

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Growing Season Summary

Hans Walter-Peterson

The 2018 growing season is behind us now, and based on speaking with growers and winemakers during harvest, I think it's safe to say that this year was kind of a mixed bag of good and "not so good." Chris Gerling is preparing a review of the season across the state's grape regions for the final Veraison to Harvest issue next week, but here are a couple of highlights from the Finger Lakes as I saw it.

A Tale of Two Seasons

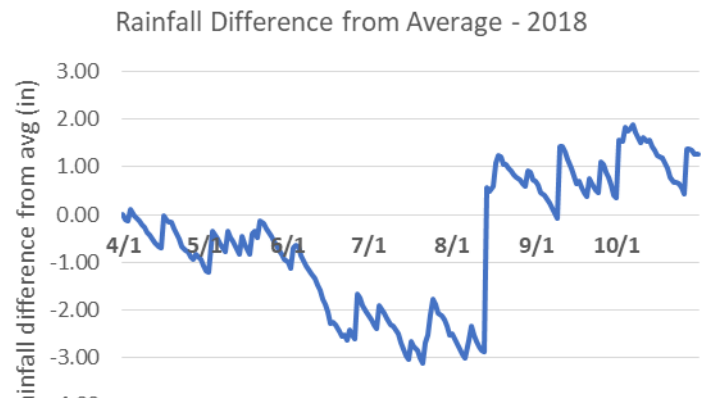
The first and second half of the season were pretty different, especially when it came to precipitation. While it wasn't looking like 2016 by any means, the half of the season was definitely on the dry side, especially the period from June through early August. By late July, you could find some vines that were on restricted soils (shallow depth, low water holding capacity) that were starting to show some early signs of water stress like drying tendrils and some lighter colored leaves.

And then came August 14...

The storm that dumped anywhere from less than 2" to more than 10" in the Finger Lakes seemed to usher in a bit of a different weather pattern, or at least it sure felt like it at the time. Looking back at the data for September and October (and this depends to an extent on where you were located), our rainfall amounts for those months were not far off from our long-term averages, so why did it feel like we were getting rain all of the time?

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The cumulative difference between 2018 rainfall and the long-term average at Geneva.



Seneca Lake is out there somewhere...

It's not the heat, it's the humidity

I think part of the reason that the latter part of the season felt like a wet season was not so much the amount of rain that we had, but the large number of hours and days when humidity levels were high. I won't spoil Chris's write-up about this, but there were a lot of days when I needed to have my muck boots on walking through vineyards in the morning, and I couldn't see whatever lake was nearby, thanks to fog and heavy dew. I also

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think this is a big reason why we saw so much berry cracking in a number of varieties this year. Riesling and Pinot noir seemed to be the biggest victims of this, but there was also plenty of it in some Gewürtztraminer and even Concord blocks this year. Most other varieties seemed to hold up pretty well overall, and I'm not sure we can say exactly why except that their skins were better able to maintain their integrity as water swelled up inside the berries and couldn't transpire back out to the atmosphere.

I don't want to steal any of Chris' thunder, so I'll suggest that you read his season summary that will be printed in the final issue of [Veraison to Harvest](#), which will hit your email boxes later this week.

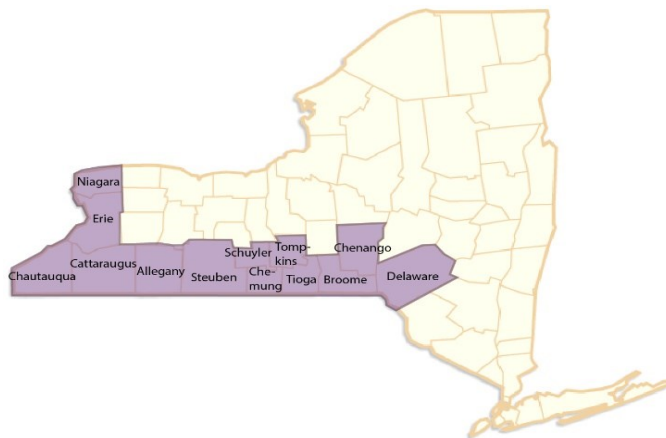
Steuben and Schuyler County Growers Eligible for NY 'Vineyard Improvement Program'

When the Governor held the Concord Grape Summit in Chautauqua County earlier this year, one program that was announced was the 'Concord Vineyard Improvement Program'. This program provides cost-sharing funds, up to \$50,000 per project, for growers to remove unwanted or abandoned Concord vineyards and to replant them with different grapes or other agricultural crops. Because this funding comes from the Southern Tier Agricultural Industry Enhancement Program, it turns out that growers in all of the counties that are covered by this program are eligible to participate, including those in Steuben and Schuyler counties.

