



Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

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Hans Walter-Peterson

The end of February hopefully brought the end of the extremely cold temperatures that settled in to the Finger Lakes for such a long stretch this winter. Temperatures in some locations at the end of month dropped to -10°F or lower, but since then we've been back at more "seasonal" levels.

The most recent sample results from our bud hardiness survey, posted at <http://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/extension/bud-hardiness-data/>, were collected on March 2, just as the cold weather had started to finally move out of the area, but before the recent warm-up that we just had. The LT₅₀ values that we are recording this year continue to be the best that I can recall seeing since we started this project several years ago, thanks in large part to the consistently cold temperatures that we have been having this year. Below are the range and average LT₅₀ values for each of the varieties that we are sampling at multiple locations, as of March 2, 2015:

Variety	Mean LT ₅₀ value (°)	LT ₅₀ Range (°F)
Concord (n=5)	-23.5°	-19.2° to -28.2°
Cayuga White (n=6)	-17.4°	-14.3° to -19.4°
Cabernet Franc (n=6)	-16.8°	-13.2° to -20.8°
Riesling (n=7)	-15.3°	-13.6° to -16.8°

As we know from previous years, and from Jason Londo's excellent presentation at B.E.V. NY a few weeks ago, the vines will react to warmer temperatures by starting to deacclimate, which we can see when the LTE values begin to increase. I expect that we will see evidence of that deacclimation in most of our samples that are being collected this week, at least to some degree depending on variety.

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While he was collecting buds for these LTE results, Mike also collected extra buds from each location to assess bud injury. The percentages below are based on 50 bud samples collected at each location, and averaged over the number of sites where that variety was collected:

Variety	% primary bud inju-	# of sites
Cabernet Franc	23%	7
Catawba	8%	1
Cayuga White	23%	4
Concord	4%	5
Noiret	17%	2
Riesling	31%	8

These numbers seem fairly consistent with results that we have been hearing about from several other growers in the region for these varieties. I should note that we are hearing about heavier levels of injury in some other *vinifera* varieties, including a couple of reports about damage over 50% in a few Chardonnay blocks. We will be checking for bud injury in some more cold-sensitive varieties, including Merlot, Gewürztraminer, Pinot Gris and Noir, and probably Chardonnay as well, later this month.

The LTE data from samples collected this week should be updated [on the project website](#) by the end of this week or early next week.

Bud collection and determination of LTEs at NYSAES is supported by a grant to the Statewide Extension Program by the NY Wine and Grape Foundation and the Directors Endowment at the NYS Agricultural Experiment station.

Note: Some of you may have heard about a new program in New York State to install weather stations around the state to improve weather forecasting. The following information provides a brief overview of the 'New York State Mesonet' network, some basic information about the stations, including site requirements, and how to find out more information about the project. The stations will be installed and maintained by the University at Albany, which is coordinating the project, and we have been told the stations will be able to upload data to the [NEWA network of weather stations](#). If you are interested in having a station installed on your farm, please contact Dr. Brotzge at the email address at the bottom of the page.

New York State Mesonet Weather Observing Network

Dr. Jerald Brotzge – NYS Mesonet Project Manager

The New York State (NYS) Mesonet or Early Warning Weather Detection System is an advanced, statewide weather station network. This network will be the first of its kind in New York and will consist of up to 125 surface weather stations that will detect weather phenomena across the entire state. This weather detection system will provide federal, state, and local communities with access to high-resolution, real-time data, and more robust predictive models.

- Each station will measure temperature, relative humidity, wind speed and direction, precipitation, solar radiation, atmospheric pressure, and soil moisture/temperature at three depths.
- 17 of these sites will have instrumentation to measure vertical profiles of wind, temperature, and moisture.
- 20 of these sites will measure snow depth and snow water equivalent for hydrological applications.
- All data will be transmitted in real-time to a central location, quality controlled, and then disseminated to the public via our website – www.nysmesonet.org.
- The NYS Mesonet will support more accurate and precise decision-making in agriculture, emergency management, energy, ground transportation and aviation (e.g. soil moisture and temperature data will improve irrigation efficiency and various pest models will be improved).



Artist rendering of what a MesoNet weather station would look like.

