The FLGP field staff (Hans and Don) will be off for the holiday break from Monday, December 24 through Wednesday, January 2. All of us with the Finger Lakes Grape Program wish you a peace-filled and joyous holiday season.

Bud Hardiness Status Heading Into 2019

Before we head off for our holiday break, I thought it would be good to update everyone on where we stand with bud hardiness at this point in the season. Tim Martinson and Bill Wilsey have been tracking bud hardiness in four cultivars – Concord, Noiret, Cabernet Franc and Riesling - from Geneva since early November. At this point, bud hardiness looks to be good for all four varieties (see table).

The question that I’m sure is on many minds, though, is how hardy the vines were on Thanksgiving morning, when temperatures in the Finger Lakes took a bit of a nose dive for about 24 hours. We don’t have samples from other Finger Lakes vineyards from that time period, so our initial impressions are only based on our lab results from Geneva.

Looking at the hardiness of the vines at that point in time, LT50 values were below 0°F to various extents (see table). Given these results, it’s likely that natives and most hybrids suffered minimal bud loss from this temperature drop. For *vinifera* varieties, the amount of damage will depend on localized conditions around the particular vineyard.

Low temperatures around the region stayed above the LT50 values at that point in time, for the most part, but a few locations got cold enough that there is a decent possibility that less hardy buds suffered some injury. In addition to the cold temperatures, the winds were very calm during the middle of the night, which means that temperatures near the ground or on lower fruiting wires might have been a little lower than those reported by the weather stations.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Low Temp (°F)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Branchport</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dresden</td>
<td>5.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Geneva</td>
<td>2.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hammondsport</td>
<td>0.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Interlaken</td>
<td>3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ithaca (Cornell Orchards)</td>
<td>-3.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lodi</td>
<td>4.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Romulus</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>South Bristol</td>
<td>2.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Watkins Glen</td>
<td>2.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Williamson</td>
<td>7.3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cultivar</th>
<th>LT50 (°F) November 26</th>
<th>LT50 (°F) December 17</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Concord</td>
<td>-9.2</td>
<td>-13.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Noiret</td>
<td>-7.1</td>
<td>-9.5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cabernet Franc</td>
<td>-2.4</td>
<td>-8.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Riesling</td>
<td>-5.7</td>
<td>-7.4</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Bud Hardiness** (continued from Pg 1)

Based on these results, I would suggest that growers check for bud mortality in their vinifera blocks before starting to prune them this winter. Hopefully, this is the only incident that we need to worry about this winter.

We will start our annual sampling for bud hardiness in the region’s vineyards in January. We will let everyone know results when we get them. In the meantime, you can see the most recent results from the Geneva sampling, and the resulting graphs, at the Bud Hardiness project’s webpage, [https://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/extension/bud-hardiness-data/2018-2019-data/](https://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/extension/bud-hardiness-data/2018-2019-data/).

**Update on the Vineyard Improvement Program for Concord Growers**

As announced in the last issue of the Vineyard Update, the State of New York is implementing a Vineyard Improvement Program (VIP) to provide assistance to Concord grape growers who want to convert any of their Concord blocks to a different agricultural crop. Because of the funding source (the Southern Tier Agricultural Industry Enhancement Program), the only Finger Lakes growers that are currently eligible to participate in the program are those in Schuyler and Steuben counties.

When the 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 believe that the program should be extended to Concord growers in other counties as well, and discussions have begun with Ag & Markets to do exactly that.

To help support that position, we would like to know how many growers in the Finger Lakes might be interested in participating in the VIP, and how many acres they would consider enrolling in the program. Indicating your interest does not commit you to anything – we would just like to have an idea of the potential interest in the program in the Finger Lakes region. If you think you might be interested, please send me an email at hcw5@cornell.edu, or leave a message at the FLGP office in Penn Yan at (315)536-5134. We need to know your name and how many acres of Concord you might consider removing as part of the program.

There is more information about the program on the flyer on the next page, and on the Lake Erie Regional Grape Program website at [https://lergp.com/about-vip](https://lergp.com/about-vip).
$1.325 million to Concord Grape Growers for Vineyard Improvements – to remove unwanted Concord vineyards and replant grape varieties or other agricultural crops.

Concord vineyards of an acre or more of land. Active or abandoned. Live and/or dead vines.

Rolling application period. First come first served, until funds are expended. Priority will be given to abandoned vineyards close to vineyards in commercial production.

Applications accepted **Oct. 15, 2018 through Oct. 15, 2022.**

Each eligible project must not exceed $50,000

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.

To be eligible a **business plan** must show an increase in production, enhanced farm profitability and/or increased environmental compatibility of the farm operation or IPM compatibility with neighboring vineyards.

To apply go to [lergp.com](http://lergp.com) and click on the **Vineyard Improvement Program** tab on the left.