When the Vineyard Improvement Program (VIP) was announced, eligibility was extended to growers in Erie and Niagara counties, which obviously are not in the Southern Tier, because of their connection to the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program, and that there are potential candidates for the program in those counties. We are trying to get in touch with people at Ag & Markets to see if the program could also be expanded to other Finger Lakes counties as well, for the same reason that it was expanded to Erie and Niagara counties. If we make any progress on this front, we will let everyone know.

A few specifics about the VIP:

- Only Concord vineyards of 1 acre or more in size are eligible. Vineyards can be active or abandoned. Vineyards that have already been removed, or are in the process of being removed, are not eligible.
- Each project is eligible for up to \$50,000 in funding.
- Funding is up to \$1,500 per vineyard acre which includes:
 - 50% of removal cost of Concord grape vines
 - 25% of replanting cost (trellis, plant material, labor). Seed costs are not eligible.
 - Removal projects should be completed within 12 months of approval.
 - Replant projects should be completed within 36 months of approval.
- All applications must include a **business plan** that shows an increase in production, enhanced farm profitability and/or increased environmental compatibility of the farm operation or IPM compatibility with neighboring vineyards.



Counties that are currently eligible for the Vineyard

Steuben and Schuyler County Growers Eligible for NY 'Vineyard Improvement Program' (continued from page 2)

The VIP is being administered through the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program, and more information and the online application form can be found on their website at <https://lergp.com/vineyard-improvement-program/>. If you want a paper copy of the application form, please contact Brittany Griffin at (315) 536-5134 and she will get one out to you. The full Request for Applications for the VIP from Ag & Markets can be found at <http://lergp.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/10/Vineyard-Improvement-RFA-updated.pdf>. If you have further questions about the Vineyard Improvement Program, please contact the team at the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program at (716) 792-2800.

Sexual Harassment Prevention: New York Updates the Model Policy, Training and Requirements

Richard Stup, Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development Program

As of October 9, 2018, New York State has a new set of policies and requirements regarding sexual harassment prevention in the workplace. These new requirements apply to ALL employers, including farms, regardless of their size. There are some requirements that need to be put into place right away, while the training requirement deadline is about 11 months from now. Below is an article by Richard Stup, who leads [Cornell's Agricultural Workforce Development program](#), about these new requirements, and how to comply with them using materials that are provided by the state.

The New York State Department of Labor released the [updated model sexual harassment prevention materials](#). Employers, here are your key action items for right now:

1. **Put your policy in place now.** All New York employers are required to have a sexual harassment prevention policy in place **beginning October 9, 2018**. Your policy must meet or exceed all of New York's requirements in the model policy. Most farms don't currently have a policy so it's OK to just use the state's model policy. There are a couple of things you should do to customize it for your farm:
 - Download the policy from the state's website in either PDF or Microsoft Word format.
 - Change the yellow highlighted "Employer Name" text to your farm or business name.
 - Designate a contact person. On pages 1, 2, 5, and 6 of the model policy there is yellow highlighted text that refers to the "person or office designated." You are supposed to insert the name or office of the person to whom any harassment complaints should be reported. In most farms this will be the owner, ideally you should list two people here so that the employee has an option of at least two people they could go to. (This is to avoid the situation where the person doing the harassing is the same person designated to receive harassment complaints.)
 - Print copies and provide to your employees or inform employees and give them electronic access to your new policy.
2. **Provide the "Combat Harassment Complaint Form."** Scroll down the [state's website](#) to find the model complaint form, also in PDF and Word format. Incorporate this form into your handbook right after the sexual harassment policy or print copies and provide it to your employees.
3. **Customize and post** the ["Sexual Harassment Prevention Poster"](#) in your break room or office. This is optional but it is a good practice.
4. **Plan to provide training.** We have **until October 9, 2019** to provide training for all employees, that's a welcome relief of one year thanks to the great input provided by farm organizations and other employer groups. Yes, that means all employees must get training, full-time, part-time, seasonal, permanent, H2A, managers, non-family, family, and that high school kid who runs the weed whacker in the summertime. Plan to have a refresher training once per year for all employees and to incorporate sexual harassment training into your new employee onboarding program.

All of the materials are available only in English right now. You will be in compliance if you put your policy in place in English for now. Later, when other translations are provided by the state, you will be required to provide the policy and training in a language that your employees can understand.

