



Concord shoots on June 1, 2023
Jennifer Phillips Russo

CROP UPDATE

June 1, 2023

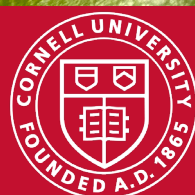


Cornell Cooperative Extension
Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



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2023 LERGP Coffee Pot Meeting Schedule

May 3, 2023	10:00am	Double A Vineyards 10317 Christy Rd. Fredonia NY 14063
May 10, 2023	10:00am	Niagara Landing Wine Cellars 4434 Van Dusen Rd. Lockport NY 14094
May 17, 2023	10:00am	John Schultz & Sons 9510 Sidehill Rd. North East PA 16428
May 24, 2023	10:00am	Brian Chess Farm 10289 West Main Rd. Ripley NY 14775
May 31, 2023	10:00am	Sprague Farms 12435 Versailles Rd. Irving NY 14081
June 7, 2023	10:00am	NO COFFEE POT MEETING
June 14, 2023	10:00am	Betts' Farm 7365 East Route 20 Westfield, NY 14787
June 21, 2023	10:00am	Paul Bencal Farm 2645 Albright Rd. Ransomville NY 14131
June 28, 2023	10:00am	Gary Young Farm 8401 Gulf Rd. North East PA 16428
July 5, 2023	10:00am	NO COFFEE POT MEETING
July 12, 2023	10:00am	Zach & Alicia Schneider Farm 771 Bradley Rd. Silver Creek NY 14136
July 19, 2023	10:00am	NO COFFEE POT MEETING
July 26, 2023	10:00am	Westfield Ag & Turf 7521 Prospect Rd. Westfield NY 14787

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Soil Moisture, VIP-Kim Knappenberger- [page 19](#)

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[Click here to
watch Podcasts](#)

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.

Did your vineyards experience frost damage?

Please contact Katie by e-mail at kjr45@cornell.edu,
or by phone at 716-792-2800 ext 201

to report total acreage, percentage damaged and address.



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Viticulture

Jennifer Russo, Viticulture Extension Specialist, LERGP

In the Vineyard

Today is June 1, 2023, at 6 AM as I write this article. I have had some grower calls about seeing wild grape bloom near their vineyards. We call “Bloom” when 50% of the florets are open. Please see the wild grape clusters in the photo below (Photo 1.). Please use this parameter when you are monitoring and be sure to use your Viticulture Planning Calendar to record data as a reference from year-to-year. Locust bloom and wild grape bloom are the most often referenced biofixes by growers and can typically be used to estimate grape bloom occurring in the next 10- to 14-days. Many of our Locust are in full bloom and some report of those near the lake are just starting. The occurrence of wild grape bloom as a biofix is also important for determining the start date for the Grape Berry Moth Phenology-based Degree Day model found on NEWA <http://newa.cornell.edu>.



Photo 1. Wild grape clusters in bloom in Harbor Creek. Photo credit: Billy Richter

While the model has the ability to predict the biofix date for the start of the model, and has been pretty accurate most years, you have the ability to improve the accuracy of the model by plugging in the date wild grape bloom occurred in your various vineyard blocks. With many of the materials that are being used for grape berry moth these days, a few days here or there can have a big impact on the effectiveness of the materials.

Photo 2 & 3. Concord grapevine shoot with floret exposed taken at the Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory in Portland, NY on June 1, 2023 and close up on Concord clusters on that shoot.





It is time to start thinking about terminating your row middles to reduce competition for water and nutrients. It is also time to consider your immediate pre-bloom spray. There are also reports of Banded Grape Bugs out there. It is very important to be scouting for this pest especially if you are dealing with only secondary shoots due to frost. Protect your clusters! See Photo 4 below.

4. Banded Grape Bud feeding on Concord clusters. Photo credit: Jim Joy

Per requests from the Coffe Pot Meetings, I am including the Spray Slides that Bryan Hed has prepared to help you make research-based decisions, see below:

Table 1. Options for powdery mildew sprays provided by Bryan Hed, PSU

Options for powdery mildew control:

Chemical class/product FRAC PHI

Quintec	13	21
Succinate dehydrogenase inhibitors: Luna Experience, Luna Sensation, Aprovia/Aprovia Top, Pristine, Endura, Miravis Prime	7	14-21
Vivando, Prolivo	50	14
Gatten	U13	14
Sterol inhibitors: Rally, Elite, Orius, Rhyme, Mettle, Tebuzo, Tebustar, Inspire Super, Revus/Aprovia/Quadris Top, Luna Experience, Topguard EQ, Viticure, Procure, Cevya, etc	3	14
Strobilurins: Flint, Sovran, Abound...NOT RECOMMENDED!!! Quadris Top, Pristine, Luna Sensation....	11	14
Torino	U6	3, 7
Polyoxin D zinc salt (OSO, PH-D)	19	0
Copper	-	0
Biorationals/Biologicals (Serenade, Regalia, etc)		?
Oils (JMS Stylet, etc)	-	?
Bicarbonates (Armcarb, Kaligreen, etc)	-	?
Sulfur	-	?

Table 2. Spray options for Downy Mildew control from Bryan Hed, PSU

Options for downy mildew control:		
Chemical class/product FRAC PHI		
Mancozeb products (Manzate, Penncozeb, Dithane, etc)	-	66
Gavel	22	66
Ridomil Gold/Copper, MZ	4	42, 66
Ranman	21	30
Ziram	-	21
Revus, Revus Top	40	14
Strobilurins: Flint, Sovran, Abound, Azaka, Quadris, Quadris Top, Pristine, Reason, Luna Sensation	11	14
Zampro	40,45	14
Captan	-	0
Copper	-	0
Phosphorus acid: Prophyt, Phostrol, Fosphite, Rampart, Reveille, etc.	33	0

Table 3. Bryan Hed's What to Use When suggestions for a spray program

What to use, when?....a *basic* framework (wine/juice)

- **3-5" shoots:** Phom = mancozeb (mz), captan, ziram
- **8-12" shoots:** inflorescences/leaves = Phom, blkrot, dmildew?; mz, captan, ziram,
 - pmildew = sulfur, stylet, Sterol Inhibitor (SI)
- **Immediate pre bloom/first post bloom:** critical for fruit protection from **ALL DISEASES**
 - pmildew = Endura, Gatten, Cevya, Aprovia/Apr, Revus Top, Luna Exp/Sens (new); Quintec, Vivando (old), Sulfur (tank mix partner)
 - blkrot = mz, captan (prebloom only; juice), ziram, an SI
 - Phom = mz, captan (prebloom only; juice), ziram
 - dmildew = mz, captan (prebloom only; juice), ziram, Revus, Ranman, Ridomil, phos acid, Gavel
- **Second post bloom: early July**
 - leaf + fruit pmildew = Torino, Quintec, Vivando, Cevya, Endura, Aprovia/Apr, Rev Top, Luna, SI, Sulfur
 - fruit blkrot = SI, mz, captan, ziram,
 - leaf/fruit Phom, dmildew = mz, captan, ziram, Revus, Ranman, Ridomil, Zampro, phos acid, copper
- **Third post bloom: 3rd week in July...** Phom/blkrot are non-issues if well controlled until now
 - leaf pmildew = Torino, Quin, Viv, Cevya, Endura, SI, sulfur, HrvstMore, NutLf, Nutrol, Kbicarb, PolyD, etc
 - leaf dmildew = captan, ziram, copper, Revus, Zampro, Ranman,
- **Fourth post bloom: early August to veraison**
 - leaf pmildew = sulfur, HrvstMore, NutLf, Nutrol, Kbicarb, PolyD, etc
 - leaf dmildew = Revus, Ranman, phos acid, copper, captan

Business Management Updated from our Friends at Cornell's Southwest New York Dairy, Livestock & Field Crops Team!

Frequency of Pay Frequently Asked Questions Labor Law Section 191 outlines the frequency by which employees must be paid.

Manual Workers: Wages must be paid weekly and not later than seven calendar days after the end of the week in which the wages are earned. Manual workers for nonprofit entities must be paid in accordance with their agreed terms of employment but not less frequently than semi-monthly. Large employers of manual workers may apply to the Commissioner of Labor to pay manual workers semi-monthly.

Railroad Workers: Wages must be paid on or before Thursday of each week and must include wages earned during the seven-day period ending on the Tuesday of the preceding week.

Commission Salespersons: Wages must be paid in accordance with the agreed terms set forth in the written commission agreement but:

- ♣ Not less frequently than once in each month
- ♣ Not later than the last day of the month following the month in which the wages are earned

If wages are substantial, additional compensation earned, including extra or incentive earnings, may be paid less frequently than once in each month.