Vineyard Improvement Region of New York State includes:
Allegany, Broome, Cattaraugus, Chautauqua, Chemung, Chenango, Delaware, Erie, Niagara, Steuben, Schuyler, Tompkins, and Tioga Counties
Ag Labor Resources

Hopefully, you have noticed that the Vineyard Update has been including some articles lately from our Ag Workforce Development specialist, Richard Stup. I highly recommend Richard’s website, http://agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/, to anybody who is responsible for managing any kind of labor on a farm in New York State. You can sign up to receive email notification about new postings on the site. He has already developed some excellent resources to keep farm employers up to date on regulations and requirements, and how to comply with them.

One of the most recent ones to come from his program is a webinar designed for farm employers about preventing sexual harassment, including how to comply with New York’s new requirements for employee training. The webinar was recorded as is now available at https://www.farmcrediteast.com/knowledge-exchange/Webinars/preventing-sexual-harassment.

Ag Labor Road Show

Another program that Richard is helping to present for farm employers is the Ag Workforce Development Council’s Labor Road Show II. This program will be presented in several locations around the state beginning next month. The program will include discussion of topics like farm employee housing, new employee onboarding, sexual harassment prevention, wage and hour laws, engaged employees, safety updates, upcoming “worker care” programs, and more. Information about the program and can be found on the flyer included in this Update, or at http://agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/2018/12/04/labor-road-show-ii-is-coming-your-way/.

Finally, a quick reminder from Richard about the upcoming adjustment in New York’s minimum wage.

Minimum Wage Annual Adjustment

Richard Stup, Ag Workforce Development Specialist

Attention employers, it’s time to get ready for the annual increase to the New York minimum wage. The state’s minimum wage law passed back in 2016 provides for annual increases that become effective at the end of each year. New York City wages are highest but we don’t have many farm employers there. Long Island and Westchester minimum wage goes to $13.00 on December 31, 2018 and the “remainder of New York” minimum wage increases to $11.10 on the same date. Make sure you update your payrolls at the end of this month to reflect the change in pay beginning January 1, 2019. Details can be found at New York state’s minimum wage website.

Also remember to update your mandatory state minimum wage poster. You can find a copy at the same state website. Right now the old version for 2018 is still up so we need to wait a few more weeks until the new version is posted.
Save the Date for the 2019 Becker Forum on Farm Labor

Farm worker housing, labor law compliance, and the federal guest worker program (H-2A) are key themes for the 2019 Becker Forum. The event will take place on Monday, January 14 at the Holiday Inn in Liverpool, New York. Employer compliance with new sexual harassment prevention laws will also be a prominent topic.

Featured speaker Lynn Jacquez, from the CJ Lake law firm in Washington, DC will address what policy positions to expect from the new Congress and the Administration in the year ahead. She will also address immigration enforcement trends and worksite issues that are important for farm employers.

Three presentations will focus on farm-provided employee housing. Nancy Hagopian from the NYS Department of Health will provide recommendations for improving existing housing. Ed Urbanick from Farm Credit East will discuss financing for construction and renovation of housing. A featured farm employer panel will discuss best practices for managing worker housing.

The forum will also provide information related to the H-2A guest worker program, including how some dairy farms successfully using it to access workers. Current changes in the H-2A program will be reviewed and information will be provided on how to effectively hire foreign-born workers through the program.

Attorney Michael Sciotti from the Barclay Damon Law Firm in Syracuse will inform farm employers about what they must do to comply with New York’s new regulations on sexual harassment prevention policies and training.

At the end of the afternoon there will be an opportunity for questions and discussion regarding critical workforce issues. For a complete agenda and to register go to http://nysvga.org/expo/information/, or email nysvegetablegrowers@gmail.com.
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:
Impact of fruit zone sunlight exposure on fruit composition of cold climate hybrid grapes
Thursday, January 17, 2019  1:00 PM Eastern

Dr. Amaya Atucha
Assistant Professor and Fruit Crop Extension Specialist, University of Wisconsin
Madison, Wisconsin

Dr. Atucha’s research program focuses on fruit crop physiology and production of deciduous fruit crops (cranberries and cold climate grapes). The goal of her extension program is to deliver up to date, research-based information to fruit growers that will lead to improve production practices of fruit crops in Wisconsin.

The webinar will present results on the effect of pre-veraison leaf and lateral shoot removal treatments on organic acid and sugar profiles for Brianna, Frontenac, La Crescent, and Marquette in southern Wisconsin. The effects of the treatment on juice and wine total phenolic concentrations (TPC), monomeric anthocyanin concentrations (MAC), and percent polymeric color for Frontenac, Marquette, and Petite Pearl will also be addressed.

