

In the Vineyard

Hans Walter-Peterson

We were all hoping for this season's growing conditions to change after the cool and wet spring that we had. While there's still lots of season left, July gave us some of that change we were hoping for. The Finger Lakes is ending the month more than 1" below our average rainfall, and with slightly above average heat accumulation. We're now within a day or two of our average heat accumulation for the season, after being almost a week behind in June.

These warm and relatively dry conditions, however, do not appear to be having much of an effect on shortening the period between bloom and veraison. As I discussed in the <u>Vineyard Update back on May 30</u>, the amount of time between bloom and veraison is not significantly influenced by the number of growing degree days during that stretch (based on data from Concord in western NY). In other words if bloom is late, then veraison will likely be later than normal as well.

This year, bloom dates for the varieties that we track were in the neighborhood of 1 week later than usual. Looking now at dates when those varieties reach veraison, we're at least a few days behind so far as well. Over the past 5 years, Marquette has reached veraison between July 24 (2018) and August 1 (2014), but it will be later than that this year.

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This is how Marquette usually looks by the end of July.

All of this is to say that the ripening period this season is likely to be shorter than it has been the past few years, which means there will be less of the season to fully ripen fruit, especially in later season varieties or if crop loads are higher than normal. Warm and dry conditions in the latter half of August and September could help to negate some of the effects of a later ripening period, but growers may need to be prepared to step in and drop some fruit this year to encourage better ripening, depending on the cultivar and the expectations of whoever is buying the fruit. In these cases, communications with winemakers or processors will be even more important come harvest.

Finger Lakes Grape Program

July 31, 2019

IPM

Hans Walter-Peterson

It's no secret that, even though there was less rain than normal this July, that there's still been a lot of moisture in the air in the form of relative humidity, which promotes powdery and downy mildew development. Downy mildew lesions on leaves are becoming more common as the season progresses, especially on regrowth after hedging. Judicious use of phos acid products (e.g., Rampart, Phostrol, Prophyt) along with solid protectant materials can help to keep DM under some semblance of control.

I have been noticing powdery mildew infections becoming more visible on clusters lately as well. Berries are highly resistant to new infections by now, but older infections can still manifest themselves at this point in the season. While the berries are resistant, the foliage is not, so spores from fruit infections can still be a source of inoculum for new infections on the leaves.

Trouble controlling powdery mildew? Tell us!



Speaking of powdery mildew, a quick reminder that I am looking to collect some PM samples from Finger Lakes vineyards this year as part of the FRAME Networks SCRI project that is focused on better understanding of how and where PM develops resistance.

The FRAME Networks project is being led by my colleague (and Cornell alum), Dr. Michelle Moyer from Washington State University, (http://framenetworks.wsu.edu). As part of this

project, Michelle and her team are gathering samples of powdery mildew spores from vineyards in Washington and other locations (like the Finger Lakes) and analyzing them for resistance to some of the more widely used PM fungicides. The sample collection involves a very simple swabbing of the PM from the leaf, and then the sample is sent back to WSU for analysis. This is a great opportunity for us to begin to understand the extent of PM resistance in our local vineyards, so if you are concerned about resistance development in one of your blocks, please let me know (<a href="https://document.ncbi.nlm.

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2019 New York Vineyard Acreage Survey

The New York Wine & Grape Foundation (NYWGF), Cornell Cooperative Extension (CCE), members of the New York grape industry, and Cornell University's Survey Research Institute (SRI) are cooperating to conduct a new vineyard acreage survey for New York State.

Until 2012, the New York office of the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS) conducted a vineyard acreage survey approximately every five years. Unfortunately, NASS has indicated that they will no longer be conducting these surveys due to a lack of funding. The information being requested in this survey is very similar to that collected by NASS in previous surveys, in hopes that growers will find it to be a familiar exercise and therefore increase participation.

Hard copies of the Vineyard Survey were mailed out to over 1000 growers on our mailing list. Your information can be submitted to the SRI using the paper form and returning it in the postage-paid envelope, or online by following the instructions included on the survey.

