In The Vineyard

Hans Walter-Peterson

Veraison has arrived in the Finger Lakes in some of the early varieties. Both Marquette and Jupiter, one of our seedless table grapes, started to turn color over the weekend. Growers at our Tailgate Meeting last night also mentioned Baco noir and even a few Pinot noir clusters starting to change color as well. My first reaction when noticing this was, “Already? Wow, that’s early!” When I look back at our records and past Vineyard Updates, this is about when we would expect these varieties to start turning color.

Marquette clusters on Monday, July 27

Jupiter clusters on Monday, July 27

Tasting of Viticulture & Enology Extension Trial Wines

FLGP Tailgate Meetings

Tailgate Meeting for Winemakers

Pre-Harvest Field Meeting

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August 7, 2015

August 11, 2015

August 20, 2015

August 24, 2015
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The beginning of veraison means a couple of things from a viticulture/vineyard management standpoint:

- Time to begin assembling and deploying bird protection gear. As berries begin to turn color and ripen, they become attractive to one of the more troubling pests that growers have to deal with, birds (and other vertebrate varmints). A couple of growers at last night’s Tailgate Meeting mentioned that they are seeing large flocks of birds in and around some of their vineyards already this year. We won’t know the extent of the pressure until we see just how active they are in the vineyards, but most growers know how quickly a flock of birds can appear and make a crop disappear. We’re going to be putting our nets out over the Marquette and table grapes in the Teaching Vineyard this week.

  Speaking of birds, see the announcement on page 4 about the upcoming webinar on “Limiting Bird Damage in Fruit”, which will be done as part of a full-day workshop in Ballston Spa.

- Veraison is also the beginning of the window when growers can take petiole samples to assess the nutrient status of their vines. Nutrient levels are not fluctuating as much at this point in the growing season than they are at bloom, so the standards that we generally use to determine adequate nutrient status are applicable over a longer window. The general timing recommendation is about 70-100 days (2-3 months) after bloom for taking samples. Our YouTube video on petiole sampling provides some more details on how to collect these samples. You can get testing kits and forms from your local Extension office, or directly from a commercial testing lab.

IPM

Hans Walter-Peterson

After an incredibly wet June and early July, the Finger Lakes has had the chance to dry out a bit over the past 10 days or so. Most areas have received less than 0.5” of rain over the past 10 days, which has helped to reduce the number of infection periods for downy mildew and black rot compared to a few weeks ago. The higher temperatures that we’ve been having over the past few days have also helped to slow down the spread of any existing infections, as the generation time for the disease (the time between “generations” of spores) increases as the temperatures pass through the 80s. That does not mean that existing infections are killed at higher temperatures like these – they just don’t generate new spores as quickly than when temperatures are closer to optimum for the disease, which is in the mid to upper 70s.

As mentioned, we are moving into veraison in early varieties, which means as berries begin to soften and accumulate sugars and other compounds, they become vulnerable to new infections by Botrytis. Growers should be preparing to apply botrytis materials in tight-clustered varieties and in blocks where there has been higher than normal pressure in the past couple of years.
GBM Model

Growing degree data from the GBM model on NEWA indicates that we are still between times for any kind of insecticide applications for GBM. As of Wednesday, July 29, we are at 1380 GDDs (using the calculation method for the model) at our vineyard in Dresden. According to the model forecast, we will be reaching the time for scouting for GBM damage this weekend, which begins around 1470 GDDs. Insecticide applications are justifiable if 15% of sampled clusters show signs of damage from previous generations of GBM.

If using insecticides that require ingestion by the GBM larvae (e.g., Altacor, Biobit/Dipel), they should be applied around 1620 GDDs. If using contact insecticides (e.g., Danitol, Sevin, Brigade, Leverage), wait to apply them closer to 1720 GDDs.
Limiting Bird Damage in Fruit: State-of-the-Art Pest Management Tactics

A Vertebrate Damage Management Workshop

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Cornell Cooperative Extension</td>
<td>Wednesday</td>
<td>8:30 AM-4:00 PM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Saratoga County, 50 W. High St.</td>
<td>August 19</td>
<td>Lunch included</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ballston Spa, NY 12020</td>
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</table>

In the morning, learn which bird species damage fruit, economic losses from birds to fruit, consumer preference for management tactics (e.g. kestrel nesting boxes), NY grower survey, tactics for deer management, regulations & permitting for wildlife control, landscape factors that place fruit at risk, and bird mitigation strategies. Morning session available via WebEx webinar.

In the afternoon, enjoy on-farm field demonstrations of scare tactics such as falconry, air dancers and exchange insights through discussions of tactics being used on your farms.

Gain comprehensive knowledge about successful bird management strategies in susceptible fruit crops, including sweet and tart cherry, blueberry, 'Honeycrisp' apples and wine grapes.

Advanced registration required!
Register by Wednesday, August 12
Workshop limited to 30 attendees
Registration fee $10 (credit card, check payable to CCE ENYCHP, or online- details to follow)

To register contact:
Marcie Vohnoutka, ENYCHP
518-272-4210, mmp74@cornell.edu
Specify – Webinar OR Workshop

Deadline to register is August 12, 2015.

