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.
Registration for LERGP has been underway for a few months but I am still missing some enrollments. Please don’t leave us, we have another great year of programming planned and want to share it with you!

I have included a link to a printable form to mail in and a link to enroll on-line. If you have questions about the enrollment process, you can call the CCE office in Jamestown at 716-664-9502.

Link for on-line enrollment- can pay with a credit card
http://chautauqua.cce.cornell.edu/agriculture/agriculture-program-subscription

Link for printable mail in form:
http://chautauqua.cce.cornell.edu/resources/agriculture-program-subscription-2018

Other dates of interest:

- **Thursday, February 15- 10:00am- Reporting Session for Projects and Proposals**  
  **Location:** CLEREL

- **Wednesday, March 14, 2018- LERGP Winter Grower Conference**  
  **William’s Center, SUNY Fredonia**

- **Wednesday, March 28, 2018-Core Pesticide Training and License test-see info in Crop Update**  
  **Location:** CLEREL
2018
Winter Grape Grower Conference
Wednesday, March 14, 2018
William's Center-SUNY Fredonia Campus
8:00am-4:00pm

Use the printable registration form on page 4 or

Register On-line!
https://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/event_preregistration.php?event=335

What is included:
**Valuable information
**Vendor Trade Show
**Giveaways and drawings for prizes
**Great company and food
2018 Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Growers’ Conference
March 14, 2018
Williams Center
SUNY at Fredonia Campus

6:30 AM  Tradeshow set up begins
7:00 AM  Registration and Tradeshow open
7:50 AM  Welcome
8:00 - 9:00 AM  Ensuring Vine/Crop Load Balance
   Terry Bates, LERGP, Cornell University
9:00 – 9:30 AM  Climate Influences on Concord Grape Phenology, Berry Weight and Berry Composition
   Golnaz Badr, LERGP, Cornell University
9:30 – 10:00 AM  Change Your Name, Make More Money.
   Kevin Martin, LERGP, Penn State University
10:00 – 10:30 AM  Break
10:30 – 11:00 AM  Update on Changes in the Worker Protection Standard Regulations
   Michael Nierenberg, NYS Department of Environmental Conservation
11:00 – 11:30 AM  Technology Adoption and Outreach – The Efficient Vineyard Project
   Tim Weigle, NYS IPM Program/LERGP, Cornell University
11:30 – Noon  Why Were My Leaves Black?
   Andy Muza, LERGP, Penn State University
Noon- 1:30 PM  Lunch and Visit Tradeshow

Breakout sessions held from 1:30 – 2:30 PM and 2:45 to 3:45 PM

Breakout Session 1  Integrated Pest Management
1:30 – 2:00 PM  Disease Management Update
   Bryan Hed, LERGP, Penn State University
2:00 – 2:30 PM  Respirator Fit Training and Other Requirements of WPS for Vineyard Owners
   Anna Meyerhoff, New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health
2:30 – 2:45 PM  Break
2:45 – 3:15 PM  Overview of Grape Insect Pests
   Jody Timer, Penn State University
3:15 – 3:45 PM  NEWA – Where We Are and Where We Are Heading
   Dan Olmstead, NYS IPM Program, Cornell University

Breakout Session 2  Variable Rate Management/Efficient Vineyard
1:30 – 2:30 PM  Topic and Speaker(s) to be determined
2:45 – 3:45 PM  Topic and Speaker(s) to be determined
3:45 PM  Adjourn
LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM
2018 GRAPE GROWERS’ CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM
SUNY Fredonia Williams Center
Wednesday, March 14, 2018
Deadline for registration is Friday, March 2, 2018.

Name (1st attendee) ____________________________________________ $__________

Farm Name _______________________________________________________

Address, City, State, Zip Code _______________________________________

Phone__________________________________ E-mail__________________________________

Are you enrolled in Lake Erie Regional Grape Program (LERGP)? Yes_____ No_____

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>REGISTRATION FEES</th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>LERGP Member 1st attendee</td>
<td>$ 50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Additional attendee on same farm</td>
<td>$ 40.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-member</td>
<td>$100.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Additional Attendees:

| $ | $ | $ | $ | $ |

*Please add a $25.00 late fee for each reservation made after March 2, 2018

TOTAL $_______

Please make check payable to **LERGP (Lake Erie Regional Grape Program)** and mail to:
Kate Robinson
LERGP
6592 W Main Rd
Portland NY 14769

Name ______________________________ NY DEC/PA PDA NUMBER________________________

Name ______________________________ NY DEC/PA PDA NUMBER________________________

Name ______________________________ NY DEC/PA PDA NUMBER________________________

Date Ck. Rec’d | Amount

Call Kate at 716-792-2800 ext 201 with any questions.
FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
News from the New York State Soil Health Workgroup
January 12th, 2018
Contact Info: Cedric Mason, (607) 255-8641, cwm77@cornell.edu

Soil Health Researchers Launch Farmer Survey in New York State
Study Will Analyze Economic and Environmental Benefits of Cover Crops and Other Farm Practices

[Ithaca, NY] A state-wide survey of New York farmers is underway, with the aim of highlighting economic costs and benefits associated with maintaining and improving agricultural soil health. The survey, which will examine the agricultural practices of using cover crops and reduced tillage, is being conducted by the New York State Soil Health Workgroup and funded by NYS department of Ag and Markets.

