brewer Meet and Greet; only 15 people can take a tour at a time**



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Business Management

Kevin Martin, Penn State University, LERGP, Business Management Educator

Federal Programming Update

Chautauqua County had a disaster declared due to the summer drought. This could be of interest to growers looking for additional low cost credit. Subsidized loan programs are the primary tool FSA uses to assist growers through periods of disaster.

Crop insurance programs are evolving less quickly than they were between 2014 and 2016. Changes in 2017 will be publicized throughout the next year as grant funding should continue to make educational programming possible. Due to the pace of change between 2014 and 2016 a significant number of growers still do not have all the information required to make informed decisions about their crop insurance. In fact, I don't have quite as much information as I would like. Before harvest of 2017 I expect to have more, so stay tuned.

As far as "disasters" are concerned 2016 does not look like a disaster to me. Despite that, the generous and various definitions of disasters afforded to agriculture will allow growers to use crop insurance on the 2016 crop as well as (potentially) FSA programs.

For the regional industry as a whole, brix is still accumulating faster than normal. Berry size accumulation, on many sites, continues to outpace averages. As brix surpass normal averages and berry size begins to approach average, payments and yields continue to improve and resemble an average to above average year for more and more of the industry.

Despite isolated disasters, most growers will do as well as financially expected given the current price climate.

Cultural Practices

Luke Haggerty, Viticulture Extension Associate, Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

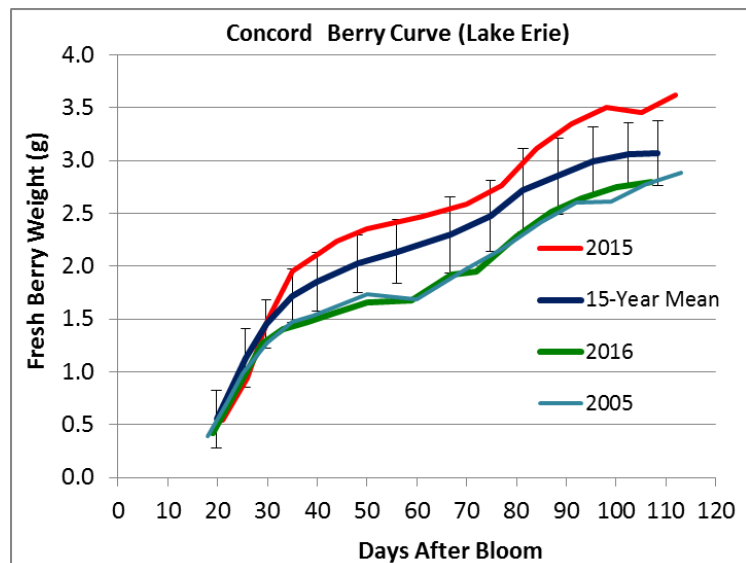
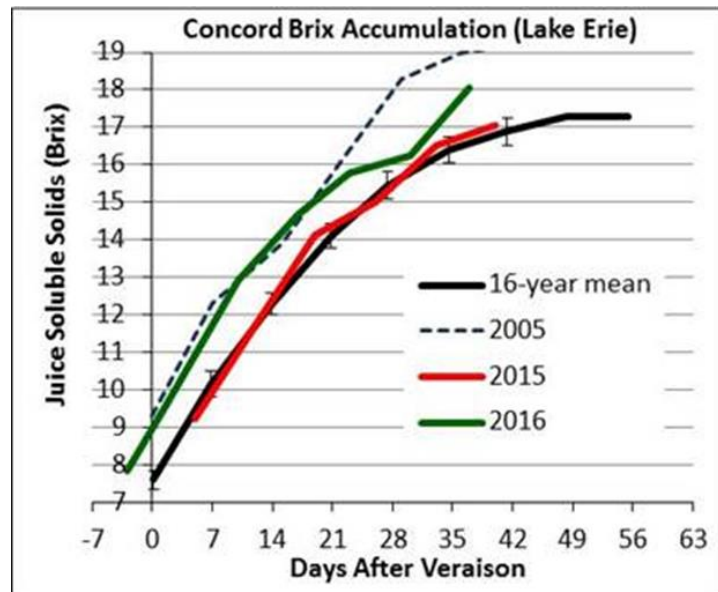
Harvest Update

