



# Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

## In The Vineyard

Hans Walter-Peterson

After a cool and wet first half of the season last year, I would tell people that a warm and sunny September could “save our bacon” and make up for the less-than-ideal conditions earlier in the season. So far this year, it looks like we’re seeing another version of that same story. While it hasn’t been as warm as we might have wanted through much of this month, the lack of rain has helped to keep fruit and leaves fairly clean overall. The weather for the next week looks almost ideal for harvest – sunny and warm conditions will help to continue holding down disease development, while hopefully giving fruit the chance to ripen a bit further and perhaps get off the vines a little bit sooner.



*Fruit from Zweigelt vines symptomatic of virus infection was significantly lower in color and Brix than asymptomatic vines.*

Lots of Cayuga White has been coming off over the past several days, along with a few other hybrids like Seyval and even some early Vidal. We harvested Zweigelt at the Teaching Vineyard this week, along with half of our Marquis table grapes. The Zweigelt gave us another good demonstration of the impact that virus infection can have on fruit. Cluster samples taken from uninfected vines averaged about 22 Brix, while clusters from symptomatic vines (we assume they’re infected) were just under 14 brix. From the sounds of it, some of the early vinifera varieties like Chardonnay and Pinot noir have started trickling in this week, and will be picking up over the next several days.

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### Upcoming Events

**Cornell Strategic Marketing Conference 2014**

**2014 Agribusiness Economic Outlook Conference**

**Unified Symposium**

**Save the Dates: B.E.V. NY 2015**

**November 11 and 12, 2014**

**December 9, 2014**

**January 27—29, 2015**

**February 26 thru 28, 2015**

## Using Volunteer Labor During Harvest (or anytime)

*Hans Walter-Peterson*

There was a recent article from the San Jose Mercury News about a winery in the Castro Valley region of California that was assessed a \$115,000 fine by the state of California for using volunteers at their business. These volunteers, according to the article, were helping out with various functions at the winery - some with the idea of learning about the industry by working at a winery. The winery was cited because none of the workers was covered by workers' compensation or paid a wage for their work at the winery, which is against California law (and federal law, as it turns out).

After seeing this article, I called the NY State Department of Labor to ask if for-profit businesses in New York were also prohibited from using volunteer labor, and the answer was yes. In other words, no for-profit business in New York (including agriculture, as far as I know right now) is allowed to use volunteer labor. There are conditions for allowing an "intern" to work at a business who is not paid (see the US DOL fact sheet reference below).

I don't want to try to interpret New York labor law and regulations here, and please don't take this as any kind of legal advice, but I wanted to get the word out about what I was told regarding this subject. I will try to get some other resources and clarification from the state about this and pass it along when I do, but suffice to say, any growers and wineries who are considering using volunteers to help out during harvest should probably think twice before doing so.

A few links with some more information:

### **Castro Valley winery fined \$115,000 for using volunteers**

[http://www.mercurynews.com/my-town/ci\\_26541167/castro-valley-winery-fined-115-000-using-volunteers](http://www.mercurynews.com/my-town/ci_26541167/castro-valley-winery-fined-115-000-using-volunteers)

### **Statement from CA Department of Industrial Relations**

[http://www.mercurynews.com/extra/ci\\_26563532/document-california-agency-fine-winerys-use-volunteer-workers](http://www.mercurynews.com/extra/ci_26563532/document-california-agency-fine-winerys-use-volunteer-workers)

### **Fact Sheet #71: Internship Programs Under The Fair Labor Standards Act (U.S. Department of Labor)**

<http://www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/whdfs71.htm>

## NY Grape and Wine Classifieds

Hans Walter-Peterson

The Grape & Wine Classifieds website (<http://flgclassifieds.cce.cornell.edu>) has been getting a lot of activity lately, as it always does during harvest. As of this morning, there are almost 100 ads for grapes either for sale or from people looking to purchase them, and almost 50 ads for bulk wine (by the way, if you're looking for a home for some extra Cayuga White, check out the 'Looking to Purchase' ads under Grapes).

The screenshot shows the homepage of the NY Grape and Wine Classifieds website. At the top, there is a header with the Cornell University Cooperative Extension logo on the left, the site title "NY Grape and Wine Classifieds" in the center, and the date "Wednesday, 24 September, 2014" on the right. Below the header, the main content area is divided into several sections. On the left, there is a sidebar with a "HOME" button, a "POST AD" button, and a search bar with a "GO" button. The main content area features a grid of categories, each with a folder icon and a count in parentheses: "Grapes (96)", "Services (0)", "Bulk Juice/Wine (47)", "Vines (1)", "Equipment (26)", and "Help Wanted (3)". Each category has sub-links for "For Sale" and "Looking To Purchase". On the right side, there is a "NEW YORK (168)" section with a list of regions and their counts: Finger Lakes (120), Long Island (15), Lake Erie (12), Niagara Region (10), Hudson Valley (5), Northern NY (1), and Other NY (5). Below this is a "US/CANADA (5)" section with a link to "Other States (5)". At the bottom of the page, there is a footer with contact information: "Questions? Please contact: [gwclassifieds@cornell.edu](mailto:gwclassifieds@cornell.edu)", a copyright notice "Copyright © 2005 - 2014 Finger Lakes Grapes Classifieds. All Rights Reserved | Terms of Use | Privacy Policy", and a note "Powered by X-Zero Community Classifieds 5.3".

