



Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

CALS Approves Grape Pathology Position

Hans Water-Peterson

After several months of uncertainty, we have just received official word that Cornell's College of Ag & Life Sciences (CALS) has given approval to hire a new grape pathologist after Wayne Wilcox's retirement. The exact responsibilities of the position aren't quite finalized yet, but it will include an extension component of some kind. The announcement was made by Marc Fuchs at the end of yesterday's hearing on the Grape Research Order.

We are obviously quite pleased to hear that this will be moving forward, and it is in no small part thanks to those of you who communicated with the Dean's office at CALS to let them know just how important this position is to the continued success of the grape industry in the Finger Lakes and beyond.

We don't have an idea yet about the timeline for moving ahead with the search, but these kinds of searches take some time to complete, between recruiting of candidates, interviews, and several other steps along the way before the new person can start. But at least we know there will be a process to do that beginning sometime soon.

We'll be sure to keep you informed as things progress with the search.

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In the Vineyard

Hans Walter-Peterson

Plentiful rain this year is resulting in canopies that are fuller, taller and denser than they were at this time last year (14.1" of rain this year vs. 3.5" inches last year). This means that there are more leaves in the fruit zone that prevent the clusters from receiving sunlight and air movement around them to help reduce disease incidence, and also to allow good penetration of spray materials – which we need to emphasize in years like these. We also know that improving cluster exposure can influence the development of color, aroma and flavor compounds within berries. In addition of having some benefits in the current season, improving sun exposure on next year's buds, which are currently in development, will increase the number of cluster primordia (tissues that will become clusters) within the buds.



Before (left) and after (right) leaf removal to improve light exposure and air movement around clusters



We spent the last few days doing some leaf removal (by hand) in a few of our trial plots, which obviously is one way of improving fruit exposure. A couple of rows away from us were some vines trained to a vertically-divided canopy using a Scott Henry trellising system. By training some of the shoots down, the fruit zone and the leaves that would fill it are spread out over a larger area, meaning there are fewer leaves in the same region as the clusters. In these vines, there is much less need for leaf pulling because the fruit is fairly well exposed already.

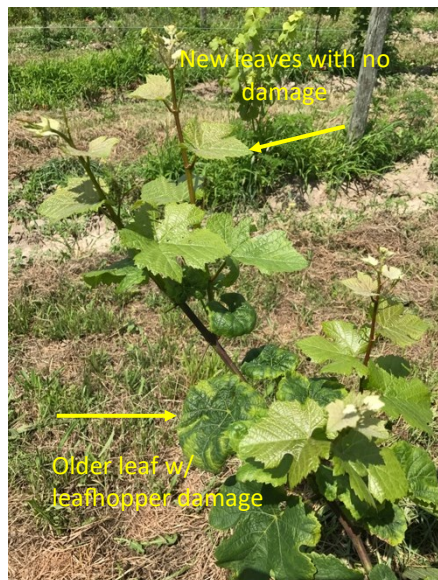


Vertically-divided training systems can solve some major problems in grape production, like improving fruit exposure and increasing yields while maintaining good quality. But the systems aren't perfect by any means. There is a fairly short window when the lower tier of shoots can be positioned downwards (the shoots here in the photo are trained down

Positioning a portion of the shoots downward helps to open up the fruit zone to light and air movement without pulling many leaves.

IPM

Hans Walter-Peterson



Potato leafhoppers revisited

I returned to a couple of blocks this week that had been hit pretty hard with damage from potato leafhoppers. In both blocks, the growers had sprayed for them after I had visited. New growth from those same shoots appeared normal and healthy, indicating that the spray seems to have done its job (see photo). I could find very few leafhoppers on these new leaves. So far, so good – but knowing that the populations in some vineyards are much higher than they usually are, it would be wise to keep an eye open to see if they return.

Because this pest does not overwinter in New York, the fact that we are seeing high numbers in vineyards this year does not influence whether or not we will see high populations next year as well. It will all depend on the populations that develop further to our south and are able to travel to the Finger Lakes on weather systems that will carry them here next year.

Japanese Beetles

Japanese beetles have been starting to become more prevalent in vineyards over the past 7-10 days or so. Levels have been relatively low over the past couple of years, but we have seen high populations that can develop fairly quickly in certain areas.