Executives, Administrators, and Professionals:

Section 191 does not apply to persons employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional capacity whose earnings are in excess of \$900 a week.

Clerical or Other Workers:

Wages must be paid in accordance with the agreed terms of employment and not less frequently than semi-monthly.

Who is covered by Section 191 of the Labor Law?

All *private sector* employers are covered by Section 191 and the protections apply to most employees working for such employers in New York. Federal, state and local government employers are not covered. Charter schools, private schools, and not-for-profit corporations are covered, as they are private entities within the meaning of this provision.

While persons employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional capacity who earn in excess of \$900 per week are outside of the coverage of Section 191, an employee's status as "exempt" for overtime purposes does not remove him or her from the coverage of Section 191.

Who is a "manual worker"?

Section 190(4) of the New York State Labor Law defines a "manual worker" as "a mechanic, workingman or laborer." It has been the long-standing interpretation of this Department that individuals who spend more than 25% of working time engaged in "physical labor" fit within the meaning of the term "manual worker." Furthermore, the term "physical labor" has been interpreted broadly to include countless physical tasks performed by employees.

Who is a "railroad worker"?

Section 190(4) of the Labor Law defines a "railroad worker" as any person employed by an employer who operates a steam, electric, or diesel surface railroad or is engaged in the sleeping car business. The term "railroad worker" does not include a person employed in an executive capacity. Railroad workers do not include employees of governmental agencies.

Who is a "commission salesman"?

A commission salesman or salesperson is defined in Section 190(6) of the Labor Law as any employee whose:

- Principal activity is the selling of any goods, wares, merchandise, services, real estate, securities, insurance or any article or thing
- Earnings are based in whole or in part on commissions

The term "commission salesman" does not include an employee whose principal duties are of a

supervisory, managerial, executive, or administrative nature, even if such employee also engage in the sale of goods etc.

Who is a “person employed in a ‘bona fide’ executive, administrative, or professional capacity”?

The definitions set forth in regulation 12 NYCRR §142-2.14 are used to define the terms “executive, administrative, and professional” for purposes of Section 191 of the Labor Law. (In re Yorke, PR-07-035 [2008].) However, this regulation does not reflect the statutory earnings threshold in Section 191. Therefore, the \$900 earnings threshold contained in Section 191 substitutes for the amounts contained in regulation 12 NYCRR §142-2.14.

Executive

To qualify as a bona fide executive, all of the following tests must be met:

- The Employee’s primary duty consists of the management of the enterprise
- The Employee customarily and regularly directs the work of two or more other employees
- The Employee has the authority to hire or fire other employees
- The Employee’s suggestions and recommendations as to the hiring, firing, advancement, promotion, or any other change of status of other employees have particular weight
- The Employee customarily and regularly exercises discretionary powers
- The Employee must be paid in excess of \$900 per week

Administrative:

To qualify as a bona fide administrative employee, all of the following tests must be met:

- The Employee’s primary duty consists of the performance of office or non-manual fieldwork, directly related to management policies or general operations.
- The Employee customarily and regularly exercises discretion and independent judgment.
- The Employee regularly and directly assists an employer, or an employee employed in a bona fide executive or administrative capacity or who performs under general supervision, work along specialized or technical lines requiring special training, experience or knowledge.
- The Employee must be paid in excess of \$900 per week.

Professional:

To qualify as a bona fide professional employee, all of the following tests must be met:

The employee’s primary duty consists of the performance of work that:

- Requires knowledge of an advanced type in a field of science or learning customarily acquired by a prolonged course of specialized intellectual instruction and study, as distinguished from
 - o A general academic education
 - o An apprenticeship
 - o Training in the performance of routine mental, manual, or physical processes or
- Is original and creative in a recognized field of artistic endeavor, and produces a result that depends primarily on the invention, imagination, or talent of the employee

The employee’s work:

- Requires the consistent exercise of discretion and judgment in its performance
- Is predominantly intellectual and varied in character (as opposed to routine mental, manual, mechanical or physical work)
- Is of such a character that the output produced or the result accomplished cannot be standardized in relation to a given period of time

The employee must be paid in excess of \$900 per week.

Who is a “clerical or other worker”?

