



# Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

## In The Vineyard

*Hans Walter-Peterson*

Here's a simple statistic that says a lot about this month – in some areas, we have recorded rainfall every day for the past *nine days* in the Finger Lakes. At the Teaching Vineyard in Dresden, we've had 4.6" of rain over those nine days, while the weather station at Geneva has recorded just under 4" over that same period. In some places, it sounds like you're walking in a bog rather than a vineyard. Hopefully we're out of this kind of pattern.



*Hey California - we found your water!"*

We continue to push through bloom. We were seeing native varieties start to bloom almost 2 weeks ago in spots, but several blocks that I visited yesterday were still in the final stages of it. Hybrids and vinifera varieties are all over the board with regard to bloom development, but most are still making their way through. The rains and cloudy conditions at this point in the season have the potential to reduce set, but we will have to wait and see about the final impact on yields. We had similar weather

during bloom in 2013, and ended up with very large crops in Concords and other varieties that were going through bloom under those less-than-ideal conditions.

### *Petiole Sampling*

Bloom is one of the two times during the year when tissue samples can be collected from the vineyard for nutrient analysis. Samples collected at this time of year tend to be more useful for detecting micronutrient deficiencies, primarily because it is possible to correct deficiencies of these nutrients with foliar sprays during the current growing season. Deficiencies of macronutrients like potassium, calcium and phosphorous are better dealt with through fertilizer applications in the fall after harvest, and therefore tissue samples collected at veraison are often better sources of information about those nutrients. Given that, however, if you have been taking

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- ♦ **FLGP Tailgate Meeting** *June 30, 2015*
- ♦ **Dr. Glen Creasy—Save the Date** *July 1, 2015*
- ♦ **40<sup>th</sup> Annual American Society for Enology and Viticulture Eastern Section Conference** *July 23-25, 2015*
- ♦ **Second International Workshop CANCELLED Vineyard Mechanization and Grape & Wine Quality** *July 26-29, 2015*

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petiole samples regularly either of these times during the season, it makes sense to continue to stick with that timing.

Petiole sampling kits are available at your county extension office, or there are private industry representatives who will collect those samples for you and submit them for analysis as well. I'm happy to look over sample results with any grower who has questions about how to interpret them or any recommendations for nutrient additions based on those results. We also have a short video on the [FLGP YouTube channel](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IrvpQWUEOKw) that shows how to collect petiole samples as well. You can find the video at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IrvpQWUEOKw>.

### Nitrogen

A question was raised at yesterday's Tailgate Meeting about the timing of nitrogen applications. Seeing as many vineyards are still in bloom and fruit set, I would advise holding off on any N applications right now, only because anything that encourages stronger shoot growth during this time could impact the fertilization process in the flower clusters. Waiting until after bloom and set will avoid that problem, and also ensure that N is being applied when it is in greatest demand by the vines and also when the vines are best able to take it up.

One note about nitrogen levels when there is a lot of rainfall – N levels in the soil can drop significantly as a result of surface runoff or being leached from the soil profile. If a vineyard has a tendency to be on the low end of nitrogen content in the vines, keep an eye out to see if vines begin to yellow prematurely or growth is reduced. Be sure to confirm a nitrogen deficiency before applying any fertilizers.

### Tailgate Meeting Summary

Yesterday's Tailgate Meeting at Bedient Vineyards in Branchport covered a number of topics focused around various aspects of vineyard management at bloom. In addition to the discussion about nitrogen and tissue sampling, we also covered a number of pest management issues, including the increased risk for early botrytis infections getting established in susceptible varieties thanks to the wet conditions during bloom.

