



# Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

## Season Summary

*Hans Walter-Peterson*

### Final GDD and Rain Tally for 2013

The period that we have used when tallying up growing degree days (GDD) and rainfall for the season are April 1 - October 31. Now that we've come to the end of another season, we can take a final look at where we ended up in terms of heat accumulation and rain. Of course, conditions can be very different depending on location, especially when it comes to the amount of rainfall in different parts of the Finger Lakes, but here's some data from a few different places in the region, and comparisons of 2013 to the long term averages from the Experiment Station at Geneva.

#### *Links To*

[Vineyard Mapping](#) **3**

[Enrollment](#) **4**

[Events](#) **4**

#### *2013 GDD at Geneva compared to Long Term Average*

	2013	Long Term Average	Difference
April	59.9	65.7	-5.8
May	350.0	244.8	+105.2
June	426.1	482.0	-55.9
July	689.2	641.1	+48.1
August	561.3	591.0	-29.7
September	318.1	348.2	-30.1
October	174.0	102.8	+71.2
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2578.6</b>	<b>2475.6</b>	<b>+103.0</b>

- Unified Grape & Wine Symposium
- B.E.V. NY 2014

January 28-30, 2014

Thursday, February 27—Saturday, March 1, 2014

## Season Summary (cont. from page 1)

### *2013 GDD at Several Locations in the Finger Lakes*

Location	2013 GDDs (April 1 - October 31)
Branchport	2595.1
Dresden (FLGP/FLCC Teaching Vineyard)	2865.1
Watkins Glen (Lakewood Vineyards)	2724.3
Lodi (Standing Stone)	2866.7
Romulus (Thirsty Owl)	2691.7

In terms of growing degree days, the region was pretty close to average overall, which was kind of how it felt much of the time. There were certainly cold and warm stretches at different points in the season, but we were never really significantly ahead or behind in terms of GDDs at any point in the season, at least until the end of October when it didn't really matter as much anyway. Just for comparison's sake, the closest year to this in terms of total GDD accumulation in recent years is 2001, when we had 2593 GDDs at Geneva. The major difference between that year and 2013 wasn't the temperature but the relative lack of rain during much of that year, compared to this one. Speaking of rainfall...

### *2013 Rainfall at Geneva Compared to Long Term Average*

	2013	Long Term Average	Difference
April	3.63"	2.88"	+0.75
May	4.12"	3.07"	+1.05
June	5.06"	3.57"	+1.49
July	4.82"	3.28"	+1.54
August	4.26"	3.15"	+1.11
September	1.60"	3.75"	-2.15
October	3.64"	3.25"	+0.39
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>27.13"</b>	<b>22.95"</b>	<b>+4.18</b>

## Season Summary (cont. from page 2)

### 2013 GDD at Several Locations in the Finger Lakes

Location	2013 Rainfall (April 1 - October 31)
Branchport	14.44"
Dresden (FLGP/FLCC Teaching Vineyard)	22.40"
Watkins Glen (Lakewood Vineyards)	22.10"
Lodi (Standing Stone)	15.66"

Continuing the theme of “location, location, location” when it came to weather conditions this year, there were some pretty significant differences in the amount of rain that fell on the vines this year depending on where you were located. As we have noted before, though, yearly or even monthly totals of either of these measurements do not really tell much of the total story about what happened in the vineyards this year. The impact of 3” of rain on a vineyard can be quite different depending on how quickly that falls - in one days or over two weeks. I still think, however, that it’s interesting to see how a particular growing season stacks up in terms of some of these measures, even if they have a somewhat limited use in understanding the growing season.

*I’ll have a more comprehensive review of “the season that was” in 2013 in this year’s Harvest Issue of the Vineyard Notes newsletter, which will come out in December.*

## Vineyard Mapping

Hans Walter-Peterson

### Finger Lakes Vineyard Mapping Project Ramping Up Again

Now that we’re past the growing season and things are a little calmer, we would like to begin working with growers again to add to our GIS map of vineyards in the Finger Lakes. Many growers have already met with Mike, Casey, Jamie, or Bill over the past few years to help build this important database of information about the vineyard acreage in the region, but we still have a number of vineyards that we still don’t have any information about.

If you haven’t had a chance to sit down to map out your vineyards with us, or if you have made some changes to your plantings over the past several years that we should know about, this winter would be a great time to help us update the map. The process is very easy, and takes as little as an hour, and can be done either here at our office in Penn Yan or at your farm.

To arrange an appointment, please contact Mike Colizzi at [mac252@cornell.edu](mailto:mac252@cornell.edu) or give him a call at 315-536-5134. If you aren’t sure if we have your information, give Mike a shout and he can let you know if we do or if it’s been a while since we last met with you.



## Enrollment for 2104 is Coming Soon

*Hans Walter-Peterson*

We are just about ready to send out 2014 enrollment forms for the Finger Lakes Grape Program. In addition to having the option to enroll using the regular paper form and sending a check to our office, you will now have the ability to enroll online through our website using a credit card (I know - welcome to the 21st century).

**BUT DON'T DO IT YET!!!**

We're still working on getting the information finalized and we will let you know when online enrollment will be available.

We hope that you continue to find that being enrolled with the Grape Program is a worthwhile expense, and that the information and outreach that we provide is beneficial to your farm business. By enrolling in the FLGP, you and your fellow growers help us to continue to provide this important service to the industry through our email updates, newsletters, Tailgate meetings, winter conference, the Grape & Wine Classifieds website, and much more.

Watch for enrollment forms and information in the mail soon, along with an announcements coming via email, Twitter ([@cceflgp](https://twitter.com/cceflgp)), Facebook, passenger pigeon, singing telegrams or anything else we can think of.

## 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.

### **B.E.V. NY 2014 – Save the Dates!**

*Thursday, February 27 – Saturday, March 1, 2014*

*Holiday Inn – Waterloo NY*

The annual winter meetings for the Finger Lakes Grape Program and Cornell's Enology Extension Program are coming together again for a comprehensive, three-day conference focused on delivering important **B**usiness, **E**nology and **V**iticulture information to members of the New York grape and wine industry – B.E.V. NY!

Each day of the conference will be focused on one of these areas, with business and market related topics on Thursday, February 27, enology on Friday, February 28 and viticulture getting the attention on Saturday, March 1. The always popular Trade Show and Wine Social will both take place on Saturday as well.

Registration and program information will be coming out soon, but mark the dates on your calendar now!

\*\*\*\*\*

### **Unified Grape & Wine Symposium**

*January 28 – 30, 2014*

*Sacramento Convention Center – Sacramento, CA*

Every January, the Unified Wine & Grape Symposium trade show is home to over 650 suppliers to the wine and grape industry. With more than 13,400 industry professionals attending and 730 booths, the Symposium is the largest wine & grape industry conference and trade show of its kind in North America.

Program, registration and lodging information is available at the event's website, <http://www.unifiedsymposium.org>.

## 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>.

Cornell University Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities. CCE does not endorse or recommend any specific product or service. This program is solely intended to educate consumers about their choices. Contact CCE if you have any special needs such as visual, hearing or mobility impairments.



FINGER LAKES VINEYARD UPDATE  
Is published by  
Cornell Cooperative Extension  
Finger Lakes Grape Program  
Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben and Yates Counties