finger lakes vineyard update

finger lakes grape program

August 29, 2012

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In The Vineyard

Hans Walter-Peterson

Niagara grapes being harvested along Seneca Lake late last week.

We are still in the early throes of harvest in the Finger Lakes, primarily with some of the earlier bulk varieties like Aurore and Elvira being picked for Constellation, and some Baco and Niagara starting to arrive at wineries, along with some seedless fruit used for wine as well. Early picking of Chardonnay and Pinot noir also started this week for sparkling wine production, with a few different vineyards already seeing Pinot noir testing around 18-19 brix. Both Constellation and Royal will be starting to process Concords this week as well, as sugars in some places are already in the 14.5 – 15 brix range and there is some concern that acidity will be a little lower than the processors would like it to be.

I expect that we will start to see a lot more harvest activity starting to ramp up after the Labor Day weekend. Cayuga White is getting near the point where it starts to develop some of the less desirable flavors in the fruit, and some early red hybrids like Foch and Leon Millot will probably need to be picked soon as well. While this warm year will mean that a lot of fruit will reach "typical" harvest numbers earlier than normal this year, I anticipate that many wineries will want to try to take advantage of this year's excellent weather and clean fruit and let clusters hang as long as possible, particularly red varieties. This may be one of those years where it is just as important, if not moreso, to monitor acidity levels in fruit than brix.

Speaking of measuring acidity levels…

We have collected our first set of samples for the annual *Veraison to Harvest* reports, which are being processed in the Enology Extension lab today. We will be sending out the results from these samples in the project's first newsletter on Friday, along with a brief harvest report from each region around the state. I will be especially interested to see how the fruit chemistry this year compares to the same time in 2010 – our warmest growing season to this point. Here's a link to the Veraison to Harvest reports from 2010.

IPM

Hans Walter-Peterson

There are generally two primary focuses (foci?) for IPM practices at this point in the season – keeping the fruit free of botrytis and other bunch rots (and controlling the pests that can encourage those infections – grape berry moth, birds, etc.) until it is harvested, and maintaining a healthy canopy of leaves until the first hard frost knocks them down. We have had some information in the past few Updates about the best ways that we know about how to do this, including how to determine the need for late-season GBM sprays this year and when to cut off sulfur use to reduce the potential for hydrogen sulfide problems (both initially addressed in the August 8, 2012 Update).

In last week's Michigan Grape & Wine Newsletter, I read two articles with some more information about good practices for growers to keep in mind for the end of the season, even while harvest is going on, or looming on the horizon.

The first article is from Dr. Rufus Isaacs, fruit entomologist with Michigan State University, on late season grape berry moth management when there is the anticipation of a fourth generation. We've communicated the need to keep berries protected through August and even in early September if treatment was necessary earlier this summer. Rufus' article provides some more information about why this fourth generation appears in some years and ways to manage it. Note that not all of the insecticide materials that he mentions in the article are labeled for use in New York (e.g., Intrepid, Voliam Flexi).

The second article is from Dr. Annemiek Schilder, fruit pathologist at Michigan State, about how using certain eradicant materials at this point in the season can help to control the development of the overwintering bodies of powdery mildew (cleistothecia) and reduce the amount of primary inoculum available for disease development in the following year. While powdery mildew hasn't been much of a problem in the region overall this year, there are some vineyards and blocks with "hotspots" where this might be beneficial to try.

My thanks to both Rufus and Annemiek for letting us include their information in this week's Vineyard Update.

Links:

Late Season Grape Berry Moth Management (R. Isaacs)

Late Season Powdery Mildew Inoculum Management (A. Schilder)

Spotted Wing Drosophila identified in New York vineyards

The Spotted Wing Drosophila (SWD) is a relatively new pest of fruit in the U.S. It is similar to other fruit flies that are native to our area, except that it is able to lay its eggs inside healthy fruit, which can obviously cause problems on its own (larvae feeding inside berries), in addition to creating an entry wound for bunch rot organisms like botrytis, sour rot, etc.

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IPM (cont.)

This pest has been found in significant numbers in blueberries and raspberries recently, and we just received word over the past week that it has been found in Vignoles grapes in the Hudson Valley and in Pinot noir on Long Island. We know that SWD has been found in the Finger Lakes, and seems just a matter of time until we find some in grapes.

The question at this point is just how serious of a problem is SWD for grapes in New York and the Finger Lakes? Unfortunately, we don't really know just yet as this pest is still very new for us. At this point, we wanted to let you know about these recent discoveries of SWD in grapes. We will be including more information in future issues of the Vineyard Update or other special notices that will be sent along to those enrolled in the FLGP.

You can find some more information about SWD on this fact sheet from the North Central IPM Center:

Spotted Wing Drosophila Fact Sheet

There are a few currently materials that are labeled for use against SWD in New York. Thanks to Greg Loeb for putting this table together for us:

Source: http://hudsonvf.cce.cornell.edu/NY SWD Monitoring.html

Product	AI(s)	EPA#	Rate	DTH
Delegate (2ee)	spinetoram	62719-541	3-5 oz/A	7 days
Entrust SC (2ee)	spinosad	62719-621	4-8 fl oz/A	7 days
Triple Crown	Bifenthrin, imidaclo-prid, Zeta-cyperme-thrin	279-3440	5 fl oz/A	30 days
Danitol	Fenpropathr in	59639-35	10.67-21.33 fl oz/A	21 days
Malathion 5EC	malathion	19713-217	3 pts/A	3 days
Malathion 57%	malathion	67760-40-53883	3 pts/A	3 days
Malathion 8 Aquamul	malathion	34707-474	2-2.75 pts/A	3 days

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Rely Herbicide Not Available in 2013

Hans Walter-Peterson

Many of you have probably seen or heard about this by now, but we received a notice from Dan DiGiacomandrea with Bayer Crop Science that they will not be producing any Rely herbicide for horticultural crops in 2013. Those of you who were trying to get your hands on Rely this year know that it was in short supply this season already because of increased demand. While Bayer says that they are working on increasing production for future years, they have decided to direct all of their glufosinate production in the short term to another glufosinate product called Liberty, which is not labeled for horticultural crops, including grapes.