If you did not receive a survey through the mail or in an email from the Survey Research Institute, please contact Dana Alexander at the NY Wine & Grape Foundation at danaalexander@nywgf.org or 315-924-3705 so we can get one to you. The survey will remain open until August 15, 2019.

The results of this survey will help us to better understand the current state of the grape industry in New York. This information will be important in the development of new programs and initiatives, research projects, outreach to media and consumers, and much more over the next several years. The hope is that this survey can be conducted every 3-4 years in order to document how the industry is changing over time.

Please know that all data received through this survey will be kept confidential by the SRI. Data will only be published after it is aggregated, and no personally identifiable information will be made public.

Responding to this survey is completely voluntary. However, this is intended to be a complete census so we need a response from every grower, and therefore your cooperation is very important to the accuracy of the report. The amount of time to complete the survey will depend on the size of your vineyard operation, but should not take a significant amount of time for most growers.

If you are unable to complete the questionnaire either online or by mailing in your response, or have any questions about the survey, a staff person from Cornell's Survey Research Institute can assist you. You can call the Survey Research Institute at (607) 255-3786 or (888) 367-8404.

Finger Lakes Grape Program

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Department of Labor Seeks Comments on H-2A Program Revisions

Note: The following is a press release from the U.S. Department of Labor regarding proposed changes to the H-2A program. The rule revisions themselves are lengthy and hard to read, but here's a link to an article from the Growing Produce website that summarizes the proposed changes. I suspect that Farm Bureau and other ag organization will be weighing in on this proposal, so check with them for further information. Deadline for comments is September 24, 2019.

The U.S. Department of Labor's Employment and Training Administration (ETA) and Wage and Hour Division (WHD) is posting online a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) to solicit public comment on proposed changes to improve the H-2A temporary agricultural labor certification program. These proposed changes would modernize the Department's H-2A regulations in a way that is responsive to stakeholder concerns and enhances employer access to a legal source of agricultural labor, while maintaining the program's protections for the U.S. workforce and enhancing enforcement against fraud and abuse.

The NPRM includes several major proposals that would streamline and simplify the H-2A application process, strengthen protections for U.S. and foreign workers, and ease unnecessary burdens on employers. For example, the NPRM would streamline the H-2A application process by mandating electronic filing of job orders and applications, promoting the use of digital signatures, and providing employers with the option of staggering the entry of H-2A workers on a single application.

The NPRM also proposes to strengthen protections for U.S. and foreign workers by enhancing standards applicable to rental housing and public accommodations, strengthening surety bond requirements, expanding the Department's authority to use enforcement tools like program debarment for substantial violations of program rules, and updating the methodologies used to determine the Adverse Effect Wage Rates and prevailing wages to ensure U.S. workers similarly employed are not adversely impacted.

Finally, the NPRM would expand access to the H-2A program by revising the definition of agricultural labor or services to include employers engaged in reforestation and pine straw activities, as workers performing these services share many of the same characteristics as traditional agricultural crews. The proposal would also codify and update procedures governing the certification for job opportunities in animal shearing, custom combining, beekeeping, and reforestation.

The Department is posting a copy of the NPRM in advance of its publication in the *Federal Register*. A copy of the NPRM can be found <u>here</u>.

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Find farm loans that fit your operation

USDA has launched the Farm Loan Discovery Tool as the newest feature on farmers.gov

A new online tool can help farmers and ranchers find information on U.S. Department of Agriculture farm loans that may best fit their operations. USDA has launched the new *Farm Loan Discovery Tool* as the newest feature on <u>farmers.gov</u>, the Department's self-service website for farmers.

"Access to credit is critical in the agriculture industry, especially for new farmers," said Bill Northey, Under Secretary for Farm Production and Conservation. "This new interactive tool can help farmers find information on USDA farm loans within minutes. We are working to improve our customer service, and part of our solution is through improving how farmers can work with us online."

USDA's Farm Service Agency offers a variety of loan options to help farmers finance their operations. From buying land to financing the purchase of equipment, FSA loans can help. Compared to this time last year, FSA has seen an 18 percent increase in the amount it has obligated for direct farm ownership loans, and through the 2018 Farm Bill, has <u>increased the limits</u> for several loan products.