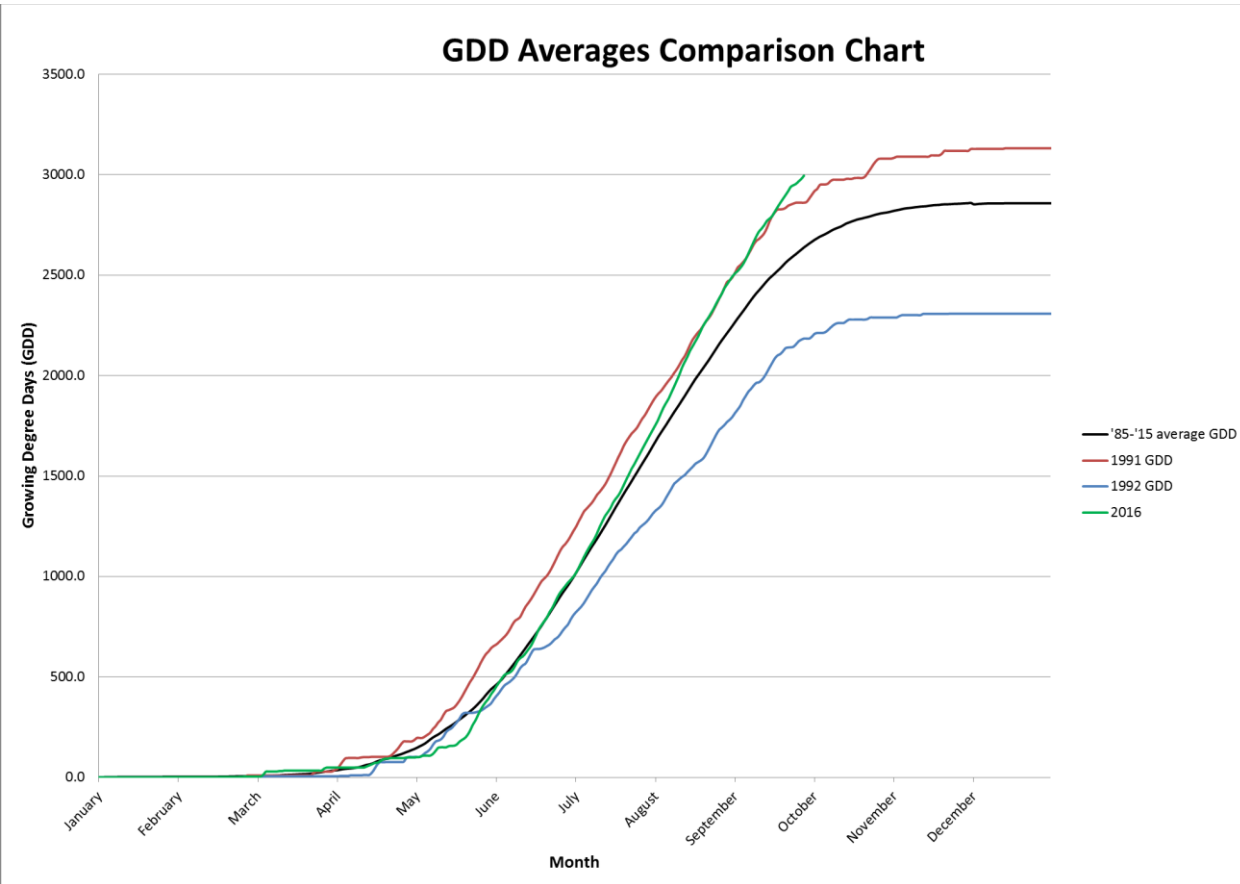
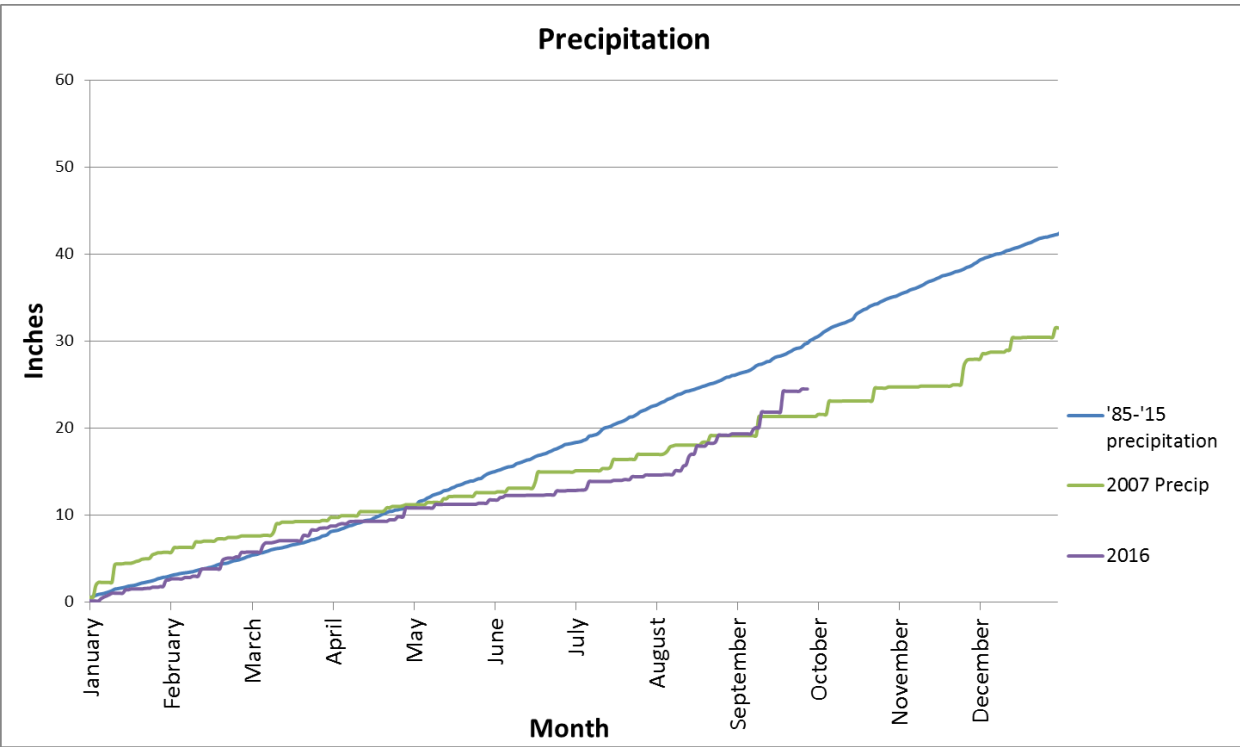
The weather in the Lake Erie region shifted from a very long stretch of warm sunny days to cool wet conditions. The change in weather has not slowed sugar accumulation as we have seen another relatively large jump this week. Finding Concord grapes that meet the minimum 15°brix standard has been easy for most growers.