The New York State Soil Health Workgroup is a network of researchers, practitioners, and policy makers working to keep the state’s agricultural soils healthy and productive in the future. As part of these efforts, the group has recently launched a survey to explore farm practices that impact soil health, productivity, and farm profits. The survey is currently underway and will run until March 10th, 2018. The survey questionnaire can be completed by New York State farmers through an online link at tinyurl.com/NYsoilsurvey. A paper form of the questionnaire is also available at the Soil Health Group’s website (https://blogs.cornell.edu/soilhealthinitiative/) which can be printed and returned to the researchers by mail.

“Soil health offers a lot of win-win solutions” said David Wolfe, a professor who studies soil and water management at Cornell University. Our efforts to improve soil health are “directly affecting farmers and healthy food for all of us, but also all kinds of environmental issues: erosion, water quality, food security and climate change challenges. They’re all part of this”. New York State contains over 7 million acres of active farmland that are used to produce a wide variety of agricultural crops including apples, grapes, vegetables, corn, and soybeans. While agricultural soils are crucial to the state’s farms, they also provide other benefits to society such as protection of water resources and reduction of atmospheric carbon dioxide (a greenhouse gas). However, these soils suffer from compaction and loss of organic matter, and generally the health of these soils has degraded over time as a result of intensive use.

The New York State Soil Health Workgroup is looking for ways to improve and promote on-farm practices such as cover crops that bolster soil health. One of the group’s principal investigators is Matt Ryan, who conducts research on sustainable cropping systems. “Cover crops can do a number of different things, provide a number of benefits. They can protect soil from erosion, they can suppress pests, but they’re also one of the best tools that we have for building and increasing soil health”, Ryan stated. The practice of using cover crops to protect bare soil and build organic matter could be greatly expanded in New York state, and the survey is one way that the researchers are working to get a better handle on how cover crops are being used, what impact they have on farm profitability, and why some farmers have yet to adopt the practice. “We’re looking at different ways to overcome this barrier to adoption” Ryan added.

The researchers urge farmers to participate in the study by completing the 10-minute questionnaire via the online link at https://tinyurl.com/NYsoilsurvey before March 10th, 2018. A paper form of the questionnaire can be downloaded and printed, and more information about soil health and the Workgroup is available at their website; https://blogs.cornell.edu/soilhealthinitiative/. Questions about the New York State Soil Health Workgroup’s research can be directed to Cedric Mason at (607) 255-8641 or cwm77@cornell.edu.
“Good Bugs vs Bad: Using Biological Controls in Spotted Wing Drosophila Management,”

Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) is an invasive pest that has challenged producers of berries and cherries across the United States and around the world in recent years. A team of researchers from across the United States has been collaborating to improve management of spotted wing Drosophila. A key component of the project is to learn the role of biological control in controlling spotted wing Drosophila and to discover new biocontrol agents.

“Good Bugs vs Bad: Using Biological Controls in SWD Management,” is a free webinar that will be offered on February 23, 2018 from 12 – 1 PM. This webinar will include an overview of the project, an update on the native biocontrol agents that have been found in surveys at farms from Oregon to Maine, and the latest information on their search for parasitic wasps from Asia. This webinar is free and open to all thanks to funding from the USDA Specialty Crop Research Initiative. Register with your name and email address by selecting the “CTRL” key and clicking on: Good Bugs vs Bad: Using Biological Controls in SWD Management.
Agricultural Assessment

I received a question this week about agricultural assessment values, so I’d like to include the 2018 assessment values in this crop update just in case anyone else is updating their assessment this year (Due date is March 1st).

In 1971, the New York Agricultural Districts Law was enacted to form agricultural districts and reduce property tax bills for agricultural land. The full assessment value is amended to the agricultural assessment value after an application is approved. Eligibility applicable to vineyards is based on:

- Property is a minimum of 7 acres used in prior 2 years for the production for sale of crops
- Annual gross sales must average $10K or more for prior 2 years.
- If less than 7 acres, gross sales must average $50K minimum for prior 2 years
- There are exceptions for rented land and special cases (like natural disasters)

The agricultural assessment is limited to land used in crop production and up to 50 acres of farm woodland per eligible tax parcel. Separate applications are needed for each tax parcel and the ag assessment does not apply to buildings or improvements.

To apply, it is important to have a copy of your soil map for the parcel. Your county’s Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) office can help with this and will fill out your soil worksheet to ensure that it is accurate and complete for submission. LERGP has also provided GIS maps, including soil overlays for many growers and we are available to help if you need one.

If you are planning to take your agricultural land out of production, it is important to consult your tax assessor to discuss the changes in your tax bill and payments for conversion of the land that may apply. For more information and any questions, contact your local real property tax office.

