



CROP UPDATE February 25, 2021

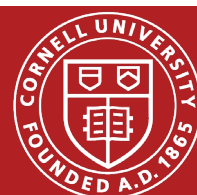
Cornell Cooperative Extension
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



PennState Extension

*Ice on the grapevines-
Jennifer Phillips Russo*

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In this Crop Update:

- **Fertilizer Prices - Kevin Martin**
- **BEV Program Agenda - Jennifer Phillips Russo**
- **Other Resources- Kim Knappenberger**

Don't forget to register for [B.E.V.](#)

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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LERGP Podcasts

Business Management

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

Fertilizer Prices

Prices are on the move. 2010 – 2020 is being referred to as the lost decade. In basically every category, commodity prices failed to sustain any upward mobility. For the buyers of commodities (like farmers buying fertilizer) this was a good thing. For sellers (farmers selling corn), it was not great. With talk of inflation, hope for some big time planting and other commodity prices up somewhat; fertilizer has begun to follow.

Potash

Retail price of Potash is up over \$400 per ton. This is up 30% from market lows and a high point since 2015. This upward trend is a sharp reversal from this fall. Prices were as high as \$373 in the last year, falling to a low of \$330 in October. Since November, potash prices are up 23%. Overall this commodity is nowhere near recovery but the trends are enough to increase acreage costs of application. Given the price history of potash there is a wide range of possible future outcomes. It has proven itself to be a volatile commodity and has never been a stranger to erratic price movements like October – February. These price increases are enough to start planning for higher fertilizer prices. If these trends continue and/or stabilize, growers may find innovative production practices that increase the efficiency of potash applications increase profitability.

Urea

Urea prices were relatively stable until October of 2020. Since that time, urea is up sharply. This price rally has gained momentum in February and is a trend across many commodities. Urea is up 27% since November. Unhealthy soils that require high levels of nitrogen do start to see prices impact their cash flow in a slightly more meaningful way. Even with these price increases growers with healthy soils will be able to maintain adequate nitrogen levels with \$25 or less urea per year.

Phosphorus

Phosphorus prices began trending upward earlier in the year but really took off in January. Looking specifically at MAP and DAP, prices are up 47% in the last year. Over half of that price increase has come in the last two months. Triple Super is also up 40% in the last year. Triple Super offers a value proposition when phosphorus needs are high and prices are high. Growers should continue to consider triple super, particularly when broadcasting phosphorus. For years' applications of phosphorus in grapes was highly limited. Manure, pomace and other alternative materials provided adequate nutrients for a perennial crop that has much lower phosphorus needs than other crops. Less need is not the same as none. With MAP and DAP prices exceeding \$600, rebuilding deficient phosphorus levels will now be fairly expensive. Maintaining adequate levels of phosphorus will also be more expensive but actual dollars required to maintain will remain somewhat insignificant. Overall, these are prices to watch. The trends are more disturbing than the actual amounts. Higher prices in fertilizer have been expected. Volatility that runs commodity prices up to unsustainable levels is a larger problem if it does materialize.



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Canopy management in the summer? Harvest hands?

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Coffee Pot Meeting Season is approaching.



We still have a few months to go but if you missed them last season, you can use this time to catch up and see what you missed. They are recorded for your viewing pleasure, LOL! [Click Here](#) to watch last year's LERGP Coffee Pot meetings and special guest speakers!

Viticulture

Jennifer Russo, Viticulture Extension Specialist, LERGP



B.E.V. NY is One Week Away!

[Register today !](#)

B.E.V. NY starts one week from today – Wednesday March 3. The conference program is set, the speakers are preparing their talks, and your hosts are planning what to wear above their sweatpants. But enough about our Zoom attire (except for Chris Gerling's. You won't believe what he has planned). I wanted to highlight the viticulture sessions that we have planned for this year's conference, and hoping you'll see at least a few talks that you won't want to miss (you can view the entire program on the conference website at <https://www.bevny.org/program2>).

Wednesday, March 3 11:30 AM – 1:30 PM

Grape Growing for Winemakers

When should we pick the grapes? It seems like an easy enough question, but growers and winemakers have lots of factors to consider that have nothing to do with rain forecasts and full tanks. This panel hopes to provide some tools for each party to better communicate their goals and fears for the grapes and subsequent wine so harvest can be as productive and stress-free as possible.

