



In The Vineyard

Hans Walter-Peterson

For information on how harvest is progressing, please see this week's Veraison to Harvest newsletter.



Vines on shallow or coarse-textured soils are showing signs of drought stress due to 3 weeks without rain.

The lack of rain over three straight weeks has started to manifest itself in some vineyards with limited rooting volume or coarse-textured soils. Basal leaves are turning yellow and in some cases are dropping off the vines completely. I have noticed more and more vineyards that have done at least some cultivating in order to try to reduce competition for water from the existing cover crop.

Most of the Finger Lakes ended up with anywhere from 0.1" to 0.5" of rain yesterday – a nice drink, but probably not as much as we could use. Sugar development likely slowed significantly in those areas exhibiting drought stress, and probably also in some blocks that aren't showing outward stress symptoms. The forecast for this weekend calls for some more rain, which would probably be a good thing overall.

The hot and dry conditions have also caused acidity to drop significantly over the past several days. It will be interesting to see what the numbers look like this week. Fruit chemistry results from last week's Veraison to Harvest newsletter were not far off from the first sets of numbers we saw in 2012.

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IPM

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Three weeks without rain soon after veraison has meant that there has been little to trigger outbreaks of botrytis development in most blocks. In many cases, where I see bunch rot and sour rot developing is not necessarily in tight-clustered varieties (although it certainly can be found in those), but in areas where birds have pecked at fruit and caused wounds, making it easier for both rots to develop in those locations.

In case you didn't see it, Wayne Wilcox provided some excellent updated information in the most recent *Vineyard Notes* newsletter on what we're learning about sour rot development and how to better manage it. It is highly recommended reading for any grower with varieties that can get with this 'malady' (i.e., most of them). The link to the newsletter is below:

Finger Lakes Vineyard Notes, September 2015

http://nygpadmin.cce.cornell.edu/pdf/newsletter_notes/pdf58_pdf.pdf



Even though we haven't had any rain for three weeks, it doesn't mean that it's been dry. The high humidity levels at night over the past couple of weeks have been ideal conditions for development of new downy mildew infections. While the fruit are immune from any further infections at this point, I am seeing a lot of new lesions forming on younger leaves, most often on laterals that have pushed out after hedging passes and that have not been covered by the most recent spray application. Harvest is starting to consume most of growers' attention at this point in the season, but some grapes are still 5-7 weeks from being harvested, so it is still essential to protect leaves from developing new DM infections.

Downy Mildew Infection Risk Warnings (—) during the Last 2 Weeks (08/27 - 09/10)

Blue bar with green shade indicates minimum conditions for infection were exceeded.

P indicates precipitation - rain or snow was observed at that hour.

Date	Hourly Indication of DMcast Warning																							Weather during 24-hour Period		
																								Leaf Wetness (hr.)	Average Temp (F) During Wetting	Daily Total Rainfall (in.)
	0	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	22	23		
08/27	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—															0.0	-	0.00
08/28																								0.0	-	0.00
08/29																								11.2	58.0	0.00
08/30						—	—	—	—															5.0	64.9	0.00
08/31	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.6	65.2	0.00
09/01	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.8	65.1	0.00
09/02	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.3	67.6	0.00
09/03	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	10.5	67.7	0.00
09/04	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	12.0	65.6	0.00
09/05		—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	8.0	65.9	0.00
09/06					—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	7.8	68.0	0.00
09/07																								5.4	68.3	0.00
09/08																								0.0	-	0.00
09/09																			P	P				1.9	71.3	0.15
09/10																								0.0	-	0.00

"DMcast" downy mildew model (using weather data from Geneva) showing multiple occasions when conditions were favorable over the past two weeks for DM infections to develop, even though there was no rain on any of those days.

Family Business Conference

Smith Family Business Initiative Announces ‘Families in Business Across Cornell’ Conference

Daniel G. Van Der Vliet, Director

Smith Family Business Initiative at Cornell University

We are thrilled to announce that registration is now open for the inaugural **Families in Business across Cornell** conference, which will be held Thursday and Friday, October 8 and 9, 2015. This celebration on the Cornell campus will showcase the range and impact of family enterprise, from entrepreneurs to global enterprises and legacy families. Business owners, alumni, family business affiliates and students are all invited to take part in this day-long series of keynotes, networking and workshops. Hopefully you can join us in Ithaca to connect with your peers and expand your network during the height of fall foliage season.

