



The Lake Erie Regional Grape Program



Electronic Crop Update for July 3, 2013

Just a reminder that the offices of the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program will be closed tomorrow, Thursday July 4, 2013 for the 4th of July Holiday. Offices will reopen on Friday July 5, 2013 with normal hours.

The members of the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program at CLEREL would like to extend our warmest wishes to you and your family for safe travels and a joyous time with your family and friends during all your activities this 4th of July!

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***Upcoming Events including
LERGP Summer Conference***

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 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)

GRAPE PHENOLOGY: Kelly Link

Grape Phenology



Berry counts were conducted on Monday, July 1st. The overall berries per cluster in the Historical Phenology Vines at Fredonia was 45, which is above the 33 year overall average of 40. The overall Percent Set was 33%, which is below the 33 year overall average of 37%. The overall berries per cluster at the Portland farm was 38, with an overall Percent Set of 31%. See the “2013 Phenology – Floret Counts, Berry Counts and Percent Set” table (**below**) for a breakdown of the counts for each pruning level on both farms.

The clusters are now hanging down (no longer perpendicular to the shoot) and the berries have passed the pea-sized stage (7 mm diameter) of the [Eicchorn-Lornez scale](#) ([E-L number 31](#)) and are between 9 mm and 12 mm in diameter (See picture *above*). As the berry cell division continues over the next week or two, the clusters will begin to close and we will enter the “[Berry Touch](#)” stage (Eicchorn-Lorenz stage 32). Once the berries are touching and the clusters begin to tighten, it will become more and more difficult for sprays to penetrate the clusters.

Farm	Rootstock	Pruning Level	FLORET COUNTS				BERRY COUNTS				PERCENT BERRY SET			
			Average 2013	33 Yr. Ave.	Overall Average 2013	Previous Overall Averages	Average 2013	33 Yr. Ave.	Overall Average 2013	Previous Overall Averages	Average 2013	33 Yr. Ave.	Overall Average 2013	Previous Overall Averages
FREDONIA	Own-Rooted	Bal. 30+10	150	123	137	107 in 2012, 102 in 2011, 91 in 2010, 102 in 2009, 117 in 2008	49	42	45	35 in 2012, 37 in 2011, 36 in 2010, 23 in 2009, 49 in 2008	33%	35%	33%	32% in 2012, 36% in 2011, 39% in 2010, 23% in 2009, 42% in 2008
	C3309	Bal. 30+10	123	102			40	37			33%	38%		
Farm	Rootstock	Pruning Level	FLORET COUNTS				BERRY COUNTS				PERCENT BERRY SET			
			Average 2013	5 Yr. Ave.	Overall Average 2013	Previous Overall Averages	Average 2013	5 Yr. Ave.	Overall Average 2013	Previous Overall Averages	Average 2013	5 Yr. Ave.	Overall Average 2013	Previous Overall Averages
PORTLAND	Own-Rooted	90 Nodes	102			81 in 2012,	34			23 in 2012,	33%			28% in 2012,
		Minimal	111		121	98 in 2011,	35		38	41 in 2011,	32%			42% in 2011,
		Bal. 20+20	112	92		85 in 2010,	35	30		31 in 2010,	31%	33%	31%	36% in 2010,
		120 Nodes	160	99		77 in 2009	47	34		18 in 2009	29%	34%		23% in 2009

GRAPE INTEGRATED PEST MANAGEMENT: Tim Weigle

Table 1. Results of Grape Berry Moth Model displayed on NEWA for July 2 with forecasted date when model reaches 810 DD.

	DD Total on July 2		Date 810 DD met or exceeded	
	May 22*	May 26*	May 22*	May 26*
Versailles	638	691	July 5	July 7
Sheridan	778	728	July 3/4	July 5
Silver Creek	749	702	July 4/5	July 6
Portland Escarp.	724	679	July 5/6	July 7
Portland	734	689	July 5	July 6/7
Ripley	770	726	July 3/4	July 5/6
North East Escarp	747	702	July 4/5	July 6/7
Harborcreek	776	729	July 3/4	July 5/6
North East Lab	754	706	July 4/5	July 6
Ransomville	694	652	July 6	July 8
North Appleton	670	635	July 7	773 on July 7
South Appleton	712	668	July 5/6	July 7/8
* Date of Wild Grape Bloom used to start Grape Berry Moth model				

According to the Grape Berry Moth Model found on NEWA the majority of the Lake Erie grape will reach or exceed 810 DD later this week. We are now at the time where you should be scouting vineyards to determine if the 6% damaged cluster threshold has been met or exceeded in order to determine if an insecticide application is necessary at this time.

