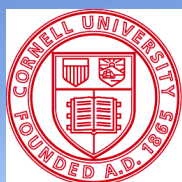




Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension



PennState Extension

Crop Update April 18, 2019



Pruned and ready to grow! photo by Kim Knappenberger

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The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program is a Cornell Cooperative Extension partnership between Cornell University and the Cornell Cooperative Extensions in Chautauqua, Erie and Niagara county NY and in Erie County PA.

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Dave Pieczarka
315.447.0560

Business Management

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

Market News and an Investment to Consider

In the past 20 years we have seen a fairly close relationship between corn, other traded commodities, and Concord grapes. Marketing the 2018 crop and looking ahead to the 2019 crop seems to be the exception. Thankfully for us there has been some divergence. If the whole of the US gets some drying weather and there is a large 2019 corn crop it could begin to test new lows for this 7-year downturn in price. Soybeans may be slightly more stable, unless international politics intervenes.

Corn

Latest Price & Chart for Corn

End of day Commodity Futures Price Quotes for Corn

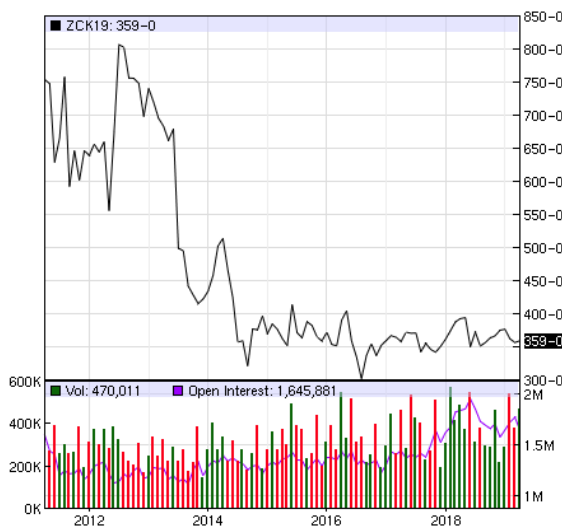


Figure 1: No price relief in sight for many traded commodities.

Despite low prices, acreage is hitting records. Record acreage and complex international trade appears to be leading to downward trends or stagnation. For better or worse the Concord market took a different path. As it is not traded we saw market cancellations, steeper price declines, and movement toward other land-uses. So we are not setting any records in acreage but price is beginning to recover.

We continue to see realignment in acreage as the most productive areas in our region seek out the best marketing contracts available. The worst areas continue to struggle, though abandonment appears to have halted. In higher producing vineyards we see growers increasing investment.

After the late season crop losses last year growers are considering making changes to their insect and disease programs. One change in the marketplace is a declining price in group 7 materials for powdery mildew control. While still more expensive than Vivando, I would encourage growers to look at group 7 materials before increasing Vivando rates. The least expensive material seems to depend on where you buy it. One option is a Boscalid alone (Endura). Another option is fluopyram and tubuconazole (Luna Experience). Newer group 7 materials have reduced the price of these older materials. Make sure the fluopyram or boscalid are not premixed with anything that is phytotoxic with Concord. If you can find one of these older materials for less than \$30 per acre it

offers you a third mode of action that will provide very good to excellent protection of powdery mildew.

Of course we encourage everyone to read the label but from a business standpoint do not increase the rate of Luna experience for black rot control. The black rot control is only from the tebuconazole, which is mixed in at a rate too low to control black rot. You need to find another source for tebuconazole rather than wasting fluopyram.

With the market for Concord juice improving somewhat the market for wine grapes and juice destined for wine remains unknown. The Gallo purchase of Canandaigua winery leaves us with more questions than answers. What we thought we knew, Canandaigua's shift toward varieties other than Concord created opportunities for some growers and challenges for others, will be put on hold until Gallo's strategy becomes more transparent. The impact of low winter temperatures in the mid-west may help somewhat for the Minnesota hybrid type varieties that were in over-supply. Given the quantity of over-supply we probably will not see the real impact on the market until Midwestern growers assess their damage this growing season.

IPM

Tim Weigle, NYSIPM, Cornell University, LERGP Team Leader

eNEWA for Grapes – Back by Popular Demand!

What is eNEWA you ask? eNEWA is a daily reminder of the current weather and grape disease and insect model information found on NEWA (Network for Environment and Weather Applications) <http://newa.cornell.edu>.

