



Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

In The Vineyards

Hans Walter-Peterson



Geez, what a little sun and heat will do to grapevines. Last week at this time, most varieties were between early budbreak and about 3-4" of growth. As of yesterday, primary shoots in a number of varieties in Seneca Lake vineyards were anywhere from 4-12" long. Suddenly, everybody is feeling a bit behind schedule (including us). Suckers are starting to emerge near the base of trunks as well, with more tending to show up on vines with fewer live buds up above (naturally).

We continue to find more live buds on canes than many of our bud injury estimates indicated earlier this year – good news (so far, at least)! In many cases in vinifera blocks, primary and secondary shoots are about the same length, so the only to really know is to look at the number of clusters on a shoot. Primary shoots will usually carry 2 or 3 clusters per shoot, while secondary shoots will have none or maybe one small cluster. This obviously doesn't apply to native and hybrid grape varieties.

Shoots are still at a good stage for shoot thinning and suckering. You can read more about the effects of shoot thinning in this write up, but if you want the extremely short version:

- Shoot thinning can improve disease management and bud fruitfulness by allowing better sunlight, air and spray penetration into the fruiting zone.
- Impacts on final wine quality are inconsistent in several trials looking at canopy management techniques (assuming disease and other fruit quality parameters are relatively equal otherwise).

So even if the impacts on wine quality are not consistent, the effects of shoot thinning on disease pressure and fruitfulness are reason enough to try to incorporate the practice into your vineyard management.



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Lessons Learned from California's Original Sustainable Winegrowing Certification Program

June 5, 2014

Tailgate Meetings Sunrise Hill Vineyards

June 10, 2014

Tailgate Meeting Update

Mike Colizzi

Last night's tailgate meeting was held at Gigliotti vineyards just north of Watkins Glen. We would like to thank Frank and Suzanne for hosting last night's meeting. The main topics of discussion were insects, early season fungicide applications, and TAP funding. The general theme of the meeting seemed to be that everyone was falling behind because of the weather. Some vineyards are still trying to finish up tying. Hopefully the weather cooperates and everyone is able to battle back and get on target.

With the cooler, wet conditions this spring it will be very important to keep on top of the early fungicide sprays for diseases such as phomopsis. It seems like most growers have put their first spray on by now or will be putting it on this week. Shoot growth is anywhere from 3-9" at this point depending on variety. Shoot thinning has started in some vineyards and will continue for probably another couple weeks. Winter injury has made it particularly challenging to determine the exact amount of shoots to thin. Due to the random damage throughout the blocks some vines need extensive thinning and others need none at all.

Jamie Earl from FSA in Steuben County came to last night's meeting to talk about the TAP program and what is available to growers this year. He handed out the TAP factsheet, which is included at the end of this update. It outlines all the criteria for the program. He also mentioned that the USDA has approved Yates County for ECP funding to help farmers with damages from the flooding. The Emergency Conservation Program (ECP) helps farmers and ranchers to repair damage to farmlands caused by natural disasters such as the extensive flooding that hit Yates County.

We would again like to thank Frank and Suzanne Gigliotti for hosting last night's meeting. We look forward to seeing all of you at our next tailgate meeting on June 10th at Sunrise Hill Vineyards in Interlaken

Even When Things Change, The Basics Stay The Same

Tim Weigle, NYSIPM, LERGP

During conversations with growers this spring, it occurred to me that I have been talking about grape IPM for 25 years. And while things have changed a bit over the years, I find that when I talk to successful growers they all talk about the basic components they use in their vineyard IPM strategies. Below is a list of the most common components.

Know your pests – Knowledge of pest identification and life cycles will ensure the proper materials are applied at the correct time. The NYS IPM Program has a series of fact sheets on grape pests at: <http://www.nysipm.cornell.edu/factsheets/grapes/>

Sprayer calibration – Whether it a weed sprayer or one used for applying fungicides and insecticides, it should be calibrated at the beginning of each season and whenever the amount of water per gallon applied per acre is changed. Materials cost too much to have a poorly calibrated sprayer either applying too much or too little per acre.

Ensure adequate coverage/use enough water per acre – plainly put, if it isn't making it to the target in adequate amounts, you are throwing away money with each tank applied. Water is the cheapest component in a tank mix. Work done in the past has shown that the extra time taken to fill a spray tank pays for itself in improved disease and insect control.

Spray every row – Research conducted by Andrew Landers, Wayne Wilcox and Greg Loeb proved that coverage was improved by spraying every row (as opposed to every other row) resulting in improved disease and insect control. This is true even early in the season when green tissue is at a minimum.

Maintain spray intervals – while especially true for fungicides, there are times when this works for insecticides as well. Once you make a pesticide application, continue to maintain spray intervals, shortening them if excessive rainfall occurs, to ensure there is continuous protection against the pest. Exceeding spray intervals can create gaps in coverage limiting the effectiveness of earlier sprays on controlling the pest population.