A “clerical or other worker” under New York State Labor Law is an employee who does not fall under any of the other statutory categories of worker found in the Labor Law. That is, NOT a “manual worker” under Section 190(4), a “railroad worker” under 190(5), a “commission salesman” under

190(6), or an employee employed in a “bona fide executive, administrative or professional capacity.” An employee who fits within any of those other definitions is not a “clerical or other worker.”

Can large employers pay manual workers bi-weekly?

A company may apply to the Department for permission to pay manual workers bi-weekly if the company:

- Has had an average of 1,000 employees in New York for the three years preceding the application
- Had an average of 3,000 out-of-state employees for the three years preceding the application and an average of 1,000 employees in New York for the year preceding the application

The Department will consider a number of factors dealing with the employer’s financial stability and history of compliance under the Labor Law. Where the manual workers are represented by a labor organization, a permit will not be granted without consent from that organization.

Can an employer require employees to accept other frequencies of pay?

Employees cannot be required, as a condition of employment, to accept wages at periods other than those provided in Section 191 of the Labor Law.

Do partial wage payments satisfy an employer’s obligations under Section 191 of the Labor Law?

Section 191 of the Labor law requires the timely payment in full for all hours worked at an employee’s agreed-upon rate of pay.

When are employers required to pay employees whose employment has ended due to termination, retirement, or resignation?

Employees whose employment has ended are entitled to be paid no later than the pay day on which their next pay would have been due had they still been employed. Upon request of the employee, employers are required to mail the employee his or her wages. Nothing in the Labor Law prevents an employer from paying a terminated employee his or her wages at:

- ♣ The time of termination
- ♣ Some other time before the payday on which the wages would have been due

May employers mail employees their paychecks?

Nothing in the Labor Law prohibits an employer from mailing an employee his or her paycheck. However, employees must receive their paycheck in the time specified in Section 191, as described above. Therefore, employers must allow sufficient time for the mail to be delivered to the employee to avoid violations of Section 191.

Are employers required to issue employees replacement paychecks?

Employers are required to issue, without charge to the employee, a new paycheck (or otherwise pay wages to the employee) if a previously issued paycheck:

- Was lost
- Is otherwise no longer in the employee’s possession

Regardless of the circumstances under which the check was lost, employers are prohibited by Sections 191 and 193 of the Labor Law from charging an employee through wage deduction for:

- Any fees incurred for stopping payment on a check
- The costs incurred for issuing a new check

What is a “substantial” amount of wages?

The frequency of pay requirement for commission salespersons permits additional compensation earned, including extra or incentive earnings, to be paid less frequently if the employee’s wages are “substantial.” The Department has determined that the term “substantial” should be viewed in accordance with the threshold amount for employees working in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional capacity. Currently, the threshold amount is \$900 per week.

What should employers do if an employee dies?

Section 191 of the Labor Law has been interpreted to require that employers make reasonable efforts to pay deceased employee's wages within the time periods specified in that Section.

Reasonable efforts should include the following:

- Contact any emergency contact or next of kin identified in the employee's personnel file
- Attempt to contact any known family or friends of the employee, if other than the emergency contact
- Contact the Surrogate's Court to determine whether estate or probate proceedings have been commenced and an estate administrator identified
- Review obituary notices to locate the widow, widower or other family member of the deceased employee
- Speak with the funeral director handling the deceased's funeral arrangements to either obtain contact information on the deceased's family or to send a message to the family to be in contact with the employer
- Contact insurers on company sponsored life insurance to identify beneficiaries who can be contacted for estate information
- Contact the County Health Department or other entity that issues Death Certificate to find out the identity of the next of kin listed on the Certificate

In addition to these efforts, the employer may certainly undertake any additional efforts designed to identify an appropriate contact. If, after these efforts, the employer is unable to locate or contact the estate representative or next of kin of the employee, the employer must remit the funds to the Office of the State Comptroller after three years in accordance with the State Abandoned Property Law.

Here is a Course Opportunity:

Staffing and Organizing Your Team

Course applicable to all agricultural commodities

Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development has opened registration for Staffing and Organizing Your Team, a six-week course in the Supervisory Leadership Certificate program. Staffing and Organizing Your Team materials release June 16, 2023 and live weekly Zoom discussions will be held from 3 to 4 PM ET each Thursday from June 22 through July 27, 2023. Participation in the live sessions is highly encouraged and provides a valued opportunity for peer-to-peer learning and networking. Registration is \$275 and closes June 16. Continuing education credits are now available for this course and the Supervisory Leadership Certificate program. Course topics include: becoming a preferred employer, personnel planning, job descriptions, recruiting and interviewing, hiring and onboarding.

