



Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

In The Vineyard

Hans Walter-Peterson

This will be the final weekly Vineyard Update for 2014. We will continue to provide weekly updates on harvest progress in the [Veraison to Harvest newsletters](#) through the next few weeks. The next Vineyard Update will come out shortly after October 31, and will include a summary of the rainfall and GDD data for the 2014 growing season. Individual announcements will be sent out via email on an as needed basis. - Hans

The Finger Lakes is well into the heart of the harvest season by now. Each year, there seems to be about a 10-14 day window of time when there is a little bit of everything being picked, and it seems like we're in the middle of that right now. There is still a little bit of earlier varieties like Chardonnay and Pinot being picked this week, and at the same time there is everything from Riesling to Corot noir to Concord to Cabernet France making their way to the crush pad. Riesling harvest, in particular, has picked up over the past week. Fruit chemistry results, especially in Riesling, are behaving as we would generally expect in a cooler year like this one. Brix levels are still generally hovering around 20° (we'll see what this week's Veraison to Harvest samples bring) for the most part, and acidity remains a bit higher than last year at this same time (see table):

Location	October 7, 2013			October 7, 2014		
	Brix	pH	TA	Brix	pH	TA
E. Seneca	18.0	3.06	8.3	19.0	3.00	11.6
W. Seneca	19.2	3.10	9.0	19.6	2.98	10.8
W. Cayuga	18.5	3.21	7.5	19.9	3.07	9.8
W. Canandaigua	16.3	3.27	9.2	17.9	3.08	11.2

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Upcoming Events

Special Harvest Twilight Meeting

Cornell Strategic Marketing Conference 2014

2014 Agribusiness Economic Outlook Conference

Unified Symposium

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

October 21, 2014

November 11 and 12, 2014

December 9, 2014

January 27—29, 2015

February 26—28, 2015

In The Vineyard (continue from page 1)



The second frost advisory of the harvest season was issued for the Finger Lakes this past Sunday morning. A few of our weather stations recorded temperatures below the freezing mark that day, including Branchport (30.5°F), Dundee (29.9°F), Ithaca Orchards (30.0°), and Lodi-Standing Stone (31.3°). Driving around a few of these areas this week, it looks like some locations got cold enough to cause leaves to start to drop, or at least abscise to the point where gusty winds could take them off. Most canopies that are still supporting fruit on the vines are showing a fair bit of senescence at this stage as well. In many cases, it's likely that any real changes in fruit chemistry will be due more to dehydration from extended hang time than to any significant photosynthetic capacity.

Concord harvest continues to surprise growers in the Finger Lakes with the amount of fruit that is being harvested this year. We have even been hearing about crops being slightly higher this year than 2013 from a few growers, which hardly seemed possibly given the heavy crop last year. Fortunately, despite the large size, processors have been pleased overall with the quality of the crop with little concern about meeting minimum sugar standards.

Take a Break from Harvest!

Special Twilight Meeting with Dr. Kees van Leeuwen

Tuesday October 21 5:00 – 6:30 PM

Three Brothers Wineries & Estates, 623 Lerch Road, Geneva, NY 14456

Presenter: Dr. Kees van Leeuwen, Institute of Grapes and Wine, Bordeaux, France

How soil, climate and vineyard management influence Cabernet Franc production in Bordeaux

Dr. Kees van Leeuwen is a leading viticulture researcher in Bordeaux, whose work focuses on the effects of environment on terroir. He is also the viticulture consultant for Chateau Cheval Blanc in St. Emilion, one of the premier producers in Bordeaux, which uses a high percentage of Cabernet Franc in its wines. Dr. van Leeuwen will be presenting a seminar at Cornell on Monday, October 20, and he has graciously agreed to meet with Finger Lakes growers and winemakers the following day to share his extensive experience working with Cabernet Franc while he is visiting. Wineries are welcome to bring a bottle of their Cabernet Franc to share and discuss with everyone after Dr. van Leeuwen's talk.

There is no cost for the meeting, but we ask everyone who wants to attend to please register through our website at <http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=159> or by calling our office at 315-536-5134.

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.

Special Harvest Twilight Meeting with Dr. Kees van Leeuwen

Tuesday, October 21, 2014 5:00 – 6:30 PM

Three Brothers Wineries & Estates, 623 Lerch Road, Geneva, NY 14456

See announcement in this issue of the Vineyard Update. Register for the meeting at <http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=159>.



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



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](#).

Upcoming Events (continued from page 3)

Unified Symposium

January 27-29, 2015

Sacramento Convention Center

Sacramento CA

Registration and housing opens at noon on Tuesday, October 28, 2014.

Visit <http://www.unifiedsymposium.org/> for program, trade show, and housing information.



Save The Dates!

B.E.V. NY 2015

Thursday, February 26 – Saturday, February 28

RIT Inn & Conference Center

5257 West Henrietta Road

Henrietta, NY



Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Finger Lakes Grape Program

October 15, 2014

2014 GDD Accumulation

2014 GDD & Precipitation

FL Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp	Lo Temp	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
10/8/14	62.4	51.2	0.08	6.8	2626.8
10/9/14	62.4	42.3	0.00	2.3	2629.2
10/10/14	59.7	41.7	0.00	0.7	2629.9
10/11/14	55.5	41.6	0.00	0.0	2629.9
10/12/14	60.4	36.2	0.00	0.0	2629.9
10/13/14	66.3	45.5	0.00	5.9	2635.8
10/14/14	78.2	61.8	0.00	20.0	2655.8
Weekly Total			0.08"	35.7	
Season Total			22.94"	2655.8	

GDDs as of October 14, 2013: 2939.4

Rainfall as of October 14, 2013: 21.63"

Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)



Growing Degree Days

	2014 GDD ¹	Long-term Avg GDD ²	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) ³
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	352.7	347.5	-8
October	83.1	104.6	-10
TOTAL	2395.5	2478.1	

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 5)

Precipitation

	2014 Rain ⁴	Long-term Avg Rain ⁵	Monthly deviation from avg ⁶
April	2.90"	2.90"	0.00"
May	3.64"	3.11"	+0.53"
June	3.23"	3.60"	-0.37"
July	7.81"	3.31"	+4.50"
August	2.93"	3.18"	-0.25"
September	0.93"	3.69"	-2.76"
October	0.01"	3.26"	
TOTAL	21.44"	23.06"	+1.62"

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



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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