



CROP UPDATE

September 23, 2021

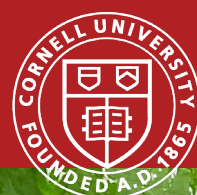
Concords on September 20-
Kim Knappenberger

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



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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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photo credit-
Kim Knappenberger

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We are writing to thank you for reaching out to us and allowing us to be the source that allows this program to continue. In saying that, we are also writing to ask if you might be willing to consider a donation to this loaner program to cover maintenance costs of this piece of equipment.



We are not suggesting or requiring any certain amount, but leaving it up to your discretion.

If you do make a donation, it can be made to LERGP and mailed to:
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Business Management

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

Managing Labor Through Covid -19 Update

Just a reminder, unless current regulations change, tax credits for employees relating to sick time will expire on September 30th, 2021. This is particularly unfortunate timing for our industry. These tax credits are refundable even if payroll tax withholdings are not adequate to cover the cost. The credits cover April – September for smaller employees (all grape farmers would qualify). These tax credits cover more than 100% of daily wages for COVID sick time, vaccination, and recovery. Partial credits are available for family sick leave to care for a family member that has become infected with COVID.

I say this is an unfortunate time – in part because of harvest. I suppose that goes without saying. We now have a growing workforce that is occasionally operating in close proximity. The larger concern, however, is in NY. COVID safety plans for businesses were reactivated in September. This dramatically increases the chance of quarantine and sick time relating to Covid, even if an employee is not infected. Testing times locally have recently increased but at home test kits are sometimes in stock locally. I would recommend investigating testing solutions to eliminate time lost due to employee symptoms or exposures. We've seen countless examples of minor illnesses, colds, fatigue etc. that reduce the size of the workforce until test results come back. Please keep in mind, in NY, failure to implement and enforce a Covid safety plan that involves daily checks, physical distancing and masks can result in a fine.

As a reminder, you all have a safety plan that might need some slight tweaking to conform to the NY Hero's act. However, for the most part, this is a reactivation of the original plans that NY required. You can find the [standards here](https://dol.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/08/p764.pdf). <https://dol.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/08/p764.pdf>

[Plan templates are also available from the NYS DOL.](https://dol.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/07/model-airborne-infectious-disease-exposure-prevention-plan-p765.pdf)

<https://dol.ny.gov/system/files/documents/2021/07/model-airborne-infectious-disease-exposure-prevention-plan-p765.pdf>



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Viticulture

Jennifer Russo, Viticulture Extension Specialist, LERGP

Around the Belt

Driving around the belt this week, I noticed that some vineyards had many shelled grapes under the trellis. In earlier crop updates, we mentioned that when a crop estimate is in the 20 tons/acre range it would mostly likely not come to fruition. The vine needs to ripen fruit and store nutrients for the following growing season. If there is too much fruit, then the vine cannot support all of it and it shells off. This appears to be the case in some of the situations, where minimal pruning management strategies were used, situations of mechanical pruning without hand follow up, or instances where growers gambled by not thinning in hopes of ripening a huge crop. See Photo 1.

Unfortunately, the weather during the past few weeks has continued to be wet. This is another factor causing large berries to split. After 100 Days After Bloom (DAB), the cuticle (berry skin) begins to lose rigidity and when copious amounts of water continue to fall the berries may split. There continues to be a chance of rain throughout this weekend.

This wasn't the only reason for the shelling. In many of the vineyards, it was evident that Grape Berry Moth infestations were taking a toll on the crop. See Photo 2.



Photo 1. Concord shelled berries

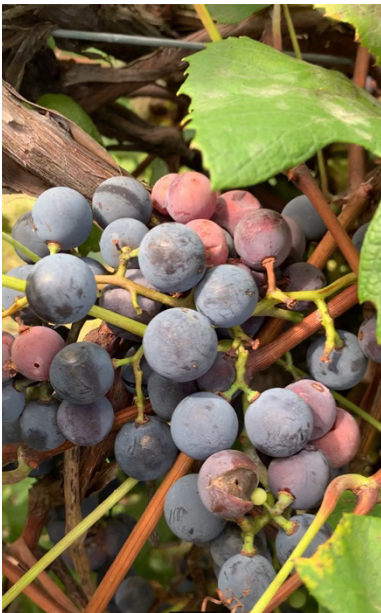


Photo 2. GBM damage

NOAA's National Weather Service Forecast by 12 Hour Period for CLEREL in Portland, NY

Notes: Weather forecasts are sourced from National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Weather Service.

