



Cornell University Cooperative Extension



PennState Extension

CROP UPDATE AUGUST 15, 2019



The product of Ted's green thumb. Photo- Kate Robinson, CLEREL

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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.

Business Management

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

Late Season Fungicide

Some growers may continue to apply late season fungicides into August. This is only justified when vines are stressed due to large crops. The cost of materials, time and application will not be recouped if vines are not over cropped. For growers following the grape berry moth model this may be a good year to invest in late season fungicide sprays. The financial risk is significantly less when a trip through the vineyard is already being made.

Historically in Concord powdery mildew is going to be the leaf mildew, under the right conditions, that will result in a financial loss. Take particular care to ensure fungicides and your insecticide are compatible and effective given the impact a copper fungicide can have on pH.

Resistance management is particularly important this time of year. You'll probably only see an economic benefit if powdery mildew infections are already present in your canopy. A product like nutrol or a prophyt are good materials to tank mix with a protectant for resistance management. Nutrol is relatively expensive per acre, but probably the best tool for existing powdery infections. Phosphorus acid products are cheaper and a good tool for reducing downy inoculum levels for next year.

Disease management decisions are complex in August. Reclaiming semi-abandoned vineyards may justify sprays like Ranman + Phosphorus acid in Concord. Ordinarily that \$21 tank mix would make no sense in Concord. Scouting and understanding your goals and potential inoculum levels for next year would justify such materials in some reclaimed vineyards.

Powdery mildew control should run between \$18 - \$35 per acre. Copper products are the best low cost option if concern for infection is not overly high and the product is compatible with other materials in the tank. Modern fungicides will do a better job and provide long-lasting control. Resistance management can push the cost of those materials higher. In a year like this, the potential for low brix may outweigh any concerns about material costs. One of the most expensive tank mixes I'm hearing about is Vivando at a medium rate with Nutrol. That should do a very good job in vineyards that are mostly clean. In many vineyards, it might be overly aggressive. Scouting becomes extremely important if the goal is to ensure a good balance of minimal fungicide use and cost and healthy leaves.



PA Update Andy Muza, LERGP Extension Educator, Penn State University

In the Vineyard

<u>Grape Berry Moth</u> – Time to apply an insecticide application for the third generation at SEVERE / HIGH RISK sites

Grape berry moth eggs were not hard to find at Severe and High Risk sites scouted this past Monday (Figure 1).

Checking all the NEWA stations throughout the region showed that on Wednesday three stations (i.e., Lake City & North East Lab, PA and Sheridan, NY) had already reached 1620 DD. The remaining sites will reach or surpass 1620 DD from this Friday through Monday (8/19). Check the NEWA station (<u>http://</u> <u>newa.cornell.edu/</u>) closest to your vineyard site to determine current GBM Degree Days for your vineyard locations.

If you are going to use insecticides that need to be ingested, such as Intrepid or Altacor, then these materials should be applied as close to 1620 DD as possible.



Figure 1. Grape berry moth eggs on Concord berry. Photo – Andy Muza, Penn State.

Insecticides that work through contact (e.g., Brigade/Sniper, Baythroid, Mustang Max, etc.) should be applied about 3 - 4 days after 1620 DD. I suggest that at Severe and High Risk sites a second insecticide application should also be applied 7 – 10 days later. Consult the <u>2019 New York and</u> <u>Pennsylvania Pest Management Guidelines for Grapes</u> for insecticide options.

DO NOT neglect scouting low and intermediate risk sites to determine if these areas may also need an insecticide application. The GBM MODEL advises that if these areas have more than 15% damaged clusters then an insecticide should be applied. A cluster is considered damaged if 1 or more berries has GBM injury (Figure 2).



Figure 2. Grape berry moth injury on Concord berries. Photo – Andy Muza, Penn State.

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