USDA conducted field research in eight states, gathering input from farmers and FSA farm loan staff to better understand their needs and challenges.

"We received suggestions from both farmers and our staff on how to improve the farm loan process, and we wanted to harness this opportunity to be more efficient and effective," Northey said. "This feature is one step in our efforts."

How the Tool Works

Farmers who are looking for financing options to operate a farm or buy land can answer a few simple questions about what they are looking to fund and how much money they need to borrow. After submitting their answers, farmers will be provided information on farm loans that best fit their specific needs. The loan application and additional resources also will be provided.

Farmers can download application quick guides that outline what to expect from preparing an application to receiving a loan decision. There are four guides that cover loans to individuals, entities, and youth, as well as information on microloans. The guides include general eligibility requirements and a list of required forms and documentation for each type of loan. These guides can help farmers prepare before their first USDA service center visit with a loan officer.

Farmers can access the *Farm Loan Discovery Tool* by visiting <u>farmers.gov/fund</u> and clicking the "Start" button. Follow the prompts and answer five simple questions to receive loan information that is applicable to your agricultural operation. The tool is built to run on any modern browser like Chrome, Edge, Firefox, or the Safari browser, and is fully functional on mobile devices. It does not work in Internet Explorer.

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Find farm loans that fit your operation (continued from pg. 5)

USDA has launched the Farm Loan Discovery Tool as the newest feature on farmers.gov

About Farmers.gov

In 2018, USDA unveiled <u>farmers.gov</u>, a dynamic, mobile-friendly public website combined with an authenticated portal where farmers will be able to apply for programs, process transactions, and manage accounts.

The Farm Loan Discovery Tool is one of many resources on <u>farmers.gov</u> to help connect farmers to information that can help their operations. Earlier this year, USDA launched the *My Financial Information* feature, which enables farmers to view their loan information, history, payments, and alerts by logging into the website.

USDA is building <u>farmers.gov</u> for farmers, by farmers. In addition to the interactive farm loan features, the site also offers a Disaster Assistance Discovery Tool. Farmers can visit<u>farmers.gov/recover/disaster-assistance-tool#step-1</u> to find disaster assistance programs that can help their operation recover from natural disasters.

With feedback from customers and field employees who serve those customers, <u>farmers.gov</u> delivers farmer -focused features through an agile, iterative process to deliver the greatest immediate value to America's agricultural producers – helping farmers and ranchers do right, and feed everyone.

For more information or to locate your USDA Service Center, visit farmers.gov.

Source: USDA Farm Service Agency

NY Crop Insurance Fact Sheet Grape SCO for FLGP Counties 2018







What is SCO and how does it work?

The Supplemental Coverage Option (SCO) is an additional crop insurance option that provides coverage for a portion of the underlying crop insurance policy deductible. It follows the coverage of the underlying policy. For an underlying Yield Protection policy, the SCO covers yield loss.

Loss payments are made when there is a loss in yield for the designated SCO area. It is NOT based on the individual policyholder's yield performance.

What is the cost and coverage?

SCO increases the level of coverage to 86% of a producer's APH Yield. The SCO endorsement results in an additional premium and administrative fee.

The amount of protection and cost is based on the underlying policy coverage:

- Lower underlying coverage, higher SCO protection and cost
- Higher underlying coverage, lower SCO protection and cost
- There is no coverage overlap between underlying and SCO coverage
- Covers all planted acreage of the crop.

When is an indemnity paid?

The indemnity is based on area yield loss for yield protection plans. The producer should keep basis risk, or the relationship between a farm and area-level yields, in mind when considering an SCO endorsement for a crop insurance policy. Indemnity payments begin if area yield is less than 86% of the expected SCO yield (area loss more than 14%).

The actual amount of the SCO indemnity payment is based on the individual underlying policy. The maximum value of the indemnity payment is:

(86% - Individual Underlying Policy Coverage Level) X Expected Crop Value where the Expected Crop Value is: (APH yield X price election)

SCO for FLGP-county producers

New York state grape producers have the option of purchasing the SCO endorsement for an Actual Production History (APH) policy. Like the underlying APH Grape policy, the SCO will also be guaranteeing yield, based on the yield of a larger area. There are varying established prices for grapes covered by SCO, which depend on the variety and SCO area.