We also discussed a couple of insects that are mostly considered to be minor pests and generally not present at levels to warrant any kind of control measures. The first was *grape tumid gallmaker*, which is a small fly that lays eggs in green tissues of the vine. Once the larvae hatch and begin to feed on the surrounding tissue, they cause large, red galls to form on these tissues. In general, the galls do not cause any serious damage to the vine, but galls on the rachis can cause them to not elongate or develop properly. Don Peek also brought along a couple of 1-year canes with numerous galls caused by *grape cane gallmaker*. Again, in most cases this pest only causes cosmetic damage, but higher populations can cause enough disruption to the cane that it may have difficulty hardening off fully in the fall.



*Vines that look like this now may be able to count towards the minimum threshold to qualify for assistance from TAP. Growers should contact their local FSA office to determine if they qualify.*

If you are interested in reading some more about tumid gallmaker, Dr. Michaela Centinari at Penn State just posted a nice write-up about it, along with a couple of photos of the galls on clusters. You can find it at <https://psuwineandgrapes.wordpress.com/tag/grape-tumid-gallmaker/>.

The final portion of the meeting was moved to a block of Riesling and Cabernet Franc grapes that had suffered significant winter injury this year, where we had a discussion about the Tree Assistance Program (TAP), administered by the Farm Services Agency. Jamie Earl, director of the Steuben/Yates FSA office in Bath, was at the meeting and discussed the basics of the TAP program, and an important change in the way that FSA determines if a vine is dead. Last year, FSA would only determine a vine to be "lost" if there was no green tissue coming from it, even suckers from a rootstock, in order to meet

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the minimum amount of damage to qualify for the program (16% “lost” vines in a block). This year, the definition of a “lost” vine has been changed to include vines that are injured to the extent that it would be more cost effective to replace the vine rather than to leave it in place. In other words, if a vine has some weak growth on it this year and little sucker growth at the base, it may qualify as a dead vine under this new definition. While this change makes the determination less clear-cut, it is a change that should allow more growers to qualify for the program.

Jamie’s advice to growers is that if there is a chance that they have a block that they might want to qualify for TAP assistance, they should get in touch with their county’s FSA office to work with them on a determination. The Grape Program will be available to

## IPM

*Hans Walter-Peterson*



*Phomopsis infection on shoot and cluster stem in Concord.*

We all know that bloom is the most critical point in the growing season for disease control. The young flowers are susceptible to infection as it is during this point in the season, but when you add almost constant rainfall and wet conditions over more than a week, it makes pest management even more challenging. The primary disease I find in vineyards right now is phomopsis lesions on shoots and leaves. Often these infections are relatively minor as most growers have done a good job keeping things under control with EBDC materials, but a few blocks of natives are carrying more serious infections (photo). We are also starting to see some early symptoms of downy mildew infections, which is not surprising at all given the conditions we’ve been having over the past 10 days or so. This is the kind of situation where using a phosphorous acid product like ProPhyt, Phostrol or Rampart can be useful. Using these materials now when there is a lower chance of selecting resistant strains (because of the lower population at this point in the season) can help preserve their

effectiveness longer. Be sure to pay attention to keeping appropriate intervals between applications and not to the phenological stage of development of the vines (i.e., waiting for everything to finish bloom before applying the “post-bloom” spray).

The higher rainfall at this time also increases the chance for early botrytis infections to get established in clusters. As we reach the end of the bloom period, growers with susceptible varieties like Pinot Noir and Pinot Gris, Chardonnay, Riesling, Vignoles and some others should be thinking about including a botrytis material in a post-bloom spray to reduce the number of latent infections that could become active after veraison. The following is from the Grape IPM Guidelines section on botrytis:

“Under wet conditions, the fungus can infect aging blossom parts or the scar left from the falling cap at the end of bloom, and then grow into the newly developing berry. Such infections typically remain latent (dormant) until veraison or later, then become active and rot the berry as the fruit begins to ripen. Although direct losses from these early infections appear to be modest, they often provide a starting point for sudden and significant spread of the disease within clusters if wet weather occurs before harvest. Initial infections can also develop from old blossom “trash” that becomes infected during bloom and is subsequently trapped within the cluster as it falls, eventually growing into the ripening berries as they become susceptible near harvest.”