Block –by–block management – With an operation of any size, treating all vineyards the same can lead to over, and under, application of management tools. Knowing the size of each block will also help to fine tune pesticide and fertilizer applications.

Pre bloom to Post bloom – This is the most critical time for powdery mildew, downy mildew, black rot and Phomopsis fruit infections. Primary inoculum is peaking at this time so continuous coverage with the appropriate materials is a must during this time.

Read the label – it's the law – The label will give you the active ingredient, the pests it can be used for, the rates per acre, required personal protective equipment (PPE), spray intervals, reentry intervals and days to harvest restrictions. Reading the label provides the base information needed to make safe and intelligent pesticide applications.

Scout! – Make it a habit to get out into vineyards on a block-by-block basis to identify any problems early. It is very difficult to control pests, especially diseases, once they become established. It is important to scout after a pesticide application to make sure the desired effect was achieved. Spraying and walking away can be a recipe for disaster. If you are not saying “What's that?” at least once per season you are not out in the vineyard enough.

Use the latest IPM information – The latest weather and pest model information is available through the Network for Environment and Weather Applications (NEWA)

<http://newa.cornell.edu/>. With an ever increasing number of stations coming on board each year there is a great chance that there is a weather station near you. And if not, you can purchase a station and join the network.

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.

Lessons Learned from California's Original Sustainable Winegrowing Certification Program: The Lodi Rules

Thursday, June 5 2014 5:00 - 6:00 PM

Jordan Hall, NYS Agricultural Experiment Station

630 W. North Street, Geneva NY

Please join us for a presentation by Matthew Hoffman, Grower Program Coordinator for the Lodi Winegrape Commission, about the Lodi grape industry's experience with their sustainability certification program, The Lodi Rules for Sustainable Winegrowing.

More information is available in the announcement at the end of this week's Vineyard Update, and at <http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=150>.

There is no cost to attend the seminar, but we ask that everybody register ahead of time so we know how many people to plan for. To register, please visit the 'Events' page on our website, <http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/events.php> or call our office at 315-536-5134



FLGP Tailgate Meeting

Tuesday, June 10 5:00 – 6:30 PM

Sunrise Hill Vineyards

7945 Footes Corners Road, Interlaken NY

Our next Tailgate Meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 10 at 5:00 PM at Sunrise Hill Vineyards in Interlaken.

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. Growers are eligible to receive 0.75 pesticide recertification credits at each meeting this year.

Here are the dates and locations of the rest of our Tailgate Meetings this season.

Date	Address
June 24	Randall Standish Vineyards, 6150 Hicks Road, Naples NY 14512
July 8	Egresi Vineyards, 10887 County Road 78, Prattsburg NY 14873
July 22	Dalrymple Farm, 7890 County Rd. 131, Ovid NY 14521
August 5	<i>Simmons Vineyards, 3243 Fingar Road, Keuka Park NY 14478 (tentative)</i>
August 19	Dr. Frank's Vinifera Wine Cellars, 5230 Route 414, Hector NY 14841



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Finger Lakes Grape Program

FLGP Special Seminar
**Lessons Learned from California's Original Sustainable
Winegrowing Certification Program: The Lodi Rules**

Thursday, June 5 2014 5:00 - 6:00 PM

*Jordan Hall, NYS Agricultural Experiment Station
630 W. North Street, Geneva NY*

Please join us for a presentation by Matthew Hoffman, Grower Program Coordinator for the Lodi Winegrape Commission, about the Lodi grape industry's experience with their sustainability certification program, The Lodi Rules for Sustainable Winegrowing. This program was the first sustainability certification program developed for grape growing in the United States, and has served as a model for a number of other programs that have developed since then, including the Vine-Balance program here in New York. Dr. Hoffman will talk about some of the pros and cons of creating a third party certification program like the Lodi Rules, and what kinds of impacts the program has had for the industry out there. This information can be valuable background as the Finger Lakes industry considers whether or not to develop a similar program for itself. His presentation will be followed by some time for questions and open discussion.

There is no cost to attend the seminar, but we ask that everybody register ahead of time so we know how many people to plan for. To register, please visit the 'Events' page on our website, <http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/events.php> or call our office at 315-536-5134.



Matthew Hoffman is the Grower Program Coordinator at the Lodi Winegrape Commission, where he manages the Commission's viticulture research projects, grower outreach programs, and the Lodi Rules for Sustainable Winegrowing certification program. Established in 2005, the Lodi Rules is California's original sustainable winegrowing certification program and has inspired the development and design of several newer certification programs in California and New York. Matthew came to the Commission in 2012. His Ph.D. research focused on the effectiveness of agricultural extension programs and sustainability certification programs in California. In his capacity at the Commission we works alongside a committee of Lodi growers to evolve the Lodi Rules program so it meets the changing needs of Lodi's growing viticulture and wine industry.