[National Weather Service Forecast \(click to link\)](#)

[NOAA's Disclaimer \(click to link\)](#)

UTC Forecast Time: 2021-09-22T08:37:26+00:00

Today: Rain showers before 8am, then showers and thunderstorms. Cloudy, with a high near 75. South wind around 15 mph. Chance of precipitation is 90%. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

Tonight: Rain showers likely before 10pm, then rain and a slight chance of thunderstorms. Some of the storms could produce heavy rain. Cloudy, with a low around 56. South wind 8 to 14 mph. Chance of precipitation is

100%. New rainfall amounts between a half and three quarters of an inch possible.

Thursday: Rain showers likely before 3pm. Mostly cloudy, with a high near 66. South wind 6 to 12 mph. Chance of precipitation is 70%. New rainfall amounts between a quarter and half of an inch possible.

Thursday Night: Mostly cloudy, with a low around 56. South wind around 15 mph.

Friday: A chance of rain showers after 7am. Partly sunny, with a high near 64. Southwest wind 15 to 20 mph. Chance of precipitation is 30%. New rainfall amounts less than a tenth of an inch possible.

Friday Night: A slight chance of rain showers before 8pm. Partly cloudy, with a low around 54. Chance of precipitation is 20%. New rainfall amounts less than a tenth of an inch possible.

Saturday: A chance of rain showers after 8am. Partly sunny, with a high near 68. Chance of precipitation is 50%. Saturday Night: A chance of rain showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53. Chance of precipitation is 50%. Sunday: A slight chance of rain showers. Mostly sunny, with a high near 63.

Sunday Night: A slight chance of rain showers. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 53.

The Veraison to Harvest Sampling results are sent out to you weekly, and the information that you receive in this Crop Update and the Veraison to Harvest publication are collected on Tuesday morning and reported the same week. The results should never take the place of your own sampling data but to guide and inform you. The Table 1 below is 100 Berry Weight Average in grams, Brix, pH, and Titratable Acid (TA) for varieties in the Lake Erie Grape Region. This table has the weekly data by variety for samples taken on September 20, 2021.

Table 1. Lake Erie Grape Region Veraison to Harvest Sample data from September 20, 2021

9/20/21			Berry Weight	Brix	pH	TA
Cabernet						
Franc	Portland	Lake Erie	1.73	15.8	3.19	9.04
Concord	Portland	Lake Erie	3.97	14.4	3.29	8.44
Frontenac	Sheridan	Lake Erie	1.18	19	3.26	16.07
Marquette	Fredonia	Lake Erie	harvest			
Niagara	Portland	Lake Erie	4.37	15.6	3.3	5.92
Noiret	Sheridan	Lake Erie	1.69	16.4	3.3	9.35
Riesling	Portland	Lake Erie	1.92	17	3.16	8.33
Seyval blanc	Portland	Lake Erie	harvest			
Traminette	Portland	Lake Erie	1.34	14.2	2.96	10.35
Vignoles	Portland	Lake Erie	Harvest			

Table 2 has the progression of the weekly variety samples taken for Veraison to Harvest to visualize the changes over time.

Table 2. Veraison to Harvest data progression for 2021 varieties in the Lake Erie Grape Region

Variety	Date	Grower	100 Count			
			Berry Weight	Brix	pH	TA
Cabernet Franc	8/23/01	Portland	1.25	6.9	2.6	28.94
	8/30/21		1.28	10.9	2.81	19.23
	9/7/21		1.46	13.8	2.94	14.64
	9/13/21		1.79	14.3	3.04	11.5
	9/20/21		1.73	15.8	3.19	9.04
Concord	8/23/01	Portland	2.96	8.2	2.73	21.03
	8/30/21		3.55	10.6	2.98	14.38
	9/7/21		3.69	12.3	3.11	14.22
	9/13/21		3.68	14.1	3.19	9.22
	9/20/21		3.97	14.4	3.29	8.44
Frontenac	8/23/01	Sheridan	1.04	13.5	2.97	21.74
	8/30/21		1.14	16.1	3.06	18.67
	9/7/21		1.09	17.4	3.12	17.48
	9/13/21		1.25	19	3.15	17.52
	9/20/21		1.18	19	3.26	16.07
Marquette	8/23/01	Fredonia	1.56	17.4	2.95	15.27
	8/30/21		1.67	20	3.11	12.61
	9/7/21		1.51	22.3	3.09	12.48
	9/13/21		HARVESTED			
Niagara	8/23/01	Portland	3.89	10.2	2.93	13.19
	8/30/21		4.09	12.9	3.05	8.11
	9/7/21		4.48	15	3.21	7.74
	9/13/21		4.44	15.2	3.23	5.89
	9/20/21		4.37	15.6	3.3	5.92
Noiret	8/23/01	Sheridan	1.47	11.4	2.89	18.01
	8/30/21		1.57	11.7	3.03	15.75
	9/7/21		1.55	14.1	3.11	11.5
	9/13/21		1.63	16.1	3.15	11.13
	9/20/21		1.69	16.4	3.3	9.35
Riesling	8/23/01	Portland	1.6	12.4	2.93	17.37
	8/30/21		1.66	14.9	2.93	13.25
	9/7/21		1.74	16.5	3.05	11.44
	9/13/21		1.60	16.3	2.94	10.26
	9/20/21		1.92	17	3.16	8.33
Seyval blanc	8/23/01	Portland	1.64	13.3	2.98	10.98
	8/30/21		1.72	15.2	3.02	9.13
	9/7/21		1.71	17.2	3.09	8.32
	9/13/21		HARVESTED			
Traminette	8/23/01	Portland	1.25	9.3	2.69	21.96
	8/30/21		1.36	10.5	2.79	16.18

