CROP UPDATE
February 17, 2022

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

Diversity and Inclusion are a part of Cornell University’s heritage. We are a recognized employer and educator valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities.
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.

In this copy:

2022 Winter Grower Conference Info- please register and join us!

“Round-Up Date” -Kevin Martin

Overview LERGP Virtual Conference Part #2 - Jennifer Phillips Russo

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Click here to watch LERGP Podcasts
There’s no end to the potential hazards your crops face: freeze, hail, wind, insects and disease. And those are just the natural disasters. As a fruit farmer, you also have to deal with other variables like fluctuating market prices.

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LERGP
Winter Grape Grower Conference

Registration is **OPEN**!

Wednesday, March 16, 2022
Williams Center, SUNY Fredonia

You can register anytime from now through March 4th, 2022.

March- In Person at SUNY Fredonia

Visit [LERGP web-site](#) for full information.

DE.C and PDA credits available.

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LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM
2022 GRAPE GROWERS’ Winter Series CONFERENCE REGISTRATION FORM
SUNY Fredonia Williams Center
Thursday, March 19, 2020
Deadline for registration is Friday, March 6, 2020.

Name (1st attendee) _______________________________ $__________
Farm Name ____________________________________________
Address, City, State, Zip Code _________________________________________________
_______________________________________                   
Phone__________________________________ E-mail_____________________________
Are you enrolled in Lake Erie Regional Grape Program (LERGP)? Yes_______ No_____

REGISTRATION FEES

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<tr>
<td>LERGP Member 1st attendee (includes all 3 sessions)</td>
<td>$ 100.00</td>
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<tr>
<td>Additional attendee on same farm</td>
<td>$ 35.00</td>
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<td>Non- member</td>
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Additional Attendees:
$  
$  
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TOTAL $_______

*Please add a $25.00 late fee for each reservation made after March 4, 2022

Please make check payable to LERGP (Lake Erie Regional Grape Program) and mail to: Kate Robinson
LERGP
6592 W Main Rd
Portland NY 14769

(US funds only)

Name _______________________________ NY DEC/PA PDA NUMBER __________________
Name _______________________________ NY DEC/PA PDA NUMBER __________________
Name _______________________________ NY DEC/PA PDA NUMBER __________________

Date Ck. Rec’d          Amount

Call Kate at 716-792-2800 ext 201 with any questions.
“Round Up-Date”

News for Round up continues to get worse. Bayer has run into long-term production issues and will not be delivering normal quantities to suppliers. Deliveries may be minimal for months. Spot prices for round-up have already searched upward in some markets. This will continue to pressure the market for other post-emergent herbicides.

It appears based on this news; one big change here is the probable length of time that Round-up will be in short supply. It now appears as though there is potential for this shortage to continue into the 2023 growing season. It’s hard to predict that far out but that appears to be what we are looking at right now.

It is shaping up to be the most expensive herbicide option available to growers. At these prices many growers that continue to battle perennial weeds will have very few options to save on costs and need to hope high grape prices continue for the length of the round-up shortage. Even with prices exceeding 100 per gallon, it will still be difficult to control weeds mechanically. In some cases, no other options are effective, depending on the weed species.

While some post-emergent weed control will be necessary, less effective post emergent programs will require a greater investment in pre-emergent herbicides. The scientific recommendation of best practices is to use scouting to allow lower rates when possible. The other key piece of advice, other than identifying weeds, is to make sure temperatures and adjuvants allow for herbicides to achieve maximum effectiveness.

Technological advances are always at least a year away. Weed seeker type sprayers are due for an improvement and vision technology is paving the way. Even current variable rate sprayers are more likely to pay, given the current price climate. Electric sprayers offer the promise of zero material costs. The technology is not commercially available and will require most growers to purchase a new tractor and significantly increase fuel use.