With all of the foliage that is growing this year, vineyards can probably handle a bit more feeding damage from these critters than we might have last year, when canopies were smaller. Greg Loeb says that vineyards can generally handle about 20% loss of leaf area from feeding and not see much of an impact on productivity and fruit quality. In the case of higher-value varieties, or blocks where leaf area is limited (e.g., winter or trunk injury) or a large crop might require more functional leaf area, the point where a spray might be needed may be less than 20% loss.

Grape Berry Moth

The window for insecticide applications for the 2nd generation of GBM has passed in warmer regions of the Finger Lakes. Cooler locations like Pulteney, Branchport, and up in Wayne County are approaching or within the period for applications, which are warranted if damage is found on 6% or more of clusters. Materials that work by contact can be applied between 810 – 900 GDDs based on the GBM model on the NEWA website. After 900 GDDs, larvae are protected within the berry and sprays really won't do much of any good at that point.

IPM (continued from page 3)

Hans Walter-Peterson

NEWA Grape Forecast Models

Select a disease or insect:

State:

Weather station:

Date of Interest:

Grape Berry Moth Results for Dresden (FLGP/FLCC)

Wild Grape Bloom:

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 7/12/2017: 993 (0 days missing)

Daily Degree Days for Dresden (FLGP/FLCC)								
Base Temp	Past	Past	Current	5-Day Forecast			Forecast Details	
	Jul 10	Jul 11	Jul 12	Jul 13	Jul 14	Jul 15	Jul 16	Jul 17
47.14F - GBM	25	28	28	25	24	24	25	25
Accumulation	946	974	1001	1026	1050	1074	1098	1123

NA - not available Download Time: 7/12/2017

Pest Status	Pest Management
Second generation larvae are protected within berries and completing their development.	The most effective time for treatment of second generation grape berry moth is over. Prepare to scout all vineyard blocks for grape berry moth damage when DD accumulation reaches 1470-1620 DD. During scouting, determine if the number of damaged clusters from previous generation exceeds the treatment threshold of 15%. If above threshold, control measures should be applied starting at 1620 DD.

NYS Farm Worker Housing Loan Program

The New York State Farm Worker Housing Loan Program (FWH) is a special initiative for New York producers to improve existing housing or to construct/purchase new housing for farm workers. Farm Credit East recently released a [short video about this program](#) featuring Mike Haycock, Farm Credit East vice president and coordinator of the NYS FWH program.

“The New York State Farm Worker Housing loan program is a great partnership between the state of New York and Farm Credit East,” said Mike Haycock. “It helps meet the needs of agricultural producers to provide adequate housing for their farm labor.”

“It is also a revolving loan program, so every year as payments are made back into the program, those funds become available for other farmers to use in future years to do additional improvements or purchases,” continued Haycock.

Agricultural producers may apply to borrow up to \$100,000 per year for farm worker housing projects. An upfront, one-time fee is applied to cover administrative costs. There are no other fees or interest applied for the term of the loan. The loans are repaid in equal, annual payments of principal. The term of the loan may not exceed ten years.

The FWH loan program is administered by Farm Credit East in partnership with New York State Homes and Community Renewal (HCR). To view this video, [click here](#). To apply for a loan, [contact your local Farm Credit East office](#). Loans are available to New York agricultural producers, including fruit, vegetable, greenhouse, nursery, equine and dairy operations, and producers may apply at any time; however, funds are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.



INSURING GRAPES

NY, 2017

Crop insurance is a safety net for farmers that helps you **manage risk**. If you have a crop failure, crop insurance can help you farm again next year.

Important Insurance Deadlines

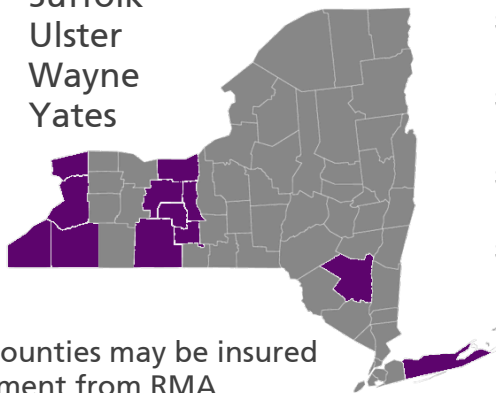
- **Aug. 15, 2017:** Premium Billing Date
- **Nov. 20, 2017:** Sales Closing, Policy Change, Cancellation, Termination Date
- **Nov. 20, 2017:** End of Insurance Period
- **Jan. 15, 2018:** Acreage / Production Report Date



