



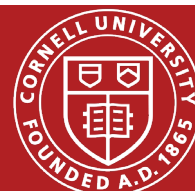
Cornell Cooperative Extension
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program




PennState Extension



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Wishing you all
a very Happy
Holiday season
and Happy New
Year!!!

from everyone at CLEREL!!

CLEREL will be closed from
Wednesday, December 25, 2019
through Wednesday, January 1, 2020

Save the Date!

2020 LERGP Winter Growers' Conference
Thursday, March 19, 2019
William's Center at SUNY Fredonia

more information is available at:

<https://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/>

Registration will open in January

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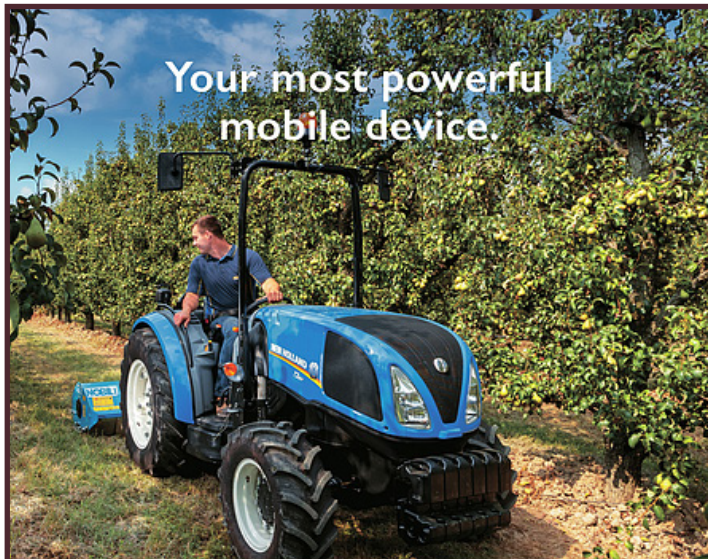


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In this Crop Update: Reminders for Important Events

- Sample Letter for use in Supporting IPM Position- Jennifer Russo
- Tools to Help NY Farms Manage Overtime Regulations- Kevin Martin
- **Overview of New York State Labor Regulations: 2020 :event at CLEREL Monday, December 23, 2019-10:00am- Kevin Martin**



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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.

Viticulture

Jennifer Russo, Viticulture Extension Specialist, LERGP

Support for the IPM Position

Dear Growers,

I am addressing all of the growers in our region for a call to action please.

Your support and immediate action are required to ensure the grape integrated pest management position housed in the Lake Erie Grape Region continues into the future. To address this need, letters of support from our grower stakeholders are necessary to convey the needs of the work that Tim Weigle provided to our industry and the impacts, or success stories, that have improved your operations.

As of November 4, 2019, the industry lost critical support at Cornell University in grape pest management because of the retirement of our resident IPM specialist, Tim Weigle. In his 30-year career as NYSIPM Specialist, Tim co-edited the annual NY and PA Pest Management Guidelines for Grapes, instituted NEWA models for pest management, led research and education on grape root worm, Japanese beetle, and grape berry moth. Tim has also stayed in the forefront of invasive species such as the multicolored Asian lady beetle and the spotted lanternfly. Tim's program was exceptional at listening and responding to the needs of the grape industry in western New York.

It is our understanding that the grape IPM position will not be immediately refilled by the NYS IPM and the future of the position is uncertain due to funding constraints. Furthermore, alternate proposals are being considered because Cornell is not hearing from our industry. This is our opportunity to let our voices be heard and state the importance of Tim's position in our region or it may go away. We believe that any proposed option to move or derail focus on grape IPM is a huge mistake. The Lake Erie AVA is the largest and most productive grape region in the eastern US and we need programs to support and grow this vital economic engine.

We believe there is a critical and obvious need to support farm-level grape integrated pest management in western NY and Erie County, PA. As of November 4, 2019, the Grape IPM Specialist position has been vacant. Having a physical presence of IPM in our region has assisted in adoption of IPM practices and sustainability of our industry. A grape IPM specialist on the Lake Erie team will insure that their research and extension will immediately address our current needs in IPM, invasive species, and address the continual need to modify spray programs to maintain pest control. What would happen to your operations if the following bullet points were to go away?