- Each station consists of a 33 foot tower centered within a 33' x 33' plot of land. To ensure the highest quality of data each station must be at least 300 feet from the nearest obstacle (tall trees, buildings, etc.) or potential heat sources (pavement).
- The University at Albany will pay for any expenses associated with installation and maintenance of each station.

If you would be interested in hosting a Mesonet site, please contact Dr. Jerald Brotzge at jbrotzge@albany.edu. If you would like to learn more about the NYS Mesonet, please visit our website at www.nysmesonet.org.

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Hans Walter-Peterson

Final reminder before we create the new mailing list for 2015 at the end of the month!



finger lakes
grape program

The FLGP provides you with a direct link to the latest information from Cornell and other resources around the country on topics that are important to you as a grape grower including pest management, canopy and crop management, vineyard nutrition, soils, and farm business and marketing.

When you enroll in the FLGP, you are helping to support a wide variety of efforts that the program undertakes every year in order to serve the needs of the region's grape industry, including:

Tailgate Meetings – Informal grower meetings are held every other week during the growing season where growers and FLGP staff interact with each other to discuss current conditions in the vineyards and share research findings that provide growers with tangible solutions to vineyard issues. Surveys have revealed that over 90% of growers who attended a Tailgate meeting learned something new that they incorporated into their farming operation.

'Vineyard Update' email newsletter – A newsletter distributed weekly via email during the growing season to those enrolled in the FLGP. Each newsletter covers current growing conditions in the region, timely reminders and suggestions for vineyard and pest management practices, updates on applied research and extension projects, and much more.

Applied research trials and demonstrations – The FLGP conducts applied research trials and demonstrations at its Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard and on growers' farms around the region. These trials develop unbiased, research-based information that addresses important, practical problems that growers face in the vineyards every year.

Enrollment fees for the FLGP are the same as they were in 2014 - \$70 per farm or business in Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben and Yates counties, and \$125 per farm or business in other locations (except for Wayne County – see below). If you want to receive paper copies of our semi-monthly newsletter, *Finger Lakes Vineyard Notes*, there is a \$25 cost to help defray printing and postage costs. You can also purchase a hard copy of the 2015 NY/PA Grape IPM Guidelines for Grapes for \$30, which includes shipping.

One of the ways that county legislators measure the benefits of their support of ag programs like the FLGP is how many growers in their county use those programs and help to support them with their own dollars. If you know any of your fellow growers who are not enrolled in the program, please encourage them to do so – not just because it looks good to local politicians, but because we can offer valuable information that can help them to make improvements on their farm.

The enrollment form also has a space to include an additional donation to the FLGP and/or your local

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Extension association. Did the Grape & Wine Classifieds site help you to buy or sell some fruit recently? Did you come away from a Tailgate Meeting with a new idea that helped to improve your pest management program? We gladly offer these services and more to the industry at little or no cost, and we want to continue to do so. Please consider including a donation to the FLGP with your enrollment to support services like the Grape & Wine Classifieds and Tailgate meetings for the industry.

You can enroll by mail using the form included at the end of this Vineyard Update, or go to our website at <http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/enrollment.php> to enroll and pay by credit card.

We are happy to announce that Wayne County has joined the Finger Lakes Grape Program this year, which will reduce enrollment costs for those growers and increase the level of services the FLGP can provide to the increasing number of grape growers up in "apple country." Growers in Wayne County who wish to enroll in the FLGP should contact the Wayne County Extension Office at 315-331-8415 or wayne@cornell.edu.

We hope (and trust) that you and your business receive a significant return for your annual investment in the Finger Lakes Grape Program. If there is ever anything that we can do to make your enrollment in the FLGP more valuable for you, please don't hesitate to let us know.

VISIT [HTTP://FLGP.CCE.CORNELL.EDU/ENROLLMENT.PHP](http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/enrollment.php) TO ENROLL ONLINE

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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.

Wine Label Approval Workshop

Sponsored by Cornell Cooperative Extension of Seneca County

March 26, 2015 6:00 – 7:30 PM

Vince's Park

Route 318 & State Rt 5 & 20

Seneca Falls, NY

Demaris Brown, labeling specialist with the Alcohol and Tobacco Tax and Trade Bureau will speak on the wine label approval process. Demaris has been with the Advertising, Labeling and Formulation Division (ALFD) of the TTB for nearly five years.