FLGP-county Grape SCO Areas

The counties that make up an SCO area can vary greatly across the areas. For example, if county A's SCO area consists of counties A and B, it is does not necessarily mean that county B's SCO area also consists of counties A and B. It is also possible for a county's SCO area to consist of all counties where the crop of interest is insured within the state. RMA's explanation for SCO selection is based on data availability. If vield data are not sufficient for a county, other counties are added to the SCO group to achieve a sufficient yield database.

NY Crop Insurance Fact Sheet FLGP Grape SCO 2018 (reverse)







The SCO Grape Areas for each FLGP county:

SCO Area	Included Counties		
Ontario	Ontario, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Yates		
Schuyler	Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Yates		
Seneca	Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Wayne, Yates		
Steuben	Ontario, Schuyler, Steuben, Yates		
Wayne	Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Wayne, Yates		
Yates	Ontario, Schuyler, Seneca, Steuben, Yates		

FLGP-county Grape SCO Expected and Actual Yields (tons/acre)

The SCO endorsement has been available since 2016. The expected and final area yields are shown in the table below as tons/acre:

Schuyler

Seneca

Ontario

		-	
Exp.	6.30	6.10	6.20
Final	5.70	5.50	5.50
Exp.	6.29	6.14	5.74
Final	7.54	7.35	7.24
Exp.	6.15	5.75	5.77
Final	6.09	5.91	5.76
Exp.	6.15	5.95	5.99
Final	-	-	-
	Steuben	Wayne	Yates
Exp.	6.40	6.10	6.30
Final	5.60	5.50	5.50
Exp.	5.84	6.12	6.29
Final	7.53	7.33	7.33
Exp.	5.87	5.74	5.73
Final	6.06	5.86	5.86
Exp.	6.07	5.93	5.93
Final			
	Final Exp. Final	Final 5.70 Exp. 6.29 Final 7.54 Exp. 6.15 Final 6.09 Exp. 6.15 Final - Steuben Exp. 6.40 Final 5.60 Exp. 5.84 Final 7.53 Exp. 5.87 Final 6.06	Final 5.70 5.50 Exp. 6.29 6.14 Final 7.54 7.35 Exp. 6.15 5.75 Final 6.09 5.91 Exp. 6.15 5.95 Final Steuben Wayne Exp. 6.40 6.10 Final 5.60 5.50 Exp. 5.84 6.12 Final 7.53 7.33 Exp. 5.87 5.74 Final 6.06 5.86

We see a few instances of final yields falling below expected. However, even in the case of the largest SCO yield shortfall in a FLGP county — Yates county in 2016 — the actual yield equal to $\sim\!87\%$ expected yield was still above the 86% indemnity trigger.

How are the SCO yields calculated?

Final area yields are calculated as the acre-weighted average yield reported by producers who are participating in APH, YP, RP, and RPHPE, as applicable for the crop (only APH for NY grapes). In general, final area yields are calculated based on all yield data received up to a date within 1-2 weeks of May 1st (listed in the AIB SCO Price and Yields tab).

Expected area yields are calculated as a trend yield based on historical data available to RMA.

Reported yields for **all varieties** of grapes are used to determine the area yields.

In all the FLGP SCO areas, the native vs. hybrid acreage reported to RMA is split approximately 50-50. Steuben Co. is a notable exception where Natives make up >55% of reported acreage. (Calculated from RMA—Summary of Business data)

For More Information...

Yields for all SCO areas are published at:

http://cli.re/g3xnQp

A crop insurance agent can provide you with detailed information regarding a policy for your farm. Find a crop insurance agents using the RMA agent locator at:

http://cli.re/gzPVWy

For more NY crop insurance information, visit: www.agriskmanagement.cornell.edu

Finger Lakes Grape Program

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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 #7

Tuesday, August 6 4:30 – 6:00 PM Boom Point Farm & Vineyard 7483 Salmon Creek Rd., Williamson NY

Our next Tailgate Meeting will be held at Boom Point Vineyard in Wayne County. Pesticide credits are available for each Tailgate Meeting this season. No registration required – just bring a chair and your questions and observations about what's going on in the vineyard.

