



Cornell Cooperative Extension Finger Lakes Grape Program

June 20, 2019

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Taking Time to See the Bigger Picture

Hans Walter-Peterson

This week, I have been attending the annual conference of the American Society for Enology and Viticulture (ASEV) in Napa, California, which is the professional research society for the grape and wine industry in North America.

I have been coming to this meeting for many years now, and try to make it a priority every year for a few important reasons (at least to me), in spite of the long flights, expense, and the fact that it always happens right around bloom back home, which is terrible timing.

While it's always great to come to this meeting to see friends and colleagues and catch up with what they are doing, the biggest reason I try to come to this meeting every year is that it is a time for me to get my head out of what is going on in our own backyard and get a glimpse of what is happening in other parts of the world with regard to grape and wine research. Just this week, I've heard talks on crop load management from California, British Columbia and Michigan, learned more about the impacts of red blotch virus from Canada, Washington and California, and spoke with a grad student from Missouri about his research on fruit flies and sour rot. One of my extension colleagues who works here in Napa County was given our society's award for outstanding extension work, and her talk has given me some things to think about for our programming and research that we do in the Finger Lakes. My point is that I find a great deal of benefit in stepping outside of my own little world for a while and take a look at the bigger picture around me.



Now I'm not suggesting that everyone should take time out of their busy season to attend a scientific meeting on the West Coast, but there are some opportunities to do something similar a little closer to home. One of the things that has pleased me the most about our series of Tailgate Meetings, and was a little unexpected, is to see how many growers will come to meetings that are not in their own "neighborhood." Sometimes it's because of timely topics that are going to be discussed, but I've heard from a number of these growers that they appreciate seeing other vineyards that are not near their own and see and hear about what's happening in a different part of the

Finger Lakes. Some growers are coming up with new and interesting techniques or equipment on their own farm, and it can be good to take an opportunity to find out about those.

Another opportunity to get some bigger picture perspective is coming up very shortly in the Finger Lakes. The annual meeting of the ASEV Eastern Section (ASEV-ES), which encompasses all of the states east of the Rocky Mountains, and will be held in Geneva on July 16, followed by the Nelson J Shaulis Symposium and Tour, focused on digital viticulture technologies. Similar to the meeting in Napa, the conference will feature presentations about research that is ongoing in viticulture and enology that is relevant to the issues that we have here in the eastern part of North America, and offer some insight into the technologies that are making their way into vineyard management practices now, including new types of sensors, cameras, variable rate machinery and more. Details about the meeting can be found toward the end of this week's newsletter.

I read an article several years ago written by one of our illustrious winemakers – Chris Stamp from Lakewood Vineyards – about what he calls "cellar blindness", which essentially is when a winemaker become "blind" to problems with his or

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her own wines as a result of constant exposure to them. I think the same thing can happen in vineyards as well – becoming so used to your own vineyard’s condition and practices that you aren’t aware of the problems that might be present there. Getting out of your own “vineyard bubble” once in a while can help alleviate this problem, whether that means visiting a different vineyard in the Finger Lakes or heading out to a scientific meeting in California.

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 #4

Tuesday, June 25

4:30 – 6:00 PM

Morse Vineyards

4170 Vine Road, Penn Yan NY

ASEV-Eastern Section Annual Meeting and Shaulis Symposium on Digital Viticulture

July 16-18, 2019

Hobart & William Smith Colleges, Geneva NY

Registration is now open! Early registration deadline is July 2, 2019

New York Vineyard & Winery industry members receive the reduced Eastern Section member price!

A special vineyard tour and symposium entitled “Digital Viticulture: New Tools for Precision Management” will be featured as part of the annual American Society for Viticulture and Enology- Eastern Section (ASEV-ES) conference at Hobart and William Smith Colleges in Geneva, NY on July 16 through July 18.

Discounted pricing for the tour (\$75 per person) is available if you prefer to drive yourself and not ride the group bus. Indicate this on your registration (see following form).

The two-day program and vineyard tour will bring together suppliers, researchers, and growers to explore the tools and concepts of precision viticulture. New technologies, such as inexpensive sensors, digital imaging, geographical information systems, and precision machinery are converging to make precision viticulture possible. This field tour and symposium will focus on tools, concepts, and platforms for putting it all together to manage vineyards.

More information about the conference, field tour and symposium can be found in the conference registration packet (following pages) and at <http://www.asev-es.org>.

2019 GDD & Precipitation

FLX Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
6/13/2019	64.0	55.6	0.24	9.8	448.9
6/14/2019	69.6	54.6	0.03	12.1	461.0
6/15/2019	73.6	58.8	0.04	16.2	477.2
6/16/2019	61.2	54.3	0.57	7.8	485.0
6/17/2019	73.5	50.6	0.00	12.1	497.0
6/18/2019	81.5	59.2	0.01	20.4	517.4
6/19/2019	79.6	60.0	0.00	19.8	537.2
Weekly Total			0.89"	98.1	
Season Total			8.11"	537.2	

GDDs as of June 19, 2018: 763.4

Rainfall as of June 19, 2018: 6.43"



Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva) as of June 11

Growing Degree Day

	2019 GDD ¹	Long-term Avg GDD ²	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) ³
April	48.1	64.1	-5
May	204.1	255.5	-5
June	237.3	480.9	-6
July		642.1	
August		592.7	
September		357.6	
October		110.1	
TOTAL	489.4	2503.0	

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.

2019 GDD & Precipitation (continued from page 3)

Precipitation

	2019 Rain ⁴	Long-term ₅ Avg Rain	Monthly deviation from avg ⁶
April	2.22"	2.85"	-0.63"
May	4.42"	3.13"	+1.29"
June	1.92"	3.60"	
July		3.44"	
August		3.21"	
September		3.57"	
October		3.39"	
TOTAL	8.56"	23.16"	

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)

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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

Gregg McConnell- Farm Credit East

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Dave Smith- Smith Brothers Farms

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Cornell Cooperative Extension Finger Lakes Grape Program

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The Finger Lakes Grape Program is a Cornell Cooperative Extension partnership between Cornell University and the Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations in Ontario, Seneca, Schuyler, Steuben, Wayne and Yates Counties.

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YouTube

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