

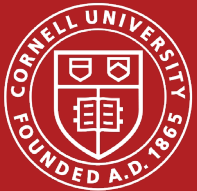


Concords on September 6, 2022  
Kim Knappenberger

# CROP UPDATE September 8, 2022



Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program





## In this copy:

NYS Farm Labor Overtime- *Kevin Martin*- [page 3](#)

In the Vineyard-*Jennifer Phillips Russo* - [page 4](#)

GDD Chart- [page 6](#)

Survey from Lynn Sosnoskie, EPA Links- [page 7](#)

Clean Sweep Program Details- [page 9](#)

PA Vineyard Updates- *Bryan Hed*- [page 10](#)

## How to reach us:

**Jennifer Phillips Russo - LERGP Viticulture Specialist:**

[jjr268@cornell.edu](mailto:jjr268@cornell.edu)

(716) 640-5350

**Kevin Martin – LERGP Business Management Specialist:**

[kmm52@psu.edu](mailto:kmm52@psu.edu)

(716) 397-9674

**Kim Knappenberger – LERGP NEWA and Vineyard Improvement Program Contact**

[ksk76@cornell.edu](mailto:ksk76@cornell.edu)

716-792-2800 ext 209

**Kate Robinson – Administrative Assistant**

[kjr45@cornell.edu](mailto:kjr45@cornell.edu)

716-792-2800 ext 201

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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.*

# Business Management

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

## NYS Farm Labor Overtime

Farm overtime rules for harvest remain unchanged. The farm labor wage board in NYS did issue a final recommendation to gradually reduce the threshold for overtime from 60 hours to 40 hours. This recommendation will be reviewed by the commissioner of labor, she has 45 days to review the report.

The most important thing I can say is nothing is changing right now. A day of rest is still required, as is overtime pay for a day of rest that an employee chose to work. Overtime pay (1.5x) is required when hours exceed 60.

A lot of how this will play out is unknown. It seems like over the long-term it will eventually make labor quite a bit more expensive and place a lot of pressure on farms to reduce their reliance on labor and shift toward automation, technology, and innovation. In fact, this is a stated goal of the policy, to reduce overwork. For now NYS has set up tax credits that will more than offset the cost of any overtime. It remains to be seen whether or not these tax credits will be permanent. So long as these tax credits exist, growers need to manage their labor workforce to maximize the value of these credits. If growers do that, they'll be a competitive advantage and be able to pay higher wages at less cost. This is the reality in the short-term.

If the overtime rules are adopted by NYS and credits are eventually eliminated, the cost of labor will go up significantly. The industry will have about six years to adopt and overcome these challenges, or at least learn how to manage the credits. Most forecasts say wage rates will increase by 15%, but this will be highly dependent on the industry.

The one thing you can do now is look for ways to incentivize workers to work 500 hours for you. NYS covers at least 10% of wages when farm workers hit 500 hours. The assumption here is that  $500 \times 20 = \$10,000$ . Farmers (as defined by tax law) get a \$1,200 credit for each of those workers.  $\$1,200 / \$10,000 = 12\%$ . NYS provides no credit for workers than work 499 hours or any larger credit to a worker than works more than 500 hours.

It is business as usual in PA. There remains active discussion regarding the minimum wage. Inflation and wage pressure have made minimum wage largely irrelevant in PA. Even minimum wage increases that are proposed will only put a slight amount of pressure on low-end wages. The most generous proposals could increase farmworker wages by 10% or less.

# Viticulture

Jennifer Russo, Viticulture Extension Specialist, LERGP

## In the Vineyard

The weather has been a bit dreary this past week and I have been receiving more phone calls about disease and crunchy leaves in canopies. Last year many growers around the region experienced the highest yields in their career. Pushing your vines has tradeoffs. Many acres around the belt started off the season a bit stressed and the cost of inputs were very high driving some decisions to pull back on nutrition and different spray product choices. That coupled with a dry June and July, you can notice nutrient deficiencies in some blocks. We have also had precipitation and wetting events that sparked infection periods for disease and that is becoming evident in places, as well as splitting berries. Be sure to read Bryan Hed's contribution to the Crop Update for more information.

However, the lower yields around the belt, the hot and dry weather that we have had up to this last week, and early phenology stages this year have really progressed Brix accumulation. Our Concord bloom date was June 8, 2022, a full week ahead of the historical average bloom date of June 14<sup>th</sup>, Veraison was August 17<sup>th</sup>, which is five days earlier than the historical average of August 22<sup>nd</sup>. I have received reports of Concord vineyard blocks testing over 15 Brix, but industry reports average 13.9 across the region. Balanced, healthy vines will go a long way to hanging fruit longer for harvest. Juice processors have begun Niagara harvest and anticipate Concord starting the week of September 19<sup>th</sup>.