Going into the second week of Concord harvest, we are seeing sugar levels normally found at the end of the season. The 'berry curve' shows this week's samples were at 18 brix and are expected to plateau next week. Here at CLEREL the Concord harvest is underway as we are picking our first load of the year.

Sampling data for the cover crop trial was collected this week and results showed a large range of brix and berry size between the 27 Concord plots. The lowest brix sample was 15.3 and the highest 18.8. Regardless of the variation, over all, the Concord brix averages are looking high. Area processors are reporting averages in the mid to upper 15°brix to low 16°brix range.

Berry Curve: Recent rains have contributed to another jump in berry size. The increase last week has helped close the gap on the size deficit I have been reporting on since veraison. My early reports have put berry size ~20% below average. Currently we are less than **10% below average**. Again, we are still tracking very close to 2005.





IPM

Tim Weigle, NYSIPM, Cornell University, LERGP Team Leader



The Worker Protection Standard Has Been Revised – Are You Ready?

EPA is implementing stronger protections for the nation's two million agricultural workers and their families working on farms, forests, nurseries and greenhouses. These revisions to the 1992 Agricultural Worker Protection Standard will afford farmworkers similar health protections that are already afforded to workers in other industries. The revisions will take effect on January 2, 2017.

Word on the street is, unlike during the initial rollout of the WPS, there will not be a year of educational programming to give growers every opportunity to be in compliance.

In order to provide you with the information you need to be in compliance with the new WPS, the NYS DEC Pest Management Staff will be providing training on the new Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Worker Protection Standard. The new WPS provides occupational protections from pesticide exposure for agricultural exposure. This training is for those who use or supervise the use of pesticides on farms.

The training will take place in the CLEREL Meeting Room, 6592 West Main Road, Portland, NY 14769 on October 25 with registration beginning at 9:30 AM. The training will be from 10 AM until noon. Two recertification credits will be available in categories 1a, 1d, 10, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25.

Make sure you save the date on your calendar and while the training is free, we ask that you register for the event by going to our website <https://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/> and check under Upcoming Events in the lower right hand corner, or give Kate a call at (716) 792-2800.

In the Vineyards, PA

Andy Muza, County Extension Educator, Penn State, LERGP

In the Vineyard

Yesterday I conducted a final check of Concord blocks for insect problems before harvest. Insect problems that growers may find if they scout blocks before harvest include grape berry moth and grape leafhopper.

Grape Berry Moth – At Severe Risk sites, as expected, the number of clusters with GBM injury was high but the number of berries injured/cluster differed depending on efficacy of the insecticide spray program (Figure 1).



Figure 1. Shelling of Concord berries caused by GBM injury

At High Risk sites cluster and berry injury levels were more variable among sites examined. Some sites had higher injury levels than I expected while others appeared to have much lower injury levels than in previous seasons. Cluster samples were taken and will be examined to determine actual injury levels at these sites.

Check High Risk sites for GBM injury levels before harvesting.