Who should attend?

This course, and the whole certificate series, is appropriate for both new and experienced farm supervisors and managers, and those preparing to become supervisors. All participants will learn leadership concepts and practice skills that will improve their ability to build a positive workplace and get results through leading others. Past course participant management experience ranges from a few years to over 20 years. All participants say the course content made them more effective at their job.

From the comfort of your home or office, watch prerecorded presentations on your own schedule, and engage with classmates and instructors during weekly, live discussion sessions. Corresponding assignments are due each week. To get the most out of the experience, expect to spend approximately two hours per week on lessons and assignments.

Direct questions to Rachel McCarthy, Agricultural Supervisory Leadership Coordinator, at rachel.mccarthy@cornell.edu.

[REGISTER](#)

Learn more about the Agricultural Supervisory Leadership certificate program

Supervisors are critical to the success of farm businesses. They have a major impact both on employees' daily work experiences and on the production performance of the business. The Agricultural Supervisory Leadership certificate helps farm supervisors and managers learn and apply human resource management practices and leadership skills that foster rewarding workplaces and drive business results. Confident managers who thoughtfully apply leadership and management skills improve employee performance, develop teams, reduce employee turnover, and increase employee engagement. The courses within the certificate program will offer extensive practice and engagement activities to build confidence and skill sets.

Each course includes up to six weeks of instruction on topics that will build your leadership and management skills. Instruction includes a combination of pre-recorded lectures, reading assignments, written exercises, live discussion sessions and quizzes. For those looking to learn more on a particular topic, supplemental videos and articles may be recommended by the instructor. To get the most out of the course, students should plan to spend two to four hours each week on combined course activities.

Courses in the Agricultural Supervisory Leadership certificate include:

- **Transitioning to Supervisor:** Develop essential communication skills and manage conflict. Lead a multi-cultural team. Build an effective workplace culture.

- **Organizing Work for High Quality Results:** Develop clear expectations and standard operating procedures. Delegate effectively. Diagnose and correct performance problems.

- **Managing Performance:** Understand motivation. Harness the power of performance feedback and coaching. Build clear and effective workplace communications. Set safety expectations. Conduct effective performance improvements.

- **Staffing and Organizing Your Team:** Develop job descriptions. Learn how to find potential employees, interview and select the right people. Implement new hire documentation, employment authorization, and onboarding: bringing new employees into the business successfully and productively.

- **Employee Development and Training:** Identify training needs. Understand learning styles. Design and plan learning experiences that accommodate learner needs. Develop effective training skills and techniques. Evaluate learning results and training effectiveness.

- **Ethics and Employment Regulations for Supervisors:** Implement responsible and ethical labor practices and understand why this matters for agriculture. Recognize and prevent sexual harassment. Understand and follow minimum wage and overtime laws. Implement Equal Employment Opportunity laws to prevent discrimination and harassment. Use an employee handbook. Handle employee discipline and termination.

Course instructors include:

Richard Stup, Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development Specialist

Elizabeth Higgins, Ag Business Management/Production Economics Extension Specialist with the Eastern New York Commercial Horticulture team

Libby Eiholzer, Dairy Technical Specialist, Cargill

Bob Milligan, Cornell University Professor Emeritus

Kaitlyn Lutz, Bilingual Dairy Management Specialist

Transitioning to Supervisor students say:

All modules had great value. It got me to rethink some things. The elements fit together pretty well, building upon each other. The breakout rooms were good. I liked the variety of learning. I found the country differences extremely valuable to better understand our multicultural workforce. Communication lessons gave perspective on different ways to communicate effectively with your team. The lesson with power distances was helpful to teach different ways people of other countries view topics. I really enjoyed the videos during the course and being able to ask questions to instructors and getting a quick response. The self-evaluation to find out what kind of a supervisor

you are was helpful.