Over 40 grape varieties are insurable in these counties:

Cattaraugus
Chautauqua
Erie
Niagara
Ontario
Schuyler
Seneca
Steuben

Suffolk
Ulster
Wayne
Yates



Grapes in other counties may be insured by written agreement from RMA

NYS Grape Crop Insurance Performance



for every \$1 grape producers spent on crop insurance premiums from 2012 to 2016, **they received \$2.07** in losses paid, on average

Learn more & sign up:

Explore your personalized crop insurance costs and loss payments under different yield outcomes at ag-analytics.org. To sign up, contact a crop insurance agent. Find an agent using the Agent Locator tool at rma.usda.gov/tools/agent.html



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.



Tailgate Meeting

Tuesday July 18th

4:30-6:00pm

Keuka Lake Vineyards

8881 County Route 76

Hammondsport, NY 14840

Our sixth Tailgate Meeting of the year will be held at Keuka Lake Vineyards outside of Hammondsport on Tuesday, July 18.

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. 0.75 DEC recertification credits will be available.

Double A Vineyards

2017 Summer Grape Conference & Field Day

July 25, 2017

7:30 AM – 4:00 PM

Clarion Hotel, Marina & Conference Center, Dunkirk, NY

Cost: \$75

Registration: www.doubleavineyards.com

The morning session will include presentations on grape disease management, pesticide application technology, the development and importance of clean vines, and grapevine breeding, culminating in a wine tasting of new and promising cultivars. Following lunch, we will travel by bus for the afternoon session to tour Double A Vineyards' new nursery blocks planted from "clean" virus certified plant material developed by the National Clean Plant Network. Our morning speakers and Double A owners and staff will lead discussions and answer your questions on many aspects of managing the nursery. The cost to attend is \$75.00, which includes lunch and the wine tasting. A room block is also available for those who would like to stay the night prior to or following the conference. There is limited spacing so don't wait to reserve your spot!

Register now under the "**Events**" tab at "**www.doubleavineyards.com**" or by calling the office at 716-672-8493.

Lake Erie Regional Grape Program 25 Years Summer Conference

Friday, August 11

9:00 AM – 4:00 PM

Cornell Lake Erie Research and Extension Laboratory

6592 West Main Rd

Portland, NY 14769

More details to come. Visit <http://lergp.cce.cornell.edu> for information and registration.

2017 Growing Degree Days and Rain Fall

FLX Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
7/5/17	84.6	55.6	0.00	20.1	1058.5
7/6/17	81.8	68.1	0.00	25.0	1083.4
7/7/17	82.1	66.7	0.27	24.4	1107.8
7/8/17	74.5	62.2	0.51	18.4	1126.2
7/9/17	80.8	57.0	0.00	18.9	1145.1
7/10/17	79.5	63.7	0.10	21.6	1166.7
7/11/17	87.9	65.2	0.03	26.6	1193.2
Weekly Total			0.91"	154.9	
Season Total			13.32"	1193.2	

GDDs as of July 11, 2016: 1137.9

Rainfall as of July 11, 2016: 4.61"



Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)

Growing Degree Day

	2017 GDD ¹	Long-term Avg GDD ²	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) ³
April	125.8	64.0	+12
May	219.1	252.7	+3
June	492.7	480.8	+3
July	224.1	641.1	+3
August		591.7	
September		353.5	
October		106.4	
TOTAL	936.2	2490.3	

¹ Accumulated GDDs for each month.

² The long-term average (1973-2016) 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.

2017 Growing Degree Days and Rain Fall

Precipitation

	2017 Rain ⁴	Long-term Avg Rain ⁵	Monthly deviation from avg ⁶
April	3.42"	2.85	+0.57"
May	5.35"	3.08	+2.27"
June	4.00"	3.61	+0.39
July	1.35"	3.36	
August		3.13	
September		3.64	
October		3.22	
TOTAL	14.12"	22.95"	

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



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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