Dr. Hoffman's visit to the Finger Lakes is supported by the New York State Winegrape Growers. We also want to thank the members of the Long Island Sustainable Winegrowing program for inviting Dr. Hoffman to New York and supporting his visit here as well.

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Finger Lakes Grape Program

May 28, 2014

2014 GDD Accumulation

2014 GDD & Precipitation

FL Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
5/21/14	66.4	56.8	0.02	11.6	253.0
5/22/14	75.4	57.5	0.00	16.5	269.4
5/23/14	58.0	53.1	0.71	5.6	275.0
5/24/14	73.0	53.9	0.00	13.5	288.4
5/25/14	76.8	50.6	0.00	13.7	302.1
5/26/14	81.5	61.5	0.00	21.5	323.6
5/27/14	82.0	66.4	0.00	24.2	347.8
Weekly Total			0.73"	106.6	
Season Total			9.49"	347.8	

GDDs as of May 27, 2013: 368.3

Rainfall as of May 27, 2013: 4.89"

Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)

Growing Degree Days

	2014 GDD ¹	Long-term Avg GDD ²	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) ³
April	52.1	65.9	-3
May	259.0	262.7	0
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			

¹ Accumulated GDDs for the month.

² The long-term average (1973-2013) GDD accumulation for that month, or up to the most recent records in the current month.

³ Numbers at the end of each month represent where this year's GDD accumulation stands relative to the long-term average. For example, at the end of April 2014, we were 3 days behind average accumulation. The most recent number represents the current status.

2014 GDD Accumulation (continued from page 6)

Precipitation

	2014 Rain ⁴	Long-term Avg Rain ⁵	Monthly deviation from avg ⁶
April	2.90"	2.90"	0.00"
May	3.64"	3.13"	
June			
July			
August			
September			
October			

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)



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FARM SERVICE AGENCY

2014 Farm Bill

FACT SHEET

April 2014

Tree Assistance Program for Orchardists and Nursery Tree Growers (TAP)

OVERVIEW

The USDA Tree Assistance Program (TAP) provides financial assistance to qualifying orchardists and nursery tree growers to replant or rehabilitate eligible trees, bushes and vines damaged by natural disasters occurring on or after Oct. 1, 2011. TAP was authorized by the Agricultural Act of 2014 as a permanent disaster program.

ELIGIBLE TREE TYPES

Eligible trees, bushes and vines are those from which an annual crop is produced for commercial purposes. Nursery trees include ornamental, fruit, nut and Christmas trees produced for commercial sale. Trees used for pulp or timber are ineligible.

ELIGIBLE PRODUCERS

To qualify for TAP, orchardists and nursery tree growers must:

- Have suffered qualifying tree, bush or vine losses in excess of 15 percent (adjusted for normal mortality) from an eligible natural disaster for the individual stand;
- Have owned the eligible trees, bushes and vines when the natural disaster occurred, but eligible growers are not required to own the land on which eligible trees, bushes and vines are planted;
- Replace eligible trees, bushes and vines within 12 months from the date the application is approved.

PAYMENT CALCULATION

For tree, bush or vine replacement, replanting, and/or rehabilitation, the payment calculation is the lesser of the following:

- 65 percent of the actual cost of replanting, in excess of 15 percent mortality (adjusted for normal mortality), and/or 50 percent of the

actual cost of rehabilitation, in excess of 15 percent damage or mortality (adjusted for normal tree damage and mortality) or;

- The maximum eligible amount established for the practice by the USDA Farm Service Agency's (FSA) Deputy Administrator for Farm Programs.

The cumulative total quantity of acres planted to trees, bushes or vines for which a producer can receive TAP payments cannot exceed 500 acres annually.

Additional information regarding TAP or other USDA programs can be found by visiting a nearby FSA county office or online at fsa.usda.gov.

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If you wish to file a Civil Rights program complaint of discrimination, complete the USDA Program Discrimination Complaint Form, found online at http://www.ascr.usda.gov/complaint_filing_cust.html, or at any USDA office, or call (866) 632-9992 to request the form. You may also write a letter containing all of the information requested in the form. Send your completed complaint form or letter by mail to U.S. Department of Agriculture, Director, Office of Adjudication, 1400 Independence Avenue, S.W., Washington, D.C. 20250-9410, by fax (202) 690-7442 or email at program.intake@usda.gov.

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Additional Information



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

Got some grapes to sell? Looking to buy some equipment or bulk wine? List your ad on the [NY Grape & Wine Classifieds website](#) today!

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