Dr. Terry Bates and his team track the Concord fresh berry weight and juice soluble solids from the phenology block at the Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Lab in Portland, NY are both running just above the long-term average for the block. In general, the crop size is smaller than in 2021 and we experienced earlier than average bloom and veraison in 2022. See Figure 1 below for Fresh Berry Weight and Figure 2 for Brix Accumulation.

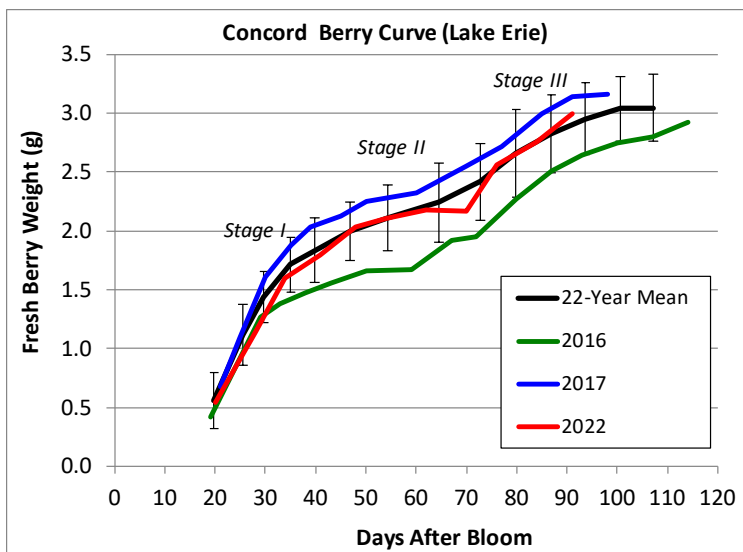


Figure 1. Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory Concord Fresh Berry Weight Curve as of 9/8/22

With harvest underway, I have heard of growers using equipment and machinery brought up from Pennsylvania and other areas in zones where there are known Spotted Lanternfly populations. Please be diligent about inspecting all equipment for egg masses that can have many appearances from rows of uncovered eggs, partially covered, and fully covered with the appearance of a splotch of mud. If found, scrape eggs into a container of rubbing alcohol or hand sanitizer and be sure to report it at [ReportSLF.com](https://ReportSLF.com) for NYS ([Click Here](#)) and to PDA ([Click Here PA reporting](#)).

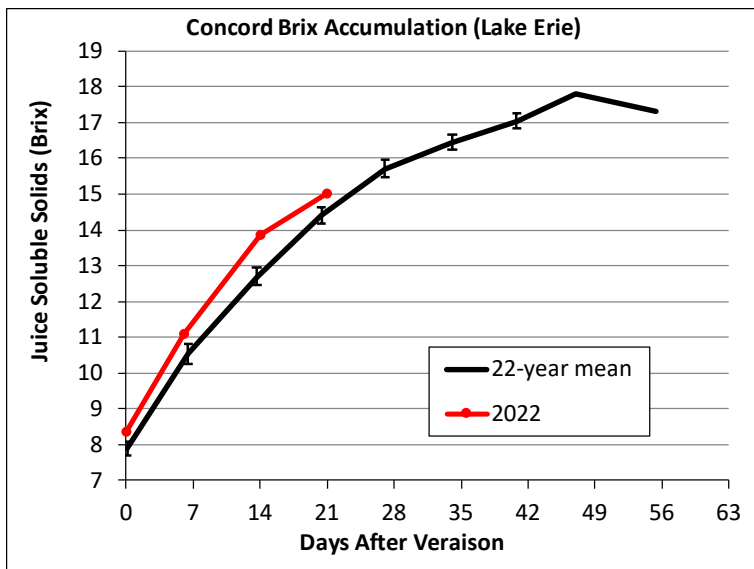


Figure 2. Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory Concord Brix Accumulation Curve as of 9/8/22



Photo 1. Spotted Lanternfly adult and egg mass.  
Copyright: Emelie Swackhamer, Penn State University

## **NOAA's National Weather Service Forecast by 12 Hour Period**

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: 2022-09-08T08:37:04+00:00

Thursday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 61. East wind 2 to 9 mph. Friday: Sunny, with a high near 79. West wind 5 to 9 mph.