Registration:  You need to pre-register to attend. Registrants will receive a link and reminder 1-2 days before the presentation. Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/webinar/register/fd64be02f5aae6c08c34be5db4a05ad8

2019 Pesticide Training and Recertification Series

Classes: Wednesdays, February 6, 13, 20, 27, 2019  7:00 pm – 9:30 pm.
Exam: Wednesday, March 6, 2019  6:30 – 11:00 pm
Cornell Cooperative Extension-Ontario County, 480 North Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424

Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County will be presenting their annual pesticide training and recertification course in 2019. 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. There will be 2.5 recertification core credits available for each class. The program series includes the following topics:

  Class 1: Pesticide Laws and Regulations
  Class 2: Pesticides and the Environment
  Class 3: Pesticide Safety
  Class 4: Pesticide Mixing and Equipment Calibrations

Registration cost for all 4 classes is $175, which includes training manuals. The exam fee is an additional $100, which is due the day of the exam. Registration for individual classes is $25 per class. Contact Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ontario County at 585-394-3977 x 427 or x 436 or email nea8@cornell.edu or rw43@cornell.edu for registration and course information. The registration form is available on the CCE-Ontario County website, www.cceontario.org.
PROGRAM SERIES

Class 1 - Pesticide Laws & Regulations

Highlights:
- Certification Regulations
- Pesticide registration
- FIFRA, OSHA
- Hazard Communications Standard
- Safety Transportation Act
- Endangered Species Act
- Worker Protection Standards
- NYS Reporting Law
- Pesticide Record Keeping

Class 2 - Pesticides & the Environment

Highlights:
- Toxicity of pesticides, pesticide residue & tolerance
- Environmental considerations
- Pesticides and ground water
- Pesticides and wildlife
- Types & formulations of pesticides

Class 3 - Pesticide Safety

Highlights:
- Personal & environmental safety
- Selection & use of personal protective equipment
- Symptoms of pesticide poisoning
- Pesticide storage & disposal
- Understanding the pesticide label

Class 4 - Pesticide Mixing & Equipment Calibrations

Highlights:
- Procedure for mixing and filling
- Calculations for mixing pesticides
- Equipment calibration
- Types of pumps, nozzles, sprayers

Pesticide Certification Exam Date:
March 6, 2019

AUDIENCE/REGISTRATION

Cost $175.00: includes training manuals and attendance at all four classes. Check made payable to CCE Ontario. No confirmation will be sent. Sign up on registration form | Pesticide Certification Training.

$100.00 DEC exam fee, due the evening of the exam. Check for the exam, made payable to NYSDEC.

Certified applicators, private or commercial, seeking recertification credits will receive 2.5 core credits per class. Sign up on registration form | Recertification Credits.

Cost: $25.00/person/class

This is NOT a 30 hour credit course that is required for those who do not meet DEC eligibility requirements for commercial certification.

Private Certification: This is for the person who will be applying restricted pesticides to their own or employer’s property or rented property.

Commercial Certification: This is for the person who will be applying pesticides for hire.

Fill in the tear-off form (on the reverse side), mail registration form and check to:
Cornell Cooperative Extension
Pesticides
480 North Main Street
Canandaigua, NY 14424

Russell Welser
Senior Resource Educator
Pesticides
Phone: 585-394-3977 x 436
Email: rw43@cornell.edu

If you have any questions contact:
Cornell Cooperative Extension
(585) 394-3977 x 427 or 436
Email: ontario@cornell.edu
Website: www.cceontario.org

Building Strong and Vibrant New York Communities
Cornell Cooperative Extension is an employer and educator recognized for valuing AA/EEO, Protected Veterans, and Individuals with Disabilities and provides equal program and employment opportunities.
REGISTRATION FORM (No confirmation will be sent)

Pesticide Certification Training: (for people getting a license) _____ person(s) @ $175.00/person. $__________

Check (✓) certification desired:

___ Private:  ___ Field and Forage (21)  ___ Fruit (22)  ___ Vegetable (23)
___ Greenhouse & Florist (24)  ___ Nursery, Ornamental & Turf (25)

OR

___ Commercial:  ___ Agriculture-Plant (1a)  ___ Ornamental and Turf (3)

Pesticide Recertification Credits: (for people with a license).

Attendance at selected classes. Check (✓) appropriate box below @ $25.00/person/class.

___ Class 1  ___ Class 2  ___ Class 3  ___ Class 4

$__________

Total enclosed $__________

Name(s)________________________________________________________________________________________________

Address:___________________________________________________________________________________________________

Phone: ___________________________________________________________________________________________________

Please make check payable to: CCE Ontario

Return to: Cornell Cooperative Extension, Pesticides, 480 N. Main Street, Canandaigua, NY 14424.

Cornell Cooperative Extension
of Ontario County
480 North Main Street
Canandaigua, NY 14424-1099
Additional Information

Become a fan of the Finger Lakes Grape Program on Facebook, or follow us on Twitter (@ccef Gingrich) 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 Enology 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

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.