



# LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM

## *Electronic Crop Update for May 16, 2013*

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**UPCOMING EVENTS**

Please visit our LERGP Website at: <http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/> for a detailed calendar. Please remember to RSVP for those events that require one! UPCOMING EVENTS are also listed toward the bottom of this Electronic Update.

Please remember to let us know if you have changed or are in the process of changing your email address so we can keep the Electronic Crop Update coming to your inbox!

[Please email Edith at: emb35@cornell.edu.](mailto:emb35@cornell.edu)

**WEATHER DATA: Edith Byrne**

Weather Data

DATE/YEAR	HIGH	LOW	DAILY PRECIP.	GDDs	TOTAL APRIL GDDs	TOTAL JAN GDDs
Week 4/30/13	71	57	0.00	14.5	86.5	163.5
Week 5/8/13	67	54	0.34	10.5	178	255
<b>Week 5/15/13</b>	<b>77</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>0.03</b>	<b>14</b>	<b>221.5</b>	<b>298.5</b>
<b>Week 5/15/12</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>51</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>187</b>	<b>195.5</b>
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>68.9</b>	<b>47.4</b>	<b>0.09</b>	<b>8.51</b>	<b>183.25</b>	<b>209.20</b>

AVERAGE HIGH MAY 2013 = 67  
(thru 5/8/13)

AVERAGE HIGH MAY 2012 = 66.87  
(thru 5/8/12)

AVERAGE LOW MAY 2013 = 50.13  
(thru 5/8/13)

AVERAGE LOW MAY 2012 = 51.27  
(thru 5/8/12)

**MAY Rainfall accumulation = 1.25"**

**APRIL Rainfall accumulation = 3.44"**

**Rainfall accumulation 1/1/13 through 5/15/13 = 10.40"**

**FROM NORTH EAST, PA: Bryan Hed**

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**Weather:** Here at the North East PA lab, we have accumulated 148 growing degree days during the first half of May. Our gdd total since April 1 equals 222. We have recorded 1.26" rainfall so far in May (below average). We had a bit of a scare on the morning of May 14 when temperatures here dropped to 35F, but aside from some damage to shoots from wind, in general we dodged the bullet and now its full steam ahead. According to Skybit and Accuweather, there is no rainfall predicted over the next 3 days (through Saturday, May 18), but we may see thunderstorms by the middle of next week (time for our next fungicide?). High temperatures are predicted to stay around average to somewhat above average over the next week.

**Phenology:** Concord shoots here by the lake are ranging from 3-6" in length, with 3-4 leaves exposed. Shoots may appear a little lackluster in color (reduced nitrogen supply from cold temperatures?) but we should see shoots resume rapid growth over the next few days after being held in stasis from May 11-14 (no gdd gain for 4 days).

**Diseases:** Well, we have had two [Phomopsis](#) infection periods (May 9 and 11) that will produce symptoms in 2-3 weeks along the oldest internodes and leaves, and possibly cluster stems. There is no infection periods forecast over the next 3 days. Monitor shoot growth and leaf number to determine when it's time to apply your next fungicide, which will coincide with 10-12" of shoot growth (juice grapes in general) and/or 5-6 leaves per shoot for varieties susceptible to downy mildew like Niagara and many wine varieties. That's the time we expect to begin our battle with that disease as the pathogen first becomes active.

**GRAPE INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT: Tim Weigle**

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The frost that occurred on Monday evening/Tuesday morning affected vineyards across the Lake Erie grape belt. However, the damage was not nearly as severe as we encountered last spring. While the only station that reported temperatures below 32 F was Versailles in Cattaraugus County, it appears that cold air really does sink as frost was prevalent at a number of the sites (most of the stations are at a height of 6 foot or above the ground).

At the Coffee Pot meeting yesterday in Niagara County it was reported that damage was about 5 – 10% across the region. In the lower portion of the belt damage ranged from no damage at all to suckers and low hanging shoots being singed, to severe freeze damage in the traditional frost pockets.

Take the time to scout all of your vineyard blocks to determine the level of frost damage, if any. While it appears that most vineyards did not receive enough damage to alter your IPM strategy, there may be some areas of vineyards where your choices of materials and timings may need to be reconsidered.

Wayne Wilcox was our featured speaker at both Coffee Pot meetings yesterday and gave a good overview of disease management, from early season to [Botrytis](#) management. Every other row spraying was a topic that came up at both meetings and here are some of the results of that discussion.

If you spray every other row, and it works for you, it will be hard to convince you that you need to spray every row. However, Wayne pointed out (as did Andrew Landers the week before) that the research that

they have conducted shows that you will see improved disease control in the early season with every row spraying. With that being said, is it working because 1) you accept the level of disease and fruit loss each year, 2) you do not have enough inoculum to need to be spraying in the first place or 3) you feel you need to spray every other row to cover the acreage in a timely manner and every other row is better than nothing.

A few tips I heard yesterday

- Reduce your fan speed to keep the material on target, rather than 6 rows over.
- Reduce the number of nozzles (you can typically shut off the lower nozzles) in the early season to apply the material to the target.
- Missing the first 3-5-inch [Phomopsis](#) spray does not mean you have missed your opportunity to protect the vine. Just make sure you get a protective spray on as soon as you can and then keep the appropriate spray intervals.
- Know the conditions that cause disease and get out in your vineyards to scout to catch a problem early.