Organizing Work for High Quality Results students say:

All the aspects of the course were good. The weekly zoom meetings I think are important. The break-out sessions were very useful. It allowed us to discuss similar issues with peers. I thought the course was great. I liked being able to ask questions to instructors and getting a quick response. Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development's mission is to help farms and agribusinesses build committed and effective teams who will carry out the important work of feeding the world. We believe that agricultural work can, and should be, engaging and rewarding for everyone involved. Managers can build committed teams by applying the best human resource management practices for the agricultural setting. Key program goals include:

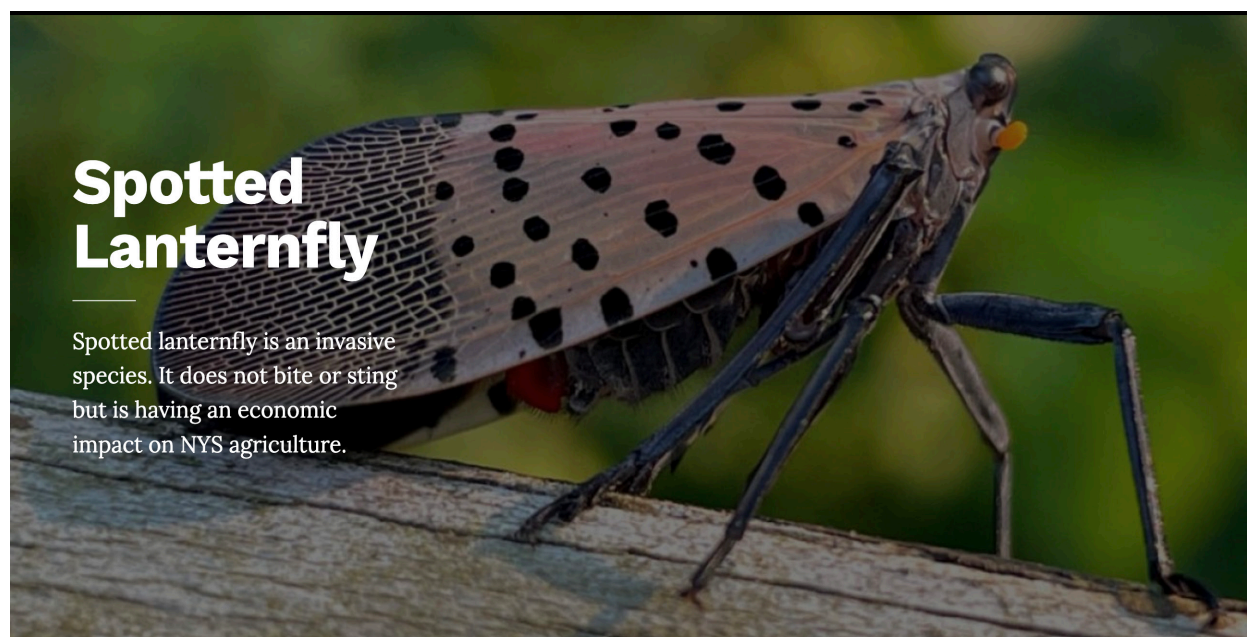
- Provide leadership and management development education focused on farm supervisors, middle managers, and owners
- Clarify workforce regulations that apply to farms and increasing levels of compliance
- Build consistent channels of communication and learning opportunities about agricultural workforce issues
- Conduct research into workforce problems and challenges that confront agriculture

Coffee Pot News

During our Coffee Pot Meetings I was asked to include some of the information that we discussed in the Crop Updates. You will find that information in this section for the rest of the growing season. This week attendees asked for us to share the links to the Spotted Lanternfly PSA so that they may share with friends and family to start a Community Campaign to bring awareness to others outside of our industry in efforts to be proactive in keeping numbers down in the community and hopefully in our vineyards as well. Every little bit helps, so please share this widely:

[Click Here for Spotted Lanternfly PSA \(English\)](#)

[Click Here for Spotted Lanternfly PSA \(Spanish\)](#)



5. Spotted Lanternfly information found on NYS IPM website

Attendees also asked for the information on how to identify Tree of Heaven, one of the Spotted Lanternfly's preferred hosts and the list of chemicals approved in grapes for treatment of Spotted Lanternfly.

Here is a link to Spotted Lanternfly information on our website and also a video on Tree of Heaven that Tim Weigle produced:

[Click here fo LERGP SLF information](#)

[Tree of Heaven Podcast with Tim Weigle](#)

Below is a photo taken for the PSU extension publication for Tree of Heaven (Photo 5). For more information [Click Here](#)



6. Pictures of Tree of Heaven for identification from PSU website link above.



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PA Update

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

Weather: We accumulated about 204 growing degree days, and 2.05" of rainfall, in May (both below average). The past few warm days have really spiked shoot growth across the belt, but the forecast predicts that high temperatures will gradually slip back into the 70s over the weekend. The next chance for rainfall appears to be Monday and Tuesday of next week, at 30%.