Demaris analyzes and evaluates label submissions and assists industry members with getting their products to market by complying with federal regulatory requirements. She collaborates on various initiatives to streamline the requirement process for reducing regulatory burden on industry and enhancing efficiencies for internal staff. She is a certified Contract Officer Representative who manages internal administrative processes for the labeling program.

This event will be free for those enrolled in the Finger Lakes Grape Program or \$10 for those not enrolled in the Finger Lakes Grape Program. Please register if you plan on attending. To register or for additional information, contact Cornell Cooperative Extension at 315-539-9251 or email: dcs285@cornell.edu or register online at https://reg.cce.cornell.edu/Winelabelapprovals_245

EnoCert

EnoCert is a new certification program offered by the Cornell Enology Extension Lab, and is intended for current winery employees who would like to expand their practical knowledge of winery operations, or for motivated amateurs. All courses will be offered in one or two-day mix and match modules. The goal is to provide a recognizable standard of training for participants who earn EnoCertification.

The first courses in EnoCert are being offered during the week of March 30. You can find more information about EnoCert, including courses, schedules, costs and how to register for EnoCert programs, at <http://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/extension/enocert>.

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EnoCert 101: Basic Enology & Viticulture

March 30-31, 2015 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

NYS Ag Experiment Station

Geneva, NY

In this interactive course, attendees will first learn the basics of grape growing from the ground up, then expand their understanding of production steps for specific wine types. Upon completing this course, attendees will understand how vineyard site, climate, and trellising systems impact grape production and quality, how different wine types (white, red, rosé, sparkling) are produced, and the key production decisions that influence wine style.

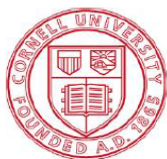
EnoCert 201: Wine Sensory Analysis

April 1-2, 2015 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM

NYS Ag Experiment Station

Geneva, NY

In this course, attendees will learn to follow their nose- and their tongue. In a series of sensory exercises, attendees will learn to differentiate between taste and smell, discover their own sensory strengths and weaknesses, and learn to evaluate wine typicity. Must be 21 years of age or older. A copy of your driver's license will be required along with your registration.



Cornell University
Cooperative Extension
Finger Lakes Grape Program

*A Regional Extension Program of
Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca,
Steuben, Wayne, and Yates
Counties*

Finger Lakes Grape Program 2015 Enrollment Form

Name: _____

Vineyard\Business
Name: _____

Vineyard\Business
Address: _____

Business Phone: _____ Cell: _____ County: _____

Email 1: _____

Email 2: _____
You may list up to two email addresses

Will you be planting/replanting any vineyards in 2015 (circle one)? **Yes** **No**

	In-Region Enrollment <small>For those that live, farm or conduct vineyard services within the 6 counties supporting our program</small>	Out of Area Enrollment <small>For those that do NOT live, or conduct vineyard services within the 6 county region our program serves</small>	Enter Cost
Finger Lakes Grape Program Subscription	\$70.00	\$125.00	\$ _____
___ Finger Lakes Vineyard Update – Free via email	N/C	N/C	\$ N/C
___ Finger Lakes Vineyard Notes– Free with subscription via email	N/C	N/C	\$ N/C
___ Finger Lakes Vineyard Notes (paper copy)	\$25.00	\$25.00	\$ _____
NY/PA Grape IPM Guidelines	\$30.00/copy	\$30.00/copy	\$ _____
<i>You can purchase online access to the Grape IPM Guidelines, with or without a print copy of the Guidelines. To purchase online access, contact the Cornell Bookstore at 607-255-4111 or visit http://store.cornell.edu.</i>			
Your Tax Deductible Contribution is Greatly Appreciated			
Finger Lakes Grape Program			\$ _____
Your County Extension Program			\$ _____
TOTAL (Payable in USD only. Make checks payable to: Finger Lakes Grape Program)			\$ _____

Return to: Finger Lakes Grape Program, Attn: Karen Gavette, 417 Liberty Street, Suite 1024, Penn Yan, NY 14527

For your convenience you may enroll at the Finger Lakes Grape Program website using a credit card.

<https://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/enrollment.php>



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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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