Applicable forms:
- Form RP-305, Agricultural Assessment Application
- Form RP-305-r, Agricultural Assessment Application Renewal
- Form RP-305-c, Agricultural Assessment Written Lease Affidavit for Rented Land
- Form RP-305-b, Application for Exception From Minimum Average Sales Value Requirement.
- Form APD-1, Soil Group Worksheet
- 2018 Agricultural Assessment Values per Acre

References
“CORE” Pesticide Training and Pesticide Applicators License Exam
March 28, 2018
Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory (CLEREL)
6592 West Main Road
Portland, NY 14769

Space is limited ---Pre-registration is required for both sessions

CORE TRAINING
WHEN: Wednesday, March 28, 2018 from 9 AM to 12:15 PM
WHERE: CLEREL Meeting room
COST: $15
3.0 Pesticide recertification credits in the CORE category have been applied for.

The CORE training session is also designed as a review prior to taking the Commercial or Private Pesticide Applicator exam but is not required prior to taking the exam.

Preregistration for the training using the enclosed course registration form is required by March 26, 2017.
Or sign up on-line at https://lergp.cce.cornell.edu

Questions on the training session should be directed to Kate at (716) 792-2800 ext 201

PRIVATE AND COMMERCIAL NYS PESTICIDE EXAMINATIONS
WHEN: 1 PM
WHERE: CLEREL Meeting room
COST: $100
REGISTRATION: NYS Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC) requires you to register for entrance to the exam session with the Buffalo DEC office at (716) 851-7220.

DEADLINE for registration to take the test is March 9, 2018. To register, call the DEC at (716) 851-7220. You will then be sent an exam application form and test instructions by the DEC.

Any questions about your eligibility to take an exam or the status of your current certification should be directed to the Buffalo DEC office at (716) 851-7220.

Commercial Applicators: You will need the “Core Manual” and the category manual for the area(s) in which you will be certifying.

Private Applicators: You will need to get the “Core Manual” plus the private category manual for the area in which you will be certifying.

CORE and category training manuals are available through the Cornell Store by calling (800) 624-4080 or the web-site link: http://store.cornell.edu/c-876-manuals.aspx

Questions on Pesticide Examinations should be directed to the NYS DEC at (716) 851-7220.
2018 CORE PESTICIDE TRAINING
REGISTRATION FORM
Wednesday March 28, 2018

Space is limited – pre-registration is required.

To register for the training, fill out and return registration form to:

ATTN: Kate
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program
CLEREL
6592 West Main Road
Portland, NY 14769

Name(s)  ________________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________

Address  ____________________________________________________________
______________________________________________________________

Phone  ____________________________________________________________

Number attending__________

Registration and payment by Monday, March 26, 2018 ($15 per person)

Make Checks Payable to: Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

IMPORTANT: This registration is for the CORE training session only.

If you wish to take the exam for a NYS DEC Pesticide Applicator’s License you must contact the Buffalo office of the NYS DEC by calling Mike Nierenberg or Shaun Conrad at (716) 851-7220 no later than March 9, 2018 to provide ample time for them to provide you with an exam application form and test instructions.
Crop insurance is a safety net for farmers that helps you manage risk. If you have a crop failure, crop insurance can help you farm again next year.

Important Insurance Deadlines

- **Aug. 15, 2017**: Premium Billing Date
- **Nov. 20, 2017**: Sales Closing, Policy Change, Cancellation, Termination Date
- **Nov. 20, 2017**: End of Insurance Period
- **Jan. 15, 2018**: Acreage / Production Report Date

Over 40 grape varieties are insurable in these counties:

- Cattaraugus
- Chautauqua
- Erie
- Niagara
- Ontario
- Schuyler
- Seneca
- Steuben
- Suffolk
- Ulster
- Wayne
- Yates

Grapes in other counties may be insured by written agreement from RMA

NYS Grape Crop Insurance Performance

for every $1 grape producers spent on crop insurance premiums from 2012 to 2016, they received $2.07 in losses paid, on average

Learn more & sign up:

Explore your personalized crop insurance costs and loss payments under different yield outcomes at [ag-analytics.org](http://ag-analytics.org). To sign up, contact a crop insurance agent. Find an agent using the Agent Locator tool at [rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html](http://rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html)
The Only FRAC Group U6 Fungicide
Labeled for Grapes & Cucurbits
Highly Effective on Powdery Mildew
No Cross-Resistance
Protectant / Preventative Action

FRAC Group 3
Labeled for Grapes
Controls Powdery Mildew & Black Rot
Protectant + Curative Activity
Highly Systemic

Badge SC

High Quality Copper
Excellent Mixing Characteristics
Highly Active at Lower Rates
Enhanced Crop Safety

Mite control on Grapes
Knockdown and Residual

Dave Pieczarka
315.447.0560

Mark C. Muir Agency
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716-679-3366
Tractorsales@netsync.net

We sell and service CaseIH tractors, Oxbo Harvesters, and Turbomist sprayers. We also custom manufacture single and dual tank sprayers, pre-pruners, brush sweepers, wire winders.
LERGP Links of Interest:

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.

LERGP Web-site:
http://lergp.com/

Cornell Lake Erie Research & Extension Laboratory Facebook page

Efficient Vineyard 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:

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

NEWA:
http://newa.cornell.edu/
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. 202

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