Table 1 (above) shows the results of the GBM model using two different wild grape bloom dates to get results for today, and forecasted out for July 7 to determine when each station location will reach 810 DD. This gives you a general idea of what is happening across the belt. However, the best way to use the model would be to plug in the wild grape bloom date that you know for your region.

Looking at the model insecticide applications should be timed as early as today, July 3, or may need to be held

off until the beginning of next week for some of the vineyards in Niagara County.

According to last week's guest speaker at our Coffee Pot meeting, Jody Timer, PSU Entomology Dept at the North East Lab, this upcoming spray is the best time to use materials like Intrepid (not yet registered in NY), Altachlor and Leverage as we can still get coverage of the clusters. These materials should be applied at 810 DD. If you are using materials that are kill by contact, and have shorter residual, such as the bifenthrins, you should apply them approximately 100 DD later at 910 DD to ensure you target a larger population.

To get the latest in model information for both [grape berry moth](#) and the grape diseases, [powdery mildew](#), [downy mildew](#), [black rot](#) and [Phomopsis](#), get on the NEWA website at <http://newa.cornell.edu> and access the station, or stations, nearest you.

BUSINESS MANAGEMENT: Kevin Martin

Farm Cost Survey

Looking back at the results of the last Farm Cost Survey, which was presented at the 2010 winter growers' conference, inflation had increased the cost per ton to nearly \$280 or \$1792 per acre. Since that time macroeconomic inflation has been relatively stagnant. Key expenses for grape growers have remained volatile, but most have not shown an upward trend.

Fertilizer continues to trend upward overall. Nitrogen prices have declined moderately, while potash prices are higher. Volatility in macronutrients dwarfs the trends. While Potash prices are significantly higher swings of \$200 per ton have been a result of timing. It is tempting to skip multiple years because of errors in guessing the future price. I would avoid that temptation and continue to think of maintenance applications, based on yields, as non-negotiable.

Since 2008 fuel prices have been trending downward. While the bottom was in January of 2009, prices have still not fully recovered. For the last two and a half years volatility for this input cost has been dramatically lower. While the fuel market continues to remain more sensitive to economic news than it was twenty years ago, the cost appears to be more manageable than it was in 2004 – 2008.

Pesticide prices seem to move in every direction. There is certainly an overall inflationary trend. Individual practices, however, are much more mixed. Berry moth sprays, for example, have few moderately priced chemicals. The choices are now very expensive (compared to historical prices) and inexpensive. Leverage 360 is one of the few materials that seem to be both reasonably priced and fairly reliable. For growers that rotate chemistries and need reliable long-lasting control prices have increased considerably. Because of this trend looking at prices of chemicals alone does not paint an accurate picture of what growers are actually spending.

Strong long-term yields, despite last year, likely continue to keep break-even prices close to \$300 per ton.

Since the last update in 2010, prices have held in an area just under \$300 per ton. Growers have continued to innovate to increase efficiency, production and profitability. Average farm size continues to grow.

Mechanized pruning and thinning continue to adapt. Soil testing and vine size management have also swung back toward higher levels of management, despite the trend toward mechanization.

The LERGP research and extension team measures its success based on the adoption of research based production practices. As inflation and indirect competition continue to pressure the industry, returning to profitability will require efficiency and hard work.

With all of that in mind, I would like to provide another update of the Survey at the next Winter Growers Conference. One way you can complete the survey is online. Our new website offers a form for you to fill out. Once we get results, reports will be made available immediately and update live. Please take a moment to check out this new website feature.

http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu/submission.php?id=39&crumb=business%20management|business_management

NDVI Sensor

I want to thank those of you that have taken the time to use the website to sign-up for NDVI sensor work in your commercial vineyard. Our ability to scan vineyards is somewhat limited in scope by time and weather. Please continue to contact us if you have not done so already. However, if sign-ups continue at their current pace, we may not be able to get to every grower. The sooner you sign up the more likely we will be able to give you this valuable information.