11:30 AM Molly Scott, Director of Grower Relations - JUSTIN Vineyards & Winery, Paso Robles CA

12:15 PM Panel Discussion with New York State Growers & Winemakers

- *Jason Hazlitt, Sawmill Creek Vineyards*

- *Peter Martini, Martini Vineyards*

- *Mario Mazza, Mazza Vineyards*

- *[Rich Olsen-Harbich](#), Bedell Cellars*

Wednesday, March 3 2:00 – 4:00 PM

What Climate Change Might Mean to our Vines and Lakes

In New York, there has always been a strong relationship between water and grapevines, in particular the lakes and rivers (or ocean) that our vineyards are located close to, which help to moderate the climate and make it possible to grow many of the varieties that we grow. Our speakers will bring both international and local perspectives to this session, with information coming from both academic and production experience.

2:00 PM Welcome and Introductory Remarks

- *[Dr. Benjamin Z. Houlton](#), Ronald P. Lynch Dean of the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences, Cornell University*

2:10 PM How Climate Change is Impacting Germany's Vineyards

- *Dr. Hans Schultz, President – Hochschule Geisenheim University, Geisenheim Germany*

- *Dominik Sona, General Manager/Winemaker – Weingut Koehler-Ruprecht, Kallstadt Germany*

3:25 PM Lake Health and Water Quality in a Changing Climate

- *Dr. Lisa Cleckner, Director – Finger Lakes Institute, Geneva NY*

Thursday, March 4 2:00 – 4:00 PM

Integrated Pest Management Topics for Eastern Vineyards

This session has been approved for 2.0 pesticide recertification credits by New York and Pennsylvania

The variable climate from year to year, month to month, or day to day in the East, makes pest management a constant focus of most grape growing operations, regardless of what kinds of grapes are planted. Our speakers will bring valuable information to growers about managing pests in the vineyard, including best practices right now and new options coming down the road.

- 2:00 PM Spotted Lanternfly in New York
 - Brian Eshenaur, Senior Extension Associate – NYS IPM Program
- 2:30 PM Downy Mildew: Past, Present and Future
 - Dr. Katie Gold, Assistant Professor (Grape Pathology) – Cornell AgriTech
- 3:00 PM Weed Management and Herbicide Resistance
 - Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie, Assistant Professor (Weed Science) – Cornell AgriTech
- 3:30 PM Strategies to Manage Field and Hedge Bindweed to Reduce Glyphosate Use
 - [Dr. Bryan Brown](#), Weed Management Specialist – NYS IPM Program
- 3:45 PM A New Sustainable Viticulture Program for NY
 - Sam Filler, Executive Director – NY Wine & Grape Foundation
- 4:00 PM IPM Question & Answer Session
 - All sessions speakers

Friday, March 5 2:00 – 4:00 PM

New Practices and Technologies to Improve Vineyard Management

Friday's session has been developed by our colleagues with the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

With increasing pressure on land, water, and labor resources, it is imperative for the U.S. viticulture industry to develop and adopt new management strategies for sustainability and to improve overall production efficiency. Our speakers will deliver innovative, science-driven, and approachable management tools and strategies to meet the needs of the present and help sustain our industry for future generations.

- 2:00 PM The New MyEV Digital Vineyard Mapping Tool
 - [Dr. Terry Bates](#), Senior Research Associate – Cornell Lake Erie Research & Extension Laboratory, Portland NY
- 2:40 PM Cover Crop Species and Their Intended Services
 - [Joseph Amsili](#), Extension Associate - Cornell University
- 3:20 PM Updates and Improvements to NEWA Website and Other Tools
 - [Dan Olmstead](#), NEWA Coordinator - NYS IPM Program, Geneva NY

Registration - <https://tinyurl.com/bevny-reg>

Registration is just \$75 for all three days of the conference. You can log on to participate in as many (or as

few) sessions as you would like for that price. It's the smorgasbord model of education! If you would like to have access to the recorded sessions after the conference, the fee is \$100.

NY growers and wineries – be sure to enroll or renew as a member of the NY Wine & Grape Foundation by Friday, February 26 to get one free registration (including access to the recordings) to B.E.V. NY!

B.E.V. NY Sponsors

I also wanted to take a moment to thank the companies and organizations that are participating in B.E.V. NY as sponsors this year, especially for the following sessions and speakers that are part of the viticulture program.

