Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Spring Grape IPM Meeting

Hans Walter-Peterson

Tuesday, May 12 4:30 – 6:15 PM

Ravines Wine Cellars
400 Barracks Road
Geneva, NY (click here for a map)

Time once again to recharge your IPM knowledge at the Spring Grape IPM Meeting. This year’s meeting will be at Ravines Wine Cellars in Geneva NY on Tuesday, May 12, starting at 4:30 PM. Come hear the latest and greatest hits from some of your favorite pest management gurus – Wayne Wilcox, Greg Loeb, and Andrew Landers. Also on the agenda is Mike Stanyard, field crop specialist with Cornell Cooperative Extension, who will talk about how aphid populations in field crops influence Multi-Colored Asian Ladybeetles populations. Tom Burr will give an update on crown gall biology and management, and there will be a short discussion about where things stand with regard to establishing a grape research order in New York.

As always, dinner will be provided after the program, so be sure to stick around for some social time and good food.
Spring Grape IPM Meeting (continued from page 1)

There is no registration fee for growers who are enrolled in the FLGP for 2015, and a $15 fee for those who are not enrolled. Growers will be eligible to receive 1.5 pesticide recertification credits at this meeting.

You can register online for the meeting at our website by going to [http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/event_preregistration.php?event=181](http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/event_preregistration.php?event=181), or by calling our office at 315-536-5134. If you would like to receive credits, please bring your applicator license to the meeting.

In The Vineyard

_Hans Walter-Peterson_

Ready or not, budbreak is upon us in the Finger Lakes. The warm stretch of weather over the past several days has started buds on many varieties to shed their scales and start swelling up. The tips of first leaves are already starting to pull away from the young shoots on early varieties like Geneva Red, Baco noir, Leon Millot and Concord on Keuka Lake, where we spent some time looking around before last night’s Tailgate Meeting. One Seneca Lake grower reported that Chardonnay is at the same stage in his vineyard as well. With temperatures forecast to be in the 80s for the next six days, it’s feasible that we will have most varieties past budbreak by this time next week. This might not be great news for those growers who are still trying to get vines pruned and tied down, but does mean that there will be less time for early insect pests like grape flea beetle and climbing cutworm to cause damage to young buds.

In addition to finishing up pruning and tying, growers who use some forms of pre-emergent herbicides need to get them applied before the buds develop much more. Certain materials like Prowl H₂O, Chateau and Alion can damage green tissues on the vine if they are contacted by the herbicide, so growers who use materials like these should be thinking about making those applications soon. As always, refer to the label for specific requirements and precautions about herbicide applications after budbreak.
A few quick reminders about pest management issues at this time of the season:

**Phomopsis**
Spraying for phomopsis early in the season is critical to keeping the disease under control. Applying an effective phomopsis material around the 3-5” stage of shoot growth, especially during a wet spring or in blocks with a history of heavier infection, can easily pay for itself at harvest by preventing early infections of stems, which make it easier for grapes to fall off the vine due to wind or shaking ahead of a mechanical harvester. Phomopsis is generally more of an issue in varieties trained to high-wire trellis systems (the spores are moved by splashing water, and therefore fall down from higher parts of the plant to lower ones) and where more “old” wood is used in cordon training.

**Grape flea beetle/Steely beetle**
This small, shiny bluish-black beetle feeds on buds just as they are swelling up. In most years, they are a minor pest and generally not worth spraying for, but we saw larger populations and greater damage from them a few years ago. We have not noticed any beetles during our vineyard stops so far this year, fortunately. Once the vines are past budbreak, the risk of damage is pretty much gone. If we continue to move quickly through budbreak (as we have so far), it’s unlikely that we’ll see much evidence of activity from them.

**Climbing Cutworm**
The timing of damage by cutworms is similar to that of steely beetles. Cutworms hide under soil covers like leaves and weeds, and emerge on warm nights to feed on the young buds. Once buds are past the budswell stage, they are no longer susceptible to feeding from cutworms.

Refer to the pest management schedules in Section 5 of the 2015 NY/PA Pest Management Guidelines for Grapes for information on materials and timing for pests of concern during this stage of the season.
Tailgate Meeting Summary

Mike Colizzi

It’s hard to believe, but the growing season is upon us and we held our first Tailgate Meeting last night. Roy and Gordy Taft provided the venue for the meeting and we discussed everything from the shortage of labor to winter injury. Things have really started to wake up around the region over the last week. While walking around vineyards yesterday we were seeing some early varieties going through bud break. Geneva Red, Baco, Concord, and even Chardonnay are breaking bud now. We expect to see others to follow soon, especially with the nice weather forecast for the rest of the week. Perhaps the main thing holding some vines back this year is the lack of rain. Most of the region has been pretty dry this spring, so any rain we do get could cause the vines to take right off.

![Geneva Red going through budbreak near Branchport.](image)

Figure 1 - Geneva Red going through budbreak near Branchport.

We have not seen any steely beetle yet this year and chances are the vines will go through budbreak so quickly that they won’t really be a problem. The general consensus at the meeting was that things look pretty good so far, and winter damage estimates were low for most varieties. We have heard from a couple of growers that some of their Chardonnay may have over 50% primary bud damage. Most trunk damage we have been finding appears to be carryover from the winter of 2013-2014. We have seen some splitting from this past winter, but it was fairly localized.