This daily email contains current weather and grape pest model information from a station, or stations, near you. The email will contain; 1) high, low and average temperature, rainfall, wind speed and relative humidity 2) the 5-day forecast for these weather parameters, 3) GDD totals (Base 50F), 4) 5-day GDD (Base 50F) forecast and 5) model results for powdery mildew, black rot, Phomopsis and grape berry moth.



2019 eNEWA grape subscription request

eNEWA is a great way to get an idea of pest potentials for your vineyard operation without having to click around the NEWA website every day. eNEWA is not meant to be a replacement for the website, rather it is a quick and easy way to determine if a visit to the website is warranted. For example, if one of the pest models is reporting the potential for an infection event, you can visit the NEWA website to provide information specific to your site. This will increase the accuracy of the output of the disease and grape berry moth models. You will also need to access the NEWA website to use the DMCast model for downy mildew as user input is required.

We worked with Dan Olmstead, NEWA Coordinator, to streamline the sign up process for eNEWA in 2019. By visiting [NEWA:Choose your station](#) you will have the ability to choose from any station that is currently part of the NEWA network in New York and Pennsylvania. You can choose to receive information from one to five station locations and have the information delivered up to three times a day. Please keep in mind that you will receive a separate email (approximately 3 pages in length) for each station you choose. Once during the growing season and again after harvest, you will be asked to complete a short survey to assist us in improving the eNEWA for grapes email system. If you would like to be a part of this project visit [NEWA:Choose your station](#). eNEWA alerts should start shortly after the growing season begins.

2019 New York and Pennsylvania Pest Management Guidelines for Grapes Now Available

The Pesticide Management Education Program (PMEP) at Cornell University is pleased to announce the availability of the *2019 New York and Pennsylvania Pest Management Guidelines for Grapes*.

Written by Cornell and Penn State University specialists, this publication is designed to offer producers, seed and chemical dealers, and crop consultants practical information on growing and managing grapes in New York State and Pennsylvania. Topics include an overview of pesticide use and pest management in grapes; managing common grape disease, insect, and weed concerns; and sprayer technology. A preview of the *Grape Guidelines* can be seen online at <https://cropandpestguides.cce.cornell.edu>.



Highlighted changes in the *2019 Grape Guidelines* include:

- Updated pesticide options for economically important grape pests.
- Revised guidance on botrytis, downy mildew, grape mealybug, and soft scales.

Cornell Crop and Pest Management Guidelines are available as a print copy, online-only access, or a package combining print and online access. The print edition of the *2019 Grape Guideline* costs \$31 plus shipping. Online-only access is \$31. A combination of print and online access costs \$43.50 plus shipping costs for the printed book.

The Grape Guidelines can be obtained through your local Cornell or Penn State Cooperative Extension office or from the Cornell Store at Cornell University. To order from the Cornell Store, call (844) 688-7620 or order online at <https://www.cornellstore.com/books/cornell-cooperative-ext-pmep-guidelines>.

Viticulture

Jennifer Russo, Viticulture Extension Specialist, LERGP

CLEREL Phenology Update

By Jennifer Russo, Viticulture Extension Specialist

Concord (*Vitis labruscana* Bailey) growth and development can be described by its phenological events as a direct effect of climate. Phenology, in viticulture, is the study of timing of the natural changes that occur in the grapevine in relation to seasonal changes. In viticulture, we use these phenological changes, or growth stages, to drive vineyard management practices such as, spray programs, nutrient management, canopy management, allows you to plan for labor and equipment requirements, and enables the decision makers to adjust for any advanced/delayed growth stages through modified management practices.

The Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory has been collecting phenological data from 1965 until present; the experimental vineyards were located in Fredonia, NY and Portland, NY. A long-term (1965-2019) data set was developed using reference vineyard observations from the Modified Shaulis Field Score (Figure. 1 – Terry Bates & Kelly Link) in the Lake Erie grape region, US. In addition, trend analysis was carried out to detect any shift in Concord growth stages over the course of 53 years.

















Table 1: Key phenological events recorded at Lake Erie Research and Extension Lab.