This position has been an integral part of the four-member, two-state, five-county Lake Erie Regional Grape Program since its inception in 1992. This vacancy leaves a hole in our industry and we need support to immediately address our current needs in:

- Integrated pest management
- Pesticide recommendations
- updating NY and PA Pest Management Guidelines for Grapes
- pesticide credits at Coffee Pot meetings

- invasive species education
- contact to address the continual need to modify spray programs to maintain pest control
- updating grape berry moth and disease models on NEWA

If you agree, it is imperative that you contact the following decision makers now and let them know that our industry needs IPM support in the Lake Erie Grape Region and to request additional funding support for Ag IPM:

Richard Ball
 Commissioner, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
 10B Airline Drive
 Albany, NY 12235
 Telephone: 518-457-8876

Kathryn J. Boor
 Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences (CALS) at Cornell University
 260 Roberts Hall
 Ithaca, NY 14853
 Telephone: 607-255-5335
 E-mail: calsdean@cornell.edu

Christopher Watkins
 Director, Cornell Cooperative Extension
 366 Roberts Hall
 Ithaca, NY 14853
chris.watkins@cornell.edu
 Telephone: 607-255-8546

Jennifer Grant
 Director, New York State IPM Program
 607 West North St., Geneva, NY 14456
jag7@cornell.edu
 Telephone: 315-787-2353

For those of you that are not comfortable constructing letters, I am including a sample letter that you may use as a guide, however, your knowledge and personal gains from the guidance of Tim Weigle is more powerful than my words. Please be sure to tell your story. Let the decision makers know that this is very important to the success of our region.

Thank you for continually supporting the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program. Unity has always been our strongest asset and we are excited to work with you to advance the Industry/Research/Extension relationship. **I hope that you consider writing a letter to each of the above decision makers to call to action the need for funding in IPM in our region.**

All My Best,
 Jennifer Phillips Russo

SAMPLE LETTER: next page-personalize with your own text.

Concord Farm, Inc.
1234 Juice Lane
The Best Smelling Town, NY 12345

December 12, 2019

Richard Ball
Commissioner, NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets
10B Airline Drive
Albany, NY 12235

Dear Commissioner Ball,

I am writing to express my concerns about future funding for Grape Integrated Pest Management in our area. Our Lake Erie Grape Region industry lost critical support at Cornell University in grape pest management because of the retirement of our resident IPM specialist, Tim Weigle. In his 30-year career as NYSIPM Specialist, Tim co-edited the annual NY and PA Pest Management Guidelines for Grapes, instituted NEWA models for pest management, led research and education on grape root worm, Japanese beetle, and grape berry moth. Tim has also stayed in the forefront of invasive species such as the multicolored Asian lady beetle and the spotted lanternfly. Tim's program was exceptional at listening and responding to the needs of the grape industry in western New York.

As growers, we need IPM support because "tell your story here, which may sound something like grape berry moth spray program saved my vines, my spray costs, etc. or use the bullet point mentioned above. Think about what will happen to your management practices when the bullet points above go away or the Spotted Lanternfly gets here."

It is imperative that our industry has access to an IPM support specialist in the Lake Erie Grape Region to continue to be sustainable. Thank you for continually supporting the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program.

Respectfully,

King Concord
Owner and President
(716) 111-0000



INSURING GRAPES

NY, 2019

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.

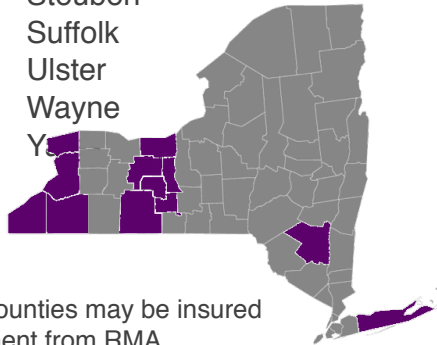
Important Insurance Deadlines

- **Aug. 15, 2018:** Premium Billing Date
- **Nov. 20, 2018:** Sales Closing, Policy Change, Cancellation, Termination Date
- **Nov. 20, 2019:** End of Insurance Period
- **Jan. 15, 2019:** Acreage / Production Report Date



Over 40 grape varieties are insurable in these counties:

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Ontario	Y
Schuyler	
Seneca	



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

NYS Grape Crop Insurance



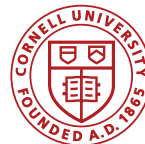
for every \$1 grape producers spent on crop insurance premiums from 2012 to 2016, **they received \$2.07** in losses

Learn more & sign up:

Learn more about crop insurance options available to New York producers at agriskmanagement.cornell.edu

To sign up, contact a crop insurance agent. Find an agent using the Agent Locator tool at rma.usda.gov/en/Information-Tools/Agent-Locator-Page

Cornell University delivers crop insurance education in New York State in partnership with the USDA Risk Management Agency. Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University's heritage. We are an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.