Organized by Juliet Carroll, Fruit IPM Coordinator, NYS IPM Program, Cornell Cooperative Extension
by Paul Curtis, Associate Professor Wildlife Management, Cornell University and the multistate USDA NIFASCRI project, Limiting bird damage in fruit crops
Hosted by the Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program (ENYCHP), Cornell Cooperative Extension

We have applied for DEC pesticide applicator recertification credits.
You’ll receive folders full of wildlife management resources for your farm!
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.

FLGP Tailgate Meetings

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 11  5:00 – 6:30 PM

Glenora Farms
340 Dundee-Glenora Road, Dundee, NY 14837

Our annual series of tailgate meetings continues on Tuesday, August 11, at Glenora Farms in Dundee. 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.

As part of our continuing series on “grape growing for winemakers and winemaking for grape growers” (we really need a snazzier and shorter name for that), the Enology Extension Lab and the Finger Lakes Grape Program are holding two meetings in August.

Tasting of Viticulture & Enology Extension Trial Wines

Friday, August 7   9:30 AM

251 Food Research Laboratory,

NY State Agricultural Experiment Station

630 W North Street, Geneva NY

Winemakers and grape growers are invited to a tasting of wines from several different enology and viticulture trials. This event is free for New York industry members, but registration is required and seating is limited. Please RSVP to Sarah Lincoln at sjl38@cornell.edu by Wednesday, August 5.

Wines to taste:

- Riesling clones
- Riesling yeast x YAN level
- Cab Franc training system x crop load
Tailgate Meeting for Winemakers

*Thursday, August 20  5:00 PM*

*Location TBD*

The main focus of this meeting is to provide area winemakers with some information about the 2015 growing season, how the season might affect this year’s harvest, and discussing what we know (and don’t know) about how various practices and factors in the vineyard do or don’t influence fruit and wine quality.

The format of the meeting will be much like our Tailgate Meetings that we hold for growers during the season. We will have some information to present and discuss with the group, but it is also a time to ask questions about other topics that might be on winemakers’ minds as we approach this year’s harvest. No need to register ahead of time - feel free to bring your own chair.

Pre-Harvest Field Meeting

*Monday, August 24  5:00 – 6:30 PM*

*Prejean Winery*

2634 Route 14, Penn Yan NY  14527

The primary focus of this field meeting will be a couple of research projects being conducted by Dr. Justine Vanden Heuvel and her lab. The first is continuation of some work that has been done on the use of under-vine cover crops to reduce vigor. A research plot has been established at Prejean to examine the impacts of several different ground covers, including chicory, alfalfa, fescue grass, tillage radish and native vegetation, on vigorous Noiret vines. The second is a demonstration of the ‘pallisage’ technique that Justine is examining as an alternative to hedging, and that I mentioned in the *July 8 Vineyard Update*. We will also share this year’s Finger Lakes Grape Price List at the meeting, and probably have a few other tidbits on the agenda as well.

This meeting *will not* take the place of the Tailgate Meeting the following day at Buttonwood Grove Winery. We will still hold that meeting, our final Tailgate of the 2015 season, on Tuesday, August 25.
### 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>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7/22/15</td>
<td>74.9</td>
<td>61.0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>1442.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/23/15</td>
<td>75.3</td>
<td>59.0</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>17.2</td>
<td>1459.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/24/15</td>
<td>80.8</td>
<td>55.2</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>18.0</td>
<td>1477.7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/25/15</td>
<td>80.6</td>
<td>60.3</td>
<td>0.09</td>
<td>20.5</td>
<td>1498.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7/26/15</td>
<td>81.2</td>
<td>65.3</td>
<td>0.16</td>
<td>23.3</td>
<td>1521.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>7/27/15</td>
<td>85.2</td>
<td>65.9</td>
<td>0.00</td>
<td>25.6</td>
<td>1547.0</td>
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<tr>
<td>Weekly Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0.25”</td>
<td>122.6</td>
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<tr>
<td>Season Total</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>16.08”</td>
<td>1547.0</td>
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</table>

GDDs as of July 28, 2014: 1540.9
Rainfall as of July 28, 2014: 15.93”

**Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)**

**Growing Degree Days**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Month</th>
<th>2015 GDD 1</th>
<th>Long-term Avg GDD 2</th>
<th>Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April</td>
<td>40.8</td>
<td>65.2</td>
<td>-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>May</td>
<td>408.4</td>
<td>248.6</td>
<td>+8</td>
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<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>444.9</td>
<td>481.5</td>
<td>+5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>531.0</td>
<td>640.6</td>
<td>+3</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></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.
### 2015 GDD & Precipitation (continued from page 7)

**Precipitation**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2015 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>2.97”</td>
<td>3.11</td>
<td>-0.14”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June</td>
<td>7.28”</td>
<td>3.60</td>
<td>+3.68”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>July</td>
<td>2.97”</td>
<td>3.42</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>August</td>
<td></td>
<td>3.17</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<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>

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)
Additional Information

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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