Friday Night: Mostly clear, with a low around 64. Southeast wind 6 to 13 mph. Saturday: Sunny, with a high near 80.

Saturday Night: A slight chance of rain showers after 2am. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 65.

Sunday: A chance of rain showers. Partly sunny, with a high near 78. Chance of precipitation is 30%.

Sunday Night: A chance of rain showers before 8pm, then a chance of showers and thunderstorms. Mostly cloudy, with a low around 63. Chance of precipitation is 40%.

Monday: A chance of rain showers before 2pm, then showers and thunderstorms likely. Partly sunny, with a high near 75. Chance of precipitation is 60%.

<b>NEWA Location</b>	<b>Wild grape bloom date*</b>	<b>DD total on Sept 8</b>	<b>Forecasted GBM GDD for Sept 13</b>
Brant	May 27	2381	2489
Versailles	May 30	2251	2361
Hanover	May 30	2317	2429
Sheridan	May 28	2449	2561
Silver Creek (Route 5)	May 31	2394	2509
Silver Creek (Double A)	May 28	2452	2564
Dunkirk Airport	May 29	2464	2576
Forestville	May 29	2355	2467
East Fredonia	May 31	2256	2369
Fredonia	May 31	2273	2387
Brocton Escarpment	May 30	2296	2406
Portland	May 30	2347	2460
Portland (LERGP West)	May 29	2455	2569
East Westfield	May 31	2268	2381
Westfield	May 31	2319	2432
Ripley	May 30	2397	2512
Ripley Escarpment	May 30	2323	2437
Ripley State Line	May 30	2384	2498
North East State Line	May 31	2265	2372
North East Escarpment	May 29	2366	2473
North East Sidehill	May 30	2310	2417
North East Lab	May 30	2439	2557
Harborcreek	May 30	2364	2479
Harborcreek Escarpment	May 31	2204	2316
Lake City	May 31	2376	2488
Ransomville	May 30	2437	2554
Burt	June 7	2060	2176
Corwin	June 1	2245	2358
*Estimated date provided by NEWA website			
*** Not on forecast yet			

Table 2. Lake Erie Region Grape Berry Moth Growing Degree Days as of September 8, 2022  
provided by Kim Knappenberger



## Anonymous Herbicide Resistance Survey:

With the recent documentation of evolved herbicide resistance in New York, including Palmer amaranth (glyphosate, ALS-inhibitors), waterhemp (glyphosate, ALS-inhibitors), horseweed (glyphosate, ALS-inhibitors, paraquat), lambsquarters (bentazon), Cornell is looking to get a better feel for the current “state of the state” with respect to herbicide performance and failure. Specifically, we want to survey growers/land managers/crop consultants/extension specialists/industry personnel, etc..., across cropped (e.g. agronomic, vegetable, fruit), ornamental/horticultural (e.g. Christmas tree farms, golf courses), and non-cropped (e.g. industrial, road-sides) systems in NY. This survey is very short and should be quick to answer. It is also completely anonymous. Answers will help Cornell weed scientists plan future research and extension projects. Please access the survey using the link below.

[https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV\\_a2F9urYcHjpl5Ay](https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a2F9urYcHjpl5Ay)

If you have any questions, feel free to reach out to me.

Lynn M Sosnoskie, PhD  
Assistant Professor  
Weed Ecology and Management for Specialty Crops  
School of Integrative Plant Sciences - Horticulture Section  
221 Hedrick Hall  
Cornell AgriTech  
New York State Agricultural Experiment Station  
Geneva NY, 14456  
315-787-2231      lms438@cornell.edu

	<p><b>NORTH EAST FRUIT GROWERS</b> 2297 KLOMP ROAD, NORTH EAST, PA 16428 <b>814.725.3705</b> NEFRUITGROWERS@VERIZON.NET OPEN YEAR-ROUND MONDAY - FRIDAY 8AM - 5PM OPEN SATURDAYS APRIL - NOVEMBER 8AM - NOON</p>	
<p><b>DRYSHOD</b> WATERPROOF FOOTWEAR The world's most wearable rubber boot. <a href="http://dryshodusa.com">dryshodusa.com</a></p>	<p>ALL-NATURAL  <b>Aspen Song</b> WILD BIRD FOOD</p>	<p><b>BULK FERTILIZER</b> <b>BAGGED FERTILIZER</b> <b>CHEMICALS</b> <b>VINEYARD SUPPLIES</b> <b>ORCHARD SUPPLIES</b> <b>PRUNING SUPPLIES</b> <b>GLOVES &amp; BOOTS</b> <b>POND PRODUCTS</b> <b>PRODUCE PACKAGING</b> <b>HOME OWNER SUPPLIES</b> <b>&amp; SO MUCH MORE!</b></p>
		

