

June 16, 2016

# Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

# In the Vineyard

#### Hans Walter-Petersen

Bloom has shown up in more varieties over the past week, including Concord, Aurore, Chardonnay, Cayuga White, and even some Riesling clusters at our Teaching Vineyard in Dresden are showing trace bloom yesterday (see Gillian's summary table for some more details on where different varieties stand). Weather conditions have been good for the most part, although a bit cooler than we would like to see them during bloom and fruit set. Sunny and dry conditions, however, are certainly helpful at this point. You can read some more about conditions that influence fruit set, and some techniques to manipulate set in the vineyard, in this article from our newsletter a few years ago, and which is posted on our website at <a href="http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/submission.php?id=95&crumb=cultural%20practices|cultural\_practices.">http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/submission.php?id=95&crumb=cultural%20practices|cultural\_practices.</a>



Bloom starting to appear on Concord (left), Riesling (center) and Aurore (right) in the Finger Lakes over the past week.

Speaking of dry – it is. We are halfway through June, and looking at a third straight month with significantly less rainfall than we normally get. By this time in June, we accumulate a little over 1.5" of rain on average, but this year our total is only around 0.35" so far. For the year (starting April 1), we are 67% below average for rainfall. Obviously things can change, but this pattern is falling into line with earlier predictions for the year of drier than normal conditions.

At this point, I am not seeing signs of drought stress in vines, thanks in part to canopies still being relatively

small, which means there is less leaf area that is transpiring and pulling water from the soil, and also because of the cool temperatures, which have probably kept vines from growing as rapidly as if it was warm, thereby increasing demand for water and nutrients. Cover crops in some vineyards are starting to turn a little brown however, and a couple of vineyards with native varieties have already gone through and burned down their row middle covers in order, I assume, to preserve soil moisture during the bloom period.



# Bloom Dates at the Finger Lakes Teaching and Demonstration Vineyard in Dresden, NY

Variety	Date of Trace Bloom	Date of Full Bloom (50% cap fall)
Riesling-3309	6/13/2016	
Riesling-Riparia	6/13/2016	
Chardonnay-76	6/13/2016	6/15/2016
Chardonnay-96	6/13/2016	6/15/2016
Cab Franc- 3309	6/13/2016	6/16/2016
Cab Franc- Riparia	6/13/2016	6/16/2016
Lemberger	6/15/2016	
Gruner	6/15/2016	
Zweigelt	6/13/2016	
Chenin Blanc	6/15/2016	
Marquis	6/9/2016	6/13/2016
Jupiter	6/8/2016	6/13/2016
Marquette-Own Rooted	6/4/2016	6/6/2016
Marquette-3309	6/4/2016	6/6/2016
Corot Noir	6/13/2016	
NY 81	6/13/2016	
Vidal	6/13/2016	
Cayuga White	6/9/2016	6/15/2016
Catawba	6/8/2016	6/13/2016

# IPM

#### Hans Walter-Peterson

One of the biggest benefits of the current dry spell we're experiencing is that it is helping to reduce the pressure for those diseases that require free water to establish and spread, which includes all of our major diseases except for powdery mildew. This doesn't mean, however, that sprays can be foregone during this critical period of the season, but rather that the window between sprays can be extended a little bit without too much risk. Even under the driest conditions, though, there should still be no more than about 14 days between sprays. The combination of reduced pressure because of the weather and a solid and well-timed spray program can make life a lot easier for growers this year.

As we move through bloom, continue to be sure that all four diseases (phomopsis, black rot, downy mildew, powdery mildew) are being accounted for in the materials used for each spray. In varieties that are susceptible to botrytis infections later in the season, including a material like Elevate or Vangard (or Pristine if you're using another downy material with it) in the first post-bloom spray can make a big difference in rot levels at the end of the year. However, conditions to this point aren't favorable for significant botrytis infections to get established in newly forming clusters. In blocks where rot has not been a major problem in wetter years, it may be worth considering saving that material for later in the season, or even just until bunch closure. In blocks where rot has been more significant in recent years, it may still be beneficial to apply a botryticide even under these drier conditions this year.

Materials containing EBDCs including pencozeb, manzate and dithane, and Ridomil Gold MZ, have a 66day preharvest interval, which means applications made now could not be harvested before about August 20. If harvest will be later than that, and processors don't have restrictions on use of EBDCs after bloom, they can still be used for a few more weeks for phomopsis, downy mildew and black rot control.