Variety	Date	Grower	100 Count			
			Berry Weight	Brix	pH	TA
Vignoles	9/7/21	Portland	1.50	12.6	2.89	13.37
	9/13/21		1.69	15.4	2.84	11.92
	9/20/21		1.34	14.2	2.96	10.35
	8/23/01		1.41	13.3	2.87	21
	8/30/21		1.66	15.9	2.97	17.95
	9/7/21	HARVESTED				

The final table is a comparison of 2021 Concord Veraison to Harvest samples compared to 2020 Concord samples, Table 3. Keep in mind that the berries are bigger this year and there has been ample amounts of water to swell the berries and dilute the sugars. I am hopeful that during the times of sunshine, the remaining grapes on the vine will progress. The Brix for 2021 vs 2020 are very similar this week even though 2021 average berry weight is 3.96 grams vs 3.15 in 2020.

Table 3. Concord Veraison to Harvest 2021 samples vs 2020 samples

Variety	Date	2021 (g)	2020 (g)	Diff	2021	2020	Diff	2021	2020	Diff	2021	2020	Diff
		Berry Weight	Berry Weight		Brix	Brix		pH	pH		TA	TA	
Concord	8/23/01	2.96	2.49	0.47	8.2	10	-1.8	2.73	2.68	0.05	21.03	18.3	2.73
	8/30/21	3.55	2.64	0.91	10.6	12.1	-1.5	2.98	2.88	0.1	14.38	13.8	0.58
	9/7/21	3.69	2.97	0.7176	12.3	14.6	-2.3	3.11	3.04	0.07	14.22	12.2	2.02
	9/13/21	3.68	3.09	0.59	14.1	16.2	-2.1	3.19	3.12	0.07	9.22	9.7	-0.48
	9/20/21	3.96	3.15	0.81	14.4	14.5	-0.1	3.29	3.18	0.11	8.44	9.4	-0.96



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PA Update

Bryan Hed, Research Technologist, Lake Erie Grape Research and Extension Center

Well, we didn't need the rain, but we got it anyway. From what data we have had access to, we have logged about 3.65" of rain so far in September; our long term average for the month is about 4.35". We've accumulated 411 growing degree days (gdds) so far during September, which will very likely leave us ahead of average in heat accumulation for September, by end of the month. We've accumulated about 2813 gdds since April 1.

Phenology: Brix accumulation in our Concord blocks has slowed over the past week or two; abundant rainfall and cooler, cloudier weather have been less than ideal for ripening, and canopies have noticeably deteriorated as well, especially in our check and minimally sprayed plots, where powdery mildew was not controlled or controlled poorly. I suspect this is the case in other areas of the Lake Erie grape belt.

Diseases: As rains continue, downy mildew remains a threat to susceptible wine varieties, especially vinifera. There aren't a lot of choices for fungicides remaining, but there are some. Unfortunately, materials like Captan and Copper/lime can leave residues on fruit that stop or delay fermentations. On the other hand, these materials might be useful for varieties already harvested, that could benefit from a few more weeks of photosynthesis in preparation for winter (especially for *Vitis vinifera*). Phos acid materials can also be used about up to harvest and are very effective on downy, but applications to more than a little downy mildew can create a cascade of consequences down the road, accelerating the development of resistance to this important FRAC group. For example, IF you choose to apply a phos acid fungicide to a downy mildew infested vineyard to avoid defoliation and crop loss, you should follow up with an application or two of the old standards (captan, mancozeb, copper/lime) after harvest, to quash the population of potentially phos acid resistant isolates of the downy mildew pathogen that may have survived that phos acid spray. IF you're unable to follow up with the old standards, be mindful that phos acid resistant isolates of the downy mildew pathogen may have been selected to overwinter and may make up a significant portion of downy mildew disease cycles next spring, in which case it would be wise to avoid relying on phos acid fungicides during pre-bloom applications in 2022.