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Business Management

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

Tools to Help New York Farms Manage Overtime Regulations

 agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/2019/11/26/tools-to-help-new-york-farms-manage-overtime-regulations/

November 26,
2019

On January 1, 2020 New York farms will have to pay overtime wages (1.5 times the 'regular rate of pay') for nearly all employees that work over 60 hours a week. Researchers and extension educators from Cornell University [Agricultural Workforce Development](#), [Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management](#), [Cooperative Extension](#) and [PRO-DAIRY](#), have developed several tools to help New York farms manage through these changes.

Our spreadsheet tool is designed to help farm managers estimate how much overtime they would have to pay under their current employee work schedules. The tool can also be used to estimate costs of new work schedules. To use the tool, you will need to know current compensation levels and work schedules. Worksheets are provided for collecting or calculating that information in advance, if it is not readily available.

A new extension bulletin on "[Adapting Your Labor Strategies to New York's Revised Farm Labor Employment Laws](#)" discusses the pro and cons of various management strategies that farms may consider in response to the new overtime rules. The guide does not make recommendations, but details the positive and negative implications of changes to work schedules, employee policies and farm expenses.

Please visit agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/overtime to download these tools. You can contact Jennifer Ifft (jiff@cornell.edu) or Richard Stup (rstup@cornell.edu) for more information.

By Jennifer Ifft and Richard Stup, Cornell University. Permission granted to repost, quote, and reprint with author attribution.

The post [Tools to Help New York Farms Manage Overtime Regulations](#) appeared first in [The Ag Workforce Journal](#).

Overview of New York State Labor Regulations: 2020

Who: Please join us for an update on NYS Labor regulations that will go into effect 1/1/2020
Where: CLEREL 6592 West Main Road, Portland, NY 14769
When: Monday, 12/23/2019 at 10:00 AM

Why: CCE, Farm Bureau, NYS DOL have all been offering information about new regulations. If you haven't heard this is probably your last chance to get up to speed before these requirements are mandatory. Educational opportunities will continue into 2020 but your opportunity to stay in compliance will have passed.

Employment law for NYS farmers has undergone massive changes that roll out in 2020. Join us at CLEREL and we'll provide you with the most recent information we can. The Farm Workers Bill was signed on July 17th. Regulations and department guidance has been modified as recently as 10 days ago.

In 2020 Extension will focus on how to sustainably manage labor costs with these regulations. However, by January 1st, need to make sure that everyone is in compliance and avoids penalties with non-compliance.

Some of the new requirements have the potential to be quite expensive. Others are fairly inexpensive, as little as \$2 per month, but penalties for non-compliance are high.

The Farm Laborers Fair Labor Practices Act, which recognizes agriculture is a unique industry, includes:

- Grants collective bargaining rights to farm laborers;
- Requires employers of farm laborers to allow at least 24 consecutive hours of rest each week;
- Provides for 60-hour work week for farm workers;
- Requires overtime rate at one and one-half times normal rate;
- Makes provisions of unemployment insurance law applicable to farm laborers and reduces costs to farmers for ineligible workers (H-2A);
- Ensures sanitary codes apply to all farm worker housing, regardless of the number of occupants;
- Removes a payroll threshold for requiring farm labor employers to obtain workers' compensation coverage;
- Allows farm laborers to receive disability and Paid Family Leave benefits; and
- Requires reporting of injuries to employers of farm laborers.

Paid Family Leave Information for Employers

Learn about your Paid Family Leave responsibilities and access resources to help you.

Other links of interest:

[LERGP Web-site:](#)

[Cornell Cooperative Extension website:](#)

[Cornell CALS Veraison to Harvest Newsletter:](#)

[Efficient Vineyard:](#)

[Appellation Cornell Newsletter:](#)



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