We would like to thank Roy and Gordy for hosting last night’s meeting. Next Tuesday we will be having our annual Spring IPM Meeting at Ravines in Geneva. We look forward to seeing everyone there. Please remember to register with our office if you plan to attend the IPM Meeting.
Upcoming Events

Don’t forget to check out the calendar on our website (http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/events.php) for more information about these and other events relevant to the Finger Lakes grape industry.

Spring Grape IPM Meeting
Tuesday, May 12 4:30 – 6:15 PM
Ravines Wine Cellars
400 Barracks Road
Geneva, NY
See announcement in this week’s Vineyard Update.

FLGP Tailgate Meetings
Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 19
5:00 – 6:30 PM
Wickham’s Tango Oaks Farm
5557 Route 414, Hector NY
Our annual series of tailgate meetings continues on Tuesday, May 19, at Wickham’s Tango Oaks Farm in Hector.

These meetings are held every other week at various grape farms around the Finger Lakes, and are intended to be informal, small-group meetings where FLGP staff and growers can ask questions and discuss issues about vineyard management, IPM strategies or other topics appropriate for that point in the growing season. The DEC has approved 1.0 pesticide recertification credits for each Tailgate Meeting this year.

Dates and locations for the rest of this year’s Tailgate Meetings can be found under the ‘Events’ section of our website.

Second International Workshop on Vineyard Mechanization and Grape and Wine Quality
July 26-29, 2015
SUNY-Fredonia Campus
Fredonia, NY

The Second International Workshop on Vineyard Mechanization and Grape and Wine Quality will be held July 26 to July 29, 2015, in Fredonia New York. The event is sponsored by the International Society for Horticulture Science, in conjunction with the Eastern Section of the American Society for Enology and
Upcoming Events (continue from page 5)

Viticulture, and follows the successful inaugural event held in Italy in 2012. The workshop brings together international experts in grape mechanization and grape producers to report and discuss the latest research on grapevine mechanization, precision viticulture and the use of mechanization and technology to improve grape and wine quality. Technical focus areas will include engineering advancements and mechanized tools for vineyard operations, the application of remote and proximal sensing technologies for monitoring vine performance, variable rate and zonal vineyard management for improving vineyard productivity and the economic impact of mechanized systems on fruit yield and quality. This is the first time that the workshop will be held in the US. Scientists and grape growers from over 20 countries are expected to participate in the event.

Registration and program details can be found by visiting http://events.cals.cornell.edu/ishs.
2015 GDD & Precipitation

### FLX Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Hi Temp (F)</th>
<th>Lo Temp (F)</th>
<th>Rain (inches)</th>
<th>Daily GDDs</th>
<th>Total GDDs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/30/15</td>
<td>69.1</td>
<td>41.4</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>5.3</td>
<td>64.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/1/15</td>
<td>65.7</td>
<td>43.7</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>4.7</td>
<td>69.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/2/15</td>
<td>72.2</td>
<td>44.9</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>8.6</td>
<td>77.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/3/15</td>
<td>76.0</td>
<td>49.5</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>12.8</td>
<td>90.7</td>
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<tr>
<td>5/4/15</td>
<td>82.5</td>
<td>55.2</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>18.9</td>
<td>109.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/5/15</td>
<td>69.3</td>
<td>57.2</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>13.3</td>
<td>122.8</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Weekly Total: 0.00” 63.4
Season Total: 2.39” 122.8

GDDs as of May 5, 2014: 73.2
Rainfall as of May 5, 2014: 3.62”

### Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)

#### Growing Degree Days

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2015 GDD</th>
<th>Long-term Avg GDD</th>
<th>Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-)</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>40.8</td>
<td>65.2</td>
<td>-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>58.5</td>
<td>248.6</td>
<td>+3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>481.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>640.6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td>588.6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td>347.6</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>October</td>
<td>105.5</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>99.3</td>
<td>2477.6</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1 Accumulated GDDs for the month.
2 The long-term average (1973-2014) GDD accumulation for that month.
3 Numbers at the end of each month represent where this year’s GDD accumulation stands relative to the long-term average. The most recent number represents the current status.
### Precipitation

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2014 Rain</th>
<th>Long-term Avg Rain</th>
<th>Monthly deviation from avg</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>2.54”</td>
<td>2.90</td>
<td>-0.31”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>0.00”</td>
<td>3.11</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.60</td>
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<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.42</td>
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<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.17</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>September</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.63</td>
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<td>October</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.25</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td></td>
<td>23.08”</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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4 Monthly rainfall totals up to current date
5 Long-term average rainfall for the month (total)
6 Monthly deviation from average (calculated at the end of the month)
Got some grapes to sell? Looking to buy some equipment or bulk wine? List your ad on the NY Grape & Wine Classifieds website today!

Become a fan of the Finger Lakes Grape Program on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter (@cceflgp). Also check out our website, “The Grape Lakes – Viticulture in the Finger Lakes” at http://flg.cce.cornell.edu.

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