WEATHER DATA: Edith Byrne

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DATE/YEAR	HIGH	LOW	DAILY PRECIP.	GDDs	TOTAL APRIL GDDs	TOTAL JAN GDDs
Week 6/19/13	67	49	0.00	8	666.5	743.5
Week 6/26/13	77	66	0.04	21.5	823	848.5
Week 7/2/13	75	60	0.00	17.5	926	951.5
Week 7/2/12	82	58	0.00	20	1025	1155.5
AVERAGE	79.0	60.6	0.04	19.81	904.92	929.84
GDDs accumulated June 2013 = 455.00				GDDs accumulated June 2012 = 532.50		
GDDs accumulated May 2013 = 260.5				GDDs accumulated May 2012 = 393		
				Average GDDs accumulated June = 513.58		
This year compared to AVERAGE: JAN. GDD: AHEAD 1.09 / APR. GDD: AHEAD 1.06						
This year compared to 2012: JAN. GDD: BEHIND 10.30 / APR. GDD: BEHIND 5.00						
	<u>2013</u>		<u>2012</u>			
Average High June	71.77 (last week 71.69)		75.23 (last week 74.58)			
Average Low June	58.57 (last week 57.88)		60.27 (last week 59.31)			
JUNE Rainfall accumulation = 7.69"		MAY Rainfall accumulation = 4.14"		APRIL Rainfall accumulation = 3.44"		
Rainfall accumulation 1/1/13 through 6/30/13 = 20.98"						



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

COFFEE POT MEETINGS: All Coffee Pot Meetings are held on Wednesdays

1 DEC credit available

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!



July 10, 2013	10 am - 12:00 noon	Paul S Bencal, 2645 Albright Rd. Ransomville, N.Y. 14131-9738
July 17, 2013	10 am - 12:00 noon	John Ziesenheim Farm/Vineyard, 8760 Old Lake Road, Lake City PA. 16423
July 24, 2013	10 am - 12:00 noon	Leo Hans Farm/Vineyard, 10929 W. Perrysburg Road, Perrysburg, NY 14129

CROP ESTIMATION AND THINNING MEETINGS: 3 Meetings Announced!

DATE/TIME/LOCATION: Thursday July 11, 2013; 2 PM; Fredonia Vineyard Lab, 412 East Main Street, Fredonia, NY

DATE/TIME/LOCATION: Thursday July 11, 2013; 7 PM; CLEREL, 6592 West Main Road, Portland, NY

DATE/TIME/LOCATION: Friday July 12, 10 AM at North East Lab, 662 Cemetery Road, North East, PA

This season's has produced a bounty of clusters and berries in many vineyards across the region and has most everyone wondering just how many tons are hanging in their vineyards. In an effort to assist you in answering those questions we will be holding a series of meetings looking at crop estimation and thinning. Dr. Terry Bates, CLEREL, will be on hand to explain the how-to's of crop estimation as well as share his experience in his various thinning experiments. Please take advantage of this opportunity to learn first-hand the steps involved in crop estimation as well as get the latest information on where we stand this year when compared to average.

Representative from area processors will also be on hand.

WINEMAKER'S ROUNDTABLE Topic: Bordeaux Reds

DATE: Monday July 15, 2013

TIME: 4:00 – 6:00

LOCATION: Presque Isle Yacht Club, 120 West Front Street, Erie, PA 16507 *Directions can be downloaded from: www.piy.com*

Winemaker's Roundtable this month will have a different format - This month we are having our meeting at Presque Isle Yacht Club and Sam Best is our host. **The format will be the same as last year:** Wine tasting from 4:00pm until 6:00pm - Pot Luck BBQ after (meat, condiments will be provided) - If time permits - tours of Presque Isle Bay, by boat.

Spouses are welcome to attend. Any questions should be directed to Sam Best - shbest1@verizon.net - **with your RSVP!** This meeting is still informal and 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. There is no charge, **HOWEVER PLEASE RSVP.**



This publication may contain pesticide recommendations. Changes in pesticide regulations occur constantly, and human errors are still possible. Some materials mentioned may not be registered in all states, may no longer be available, and some uses may no longer be legal. Questions concerning the legality and/or registration status for pesticide use should be directed to the appropriate extension agent or state regulatory agency. Read the label before applying any pesticide. Cornell and Penn State Cooperative Extensions, and their employees, assume no liability for the effectiveness or results of any chemicals for pesticide usage. No endorsements of products are made or implied.

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*Contact the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program if you have any special needs such as
visual, hearing or mobility impairments.*

CCE does not endorse or recommend any specific product or service.



THE LAKE ERIE REGIONAL GRAPE PROGRAM at CLEREL

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