Phenology: At our location along the lake, Concords in our Cemetery road block have about 9-10 inches of shoot growth, with about 5 leaves per shoot. Trace bloom on wild grapes occurred on May 30 at our location. Full bloom on wild grapes is an important benchmark for the biofix date of our grape berry moth model. Keep an eye out for full bloom in wild grapes at your location.

Diseases: With bloom expected sometime next week, our next spray, the immediate pre bloom spray, will be an essential one. If you only apply two sprays this year, this should be one of them, and it should be composed of fungicides that protect you from all four major diseases: downy and powdery mildew, black rot, and Phomopsis.

I know its been really dry, but **Downy mildew** could emerge with the next bit of rainfall we get.... possibly next week. Old standard fungicides, like captan and mancozeb, are very effective but are protectants only and are not as rain fast as the newer synthetic fungicides, like Reason, Ranman, Revus, the phos acids, and Zampro.

Powdery mildew: As we approach the immediate pre bloom stage, many juice growers are planning their first powdery mildew sprays. Powdery mildew pressure in juice grape vineyards should be quite low at this point in the season: we've only had about 3 primary infection periods since bud break. For juice grape growers, the immediate pre bloom spray can be time for any of the 'big guns', like Endura or Cevya. If you've still found Quintec to be working well for you, that could be another option at this time. I would avoid doing things 'on the cheap', like relying on a tebuconazole product for powdery mildew control at this time; its just not appropriate for the immediate pre bloom spray... this spray is too important...even though its been dry. For many wine varieties, especially vinifera, there's sulfur (for varieties that are not injured by it) that can be tank mixed with one of the 'big guns' like Aprovia, Aprovia Top, Gatten, Endura, Luna, etc., for best control and for resistance management purposes. **Remember to read labels carefully.**

Phomopsis and black rot: Our last rainfall period, about 11 days ago, resulted in Phomopsis, black rot, and powdery mildew infection periods in many places across the belt. Rainfall releases spores of the pathogens that cause all three diseases, that can germinate and infect new shoot tissues. However, according to the models we use to predict infection periods, that wetting period looks to have barely fulfilled the minimum requirements for infection by Phomopsis and black rot. I am currently observing a little Phomopsis on the first leaf of some shoots, but very little or no shoot internode infection.

And lastly, Juice vineyards *heavily* damaged by late frost will warrant a more minimal disease management program this season, centered on protecting the fruit around bloom (immediate pre bloom and first post bloom spray) from diseases like powdery and downy mildew and black rot. I wouldn't scrimp on weed control, but rather focus on growing bigger vines this year (try to turn up something positive about having a small crop this season), for potentially bigger returns in future seasons.



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Updates and Information

Kimberly Knappenberger, Viticulture Assistant, LERGP

NEWA- We could use some rain!

The weather stations seem to be doing what they are supposed to do, for the most part. The new station at the lab near the railroad tracks is keeping up lately and is even reporting soil tension now. Soil tension is the amount of force necessary to remove a water molecule from a soil particle to allow for uptake by a plant's root system. It can be measured in kiloPascals or centibars as well as cubic meter of water per cubic meter of soil (m^3/m^3). NEWA reports them differently depending on the weather station that is doing the measuring. The Portland (R Block) station is a KestrelMet that reports in kPa (kiloPascals) and you will notice an **increasing** trend as the soil becomes more dry and it requires more effort for plants to uptake the water. However, the Portland (LERGP West) station is an Onset HOBO station that measures soil moisture in m^3/m^3 which translates better to a percentage of water in the soil. (Just move the decimal point two places to the right.) You will notice that this has more of a **decreasing** trend as the dry weather persists.