Select a disease or insect:	Man Besults	More inf							
Grape Berry Moth	map neouno								
State:	Grape Berry Moth Results for Dresd						GP/FLC	<b>C)</b>	
	Wild Grape Bloom: 5/30/2016								
Weather station:	Wild Grape Bloom da	Wild Grape Bloom date above is estimated based on degree day accumulations or user input. Enter the actual date							
Dresden (FLGP/FLCC)	fo	r blocks of ir	nterest and t	he model w	ill calculate t	he results m	nore accura	tely.	
Date of Interest:	Accumulated degr	ree days (b	ase 47.14°	F) wild gra	ape bloom	through 6	6/15/2016:	303 (0 day	s missing)
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#### NEWA Grape Forecast Models

Pest Status	Pest Management
First generation of grape berry moth larvae are hatching and beginning feeding. Grape berry moth will not be at significant population levels in all	Research has shown that this insecticide timing for the first generation provides little, if any, additional control of grape berry moth in vineyards classified as being at low, intermediate or high risk for grape berry moth damage.
but the highest risk vineyards.	However, an insecticide timed with the immediate postbloom fungicide application can be used in vineyards experiencing significant crop loss from grape berry moth on a yearly basis or in high value vinifera blocks.

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# **Petiole Testing**

Hans Walter-Peterson

In the midst of everything else going on, it's also one of the two times during the season where tissue tests can be taken to assess the nutrient status of the vines. Petiole tests at bloom are generally better for assessing nitrogen status (if you think nitrogen deficiency is a problem in certain areas) and micronutrient levels because there is still time to make adjustments to them using foliar sprays this season.

In years like this when some vineyard blocks may have reduced crop levels because of injury, the amount of vine injury and crop in a block should provide as much guidance about nutrient needs this year as tissue and soil tests. If a block has significantly less crop this year because of winter injury, don't bother with a petiole test this year because the standards are based on vines that are carrying a normal crop load. While the fruit has not been a major sink for nutrients to this point in the season, fertilizer recommendations will be based on the assumption that there will be a full crop on the vines. Without a full crop, there is less need for those nutrients and therefore less need to apply them. Only take petiole tests in blocks and varieties where there is close to a normal looking crop this year.

The current dry conditions may also have an impact on nutrient levels in some cases, especially for cations like potassium, calcium and magnesium that need soil moisture to diffuse through the soil to the plant roots. It is not unusual to see reduced levels of these nutrients in vines under dry conditions, even if the levels of those nutrients in the soil are adequate. This may be less of an issue at this point in the season than later in the year if we continue to have low rainfall amounts.



Petiole testing materials are available at your local Cooperative Extension office, or directly from any commercial lab that does tissue analysis.

For more information, you can watch our <u>video about</u> <u>collecting petiole samples</u> on our YouTube channel.

You can also see a video about <u>how a commercial lab</u> <u>analyzes petiole samples</u>.

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# A Stitch in Time Saves Nine...

#### Gillian Trimber

It's mid-June, and while the days have grown long, so have the shoots! Even with the extra daylight, there's plenty to do right now, and prioritizing where to focus limited time and energy can become critical. Most growers know that getting the appropriate spray on the vines within the window of time when it will be effective is absolutely essential, especially as we barrel into bloom on so many varieties this week. Beyond that, what comes next on the to-do list?

In vineyards that use training systems such as Flat Cane VSP, Scott Henry, Two Tier Flatbow, and others that use vertical shoot positioning (VSP), moving catchwires and getting the shoots in place at the right time should rise to a level of top priority as shoots elongate. Shoot positioning is useful for a number of reasons; it arranges all of the clusters into a uniform fruit zone which is easier to spray and harvest, gets the shoots out of the row middles making it easier to drive through, and generally streamlines many of the later summer operations such as hedging, leaf removal, and crop sampling. With spraying in particular, coverage is improved and those expensive fungicides go farther. A neat vineyard makes nearly all other work easier.

Yet, in a way that many of our other tasks do not, shoot positioning gets far more difficult and time consuming the longer one waits to do it. The difference between moving wires or tucking in shoots before tendrils latch on compared to after they've done so is dramatic. When the wires can move freely and the shoots have grown to just a few inches above the appropriate wire height, but the tendrils aren't grabbing,

the wires are pulled into position easily and a person can work at a fast walking pace. One local grower with single curtain VSP vineyards estimated that a well-trained worker can cover four acres in a day. Another grower, with vigorous vines trained to Scott Henry, found that over the course of the growing season, timely shoot positioning took around 25 hours of work per acre. However, on that same Scott Henry vineyard, shoot positioning left until after tendrils had attached took 75-80 hours of work per acre. When you translate that difference into labor costs, the consequences for your budget are significant. Many hands working over a short period of time is in this case are far superior to a few hands tugging and pulling on catch wires over a long stretch of weeks. If you have the flexibility in labor to make that happen, it can save plenty of headaches later in the season, and ultimately, plenty of clean fruit. After all, in farming, in humor, and life in general... timing is everything.