Sexual Harassment Prevention: New York Updates the Model Policy, Training and Requirements (continued from page 3)

Richard Stup, Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development Program

Update: Since this article was originally written, New York State has also released the policy and training information in Spanish and several other languages. These materials can be found at <https://www.ny.gov/combating-sexual-harassment-workplace/combating-harassment-translations>.

Richard and Kelsey O'Shea, with CCE's North Country Ag Team, produced a short video outlining these new requirements as well. You can watch it at <http://agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/2018/11/03/ag-business-update-sexual-harassment-prevention/>.

New York State Implements New Actions to Prevent Spread of Spotted Lanternfly

New Quarantine Will Restrict Movement of Goods Brought into New York State from Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets is implementing new actions to protect New York, and its surrounding states, from the establishment of the invasive [spotted lanternfly \(SLF\)](#). The Department, working in collaboration with the State Department of Environmental Conservation (DEC), issued a quarantine that will restrict the movement of certain goods brought into New York from Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Virginia, states impacted by SLF. The first [SLF findings were reported earlier this month](#) in New York State in Yates and Albany Counties.

State Agriculture Commissioner Richard A. Ball said, "The spotted lanternfly is a major concern for us when it comes to our agricultural crops and our forest land, so we can't take any chances that this invasive species will become established here in New York State. The goal of the quarantine we have implemented is to help reduce the opportunities these pests may have in hitching a ride on firewood, plants and other common outdoor items and entering our state in the first place."

DEC Commissioner Basil Seggos said, "The newly designated exterior quarantine is part of the State's aggressive effort to protect our natural resources from the destructive, invasive pest spotted lanternfly. If this insect becomes established in New York it would threaten our agricultural and tourism industries, including outdoor recreational activities. DEC will continue to work with our state and federal partners to prevent the introduction of this pest into New York State and do what we can to help educate and prepare communities for spotted lanternfly."

SLF, which is known to do significant damage to agricultural crops as well as plant nurseries and the forest products industries, was first discovered in Pennsylvania in 2014. Established populations of SLF have since been found in New Jersey, Delaware and Virginia. Two cases of a single reported bug have been confirmed in New York. Given the proximity to the Pennsylvania and New Jersey infestations, New York State is at high risk for infestation. While these insects can jump and fly short distances, they spread primarily through human activity. SLF lay their eggs on any number of surfaces such as vehicles, stone, rusty metal, outdoor furniture and firewood. They can hitch rides on any outdoor item and be easily transported into and throughout New York.

SLF is a destructive pest that feeds on more than 70 plant species including tree-of-heaven (*Ailanthus altissima*), maples, apple trees, grapevine, and hops. SLF feedings can stress plants, making them vulnerable to disease and attacks from other insects, and cause significant damage to New York's agricultural industry. SLF also excretes large amounts of sticky "honeydew," which attracts sooty molds that interfere with plant photosynthesis, negatively affecting the growth and fruit yield of plants. SLF also has the potential to significantly hinder quality of life due to the honeydew and the swarms of insects it attracts.

New York State Implements New Actions to Prevent Spread of Spotted Lanternfly (continued from page 4)

New Quarantine Will Restrict Movement of Goods Brought into New York State from Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania and Virginia

To help slow the spread of SLF into New York, the [quarantine](#) requires certificates of inspection issued from the impacted states on the following regulated articles entering New York State:

- Any living life stage of the SLF.
 - Brush, debris, bark, or yard waste.
 - Landscaping, remodeling, or construction waste.
 - Logs, stumps, or any tree parts.
 - Firewood of any species.
 - Packing materials, such as wood crates or boxes.
 - All plants and plant parts, including but not limited to nursery stock, green lumber, fruit and produce and other material living, dead, cut, fallen (including stumps), roots, branches, mulch, and composted and uncomposted chips.
 - Outdoor household articles, including, but not limited to, recreational vehicles, lawn tractors and mowers, mower decks, grills, grill and furniture covers, tarps, mobile homes, tile, stone, deck boards, mobile fire pits, and any equipment associated with these items, and trucks or vehicles not stored indoors.
- Any other article, commodity, item, or product that has or that is reasonably believed to be infested with or harboring SLF.

New York's order requires travelers transporting any of the above items to have documentation listing the origin and destination of shipments. It also prohibits unnecessarily stops while traveling through the quarantine area. The State Department of Agriculture and Markets will operate compliance checks at strategic locations around the State to enforce the regulations.

The State's quarantine order was developed in consultation with representatives from the forest products industry, including manufacturers and harvesters, and nurseries/landscapers, orchard and vineyard owners, and others potentially impacted by the restriction. New York also collaborated with other states where quarantines have been enacted to slow the SLF's spread.