### *Grape Berry Moth*

As of today (June 17), we have accumulated 442 GDDs under the GBM model at our vineyard in Dresden. Scouting for early GBM presence, especially in vineyards that historically have higher amounts of damage, should start somewhere around 650-700 GDDs. I am a little surprised that many growers still do not use this model to help them determine when to apply GBM controls, based on the responses I see when I ask this at Tailgate Meetings. It makes me wonder how growers are making decisions about applying materials if they are not using the model. The model is very simple to use and have shown to be a much more effective



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## IPM (Continued from page 3)

way of determining when to apply an insecticide than basing decisions on calendar days or something else. If you have questions about how to use the model, please get in touch with me and I would be happy to go through it with you.

Link for the GBM model: <http://newa.cornell.edu/index.php?page=grape-diseases> (choose 'Grape Berry Moth' under "Select A Disease or Insect" on the left side)

### NEWA Grape Forecast Models

Select a disease or insect:  
Grape Berry Moth

Weather Station:  
Dresden (FLGP/FLCC)

Date of Interest:  
6/17/2015

Calculate

MapResultsMore info

#### Grape Berry Moth Results for Dresden (FLGP/FLCC)

Wild Grape Bloom: 5/26/2015

Wild Grape Bloom date above is estimated based on degree day accumulations or user input. Enter the actual date for blocks of interest and the model will calculate the results more accurately.

Accumulated degree days (base 47.14°F) wild grape bloom through 6/17/2015: 434 (0 days missing)

Daily Degree Days for Dresden (FLGP/FLCC)								
Base Temp	Past	Past	Current	5-Day Forecast			Forecast Details	
	Jun 15	Jun 16	Jun 17	Jun 18	Jun 19	Jun 20	Jun 21	Jun 22
47.14F - GBM	26	25	20	22	16	18	25	21
Accumulation	397	422	442	464	480	498	523	543

NA - not availableDownload Time: 6/17/2015 15:00

Pest Status	Pest Management
Feeding by first generation will cease and pupation will begin when approximately 500 DD have accumulated after wild grape bloom.	The time for treatment of first generation grape berry moth is over.

Disclaimer: These are theoretical predictions and forecasts. The theoretical models predicting pest development or disease risk use the weather data collected (or forecasted) from the weather station location. These results should not be substituted for actual observations of plant growth stage, pest presence, and disease occurrence determined through scouting or insect pheromone traps.

## Introducing Elizabeth Keyser, Our Summer Intern

Hans Walter-Peterson



Elizabeth has joined the Finger Lakes Grape Program as our 2015 summer intern. She is a first-year Viticulture student at Finger Lakes Community College. Elizabeth grew up in Pelham, NY, a suburb of New York City, where her interest in wine began at an early age. Growing up in a house where great wine, food, and rollicking conversation were staples at the dining room table, Elizabeth turned passion into profession as a member of the Buying Team at Zachys Wine & Liquor, a leading international fine wine retailer. As a Buyer for Zachys she specialized in the wine regions of Germany, Austria, Alsace, Champagne, Spain and Bordeaux. Through wine-related travel and study, Elizabeth's interest in wine shifted towards vineyard management, and wine production – which has ultimately lead her to Geneva, NY, after spending a year in California exploring wine production. When Elizabeth isn't in the vineyard or cellar ratting, you can find her hiking, running, swimming, or trying new recipes in the kitchen.

## 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.

### FLGP Tailgate Meetings

*Next Meeting: Tuesday, June 30*

*5:00 – 6:30 PM*

*Gage Vineyards*

*6104 Hicks Road*

*Naples, NY 14512*

Our annual series of tailgate meetings continues on Tuesday, June 30, at Jonathan Gage's vineyard in Naples

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. The DEC has approved 1.0 pesticide recertification credits for each Tailgate Meeting this year.