Figure 1 Portland R Block - KestrelMet Station

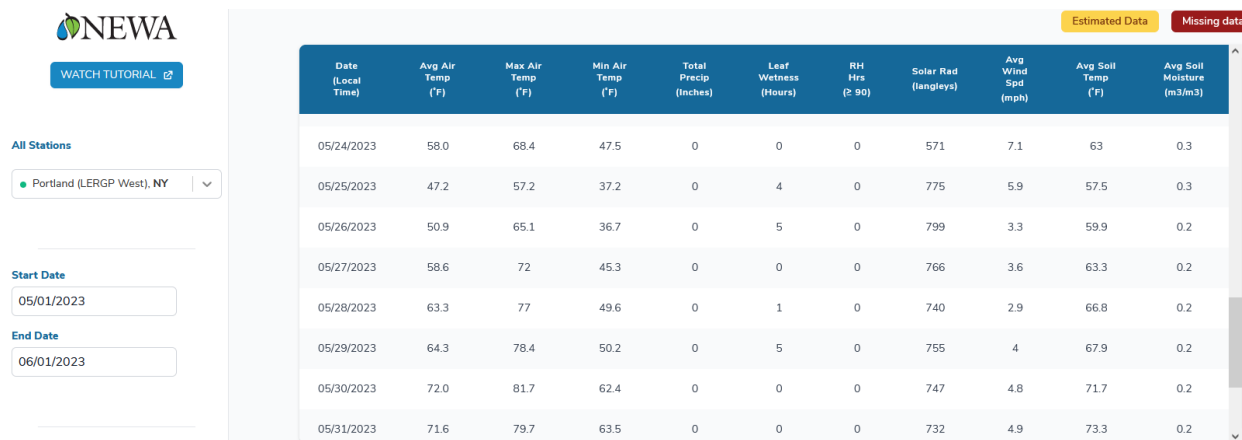
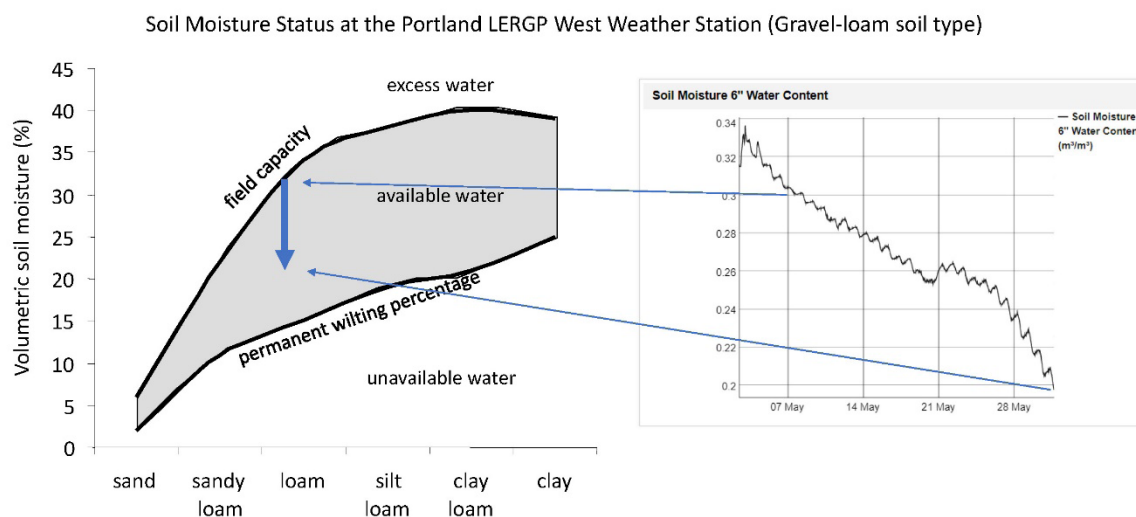


Figure 2 Portland LERGP West - Onset HOBO station

These values will vary on different soil types and each station should be ground truthed so that the values given are more valuable in your vineyard maintenance plan.

Dr. Terry Bates put this visual together so you can see that for example, at CLEREL on May 7th we were at field capacity. The dry spell that we have had over the past 3 ½ weeks - with only a small rain event on the 20th – has decreased the soil moisture by a little more than 10%, but we don't need to get too worried yet. We are still in the gray zone of available water.



Dr. Terry Bates

The moral of the story is to pay attention to the units used in reporting the sensor values and the trend of the data. And keep your eyes to the sky!

VIP

Reminder: The Vineyard Improvement Program has been extended and will now be ending in March 2025.

Applications continue to be accepted on a rolling basis. This program is a reimbursement program to remove Concord vineyards in eligible New York counties and then to replant an agricultural commodity. If you are interested in finding out more about this program please visit our website at <https://lergp.com/about-vip>.

Now is the time to check it out before it's gone! All removal and replant work will need to be completed by the end of the growing season in 2024.

The application can be found online at <https://lergp.com/vip-application>. If you have any other questions please contact Kim at ksk76@cornell.edu.