I wanted to pass along a couple of tips and reminders that will continue to make the listing work well for everyone:

- ◆ Whenever possible, please create a different ad for each grape or wine variety/blend that you are selling or wanting to buy. This makes it easier to manage your own ads. If you put up one ad to buy for 5 tons of Riesling, 7 tons of Niagara and 4 tons of Vidal, and end up buying just the Vidal, you may still get calls about the Vidal even after you sell it. By splitting up the ads, you can delete each one as you need to without affecting the others.
- ◆ Speaking of deleting ads, please try to remember to do so if the ad is no longer valid. Each ad remains on the site for 100 days (over 14 weeks!) by default if it isn't deleted. In a way, this is more convenient than having ads expire after 28 days, as they used to, but it also means you could be getting calls and emails for an ad that is no longer valid a lot longer. Deleting your own ads when they are no longer needed will help to keep the site easier for everyone to use and keep you from getting unnecessary calls and emails.
- ◆ Be sure that the location that you use for your ad is *your own location*. If you are located in the Hudson Valley, post your ad under that region. Do not use the region where you want the ad to be seen. It seems that at least a couple of ads are showing up in multiple regions, so I assume that these people assume they need to post it in multiple places in order to be seen by people in multiple regions of the state. You only need to post the ad once, using your own region.

A final request: While the service is free, it does cost us some time and effort to maintain it and keep it running smoothly. We would greatly appreciate any donations to the Finger Lakes Grape Program in order to keep the service up and running for you. We will be adding a donation option to the Classifieds site shortly, but in the meantime, you can call our office at 315-536-5134 to make arrangements to send in your donation.

## Upcoming Events

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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.

### **Cornell Strategic Marketing Conference 2014**

*November 11 - November 12, 2014*

*The Inn on the Lake*

*770 South Main Street*

*Canandaigua, NY 14424*

Information about the program can be found at:

[http://aem.cornell.edu/outreach/strategic\\_marketing\\_conference.php](http://aem.cornell.edu/outreach/strategic_marketing_conference.php)



### **2014 Agribusiness Economic Outlook Conference**

*Tuesday, December 9*

*Warren Hall*

*Cornell University, Ithaca NY*

Faculty from the Charles H. Dyson School of Applied Economics and Management and other experts will present loads of information about the short and long-term outlook for agriculture and agricultural products at this year's Agribusiness Economic Outlook Conference. The conference will highlight critical issues facing agriculture in New York and the Northeast to agribusiness professionals, policymakers, farm managers and other industry leaders. Breakout sessions in the afternoon will focus on the current status and near-term outlook for major New York agricultural commodities, including grapes and wine ([click here to read the 2013 outlook for grapes, wine and ornamental crops from Dr. Miguel Gomez](#)).

More information can be found at the [conference website](#).



### **Unified Symposium**

January 27-29, 2015

Sacramento Convention Center

Sacramento, CA

The Unified Symposium will once again feature the largest trade show in North America for the grape and wine industry, along with lots of information sessions on emerging issues, trends and breakthroughs in grapegrowing, wine-making, marketing and business.

Program and housing registration will open on October 28. Visit <http://www.unifiedsymposium.org> for more information.

# Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Finger Lakes Grape Program

September 24, 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
9/17/14	67.7	47.5	0.00	7.6	2402.7
9/18/14	61.5	46.9	0.00	4.2	2406.9
9/19/14	65.6	37.7	0.00	1.7	2408.6
9/20/14	74.9	55.3	0.00	15.1	2423.7
9/21/14	79.1	59.2	0.07	19.2	2442.8
9/22/14	59.6	46.3	0.05	3.0	2445.8
9/23/14	71.3	43.3	0.00	7.3	2453.1
Weekly Total			0.12"	58.1	
Season Total			22.42"	2453.1	

GDDs as of September 23, 2013: 2707.1

Rainfall as of September 23, 2013: 19.75"

### Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)



### Growing Degree Days

	2014 GDD <sup>1</sup>	Long-term Avg GDD <sup>2</sup>	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) <sup>3</sup>
April	52.1	65.6	-3
May	298.3	247.3	+3
June	516.9	480.6	+4
July	573.3	642.3	+1
August	519.3	590.3	-3
September	262.9	347.5	-9
October		104.6	
TOTAL	2222.6	2478.1	

<sup>1</sup> Accumulated GDDs for the month.

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

<sup>3</sup> 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 5)

### Precipitation

	2014 Rain <sup>4</sup>	Long-term Avg Rain <sup>5</sup>	Monthly deviation from avg <sup>6</sup>
April	2.90"	2.90"	0.00"
May	3.64"	3.11"	+0.53"
June	3.23"	3.60"	-0.37"
July	7.81"	3.31"	+4.50"
August	2.93"	3.18"	-0.25"
September	0.92"	3.69"	
October		3.26"	
TOTAL	21.43"	23.06"	

<sup>4</sup> Monthly rainfall totals up to current date

<sup>5</sup> Long-term average rainfall for the month (total)

<sup>6</sup> Monthly deviation from average (calculated at the end of the month)

## 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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