Sponsor	Session or Speaker
Waterloo Container	Grape Growing for Winemakers (Wednesday)
H&W Equipment	Peter Martini (panelist in Grape Growing for Winemakers)
NYS Wine Grape Growers	Lisa Cleckner (Lake Health and Water Quality)
Java Farm Supply	Integrated Pest Management for Eastern Vineyards (Thursday)
Nutrien Ag Solutions	Brian Eshenaur (Spotted Lanternfly)
Nichino America	Katie Gold (Downy Mildew)
Helena Agri-Enterprises	Lynn Sosnoskie (Weed Management)
AgBiome	Sam Filler (NY Sustainability Program)
Gowan USA	IPM Q&A Session
Allegheny Farm Services	Terry Bates (MyEV Digital Vineyard Tool)
Hermann J. Wiemer Nursery	Joseph Amsili (Cover Crops)

As part of the Pest Management session at B.E.V. NY next week, we are holding an “open forum” question and answer session on all things pest related – diseases, insects, weeds, invasive pests, etc. All of our speakers, plus one or two others, will be available to answer your questions. While we certainly welcome questions during the session, we would also like to get some questions ahead of time from growers that we can pose to our panel of experts. Posing these questions ahead of time will also allow our speakers the opportunity to provide better answers for you.

I will make all of the questions anonymous, so no need to worry about being identified during the session.

So if you've had something in the back of your mind you've always been wondering about, or wondering about something that happened (or didn't happen) last year, or anything else, please feel free to [send it along to me](#) and I will start compiling them for the Q&A on Thursday, which will take place at the end of the IPM session.



Other Resources

New Podcasts by IPM specialist Bryan Brown, PhD

Bryan Brown, PhD, Integrated Weed Management Specialist, New York State IPM, Cornell University announces a new podcast. (links below!)

The first few podcast episodes focus on trials to regain control of NY's nasty new problem pigweed, tall waterhemp (*Amaranthus tuberculatus*).

More recent episodes are in an interview style, with guest experts Thomas Björkman, Jean-Paul Courtens, Lynn Sosnoskie, and Cerruti Hooks. These episodes delve into cover cropping, physical weed control, weed biology, and the interaction of weed management with insect pest management.

The first season includes eight episodes. The podcast's full name is "Into the Weeds (New York State IPM)" and is available on most platforms, including [Spotify](#) or [Google Podcasts](#). Or just go to the NYSIPM "Weed IPM" webpage to find the podcast link.

We encourage you to add this to your podcast list to get some great IPM information.

To see the original blog visit the [NYS IPM blog](#)



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Cornell Cooperative Extension Chautauqua County

NYS DOT Regulations for Farm Trucks & Equipment

Co-sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County and Chautauqua County Farm Bureau

This virtual program will be held on Tuesday, March 9, 2021 from 12:00 noon - 1:15 pm, presented by Trooper Matt Luft, NYSP Commercial Vehicle Unit. Registration is required.

All farm owners and employees who manage or operate farm trucks and equipment are encouraged to participate in this informational presentation on the current regulations for operating farm trucks and equipment on our local roads. This free program will be offered via Zoom and will include a call-in option.

Topics to be discussed will include:

- Defining a "Commercial Motor Vehicle"
- Licensing and Registrations
- Rules of the Road
- Size and Weights (permits)
- Equipment

The information presented will help keep agricultural businesses in compliance and ensure truck and equipment safety.

NYS DOT Regulations for Farm Trucks & Equipment Zoom Meeting

Tuesday, March 9th from 12:00 Noon – 1:15 pm

Registration is required in advance for this meeting:

https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJ0qduGpqT0pGtcXyMN6wSEmHsp3l6WL_goK

OR

Go to our [Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County Website Home page to register](#):

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. There is no cost to use Zoom or to participate in this informational meeting. You can join the meeting through Zoom on a device with internet access or by telephone.

If you have any questions about using Zoom or registering for the meeting, please call Lisa Kempisty at Cornell Cooperative Extension of Chautauqua County at 716-664-9502 Ext 203 or send an email to lj4@cornell.edu.

Other links of interest:

[LERGP Web-site:](#)

[Cornell Cooperative Extension website:](#)

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

[Efficient Vineyard:](#)

[Appellation Cornell Newsletter:](#)

COVID-19 resources:

Need information? View the following Cornell CALS and CCE Resource Pages Updated Regularly

General Questions & Links:

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

Food Production, Processing & Safety Questions:

<https://instituteforfoodsafety.cornell.edu/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Employment & Agricultural Workforce Questions:

<http://agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/>

Cornell Small Farms Resiliency Resources:

<https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/farm-resilience/>

Financial & Mental Health Resources for Farmers:

<https://www.nyfarmnet.org/>

Cornell Farmworker Program

www.farmworkers.cornell.edu

www.trabajadores.cornell.edu (en espanol)