Earlier this month, the Department of Agriculture and Markets and DEC confirmed that SLF was found in Albany and Yates counties. A single adult insect was discovered in a vehicle in the Capital Region and a single adult insect was reported on a private Keuka Lake property in Penn Yan, Yates County.

Following both reported cases, the Department and DEC immediately began extensive surveys throughout the area. The public is encouraged to continue to report any potential sightings of SLF and to send a photo to spottedlanternfly@dec.ny.gov. Please note the location of where the insect was found, egg masses, and/or infestation signs. The public is also encouraged to inspect outdoor items such as vehicles, furniture, and firewood for egg masses. Anyone that visits the Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and Virginia infested areas should thoroughly inspect their vehicle, luggage and gear for SLF and egg masses before leaving and scrape off all egg masses.

A Smartphone application is also available to help citizens and conservation professionals quickly and easily report new invasive species sightings directly to New York's invasive species database from their phones. For more information, visit [New York's invasive species database](#).

The Department, DEC, New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation and the US Department of Agriculture will continue to survey throughout the Capital District and the Finger Lakes focusing on travel corridors and high-risk areas. Extensive surveys will continue to be conducted in high-risk areas throughout the state as well as inspections of nursery stock, stone shipments, commercial transports, etc., from Pennsylvania. Education to the public as well as industry personnel will also continue. For more information on [spotted lanternfly](#), visit DEC's website.

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.



Northern Grapes Webinar: Grapevine trunk diseases: The fungi that cause them, how they develop and spread, and how they are managed.

December 11, 2018 1:00 PM Eastern Standard Time (12:00 Noon Central Time)

Dr. Jose Urbez-Torres

Research Scientist, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Summerland Research and Development Center

British Columbia, Canada

Grapevine trunk diseases (GTD) are caused by a large number of different fungi and cause important economic losses to the grape and wine industry worldwide. They are currently considered one of the major threats to the industry's future economic sustainability. Accordingly, research efforts have been primarily focused on better understanding GTD to find best control strategies. This presentation will give an overview on the research conducted on GTD during the past decade and will highlight the importance of understanding their etiology (causal organisms) and epidemiology (spread) in specific geographical regions to develop chemical, biological, and cultural control strategies against these diseases.

Registration: You need to pre-register to attend. Registrants will receive a link and reminder 1-2 days before the presentation.

Register at:

[December 11 Northern Grapes Webinar: Trunk Diseases](https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_h8Xr3ruCQz-9mW3oSHPNYg)

https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_h8Xr3ruCQz-9mW3oSHPNYg

2018 GDD & Precipitation

FLX Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
10/25/2018	44.3	32.6	0.00	0.0	3049.3
10/26/2018	47.1	38.1	0.00	0.0	3049.3
10/27/2018	42.7	36.5	1.13	0.0	3049.3
10/28/2018	45.1	37.4	0.14	0.0	3049.3
10/29/2018	45.1	39.1	0.16	0.0	3049.3
10/30/2018	53.3	33.5	0.00	0.0	3049.3
10/31/2018	63.2	39.2	0.06	1.2	3050.5
Weekly Total			1.49"	1.2	
Season Total			23.80"	3050.5	

GDDs as of October 31, 2017: 2973.4

Rainfall as of October 31, 2017: 26.38"



Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva) as of October 31

Growing Degree Day

	2018 GDD ¹	Long-term Avg GDD ²	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-)
April	8.2	65.4	
May	416.3	251.9	
June	472.3	481.1	
July	704.5	640.7	
August	683.3	415.4	
September	462.8	355.2	
October	135.0	109.5	
TOTAL	2882.4	2493.3	

¹ Accumulated GDDs for each month.

² The long-term average (1973-2017) GDD accumulation as of that date in the 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.

2018 GDD & Precipitation (continued from page 5)

Precipitation

	2018 Rain ⁴	Long-term Avg Rain ⁵	Monthly deviation from avg ⁶
April	1.92"	2.87"	-0.93"
May	3.15"	3.13"	+0.02"
June	2.50"	3.62"	-1.12"
July	2.98"	3.45"	-0.47"
August	6.40"	3.14"	+3.26"
September	3.25"	3.57"	-0.32"
October	4.23"	3.37"	+0.86"
TOTAL	24.84"	23.16"	+1.68"

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!

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

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Cornell Cooperative Extension Finger Lakes Grape Program

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The Finger Lakes Grape Program is supported, in part, by six county
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