



Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



PennState Extension

# Save the Date!

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

more information is available at:

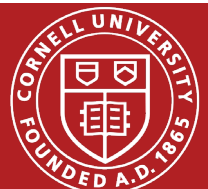
<https://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/>

Registration is open!

Crop Update - January 23, 2020

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities

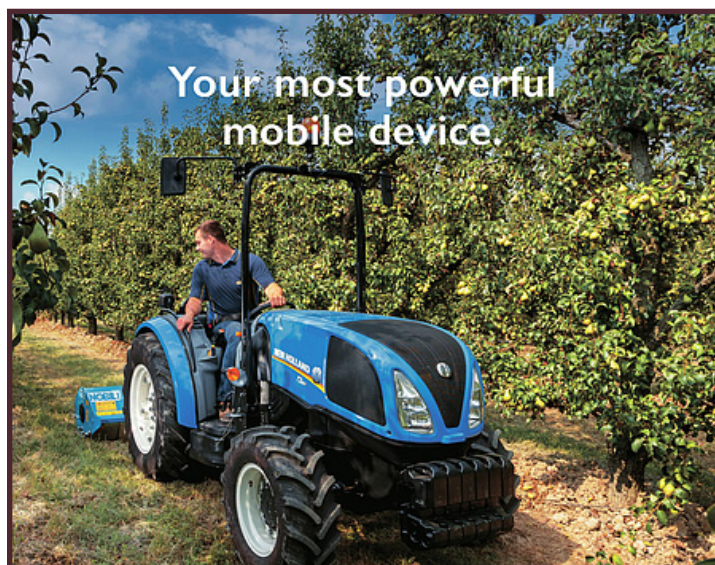
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## In this Crop Update: Reminders for Important Events

- **New Viticulture Tool for Bud Hardiness and Winter Injury Assessment at CLEREL- Jennifer Russo**
- **Chemical Price Update- Kevin Martin**

*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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# Call for Coffee Pot Meeting

## Locations:

We are beginning to put our Coffee Pot Meeting schedule together and are asking if there are any growers who would like to volunteer to host one. They will be held on Wednesdays at 10:00am from May 6th through July 29th.

Please call Katie at 716-792-2800 ext 201 or e-mail at [kjr45@cornell.edu](mailto:kjr45@cornell.edu).



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# Viticulture

Jennifer Russo, Viticulture Extension Specialist, LERGP

## New Viticulture Tool for Bud Hardiness and Winter Injury Assessment at CLEREL

In our last crop update, my article explained how the grapevine wood matures and the vine acclimates to chilling temperature. In that article I discussed how winter low temperatures that fall below a critical value can damage grapevine buds. The critical temperature for bud injury varies over the dormant season and responds to daily changes in temperature. Through a grant that LERGP collaborates on with USDA, CLEREL, and other Cornell Viticulture Specialists through the New York Wine and Grape Foundation, we were able to add a new freezer, and DTA setup at CLEREL will allow for more extensive, weekly collections at the CLEREL lab.

The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program acquired the newest model of the Tenney T2 freezer and Brock University Bud Freezer software package to conduct research at Cornell Lake Erie Research Extension Laboratory on grapevine cold hardiness monitoring. LERGP staff has been working with Watlow software technical support, Tenney Environmental, Inc., and Brock University BudLTE software designers to retro-fit the Tenney T2 freezer in order for the different components of the system to communicate. With the initial startup bumps ironed out, data collection on Concord, Niagara, Riesling, and Traminette varieties began last week, January 2020.

With this Tenney T2 freezer, we can measure this critical temperature through a procedure called differential thermal analysis (DTA), which involves controlled freezing of a sample of buds collected from vineyards. When living material freezes, it sends off a burst of heat and this freezer system takes a measurement of that heat spike; it is a proven method of documenting bud freezing temperatures. We continue to contribute to Cornell and USDA Bud Hardiness data collection and expand on research in our area.

It is our hope to be able to provide timely and local research to document how canopy/crop adjustment and crop load impacts bud hardiness and potential crop of local varieties. With this data we hope to be able to evaluate the economic risks of over cropping and potential freeze damage based on production practices. This information would allow grape growers to adjust practices and respond to climatic events. We are very excited about the future research opportunities and data-driven management options that this new tool may bring to our region.



# Business Management

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

## Chemical Price Update

Fungicide decisions are, and should be complicated. The best strategy is to change things up every year. This is very effective from the perspective of cost savings, resistance management and yield maximization. The least expensive chemicals cannot continually be relied upon and, basically, all high-yield growers have figured that out. That being said, great chemicals like Admire Pro should not be ignored, just used sparingly. Profitability and business success require the grower to strike the right balance.

Material	Rate	Unit	\$ per acre	Acres per container
Captan 80WDG	1.25	Lbs	5.80	24
EDBC	3	Lbs	12.90	10
Endura	4.5	oz	26.80	23
EBDC	4	lbs	17.20	8
Vivando	10.3	oz	22.90	12
Abound	15	oz	23.10	9
Admire Pro	2.8	oz	1.90	46
Quintec	5	oz	17.90	6
Ziram	4	lbs	19.70	3
Altacor	2	oz	25.30	8
Copper	1	lb	5.40	20
Intrepid	8	oz	14.80	16

I've attached an updated list of current chemical pricing. Growers should be using nearly all the chemicals on this list. Some, like EBDC should be used every year. Others like Ziram and Abound might be used in rotation. Still other chemicals can be very important to the individual growers and didn't make the list. These products didn't make the list because pricing was not made available before the deadline (Danitol) or because they're not as important in regular usage (Inspire Super). In general, the prices of many expensive products (more than \$20 per acre) are lower than previous years. The price of inexpensive products are slightly higher. Exceptions to this trend do exist. For growers with high impact fungicide programs (more than \$175 per acre), prices this year will likely be less. For growers

with low cost programs (less than \$100 per acre), prices will likely be more.

A few prices here may also be out of date. At this time of year sometimes there is price carry-over from last year. Endura, for example, is said to be significantly cheaper than last year. The price here is less, but prices going forward may continue to fall. That's great news for Concord growers. Having affordable new (to you) chemistries for powdery mildew control is always great for maximizing yield.

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# Other links of interest:

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[Cornell Cooperative Extension website:](#)

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