CROP UPDATE
October 6, 2022

Concords on 10/3/2022-
Kim Knappenberger

Cornell Cooperative Extension
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program
How to reach us:

Jennifer Phillips Russo - LERGP Viticulture Specialist:
jir268@cornell.edu
(716) 640-5350

Kevin Martin – LERGP Business Management Specialist:
kmm52@psu.edu
(716) 397-9674

Kim Knappenberger – LERGP NEWA and Vineyard Improvement Program Contact
ksk76@cornell.edu
716-792-2800 ext 209

Kate Robinson – Administrative Assistant
kjr45@cornell.edu
716-792-2800 ext 201

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.
Can you help us?

We want to include a picture of an old piece of grape farming equipment or a nostalgic photo of back in the day grape farming on each month of our 2023 LERGP calendar. We would love to have your photos for our calendar!

If you would like to share a photo, email it to me at kjr45@cornell.edu

1970 - No more pulling a harvester behind the tractor. Introducing the first Chisolm Ryder - self propelled and the ability to harvest six to eight tons of grapes per hour. posted on Pinterest by Grape Growers of Ontario
Chautauqua County Farm Bureau® is working hard to gain workforce options, retain necessary protectants, and ensure policy that benefits our growers.

Join Today!

NYFB.org  800-342-4143
NYS Farm OT is Official

NYS has decided for now to plan on rolling out lower thresholds for farm labor overtime. As a reminder the current threshold is 60 hours in a week or voluntarily working on a day of rest. In 2024 it will be lowered by 4 hours per week. Every other year it will be lowered by 4 more hours. By 2032 the threshold will be 40 hours per week.

A number of tax credits could theoretically lower the cost of labor in NYS, despite these recommendations. One tax credit in particular will refund the cost of overtime between 40 and 60 hours to the farmer. Funding for this credit is subject to the budget process and that does cause some planning concern for farmers. Farmers will also have to wait until taxes are filed to secure a refund.

Managing labor and/or replacing labor will be key to sustainability by 2032. This credit complicates matters because it makes the costs unknown if individuals think the credit will not last. If this credit becomes entrenched, it will still require managing your labor force and payroll records in a way that small farms have not always done.

Another tax credit, the Farm Workforce Retention Credit has been provided to farmers that employee workers for more than 500 hours per year. The value of this tax credit has been increased from $250 per employee to $600. I have noticed two important mistakes accountants make with this credit. 1. They forget to file for the credit. 2. They count two employees both under 500 hours as 1 retained employee to maximize the credit. That is allowable but the instructions on the credit are very specific. One employee must be replacing another employee due to illness or disability and documentation must be retained by the farmer.
New York Wine Industry:
Economic Impact Study 2022

Presented by WineAmerica, The National Association of American Wineries

WineAmerica, the National Association of American Wineries in Washington, commissioned a 2022 National Economic Impact Study of the Wine Industry by John Dunham & Associates. The study shows that the New York wine industry generated nearly $15 billion for the American economy in 2022. Since all 50 states produce and consume wine, the study includes detailed data for each state. Below is the information for New York.

New York Wine Industry Highlights

**Total Output:** The wine industry generates close to $14.93 billion in total economic activity in the State of New York, dramatically illustrating that wine is the ultimate value-added beverage. The broader economic impact flows throughout the state, generating business for firms seemingly unrelated to the wine industry. Real people, with real jobs, working in industries as varied as farming, banking, accounting, manufacturing, packaging, transportation, printing, and advertising depend on the wine industry for their livelihoods.

**State Reach:** The New York wine industry includes a total of 470 wine producers¹ as well as 3,025 acres of vineyards².

**Job Creation:** The New York wine industry directly employs as many as 54,583 people, and generates an additional 15,027 jobs in supplier and ancillary industries which supply goods and services to the industry, and whose sales depend on the wine industry’s economic activity. Ultimately, 92,731 jobs are created and supported by the wine industry.

**Wage Generation:** The New York wine industry provides good jobs, paying an average of $60,800 in annual wages and benefits. The total wages generated by direct, indirect, and induced economic activity driven by the wine industry are $5.64 billion.

**Tourist Activity:** The New York wine industry is a major magnet for tourists and tourism-driven expenses. New York’s “wine country” regions generates 5.63 million tourist visits and $1.91 billion in annual tourism expenditures, benefiting local economies and tax bases.

**Tax Revenue:** The New York wine industry generates sizeable tax revenues on the local, state, and national levels. In 2022, the industry will pay nearly $729.15 million in state and local taxes, and $846.59 million in federal taxes for a total of $1.58 billion. In addition, the industry generates approximately $59.75 million federal consumption taxes and $273.48 million in state consumption taxes which include excise and sales taxes.

¹ – Throughout this study, the winery count refers to the number of winery facilities. A single winery may have multiple facilities throughout the state or country. Each of these facilities is included in the winery count.

² – Vineyards not directly owned by wineries. Some of these jobs may be double counted in the winery impacts. Limited data available makes it difficult to estimate the impact from vineyards that are owned and operated by wineries. The impact of winery owned vineyards is already captured in the winery economic impact.
Labor Roadshow VI-
offered by New York’s Ag Workforce Development Council

New York’s Ag Workforce Development Council (AWDC) Labor Roadshow VI heads back on the road with three in person sites and one online option for 2022. The program will run from 8:30 am to 4:30 pm. Registration is required, and payment of $65 per person is collected on site. Agenda, registration, and more details are available at agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/labor-roadshow-v.