Conference highlights: <https://www.johnson.cornell.edu/Smith-Family-Business-Initiative-at-Cornell/News-Events/Events/2015-Families-in-Business-across-Cornell>

Full schedule: <https://www.johnson.cornell.edu/Smith-Family-Business-Initiative-at-Cornell/News-Events/Events/2015-Families-in-Business-across-Cornell/Schedule>

Registration: <https://www2.johnson.cornell.edu/forms/FamiliesInBusiness.cfm> <https://www2.johnson.cornell.edu/forms/FamiliesInBusiness.cfm>

USDA-ARS Hosting Tours of Apple and Grape Germplasm Collections at Geneva

The Plant Genetic Resources Unit of USDA-ARS at Geneva, NY is excited to announce two public germplasm tours of the USDA-ARS clonal Apple and Grape collections on Wednesday, September 23, 2015, and Saturday, September 26, 2015. Tours will be conducted at the McCarthy Farm, located on 2865 County Road 6 (Pre-Emption road) in the town of Geneva (across from the St. Mary Cemetery). Both tours will start at 9:00 am. Please park your car on the gravel parking area near the equipment barn once you enter the McCarthy Farm.

The Wednesday tour (September 23rd, 2015) will feature the world renowned apple (*Malus* spp.) collection. The total tour is expected to take up to 2.5 hours and will be conducted as a walking tour through the orchard grounds. This year will be the last chance to see the wild *Malus sieversii* seedling block from Kazakhstan, also known as the “Botany of Desire Wild Apple” block from Kazakhstan. While these trees are important to the USDA’s mission to preserve important apple germplasm, this block of seedlings must be removed by the end of 2015 to make room for future evaluation and selection of wild collected material from North America and elsewhere.

The Saturday tour (September 26th, 2015) will be a combined tour to see and taste the apple collection and also to tour the USDA-ARS cold hardy grapevine germplasm (*Vitis* spp.) The cold hardy grapevine germplasm is an important resource of wild North American grapevine species. These species play an integral role in the development of many of the hybrid grapevine varieties grown in the Finger Lakes wine region and also across the Midwest and Northeast. As this tour includes both the apple and grape germplasms, it is expected to take about 4 hours to complete (9 am to 11:30 am for apple and 11:30 am to 12:30 pm for grape).

Because the orchard and vineyard are planted on gently rolling ground, please note that uneven footing is possible and appropriate footwear is recommended. We request that all minors must be accompanied by an adult and all visitors should be responsible for their own safety. It is recommended that all visitors bring along appropriate sunscreen, bug spray, hats, and water bottles in order to enjoy the germplasm fully. Rustic restroom facilities (porta-potties) will be available. We will provide the tours rain or shine, except in the case of severe weather.

If you have any questions regarding the tours, please don’t hesitate to contact me through email. Thank you and see you at the germplasm.

ChihCheng Thomas Chao, Ph.D.
Horticulturist/Apples, Grapes and Tart Cherries Curator
USDA-ARS Plant Genetic Resources Unit
630 W. North Street, Geneva, NY 14456
Email: C.Thomas.Chao@ars.usda.gov
Phone: 315-787-2454 □ Fax: 315-787-2339

Gan-Yuan Zhong, Ph.D.
Research Leader, Grape Genetics Research Unit
USDA-ARS Plant Genetic Resources Unit
630 W. North Street Geneva, NY 14456
Email: GanYuan.Zhong@ars.usda.gov
Phone: (315)787-2482 □ FAX: (315)787-2339

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Finger Lakes Grape Program

September 10, 2015

2015 GDD & Precipitation

<u>FLX Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard</u> – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
9/3/15	83.7	67.7	0.00	25.7	2345.4
9/4/15	83.7	66.3	0.00	25.0	2370.4
9/5/15	86.1	66.9	0.00	26.5	2396.9
9/6/15	89.6	64.4	0.00	27.0	2423.9
9/7/15	89.9	71.1	0.00	30.5	2454.4
9/8/15	92.0	69.9	0.00	31.0	2485.3
9/9/15	88.1	67.7	0.52	27.9	2513.2
Weekly Total			0.52"	193.6	
Season Total			19.01"	2513.2	

GDDs as of September 9, 2014: 2333.6

Rainfall as of September 9, 2014: 21.58"

Seasonal Comparisons (at [Geneva](#))

Growing Degree Days



	2015 GDD ¹	Long-term Avg GDD ²	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) ³
April	40.8	65.2	-7
May	408.4	248.6	+8
June	444.9	481.5	+5
July	606.8	640.6	+3
August	572.0	588.6	+3
September	223.4	347.6	+12
October		105.5	
TOTAL		2477.6	

¹ Accumulated GDDs for the month.

² The long-term average (1973-2014) GDD accumulation for that month.

³ 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.

2015 GDD & Precipitation (continued from page 5)

Precipitation

	2015 Rain ⁴	Long-term Avg Rain ⁵	Monthly deviation from avg ⁶
April	2.54"	2.90	-0.31"
May	2.97"	3.11	-0.14"
June	7.28"	3.60	+3.68"
July	3.27"	3.42	-0.15"
August	2.25"	3.17	-0.92"
September	0.15"	3.63	
October		3.25	
TOTAL		23.08"	

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

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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315.536.5134