Dates and locations for the rest of this year's Tailgate Meetings can be found under the ['Events'](#) section of our website.



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### Save the Date: Dr. Glen Creasy, Lincoln University (New Zealand)

*Wednesday, July 1, 2015 4:30 PM*

*Hosmer Winery*

*7020 NY Route 89*

*Ovid, NY 14521*

Dr. Glen Creasy will be returning to the Finger Lakes, his native territory, from his current home in New Zealand, where he is a senior lecturer in viticulture at Lincoln University. Glen received his Bachelor's degree from Cornell, and his Masters and Ph.D. degrees from Oregon State University. Mark the data on your calendars – more information to come soon!

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### 40<sup>th</sup> Annual American Society for Enology and Viticulture – Eastern Section Conference

*July 23-25, 2015*

*Clarion Hotel & Conference Center*

*30 Lake Shore Drive E*

*Dunkirk, NY 14048*



Join us for the 40<sup>th</sup> American Society of Enology and Viticulture – Eastern Section (ASEV-ES) conference in Dunkirk, NY on July 23-25, 2015. The host hotel for the ASEV-ES Conference will be the Clarion Hotel Marina and Conference Center in

## Upcoming Events (continued from page 5)

Dunkirk, NY. On Thursday, July 23 there will be a **pre-conference tour** of New York vineyards and wineries. The **conference** will begin with technical presentations on Friday and Saturday, July 24-25 and include Friday's Oenolympics Grazing Dinner with Wines of the East and Saturday's Sparkling Wine Reception and Grand Awards Banquet.

The deadline to reserve a room at the reduced rate for the conference is **Monday, June 22**. For further registration, housing and program information, please visit <http://www.asev-es.org/>.

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### Second International Workshop on Vineyard Mechanization and Grape and Wine Quality

**CANCELLED**

*July 26-29, 2015*

*SUNY-Fredonia Campus*

*Fredonia, NY*

Unfortunately, the Shaulis Symposium and Workshop on Vineyard Mechanization has been cancelled. I still encourage growers in the Finger Lakes to attend the ASEV-Eastern Section Annual Conference, which will be held in Dunkirk (details are above).

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Finger Lakes Grape Program

June 17, 2015

## 2015 GDD & Precipitation

<u>FLX Teaching &amp; Demonstration Vineyard</u> – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
6/10/15	80.6	57.2	0.15	18.9	635.3
6/11/15	78.7	61.3	0.36	20.0	655.3
6/12/15	86.7	59.4	0.72	23.1	678.3
6/13/15	76.8	59.3	0.01	18.1	696.4
6/14/15	81.4	60.1	0.52	20.8	717.1
6/15/15	79.0	68.4	0.17	23.7	740.8
6/16/15	77.5	66.1	0.26	21.8	762.6
Weekly Total			<b>2.19"</b>	<b>146.3</b>	
Season Total			<b>11.82"</b>	<b>762.6</b>	

GDDs as of June 16, 2014: 668.5

Rainfall as of June 16, 2014: 10.70"

*Seasonal Comparisons (at [Geneva](#))*



	2015 GDD <sup>1</sup>	Long-term Avg GDD <sup>2</sup>	Cumulative days
April	40.8	65.2	-7
May	408.4	248.6	+8
June	222.1	481.5	+8
July		640.6	
August		588.6	
September		347.6	
October		105.5	
TOTAL		2477.6	

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

<sup>2</sup> The long-term average (1973-2014) GDD accumulation for that 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. The most recent number represents the current status.

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## 2015 GDD & Precipitation (continued from page 7)

### Precipitation

	2015 Rain <sup>4</sup>	Long-term Avg Rain <sup>5</sup>	Monthly deviation from avg <sup>6</sup>
April	2.54"	2.90	-0.31"
May	2.97"	3.11	-0.14"
June	4.75"	3.60	
July		3.42	
August		3.17	
September		3.63	
October		3.25	
TOTAL		23.08"	

<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

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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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