#### June 16, 2016

# Welcome Don!!

It's an exciting time of year for the Finger Lakes Grape Program—we've added another person to our team for the summer! We're glad to have Don Caldwell working with us as our Field Technician and Chief Bug Trap Guy for the Cooperative Agricultural Pest Survey (CAPS) program. Don's primary responsibility will be to monitor for three potential invasive insects in area vineyards over the course of the summer and fall. (We'll be sharing more details on the CAPS project in our upcoming Vineyard Notes newsletter). Don will also be helping with general field work at the Teaching and Demonstration Vineyard, as well as at sites where we have ongoing research trials. Don has gained both vineyard and cellar experience from time spent in New York, Maryland, Pennsylvania, and Oregon, and we're excited to have him add his toolbox of skills to our team. We'll definitely be getting plenty done this season!



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Finger Lakes Grape Program

# **Upcoming Events**

Don't forget to check out the calendar on our website (<u>http://</u><u>flgp.cce.cornell.edu/events.php</u>) for more information about these and other events relevant to the Finger Lakes grape industry.

#### Tailgate Meeting #5

Tuesday, June 21 4:30 – 6:00 PM Chateau Lafayette Reneau 5081 Route 414 Hector, NY 14841 (<u>click here to see a map</u>)

Our fifth Tailgate Meeting of the year will be held at Chateau Lafayette Reneau in Hector on Tuesday, June 21.

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.

Dates and locations for the rest of this year's Tailgate Meetings can be found under the <u>'Events'</u> section of our website.

#### **Tailgate Meeting #6**

Tuesday, July 5	4:30-6:00 PM
Young Sommer Winery	
4287 Jersey Road	
Williamson, NY 14589	(click here to see a map)

### EnoCert 101: Basic Viticulture & Enology

June 20-21, 2016 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM EnoCert 201: Wine Sensory Analysis and Description June 22-23, 2016 8:30 AM – 4:30 PM Location: 251 Food Research Lab NYS Agricultural Experiment Station 630 W North Street, Geneva NY

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

# GRAPE MEETING

# **Upcoming Events**

#### **ENOCERT 101: Basic Viticulture & Enology**

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 and Description**

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.

For further program information and registration, please visit <u>https://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/</u> <u>extension/enocert</u>, or contact Cortni Stahl at <u>ckm53@cornell.edu</u> or 315-787-2263.

#### American Society for Enology & Viticulture – Eastern Section Annual Conference

July 18-21, 2016 Magnolia Hotel St. Louis, MO Join us for the 41st American Society of Enology and Viticulture-Eastern Section (ASEV-ES) Conference and Symposium. The meeting will be in St. Louis, Missouri in July 18-21, 2016, more information coming soon. The tentative schedule for the conference and symposium is a tour of vineyards and wineries on Monday, July 18, conference sessions on Tuesday and Wednesday, July 19-20 and a symposium on Thursday, July 21.

Click here for a registration packet and click her for an online registration form.

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# 2016 Growing Degree Days and Rainfall

FLX Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY						
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs	
6/8/16	58.3	50.7	0.02	4.5	471.2	
6/9/16	66.5	48.6	0.00	7.6	478.7	
6/10/16	71.6	51.4	0.02	11.5	490.2	
6/11/16	85.2	52.8	0.00	19.0	509.2	
6/12/16	77.8	57.2	0.00	17.5	526.7	
6/13/16	62.8	52.9	0.00	7.8	534.6	
6/14/16	71.0	49.7	0.00	10.4	544.9	
Weekly Total			0.04"	78.3		
Season Total			4.44"	544.9		

GDDs as of June 14, 2015: 740.8

Rainfall as of June 14, 2015: 11.56"



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Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)

#### **Growing Degree Days**

	2016 GDD <sup>1</sup>	Long-term Avg GDD <sup>2</sup>	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) <sup>3</sup>
April	36.1	65.2	-9
May	270.1	252.3	0
June	183.1	480.6	-1
July		639.8	
August		588.2	
September		351.0	
October		105.2	
TOTAL	489.3	2481.8	

1 Accumulated GDD's 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.

#### Precipitation

	2016 Rain <sup>4</sup>	Long-term Avg Rain <sup>5</sup>	Monthly deviation from avg <sup>6</sup>
April	1.17"	2.89"	-1.72"
May	1.66"	3.11"	-1.45"
June	0.37"	3.68"	
July		3.42"	
August		3.15"	
September		3.64	
October		3.22	
TOTAL	3.20"	23.12"	

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)

# Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Finger Lakes Grape Program

# **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 at <u>http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu</u>.

Got some grapes to sell? Looking to buy some equipment or bulk wine? List your ad on the <u>NY Grape &</u> <u>Wine Classifieds website today!</u>

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