- Determine if injury/rot levels are too severe in sections of blocks to potentially result in load rejections.
- Instead of dumping berries from these areas on the vineyard floor during harvest as often occurs, consider harvesting infested areas now and dumping 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).

Remember, dropping infested berries in the vineyard only ensures that GBM population levels will remain high in the same areas again next season.

Grape Leafhopper – I have heard scattered reports from growers concerning heavy leaf hopper infestations. Considering the hot, dry season I expected to find higher population levels in vineyards than in previous seasons. However, most blocks checked yesterday had low – moderate levels of GLH leaf feeding injury. At one site high populations of adults were present and stippling on leaves from feeding was high (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Grape leafhopper feeding injury on Concord

North East, PA Update

Bryan Hed, Research Technologist, Lake Erie Grape Research and Extension Center

Weather: We have recorded 4.92" rainfall so far in September at our site (above our September average of about 4.3"), and there is more to come today and tomorrow. Growing degree day accumulations since April 1 at our site are 2827, also well ahead of average. Growing degree day accumulation in September is already almost a hundred gdds ahead of the average for the month (currently at 517), making this one of the warmest Septembers in at least the past 15 years or so. I think we will barely top last September (535 gdds) but we will not top 560 gdds recorded in 2000. The short term forecast predicts that temperatures will hover right around average for this time of year (mid to upper 60s for the highs, upper 50s for lows), with chance of rain every day for the next several days.



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Cover Crop and Soil Health Workshop and Tour 11/4/16

- | | |
|--|---------------------|
| • Registration at Big Flats Community Building
@ Town of Big Flats Municipal Campus | 9:30 am – 10:00 am |
| • Speakers at Big Flats Community Building | 10:00 am – 12:15 pm |
| • Lunch | 12:15 pm – 1:15 pm |
| • Speakers (Cont.) at Big Flats Community Building | 1:15 pm – 1:45 pm |
| • Travel to Big Flats PMC | 1:45 pm – 2:00 pm |
| • Tour of Cover Crop Plots Big Flats PMC | 2:00 pm – 3:30 pm |

Bryan Emmett- Cornell University, Horticulture Section, Graduate Student in Laurie Drinkwater's lab, *Peering into the black box: the effects of plant genotype and agricultural management on the soil microbial community*

Quirine Ketterings- Professor, and **Sarah Lyons**, Graduate Student, Cornell University Dept. of Animal Science, Nutrient Management Spear Program; *Dilemmas and Solutions for Planting and Harvesting Winter Cereals Grown as Double Crops in Corn Silage or Sorghum Rotations.*

Heather Karsten- Penn. State University Dept. of Plant Science, Associate Professor of Crop Production/Ecology; *Comparing Red clover, and Hairy Vetch/Triticale mixture as green manures between winter wheat and corn: yields, weed control and economics.*

Sjoerd Duiker- Penn. State University Dept. of Plant Science, Associate Professor of Soil Management and Applied Soil Physics; *The utilization of annual forage species for grazing within cropping systems and their impact on soil health.*

Lunch (12:15 - 1:15)

Paul Salon- USDA-NRCS Soil Health Division; NE Region Soil Health Specialist. *The demonstration of cover crop calculator for systematic approach for developing cover crop mixes.*

Travel to the Big Flats Plant Materials Center (1:45 - 2:00)

Shawna Clark - (2:00 - 3:30) - USDA-NRCS, Plant Materials Center Manager, *National Adaptability Trial on Cover Crop Cultivars*; and **Paul Salon** NE Region Soil Health Specialist- *Tour of cover crop demonstration plots at Big Flats PMC, which includes a planting demo (species, varieties or mixes); some seeded at several seeding dates. Red clover seeded into corn at time of planting crop. Red clover seeded into cultivated corn. Corn seeded into rolled rye.*

****For more information and to register, click on the link below or copy and paste the URL**

<https://goo.gl/forms/LHr8KjjUnGwNNQtD2>

**For additional information contact paul.salon@ny.usda.gov or by calling 607-562-8404, ext. 103.

This is a field tour let us know if you have require any special accommodations.

Please bring \$10.00 to cover the cost of lunch, exact change would be appreciated.

Certified Crop Advisor and NY DEC pesticide credits applied for.

Directions to: Big Flats Community Building (476 Maple Street Big Flats, NY 14814):

Take Route 17 (I 86) to Exit 49 (from west make right off ramp, from east make left). At "T" make left. At the 4-way stop, continue straight about 100 yds. On right hand side, you will see a **sign Town of Big Flats Municipal Campus Community Building**.

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LERGP Website Links of Interest:



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

SCRI project web-site:
<https://www.efficientvineyard.com/>

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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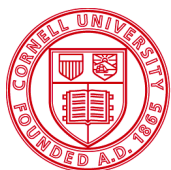
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