

# Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

## Happy Holidays!

*Happy Holidays from the Finger Lakes Grape Program! Hans and Gillian will both be taking some time to spend with family and friends from December 23– January 2, and Brittany will be doing the same between December 19– December 26. We truly appreciate the support and involvement we’ve received from all of you this past year, and look forward to working with all of you in 2017!*

## Winter Bud Hardiness

*Hans Walter-Peterson*

One of the questions that a lot of us had regarding the lingering effects of this year’s drought was what it would mean for cold hardiness this winter. We will be starting our yearly winter bud hardiness sampling from commercial vineyards in January, and we’re hoping that will give us some sense about that impact, but we do have some early results from vines in research blocks at Geneva that we wanted to share.

Variety	LT <sub>10</sub> (°F)	LT <sub>50</sub> (°F)	LT <sub>90</sub> (°F)
Cabernet Franc	-4.3	-8.9	-13.7
Riesling	-5.5	-10.5	-13.9
Concord	-9.2	-13.2	-14.9

*Samples collected the week of December 12, 2016.*



The main message at this point is that the results from this year’s samples are very much in line with the hardiness that the buds had at this time in other years as well. In other words, we don’t see a significant difference in cold hardiness *in these vines* so far. The usual caveats about results being specific to a particular site and that “your results might vary” are especially important when considering this data, given the differences in rainfall that different sites had last year, different soil types and water holding capacity, age and health of vines, etc. (it’s also just one snapshot in time). Given all of that, it is still somewhat reassuring to see that, at least in this case, the vines seem to still be acclimating well this winter. As I said, we will

start to get a better picture once we start collecting samples from across the region next month.

## Changes to Agricultural Worker Protection Standard

*Gillian Trimmer*

On January 2, 2017, changes made to the Agricultural Worker Protection Standard (WPS) by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) will go into effect. These changes were finalized in 2015, and modify the 1992 Agricultural Worker Protection Standard. Any farm that uses pesticides and employs workers outside of the farm owner's immediate family may be affected, including those that employ workers through a contractor.

The updated regulations require farmers to train workers and handlers annually (rather than every five years) on pesticide safety, expand and update the information included in these trainings, and dictate records of trainings and pesticide applications be kept for a longer period of time. In addition, the new regulations require all agricultural employers to train new workers before they enter any field treated with pesticides, eliminating the 'grace period' of five days between when a worker first starts working around chemicals and when a worker must be fully trained on hazards and necessary precautions.

The updated regulations require more extensive posting of no-entry signs: any field that has been sprayed with a material that has a re-entry interval of greater than 48 hours must be marked at the typical points of entry to the block. Designated farmworker representatives are now permitted to request pesticide information on behalf of past and current employees if given permission by the worker. In addition, farms are now required to keep safety data sheets (SDS) at the central posting location for employees and medical personnel to access, and records of all spray applications must be kept for two years (though only applications made in the past 30 days need to be posted at the central location).

Exclusion zones of 100 feet surrounding equipment actively applying pesticides are now required, in the interest of avoiding injury to workers through spray drift. Workers under 18 years of age are now prohibited from applying pesticides. However, immediate family members are exempt from this and most other requirements of the WPS, and the new changes expand the definition of 'immediate family' to include in-laws, grandparents, grandchildren, aunts, uncles, nieces, nephews and first cousins.

More information on these and other changes to the Worker Protection Standard can be found at <https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/revisions-worker-protection-standard#achieve>, including a [comparison chart](#) of the existing regulations and the 2015 revisions, and a compact '[Quick Reference Guide](#)'.

Detailed explanation of each proposed revision, comments received, and the final rule can be found at <https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2015/11/02/2015-25970/pesticides-agricultural-worker-protection-standard-revisions>.

Ontario County Cornell Cooperative Extension will be hosting a program on January 23, 2017 from 1:00-2:30 at their office in Canandaigua to go over the changes. Chris Wainwright, NYDEC Region 8 Pesticide Control Specialist, will be providing the updates. The cost of the program is \$15 and registration is required. For more information visit <http://www.cceontario.org/cce-site-documents/Worker%20Protection%20flyer.pdf>.

As always, feel free to call the Finger Lakes Grape Program office at (315) 536-5134 or contact us through email (Gillian- [gmt47@cornell.edu](mailto:gmt47@cornell.edu), Hans- [hcw5@cornell.edu](mailto:hcw5@cornell.edu)) if you have questions about these changes.

## 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.



### Pesticide Worker Protection Standards Update Workshop

*Monday, January 23, 2017      1:00 – 2:30 pm*  
*Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County*  
*480 North Main Street*  
*Canandaigua, NY 14424*

New revisions of the Worker Protection Standards take effect January 2, 2017, while others take effect January 2, 2018. NYDEC Region 8 Pesticide Control Specialist, Chris Wainwright will be providing updates on the new revisions to the WPS rules.

Registration cost for the program is \$15 per person, and DEC recertification credits will be available. For registration and program information, go to <http://www.cceontario.org/temp2.asp?id=ag-workshops> or call Russ Welser at (585) 394-3977 x436.

### Pesticide Training and Recertification Classes

*January 30, February 6, 13 and 20      7:00 – 9:30 PM*  
*Exam Date: February 27      6:30 – 11:00 PM*  
*Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County*  
*480 North Main Street*  
*Canandaigua, NY 14424*

This series of classes is designed to prepare those who wish to take the private or commercial pesticide certification exam. This is not a 30-hour credit course that is required for those who do not meet DEC eligibility requirements for commercial certification. Certified private or commercial applicators are eligible to receive 2.5 core recertification credits per class.

Registration cost is \$175 for all four classes and training materials, or \$25 per person per class. The DEC exam fee is \$100. Further information and registration materials are available at <http://www.cceontario.org/temp2.asp?id=ag-workshops>, or by calling Nancy Anderson at (58) 394-3977 x427.

## Upcoming Events (continued)



### Unified Wine & Grape Symposium

*January 24-26, 2017; Exhibits open January 25-26*

*Sacramento Convention Center*

Registration and hotel room reservations are now open for the largest grape and wine industry event in North America – the Unified Wine & Grape Symposium. If you’ve never been to Unified, you owe it to yourself to go at least once to experience a trade show with over 650 vendors and that takes up virtually every 10’x10’ space in the Sacramento Convention Center. You will likely find companies offering services and products that you didn’t even know existed. This year’s Keynote Speaker at lunch on the first day of the meeting, Tuesday, January 24, will be the [New York Times wine critic, Eric Asimov](#).

You can find program, registration and lodging information at the [Unified Symposium website \(http://www.unifiedsymposium.org/\)](http://www.unifiedsymposium.org/).

### Save the Date! B.E.V. NY 2017

*Wednesday, March 1 – Friday, March 3 (that’s right – we’re not taking away part of your weekend!)*

*RIT Inn and Conference Center*

*Rochester, NY*

Exhibitor Registration is now open. In addition to the Trade Show on Thursday, March 2 and Friday, March 3, we are hosting a small number of exhibitors during the Business Day program on Wednesday, March 1. Further information, along with registration forms, are available at <http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/event.php?id=279>.

Program information and registration will be available in January.

## 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 <http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu>.

Got some grapes to sell? Looking to buy some equipment or bulk wine? List your ad on the [NY Grape & Wine Classifieds website](#) today!

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