Variable	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max	Range
Bud-break(days)	5-May	7	19-Apr	20-May	31
Full-bloom (days)	15-Jun	6	31-May	26-Jun	26
Veraison(days)	23-Aug	6	5-Aug	3-Sep	29
Bud-break to Full-bloom (days)	40	6	32	62	30
Bud-break to veraison (days)	110	7	98	128	30
Full-bloom to veraison (days)	69	4	63	79	16

Golnaz Badr - Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Lab, CLEREL, Portland, NY 14769

The average historical Concord bud break date is May 5 for vineyards at CLEREL (Table. 1). However, we highly encourage you to keep your own records of the key phenology events; there is no replacement for knowing your vines and boots on the ground to scout any early pests or diseases. There are many tools to assist growers with their vineyard practices on our websites and in person that your membership to the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program offers.

Modified Shaulis Field Score

	1.0	Dormant Bud	Shoot and Inflorescence Development
	2.0	First Swell brownish wool clearly visible	
	2.5	Intermediate Swell half or more of bud doeskin visible	
	3.0	Full Swell pink on side of bud	
	4.0	Budbreak half or more of leaf edge exposed	
	4.5	Leaf Emergence	
	4.8	Full Leaf Blade Visible	
	5.1	Flat Leaf Stage one leaf perpendicular to shoot	
	9.05	First Bloom 5% florets open	Flowering
	9.50	Bloom 50% florets open	
	9.80	80% Bloom majority of caps off	
	10.2	Fruit Set berry abscission fruit >2mm diameter	Berry Development
	10.7	Pea-sized Berries fruit 7mm diameter	
	10.9	Berry Touch	
	11.5	Veraison 5% of berries have color	Ripening
	12.0	Maturity Fruit ripe for harvest	

At CLEREL, in our Phenology Block, we have pruning treatments of balanced (20+20), 90-node, 120-node, and minimally pruned. We have maintained this block for 10 years with these treatments. On April 16, 2019, we went out to collect our phenology data and the majority of the buds are still a 1.0 dormant stage. However, some of our Concords are at the beginning of scale crack and bud swell. There is movement ranging from 1.5 (still dormant), where buds scale is cracking and a peak of the bud is exposed, approximately 1/8 of our phenology block vines are at 2.0, or first swell, where the bud is pushing and swelling and the brownish wool is clearly visible, and the remainder of the buds are at 2.5, or intermediate swell, where half or more of the bud is at doeskin visible.

The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program (LERGP) has partnered with the Network for Environment and Weather Applications (NEWA) to provide growers with local weather and forecast data. Initiated in 2009, the program has met with much success and was consequently expanded over the following ten years. LERGP currently owns and operates 23 weather stations to give the fruit and vegetable growers along the Lake Erie escarpment the most up-to-date weather information possible.



The [NEWA website](#) is designed for farmers with everything from a growing degree calculator to pest forecasts and soil temperature maps. NEWA currently has 650 weather

stations across 12 states in the Northeast and Mid-west. 96% of NEWA users reported that the program helped improve their spray timings and reduce crop loss.

Using the weather station data from NEWA, a very useful tool for all agriculture that can be accessed on our <https://lergp.com/newa>, our weather at CLEREL (Portland, NY) last week ranged in temperature from a low of 33.0° F, with four nights in the 30°s, and a high of 59.9°F, with four days in the 50°s. We also accumulated 5.59 inches of precipitation, receiving 5.04" on April 12th alone.

The warmer, wet weather has arrived (cheers!)? Here are the management practices that you should be thinking about now:

- Vine and Crop Management:
 - Pruning – finishing up for season or waiting to shoot thin?
 - Tying/Dippers – making sure that your vines secure, renewals
 - Posts – replacing damaged posts
 - Wires – tightening up trellis
- Floor Management:
 - Sweep under hills and mowing/shredding
 - Cover Crops? Utilize our Tye Seeder Loaner Program?
 - Pre-Emergent Weed Control – watch NEWA for forecasted rain
- Nutrient Management:
 - Lime? – It's okay to put down now, but some may want to wait for N application **2 WEEKS PRIOR TO BLOOM! WHY????**
 - ◆ The vine needs the Nitrogen 2 weeks pre-bloom to 4 weeks post bloom due to rapid root, berry, and canopy development
 - ◆ Too early with application could just leach out and waste valuable N or feed the weeds
 - ◆ **Soil Biology doesn't ramp up until the soil warms up** – those creatures living in the soil are critical to soil health. They make that N available for the vines to take up, if they aren't working; N is leaching.
 - Potash? – Sure or wait; there's still time
- Pest/Disease Management:
 - Scout for Steely Beetles or Climbing Cutworms
 - Check past spray records
 - ◆ Last year problem areas for disease/pest?
 - ◆ What did you spray?
 - ◆ Remember to check active ingredients and rotate to avoid creating resistance
 - Equipment
 - ◆ Tractors inspected
 - ◆ Make sure foliar sprayers are ready
 - ◆ Spreaders cleaned and inspected