November 9: Genesee Community College-Batavia Campus, One College Road, Batavia, NY 14020-9704. Room T119 Lecture Hall, Conable Technology Building.
November 10: Cayuga Onondaga BOCES, 1879 West Genesee Street Rd, Auburn, NY 13021. Conference Room 1, 2, 3.
Online Option: on November 10, 2022 only, the event will be broadcast for remote audiences and recorded for paid registrants to view later.
November 22: CCE Saratoga Auditorium, 50 West High Street, Ballston Spa, NY 12020.

Labor continues to be the primary challenge for many farm businesses and Labor Roadshow VI tackles those challenges head-on with topics:

- Attracting and retaining your farm workforce
- Management strategies in a union eligible work environment
- TN Visas: Introduction to the program and best practices for using
- The H-2A Program: Accessing guest workers for all types of farms
- Producer’s real-world experiences with H-2A
- Farm Safety: Real world tips for building a strong safety culture
- Farm-provided employee housing management and development
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.

Crop Growers is here to help. Our multi-peril crop insurance will protect your business when Mother Nature (or the market) lashes out, making sure you’re still standing when the skies clear.

Call a Crop Growers agent today.
In the Vineyard
Concord harvest is in full swing and other red varieties continue to hang on the vine to reach the quality standards that our short growing season allows. Reports from our industry representatives are that things are going well, with a few comments about berry moth damage and the difference in berry size between vineyard locations. There have been reports of poor vine growth and winter injury in some locations where vines ripened late last year, were picked late, didn’t get picked, and lost leaves early. If one of your vineyards falls within one of the previously mentioned categories, then please look at last week’s Crop Update where I wrote about Drs. Terry Bates and Nelson Shaulis’s work on vine balance and crop load. Another industry representative stated that they are seeing sugars come up and yields are continuing to run higher than estimated at the western end of the belt.

Dr. Terry Bates wrote a Vit Blog on using precision viticulture to improve Concord Crop Estimation to help our industry stakeholders, please see below:

Using Bloom NDVI to Improve Concord Crop Estimation

Written By Terry Bates
In this MyEV spatial data example, we use a single bloom time NDVI canopy scan to direct crop estimation samples in a Concord vineyard. Then the in-field samples are used to translate the spatial NDVI map into a predicted yield map. Please click the link below to watch the supporting video: https://youtu.be/jp6dPUGdrlM

For a more detailed tutorial on cleaning, trimming, and interpolating raw spatial data, please see Early Season Grapevine Shoot Mapping or see the MyEV Documentation page. To learn more about how to do Concord crop estimation, see this article.

Short Survey on Herbicide Resistance
Lynn Sosnoskie - Assistant Professor of Weed Science, Cornell AgriTech
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 wants to better understand the current “state of the state” with respect to herbicide performance and failure. Specifically, we are surveying 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, roadsides) systems in NY to describe the distribution of herbicide resistance in the state.

This survey is VERY SHORT and should be QUICK to answer. It is also COMPLETELY ANONYMOUS. Your responses will help Cornell weed scientists plan future research and extension projects. You can access the survey using the link below.
https://cornell.ca1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_a2F9urYcHjpl5Ay
Free Mental Health First Aid Trainings for Ag Communities of New York State

Did you know that farmers are more likely than the general population to die by suicide?

NY FarmNet is collaborating with county Cornell Cooperative Extension offices this fall to offer free, full day, in person Mental Health First Aid (MHFA) courses. Farmers, agribusiness workers, and anyone who interacts with the agricultural community in New York is encouraged to attend. Trainings run from 8am to 5pm, and lunch will be provided from a local eatery with a one hour break.

Mental Health First Aid teaches you how to identify, understand, and respond to signs of mental health and substance use challenges among adults. You’ll build skills and confidence you need to reach out and provide initial support to those who are struggling. You’ll also learn how to help connect them to appropriate support.

After the course, you will be able to:
• Recognize common signs and symptoms of mental health and substance use challenges.
• Understand how to interact with a person in crisis and connect them with help.
• Use self-care tools and techniques.

The instructors for these courses are part of a recently trained cohort that work within the NY agricultural community. They include representatives from NY FarmNet, Cornell Cooperative Extension, Farm Bureau, Young Farmers Coalition, NY Center for Ag Medicine and Health (NYCAMH), and Black Farmers United NYS.

Scheduled full day MHFA trainings for this fall include:
• Tuesday, October 18th in Hudson/Columbia County
• Wednesday, October 19th in Cortland/Cortland County
• Friday, October 21st in Ithaca/Cornell University/Tompkins County
• Tuesday, October 25th in Middletown/Orange County
• Wednesday, November 2nd in Binghamton/Broome County
• Monday, November 7th in Lockport/Niagara County
• Tuesday, November 8th in Fonda/Montgomery County

To register, go to www.nyfarmnet.org/trainings. If we don’t yet have a training scheduled in your area, check back soon, or contact NY FarmNet at 1-800-547-3276 or nyfarmnet@cornell.edu. These free trainings are made possible by funding from the United States Department of Agriculture’s National Institute of Food & Agriculture. They have invested nearly $25 million in addressing farmer behavioral health on a state by state basis as part of the Farm and Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN) through state Departments of Agriculture.

This work is supported by 7 U.S.C. 5936, Section 7522 of FCEA of 2008, Farm and Ranch Stress Assistance Network (FRSAN), Grant No. 2021-70035-35550, from the U.S. Department of Agriculture, National Institute of Food and Agriculture.
Worth its Weight

Designed to Increase Calcium Uptake

Contact us:
Bryan Schillawski: 315 567-6290
Kayla Heineman: 718 714-8281
Laing-Gro Fertilizer: 716 992-3830

www.us.timacagro.com