In addition to maximizing efficiency for post-emergent materials like Round-up; it may be beneficial to expand the use of cover crops. Row middle management is the biggest concern as pre-emergent herbicides in row middles would be impractical in mechanized vineyards. Cover crops may increase the effectiveness of mowing, rolling and lowering the rates and frequency of herbicides.
The LERGP 2nd Virtual Conference

The Lake Erie Regional Grape Team developed an excellent program lined up for the 2022 Winter Grower Conference featuring experts from many fields. The LERGP grower advisory panel had many suggestions of important topics that they wanted information from. As always, each conference day program is full of information on the latest research-based tools that can be taken home and applied to your vineyard.

On Wednesday, February 16, 2022, from 9-12 PM we held the last of our Virtual Conference dates in this Winter Grower Series. We were pleased to have approximately 60 attendees for this session. If you missed it, you may still receive a recorded copy of the meeting with your registration and attendance at the in-person final session to be held on March 16, 2022 at the Williams Center located on SUNY Fredonia Campus from 8 AM – 5 PM. Those who were in attendance may request a copy of the session by contacting any member of the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program by email. All of our contact information can be found on our website or on page 2 of this Crop Update.

2022 Pest Management Spray Schedule – What’s Your Plan?
The final virtual session provided attendees with 3 NYS DEC category recertification credits and 6 PDA category recertification credits. This was a three-hour course with three separate presentations.

Our first presenter was Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie, Assistant Professor, School of Integrative Plant Science Horticulture Section Cornell AgriTech. Lynn’s research and extension outreach focuses on sustainable weed management in vegetable and fruit crops. Since arriving at Cornell, Lynn has been working with Regional Viticulture Extension Specialists and has also been conducting experimental trials on-farm and at research vineyards, including work at CLEREL. Lynn’s presentation discussed her work in vineyards, touched on weed identification for chemical and mechanical weed management, as well as current research with new technologies such as electrical weeders, precision spot sprayers, and more. We are excited to continue to collaborate with Dr. Sosnoskie and what the future for weed management holds for our industry.

Up next on the agenda was Bryan Hed, Penn State University Research Technologist with the Lake Erie Grape Research and Extension Center in North East, PA. Bryan is an asset to our team with areas of expertise in grape diseases and fungal pathogen biology, fungicide efficacy testing for conventional and organic grape production systems, cultural/non-chemical control of late season bunch rots of grapes, epidemiology of grapevine leafroll associated viruses, varietal susceptibility to grape disease, integrated grape disease management, and development of effective conventional and organic fungicide programs. He presented on his latest research trials and chemicals for the diseases that affect our industry giving the attendees tools
for the upcoming growing season.

And the final presentation of the morning was given by LERGP & Penn State Extension grape IPM Specialist, Andy Muza. Andy’s presentation focus on the insect side of pest management with particular focus on identification and thresholds. All of the insects that we may encounter throughout the growing season were represented, as well as, the invasive Spotted Lanternfly.

This meeting was intended to be interactive so that growers had the ability to ask questions concerning specific pest problems or potential problems in the 2022 season. Topics that were addressed included: timing of spray applications at critical growth stages; pesticide options, efficacy; and resistance management.

It is not too late to receive the information that was presented at this virtual meeting. All one needs to do is register for the Winter Grower Conference Series and we can provide you with a copy of both of the Virtual Sessions. It’s not too late. You can still register by clicking this link: Click to Register. If you need pesticide recertification category credits, the in-person meeting still offers THREE NYS DEC and SIX PDA credits.

As of this week, we are still planning on meeting in-person in March. Please be aware that if the in-person conference gets shut down due to COVID restrictions, then we will be holding it virtually on the same day. Our regional growers and industry stakeholders come to the LERGP Growers Conference in March of each year to hear the research-based information being developed by Cornell and Penn State faculty and extension staff as well as other speakers from across the country, but many are also looking for those elusive pesticide recertification credits required by the NYS DEC and PDA. For those attending this year’s conference on March 16th at Fredonia State University, you will not be disappointed.

Need help with pruning? Thinning, suckering, and tying? Canopy management in the summer? Harvest hands?

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