A number of growers in the Finger Lakes have been using Rely regularly for weed management, especially those who have decided to avoid pre-emergent herbicides. Hopefully, we will have this material available again in 2014.

In the meantime, there are still a few other options for post-emergence weed control for grapes:

- Aim - broadleaf weeds and grapevine suckers; can be very effective when used in a tank mix with Gramoxone.
- Poast – burndown material for grasses only; 50 day pre-harvest interval.
- Gramoxone – works on both broadleaves and grasses, controls grapevine suckers; restricted use material.

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Upcoming Events

You can also check out our Calendar on the FLGP website for information about upcoming events.

"At-Home" Renewable Energy Options Workshop & Tour
Yates County Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Town of Jerusalem's Conservation & Renewable Energy Committee are hosting **two** opportunities for residents to learn more about implementation of renewable energy at the home, farm or business. A workshop will be held at the Branchport Fire Hall on September 18, 2012 from 6:30pm-8:30pm. A field day renewable energy tour will launch from Brookside Farm, 2944 Corwin Rd., Branchport, NY and visit four farms on September 22, 2012 from 9:00am-1:00pm.

It is not a requirement to attend both events. Please feel free to attend one or both.

"At-Home" Renewable Energy Options Workshop
Tuesday: September 18, 2012
6:00pm – Registration with light supper
6:30pm – 8:30pm – Event
Branchport Fire Hall, Branchport, NY
Municipal Credits Available

Yates County Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Town of Jerusalem's Conservation & Renewable Energy Committee present a workshop devoted to the economics, performance expectations, and availability of installation and maintenance requirements of non-commercial, at-home renewable energy projects.

Jeffrey Stevens, Assistant Professor at Alfred State College, will focus on what residents need to know to make decisions about implementing renewable energy at their home, business, or farm. He will address the concerns that individual's face every day when trying to decide which renewable energy system best fits their needs.

A detailed overview of solar, wind and geothermal renewable energy systems will provide attendees with practical knowledge to apply when making individual decisions about changes to their source of energy. Attendees will also have an opportunity to have their questions answered.

Please take the opportunity to arrive early in order to visit with vendors at the Branchport Farmers' Market, which takes place outside the Branchport Fire Hall from 4:00pm – 6:30pm. Many of the vendors use some form of renewable energy and practice sustainable agriculture.

Registration Fee: $5.00
Please call with questions and pre-registration:
Yates County Cornell Cooperative Extension 315-536-5123

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Upcoming Events (cont.)

"At-Home" Renewable Energy Options Tour
Saturday: September 22, 2012
8:30am - Registration with coffee and muffins
9:00am - 1:00pm - Tour
Brookside Farm, 2944 Corwin Rd., Branchport, NY
Municipal Credits Available

Yates County Cornell Cooperative Extension and the Town of Jerusalem's Conservation & Renewable Energy Committee present a guided tour through the implementation of renewable energy at four different farms in the Town of Branchport.

The tour will include on-site visits of farm and home installation of solar, wind, and geothermal renewable energy systems. The owners at the sites will focus discussion on planning, costs, implementation, and functionality of their systems. Attendees will have an opportunity to see, first-hand, how renewable energy systems work from day to day at a home and farm. During this tour, attendees are encouraged to ask specific questions about the decision-making process, implementation, and operation of renewable energy systems.

Please be sure to wear appropriate shoes and clothing. Some amount of walking will be expected. No smoking since the tour will be around hay and other flammable materials.

Registration Fee: $5.00
Please call with questions and pre-registration:
Yates County Cornell Cooperative Extension 315-536-5123

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2012 Growing Degree Day (GDD) Accumulation

New Weather Station at the Finger Lakes Teaching Vineyard

As of August 8, we have a new NEWA weather station located at the Finger Lakes Teaching Vineyard at Anthony Road. The station is called 'Dresden (FLGP/FLCC)' on the NEWA website. Starting next year, we will primarily be using this station to track growing degree days and rainfall, insect and disease modeling, and other weather information for the program. We will continue to track the information gathered at the Geneva weather station as well, primarily for the ability to compare and contrast growing seasons.

2012 Growing Degree Day (GDD) Accumulation

We are once again tracking GDD accumulation for the Finger Lakes region beginning on April 1. While it isn't any kind of measure of the "quality" of a growing season, it gives us a way to compare heat accumulation between years, which can have some impact on fruit maturity, and pest development. If you are interested in the results from a different location, you can go to the 'Station Pages' portion of the NEWA website and choose the location you are interested in.

	Geneva	Geneva# (March 1 GDD)	Branchport*	Lodi*
8/28/12	2303.5	2423.1	2303.6	2365.2
Long-term average GDD	1972.9			
Days ahead/behind avg (+/-)	+24			
GDD on Aug. 28, 2011	2251.0			
GDD on Aug. 28, 2010	2351.7			

* We do not have long-term average data for Branchport and Ovid, so we cannot report how far or behind these two locations are in GDD accumulation.

We have had a few people ask about tracking GDDs starting in March because of the initial growth that many vineyards had before April 1, so we will include this information in our GDD tracking for the remainder of the growing season.

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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.

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update is an e-mail newsletter produced by the Finger Lakes Grape Program and sent out by subscription. For subscription information, please call us at 315-536-5134 or look for subscription forms at http://blogs.cornell.edu/flgp/enroll/.

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