I certainly enjoy the change in our weather; take advantage and start checking things off of your list! Remember that there is a wealth of information on our website and please feel free to drop in the office, call, or email with any questions you may have about beginning your spray program, lime, or nutrient applications to prepare for the growing season.

Seeder Loaner Program: For Vineyard Use

Purpose: Cover crops can be a useful tool in improving soil physical, chemical, and biological properties. The purpose of this no-till seeder loaner program is for grape growers to gain experience with cover crop seeding in their own vineyard operations.

The Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory acquired this five-foot seeder from Chautauqua County Soil and Water and our intent is to loan out the implement at no charge to Lake Erie Regional Grape Program members for vineyard use. Since this is a no-fee program, we need to minimize the burden on CLEREL staff. We ask that you pick up and drop off the seeder by your own means, operate the equipment as if it were your own, and return it in good working order.

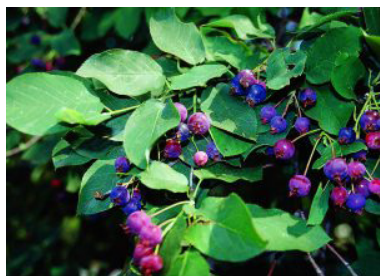
Thank you for your cooperation in this program for your fellow growers. If the seeder becomes abused, broken, or unsafe to operate, the CLEREL Director will discontinue the program.

Criteria:

- Must be a member of the LERGP
- To be used in Vineyards for moderate amounts of acreage
- Maximum 3 days/ use
- Must pick up and return by own means- we do not deliver or pick up
- Must return in same working condition as picked up

Procedure-

Grower will call LERGP and schedule a time to come get the seeder. Once here, grower will inspect the equipment and, if needed, attain basic instructions of use for the seeder. A profile sheet will be filled out to gather grower information and signed agreeing on terms. Upon return of the equipment, an inspection of condition will occur.



Specialty Fruit Survey: Are you interested in diversifying your farmers market, farm stand, or CSA offerings with specialty fruit crops? Have you ever thought about growing currants, kiwiberries, goji berries, beach plums, or other “unusual” fruits? Tell us about it! We are gauging grower interest in specialty fruit crops. Your input will help guide a project that aims to develop growing recommendations and enterprise budgets for unusual fruit crops in New York. Fill out our online survey by clicking on the following link:
[SURVEY](#)