## EPA LINKS:

**US EPA Pesticide home page (sign up to receive pesticide updates)**

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticides>

**US EPA Pesticide Registration Review**

General information:

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-reevaluation>

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-reevaluation/registration-review-process>

**Upcoming pesticide registration review actions:**

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-reevaluation/upcoming-registration-review-actions>

**FY22 completed pesticide registration review actions (updated every quarter; new page will be**

**created for FY23)**

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-reevaluation/completed-registration-review-actions-fy-2022-quarters-1-2-and-3>

**US EPA Pesticide Registration**

<https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-registration>

**US EPA Pesticides and Endangered Species Act**

General information:

<https://www.epa.gov/endangered-species>

**Workplan and progress toward better protections for endangered species:**

<https://www.epa.gov/endangered-species/epas-workplan-and-progress-toward-better-protections-endangered-species>

**Gain Access to Pesticide and Other Dockets**

<https://www.regulations.gov/>

**Directions on how to subscribe to dockets:**

<https://www.regulations.gov/faq?anchor=subscriptions>



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## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

**1** PRE-REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED to participate in CleanSweepNY. Obtain a registration form from NYSDEC by telephone at **518-225-8146** or by e-mail at: [cleansweep@dec.ny.gov](mailto:cleansweep@dec.ny.gov)

**2** RETURN COMPLETED REGISTRATION FORM TO NYSDEC BY THE DEADLINE OF **September 19, 2022**

Participants will be sent CleanSweepNY information which will include your drop-off date, drop-off time and location.

**3** Safely transport your items to the assigned collection site.



The CleanSweepNY Program will host locations in the following locations:

**Falconer (Sept. 27, 2022)**

**Hornell (Sept. 28, 2022)**

**Watkins Glen (Sept. 29, 2022)**

**Castle Creek (Sept. 30, 2022)**

### ***Be a Part of CleanSweepNY!***

**Help manage unwanted or unusable pesticides, fertilizers, paints and other chemicals**

**Disposal is free to farmers, owners of former farms and certified applicators/technicians!**

**Homeowners/households are not eligible for CleanSweepNY disposal**



***Fall 2022 Program  
NY Southern Tier***



**Department of  
Environmental  
Conservation**

# PA Update

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

Weather: At our location by the lake, our monthly total rainfall stands at 0.52 inches for the first seven days of September. Our growing degree day total for the month of September is currently about 140, and we have accumulated 2481 gdds from April 1. High temps will be in the upper 70s to about 80, with lows in the mid 60s, over the next few days. Tomorrow (Friday, Sep 9) should be dry, but there is a 20% chance for rain on Saturday, increasing to 30-40% on Sunday and a 60% chance on Monday.

Phenology: Brix at our location has not really budged over the past week. I blame it on several days of wet weather. Most locations along the belt received anywhere from a half inch to one inch of rain, with a few locations recording well over an inch. To add insult to injury (or in this case, injury to insult) is the fact that we are also seeing a fair amount of berry splitting in Concord, which is susceptible to this type of damage during ripening. Though some of the rain amounts we got don't seem to be that dramatic, the fact that the air has been saturated over the past four days has probably contributed significantly to this phenomenon; moisture is simply absorbed right through the skin causing berries to swell and split. Some of this splitting appears to be associated with grape berry moth damage, but certainly not all of it. These berries will not heal over and will likely rot or shell as they become colonized by fungal and bacterial spores floating around in the vineyard air.

What to do about it!???? For splitting in wine grapes, a Botrytis spray will help to minimize fruit loss from Botrytis (but only Botrytis), though it's going to be hard to protect berries with such major injury, and at such a high sugar level. Botrytis specific materials are, as a group, expensive. One of the most affordable materials is Elevate (fenhexamid) at 1 lb/A, which can be applied up to the day of harvest (so no worries about pre-harvest intervals). But at 40-50 bucks an acre, that's a tough sell for juice grape growers, where canopy penetration to the fruit is also going to limit efficacy. So, for juice growers, I don't think we can spray our way out of this one.

An insecticide spray may also be prudent on wine varieties, to reduce the potential for sour rot problems. Temperatures climbing back into the upper 70s and possibly 80s, over the next few days, will favor sour rot and fruit fly development. The addition of a sterilant, like oxidate, may also help to reduce the advance of sour rot.



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