Remove trunks and cordons that have been cut out from the vineyard itself. They are a source of inoculum for [Eutypa](#) and any number of other canker diseases. Collecting them in the row middle is just developing a pool of inoculum.

## **BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Kevin Martin**

### ***Cost of Urea Volitization***

Last year was the Lake Erie Region experienced mild drought conditions. Perhaps because of those conditions, urea volitization has been a topic at recent coffee pot meetings. Despite the mild drought conditions, there was adequate moisture to move urea into the soil nearly all season long. The one exception was between May 9<sup>th</sup> and May 25<sup>th</sup>. During this sixteen day period, the weather station at CLEREL reported .01" of rainfall.

The conditions effecting volatilization include soil pH, humidity, and soil temperature. Much of the Midwest has, relative to us, extreme conditions encouraging a great deal of volatilization. The research that was done did not bother to replicate conditions as mild as those in the Lake Erie Region.

Absolute worst-case scenario last year would assume a soil pH of 5.5, soil temperature of 60 F and an incorporation time of sixteen days. Unless there was standing water in the vineyard, which is fairly unlikely without rainfall, loss to volitization would fall in the 5% - 9% range. Given the current price of urea a maximum volitization loss in 2012 would have been \$20 - \$45 per ton of applied urea. Application of urea on any other day of the year would have led to considerably less volitization. Overdahl, et.al., 1987 via <http://www.ag.ndsu.edu/procrop/fer/ureavo05.htm>

The average incorporation time last season was 5 days. The average incorporation time for a summer application, in a spilt application scenario, was 4.5 days. Average losses to volitization would be in the range of 1.5% - 3% or \$6 -\$15 per ton of urea. Keep in mind of course, this is a total average. It is an excellent practice to attempt to make an application in conjunction with forecasted rainfall.

The longevity of products that prevent volatilization varies. Many advertise prevention for a period of ten days. Given soil conditions in the region, assuming no rainfall for ten days, typical volatilization loss over the period would be in the range of 4% - 6% or \$20 – \$30. The probability of ten days without rainfall is fairly low. Last year there was just the single period in May of ten days without rainfall.

This is not to say that products that prevent volatilization are inappropriate. Widespread use across the average vineyard with the average soil conditions appears to provide a minimal amount of gross savings but typically a net loss.

To improve nitrogen efficiency, effective management can result in substantial savings. It is becoming more commonplace to apply urea closer to bloom (two weeks prior). Delaying the first application can nearly double uptake efficiency. For further efficiency gains, when urea prices are high, a split application is recommended. While not a common problem, growers that have low organic matter, a split application can be more important. An additional application of urea can be applied in a liquid form if time and vineyard trips are a concern. Given the low rates of actual N necessary for a second application, less efficient application methods can be cost-effective. A second granular application is typically significantly more expensive than the first. Broadcasted granular applications can spread as far as 3-4 rows two weeks prior to bloom. Even on large farms a Vicon spreader is somewhat practical for a second application as rates may be as low as 20 lbs urea or 9.5 lbs actual per acre.

## **NEW WEBSITE AND PASSWORD FOR ACCESS TO ELECTRONIC CROP UPDATE AND MORE**

***Edith Byrne***

In today's Electronic Crop Update you will want to look at the full on-line version! But when you click on the link, you will be taken to our new [website](http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/) which we are happy to introduce you to (<http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/>). You will see a brand new home page that is pretty cool looking! We have four local shots taken around the Lake Erie region representing Fall, Winter, Spring and Summer.

At the very top of the page you will see ***Welcome! And Log In Enroll***. Because you are receiving this Electronic Crop Update via email means you are an LERGP member. Click on the ***Log In*** link and under password please enter ***"grape2013"***. That is the member password for our site. What this gives you is access to the on-line version of the Electronic Crop Update that I mentioned in the first paragraph. You can click on ***view latest Electronic Crop Updates*** and you will be immediately taken to the Update. You also have access to all Crop Updates and Newsletters by clicking on ***review all Newsletters link***. Please do not give the password to anyone who is not a member.

Below the images you will find *Announcements* and *Upcoming Events*. The *Announcements* are what we want to draw your attention to, such as the Coffee Pot Meetings starting up. *Upcoming Events* is a little more specific... You will see our Google Calendar which we hope you are used to looking at. In addition, you can ***view all events***, and ***view details*** of specific events. If you go ahead and click on the ***view all events*** link you will be taken to a page where you can see the events for May, June and July listed. From there you can see back to earlier months, or ahead to later months. We have not included all the Coffee Pot Meetings as of yet, but are in the process of doing so. Something that is new is an online registration and I will go into more detail for you in an upcoming email.

In the red panel under the Lake Erie seasonal images, you will find the links for ***Business Management, Cultural Practices, IPM*** and ***Vine Nutrition and Soils***. You can click on those for content from our specialists.