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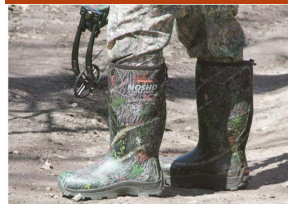
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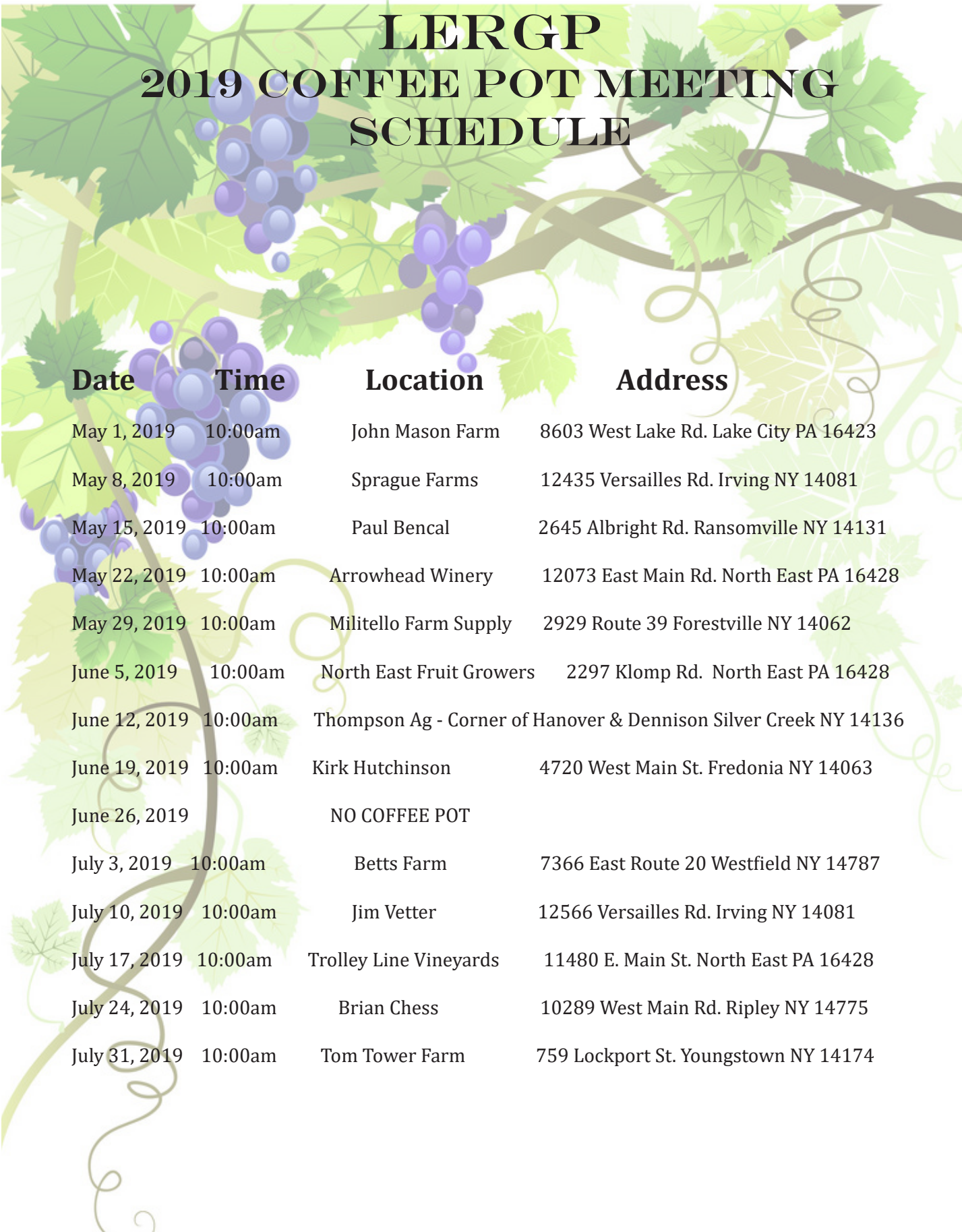


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LERGP 2019 COFFEE POT MEETING SCHEDULE

Date	Time	Location	Address
May 1, 2019	10:00am	John Mason Farm	8603 West Lake Rd. Lake City PA 16423
May 8, 2019	10:00am	Sprague Farms	12435 Versailles Rd. Irving NY 14081
May 15, 2019	10:00am	Paul Bencal	2645 Albright Rd. Ransomville NY 14131
May 22, 2019	10:00am	Arrowhead Winery	12073 East Main Rd. North East PA 16428
May 29, 2019	10:00am	Militello Farm Supply	2929 Route 39 Forestville NY 14062
June 5, 2019	10:00am	North East Fruit Growers	2297 Klomp Rd. North East PA 16428
June 12, 2019	10:00am	Thompson Ag - Corner of Hanover & Dennison	Silver Creek NY 14136
June 19, 2019	10:00am	Kirk Hutchinson	4720 West Main St. Fredonia NY 14063
June 26, 2019		NO COFFEE POT	
July 3, 2019	10:00am	Betts Farm	7366 East Route 20 Westfield NY 14787
July 10, 2019	10:00am	Jim Vetter	12566 Versailles Rd. Irving NY 14081
July 17, 2019	10:00am	Trolley Line Vineyards	11480 E. Main St. North East PA 16428
July 24, 2019	10:00am	Brian Chess	10289 West Main Rd. Ripley NY 14775
July 31, 2019	10:00am	Tom Tower Farm	759 Lockport St. Youngstown NY 14174