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Updates and Information

Kimberly Knappenberger, Viticulture Assistant, LERGP

NEWA Update:

We have been experiencing some inconsistent data reporting from a few of our weather stations across the region. One big thing for station owners to remember is that equipment parked between the station and the receiver will block the radio signal, so please try to keep that in mind during harvest if possible. A great thing about NEWA is that estimated data is added to fill in the holes of the missing data giving you the next best thing and keeping the models as accurate as possible. The East Westfield station is back up but we are currently waiting for it to arrive back on the NEWA website. If you reference that station, keep checking back. It should arrive there soon! As always, if you notice something is not quite right on your favorite weather station please send an email to ksk76@cornell.edu.

In about a week the website is officially switching over! If you are still using the original NEWA website you will notice a difference at the beginning of October. The web address for the old site will soon take you to the new site. Once there you can create an account that allows you to customize your dashboard with the stations and tools that are most important to you. To learn more about creating your profile you can click this link to [Get Started with NEWA](#).

NEWA Special notice:

RainWise is experiencing ongoing site-wide data server outages that started at 10PM last night. This impacts direct access to the rainwise.net customer dashboard but also stopped data streams from RainWise stations that normally update on the hour to the NEWA platform. If you have tried accessing stations on the NEWA website you will find that there is estimated data from that point. Rainwise technicians are actively working toward resolution to the issue.

The screenshot displays the NEWA website's 'Find a Weather Station' page. At the top, the NEWA logo is visible alongside navigation links for 'News Blog', 'Get Help', and 'Login or Create Profile'. Below the header, a green banner states 'Your source for weather and science-driven IPM tools'. The main heading is 'Find a Weather Station' with the subtitle 'for up-to-date IPM forecasts and weather data.' A search bar shows 'Harborcreek (Escarpment), PA' selected. The page is divided into two main columns. The left column features a map of the region with a search bar and a list of nearby stations. The right column provides an 'Overview' for the selected station, including current weather (58°F), base temperature (50°F), relative humidity (78%), dew point (51°F), and wind speed (15 mph). Below the overview is a '5-Day Weather Forecast' table. At the bottom, there are two sections: 'IPM & Crop Tools' and 'Weather Tools', each with links to various resources. A footer banner reads 'The Tools I Want, Where I Want.' with a call to action to 'Create a NEWA profile to customize your weather dashboard and store biofix details.'

Thursday 9/23/2021	Friday 9/24/2021	Saturday 9/25/2021	Sunday 9/26/2021	Monday 9/27/2021	Tuesday 9/28/2021
61 52	64 52	66 54	64 53	68 95	69 58

Grape Commodity Survey (CAPS)

We have officially wrapped up the annual grape commodity survey conducted by the NYS IPM Program and the regional grape programs of New York. In the Lake Erie region we had 108 traps deployed in 8 vineyards and 2 nurseries. The target moths were the same as those trapped for last year: the European Grape Berry Moth, European Grapevine Moth and the Christmas Berry Webworm. No target moths were collected during the 14 weeks that the traps were set. In addition the grape programs were tasked with scouting for the various life stages of the Spotted Lanternfly during the survey. None have been found in the region to date, and we are continuing to scout and ask that you keep your eyes open too. Currently you would be looking for adults and egg masses. If you suspect that you have found one try to take a picture and capture and kill it. Placing it in a bottle or bag with some hand sanitizer will do the trick. Then report it to NYS Department of Agriculture and Markets at this link or you can send an email to spottedlanternfly@agriculture.ny.gov. You will need to know the location that it was found (address, intersecting roads, landmarks or GPS coordinates).

In PA report it online at this link or via phone by calling 1-888-4BADFLY.

PPE

If you need hand sanitizer and masks we have it! Let Kim know at ksk76@cornell.edu.



Spotted Lanternfly adult

*slf multiple egg masses and slf adults
on end post-photo: Heather Leach,
Penn State University*

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

<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)