Dear Growers and Friends,

Thank you so much for working with me these past two years! I’ve certainly learned a lot in my time with the Finger Lakes Grape Program, and much of that is thanks to the conversations and collaborations I’ve had with many of you out in the vineyard. The willingness within the industry to share information and to support our efforts at Cornell Cooperative Extension is really remarkable, and I’ve appreciated the chance to be a part of this community.

Fortunately, I’m not going far—I’ve accepted a position at the New York State Agricultural Experiment Station working with Tim Martinson on statewide viticulture efforts and assisting in outreach for the VitisGen2 grape breeding project. Hopefully I’ll continue to see many of you around the Finger Lakes.

Thanks for a good run, and best of luck in the growing seasons to come!

-Gillian Trimber
We will be starting up our regional bud hardiness sampling project in January, but as has been the case the past few years, Bill Wilsey has been collecting hardiness data from several cultivars at the Experiment Station in Geneva.

As shown in the graph, LT$_{50}$ values for all four varieties – Concord, Noiret, Riesling and Cabernet Franc – were all below zero by November 20, and have continued to acclimate since then. The most recent samples were collected on December 12, just before the stretch of cold weather we had last week, so it is entirely possible that the LT$_{50}$ values are lower than the December 12 results shown here.

At the same point last year, Riesling had somewhat better hardiness than this year, while the other cultivars are similar or even a bit better this year compared to last (see Table). The most important information for growers, though, will be how hardy the vines are once they achieve their maximum hardiness, or whenever we get the coldest temperatures of the winter. I will let everyone know when we start posting the first results from our regional sampling effort next month.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>LT$_{50}$ (week of 12/12/16)</th>
<th>LT$_{50}$ (week of 12/12/17)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>-13.2</td>
<td>-17.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noiret</td>
<td>-8.6</td>
<td>-10.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riesling</td>
<td>-10.5</td>
<td>-7.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabernet Franc</td>
<td>-8.9</td>
<td>-8.2</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In addition to those Christmas cards from friends and relatives that you only hear from once year and who just have to tell you all about that great trip they took to the Caribbean which only reminds you about that week you spent vacationing this year with Aunt Minnie, Uncle Rocco and their unruly kids in a campground where it rained all week, everyone got food poisoning because Rocco still doesn’t understand that you can’t “dry age” chicken on the RV’s countertop for 24 hours before cooking it, and playing so many hands of Canasta you swear you’ll never play it again as long as you live…

(Let me start that again…)

In addition to the Christmas cards, emails and photos that you’re receiving from friends and family this time of year, there’s something else to watch for in your email or your mailbox very soon – your 2018 enrollment for the Finger Lakes Grape Program! We will be sending out enrollment information for the coming year next week, and hope that you will sign up with us for another year. I want to mention a few details here that will also be included in the information you will receive next week:

- The enrollment fee will remain the same for 2018 as this past year - $75 for growers within the FLGP region and $130 for those outside of our member counties.
- You will be able to purchase hard copies of the 2018 Grape IPM Guidelines through our office when you enroll. The cost will be $33 per copy. There is a discount if you purchase online access to the Guidelines as well, but that will have to be done through the Cornell Bookstore (instructions will be included in the enrollment information).
- Beginning this year, we will not be publishing the “long form” Vineyard Notes newsletter. We will still continue to distribute special newsletters, such as the Insect Management Update from Greg Loeb, but we will not be publishing the Vineyard Notes newsletter any longer. We will still occasionally write and distribute longer articles that may have been appropriate for the Vineyard Notes, but these will be made available primarily through our website or other means. **We will continue to write and distribute the Vineyard Update email newsletter during the season and over the winter.** There will be a $35 additional fee for those who wish to receive hard copies of the Vineyard Update this year.

We hope you continue to find that the information that you receive from the FLGP is of benefit to your farm, and that you will enroll with the program again for 2018. As always, if you have thoughts about how the FLGP can better serve growers, please feel free to reach out to me, or any of the members of the FLGP’s Advisory Committee (listed on the back page of the Update).
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.

2018 Pesticide Training and Recertification Series
Mondays, February 5, 12, 19, 26, 2018; Exam Monday, March 5, 2018
7:00 pm – 9:30 pm.
Exam: 6:30 pm – 11:00 pm
Cornell Cooperative Extension-Ontario County
480 North Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424

Anyone interested in obtaining a pesticide certification and meets the DEC (Department of Environmental Conservation) experience / education requirements OR current applicators seeking pesticide recertification credits should attend. 2.5 recertification core credits will be available for each class.

Cost is $175.00 for certification which includes the training manuals and all 4 classes. This does not include the $100.00 exam fee. Recertification is $25.00 per class.

For further information about the classes or registration, contact Cornell Cooperative Extension-Ontario County, 585-394-3977 x 427 or x 436, or email nea8@cornell.edu or rw43@cornell.edu. Registration form will be available on the Associatio

Core Training for Private Pesticide Applicator Certification
Monday, February 19, 2018 1:00 – 5:00 PM
Thursday, February 22, 2018 1:00 – 5:00 PM (the same course will be presented on both days)
Yates County Office Building Auditorium
417 Liberty St
Penn Yan, NY 14527

This course will cover the information needed to take the private pesticide applicator core exam with break-out sessions available for select category training. Private certification covers a person applying restricted use pesticides to property that they or their employer owns or rents. This is not a 30-hour course.

Private certification categories available include:
- Field and Forage (Category 21)
- Fruit (Category 22)
- Vegetable (Category 23)
- Greenhouse and Florist (Category 24)
- Nursery, Ornamental and Turf (Category 25)

Cost of the course is to be determined, but will include all course materials. There will be an additional $100 fee to take the exam, payable to the DEC.

For more information, please contact Caroline Boutard-Hunt at 315-536-5123.
WISHING YOU A HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON!
FROM THE 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 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!

Cornell University Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities. CCE does not endorse or recommend any specific product or service. This program is solely intended to educate consumers about their choices. Contact CCE if you have any special needs such as visual, hearing or mobility impairments.

Finger Lakes Grape Program Advisory Committee
Eric Amberg- Grafted Grapevine Nursery
Bill Dalrymple- Dalrymple Farm
Matt Doyle- Doyle Vineyard Management
Eileen Farnan- Barrington Cellars
Chris Gerling- Cornell University Extension
Mel Goldman- Keuka Lake Vineyards
Luke Haggerty- Constellation Brands
Tina Hazlitt- Sawmill Creek Vineyards
Cameron Hosmer- Hosmer Winery
Harry Humphreys- Overlook Farms
Richard Jerome- Jerome’s U-Pick
Gregg McConnell- Farm Credit East
Herm Young– Young Sommer Winery
John Santos- Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards
Dave Smith- Smith Brothers Farms
Justine Vanden Heuvel- Cornell University
Derek Wilber- Swedish Hill Winery