In future emailing's we will have more tutorials on what is available on our website. ***REMEMBER***, your password into the site is ***grape2013!***

As always if you need any help at all navigating the website, please give Edith a call at 716-792-2800 ext. 209.



Go to <http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/> for a detailed calendar of events. *Please remember to RSVP for those events that require one!*

**THE GROWING SEASON HAS BEGUN!**

*Coffee Pot Meetings are free. Come find out what is happening in our local vineyards and talk with the Team. Look for notices in Electronic Crop Updates, Upcoming Events Notices, and on the Website and mark your calendars! We look forward to seeing you at several of our Wednesday meetings this year!*

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**COFFEE POT MEETINGS: All Coffee Pot Meetings are held on Wednesdays  
1 DEC credit available**

<b>May 22, 2013</b>	10:00 am to 12:00 pm	Nick Mobilia Arrowhead Wine Cellar, 12073 E Main Rd. North East PA 16428
<b>May 22, 2013</b>	2:00 pm to 4:00 pm	Rick Walker Farm/Vineyard, 2860 Rte 39, Forestville NY 14062
<b>May 29, 2013</b>	10:00 am to 12:00 pm	Dave Nichols Farm/Vineyard, 1906 Ridge Road, Lewiston, NY 14092



**The 10am May 29th meeting is sponsored by:**

*Crop Growers LLP is an independent agency that sells and services only crop insurance, enabling us to specialize on the 28 different crops we insure.*

*We have been insuring crops for over 10 years in the 9 states of the Northeast, with our main office in Cortland NY that houses our central processing/service center.*

*The Crop Growers team of 14 agents in regional offices is committed to helping growers in our territory find the best risk management plan for their business using the Federal Crop Insurance Program. With a "No surprises at claim time" focus, they work hard to sell the products based on the grower's needs and not commissions.*

*We at Crop Growers are glad to sponsor this program and thank our clients for their continued business, look forward to an opportunity to meet with others to review their risk management needs.*

<b>May 29, 2013</b>	2:00 pm to 4:00 pm	Rich Erdle Farm Vineyard, 12229 Hanford Dr., Silver Creek NY 14136
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**WINEMAKER'S ROUNDTABLE:** Misc. – Fruit/Dessert/Fortified

**DATE:** Monday May 20, 2013

**TIME:** 4:00 – 6:00

**LOCATION:** Lakeview Wine Cellars, 8440 Singer Rd, North East, PA 16428

**TOPIC:** *Misc. Fruit/Dessert/Fortified*

These are informal meetings designed to provide a venue for sharing information, getting to know each other and increasing our collective knowledge and winemaking skills to raise the quality and visibility of wines from our regions.

Please bring wines that you wish to discuss, whether problem wines or wines with merit. All provide an opportunity for learning! This meeting is open to all commercial winemakers in the region and beyond, so encourage your colleagues to attend. Lake Erie and Niagara regions share commonalities that do not exist between our regions and other regions in NY, PA or OH; exploring these similarities will help us all understand the potential of our own region. Please make the effort to attend as many of the meetings as you can as each of us has something to contribute to the greater good.

No RSVP is required, and there is no charge.

## **HOPS PRODUCTION IN THE LAKE ERIE REGION**

**DATE:** Saturday June 15, 2013 (*Pre-register by Friday June 7, 2013*)

**TIME:** 8 am to 4 pm

**LOCATION:** Cornell Lake Erie Research & Extension Laboratory, 6592 West Main Road, Portland, NY 14769

**COST:** \$75.00 General | \$65.00 NeHA Members

(you can join or renew your membership at: [www.northeasthopalliance.org](http://www.northeasthopalliance.org))

Participants will learn about commercial hops production; starting with classroom instruction on production practices from Hops growers from MD, PA and NY, as well as Cornell University Extension staff. You will also have a Hop Yard tour for a first-hand look at the hop yard construction and a discussion with hops growers on practices they use in their hop yards. The event will wrap up with local brewers discussing their use of hops in the brewing process as well as the market for Lake Erie Hops.

**REGISTRATION:** *Pre-register by Friday June 7, 2013*

Contact Kate Robinson

Phone: (716) 792-2800 ext. 201

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

*Class size is limited, be sure to sign up early to ensure a spot in the class*

PDF Registration Form: [http://nygpadmin.cce.cornell.edu/pdf/event/pdf64\\_pdf.pdf](http://nygpadmin.cce.cornell.edu/pdf/event/pdf64_pdf.pdf)

Or enroll online at: [http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/event\\_preregistration.php?event=64](http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/event_preregistration.php?event=64)

**PLEASE NOTE: Next Electronic Crop Update will be Thursday May 23, 2013**

*Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Crop Update* is an e-mail newsletter produced by the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program and sent out by subscription only. For subscription information, please call us at 716.792.2800 ext. 201. For any questions or comments on the format of this update please contact Tim Weigle at: [thw4@cornell.edu](mailto:thw4@cornell.edu).

### ***Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Team Members:***

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[Kevin Martin](#), Business Management Educator, 716.792.2800 ext. 205

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***THE LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM at CLEREL***

**6592 West Main Road**

**Portland, NY 14769**

**716-792-2800**