Tailgate Meeting #8 - Final Tailgate of the Season

Tuesday, August 20 4:30 – 6:00 PM Hermann J. Wiemer Vineyards 3962 NY Route 14, Dundee NY

Enocert 101, 201, 202 & 203

August 12-16, 2019 (EnoCert 203 Online starting August 19)
Cornell AgriTech campus
Food Science Laboratory
665 W North St., Geneva NY 14456
Registration closes August 5

Enocert 101: Basic Enology and Viticulture (August 13-14) \$300

Overview: This course will cover the basics of grape growing from the ground up. Through interactive group work, attendees will understand how vineyard site, climate, and trellising systems impact grape production and quality. Attendees will also expand their understanding of production steps for specific wine types. Upon completing this course, attendees will learn how different wine types (white, red, rosé, sparkling) are produced, and the key decisions that need to be made to influence wine style.

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Finger Lakes Grape Program

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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.



Enocert 201: Wine Sensory Analysis (August 15-16) \$400

Overview: In this course, attendees will learn to follow their nose- and their tongue. In a series of sensory exercises, attendees will learn to differentiate between taste and smell, discover their own sensory perception strengths and weaknesses, and learn to evaluate wine typicity. Must be 21 years of age or older.

Enocert 202: Tasting Room Sales (August 12) \$225

Overview: Most consumers' first contact with the New York wine industry is in a tasting room, so understanding their interests, motivations, and educational needs is key to promoting the industry as a whole and increasing individual sales. In this course, attendees will learn how to engage guests to create a fun and profitable tasting room experience.

Enocert 203: Winery Safety and Sanitation (Opens August 19) This is an online course that stays open for 1 month for participants to complete on their own time. \$225

Overview: Winery Safety and Sanitation is intended for all cellar personnel. Safety and sanitation are often overlooked in winemaking courses, but are essential to the production of high quality-and more importantly, LEGAL wines. In this digital learning course, participants will learn to identify and address safety hazards, the role of OSHA and other regulatory bodies, the difference between cleaning and sanitizing, and common areas of contamination in a winery setting.

https://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/extension/enocert/

You can pay for the courses individually or all three courses come as a package for \$800.

The in-person courses, (Enocert 101, 201, and 202) will be held at Cornell Agritech in the Food Science building in Geneva, NY.

Who should take these classes:

- Winery/Cidery employees who came to wine from another industry
- Those who may be looking to enter the wine industry
- Anyone with significant interest in wine production or sensory analysis
- Tasting room employees

More information can be found at the EnoCert website: https://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/extension/

enocert

Phone: 315-787-2263

Finger Lakes Grape Program

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2019 GDD & Precipitation

FLX Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
7/24/2019	76.0	57.6	0.00	16.8	1336.1
7/25/2019	81.2	56.8	0.00	19.0	1355.1
7/26/2019	87.9	60.5	0.00	24.2	1379.3
7/27/2019	86.0	63.2	0.00	24.6	1403.9
7/28/2019	82.9	69.0	0.01	26.0	1429.9
7/29/2019	89.4	65.0	0.00	27.2	1457.1
7/30/2019	86.7	68.7	0.01	27.7	1484.8
Weekly Total			0.02"	165.5	
Season Total			12.79"	1484.8	

GDDs as of July 30, 2018: 1669.8 Rainfall as of July 30, 2018: 10.97"



Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)

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	449.1	480.9	-5
July	690.6	642.1	-1
August		592.7	
September		357.6	
October		110.1	
TOTAL	1391.8	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.

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2019 GDD & Precipitation (continued from page 5)

Precipitation

	2019 Rain ⁴	Long-term Avg Rain	Monthly deviation from avg ⁶
April	2.22"	2.85"	-0.63"
May	4.42"	3.13"	+1.29"
June	3.61"	3.60"	+0.01"
July	2.20"	3.44"	
August		3.21"	
September		3.57"	
October		3.39"	
TOTAL	12.45"	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 <u>NY</u> 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

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Cornell Cooperative Extension Finger Lakes Grape Program

Hans Walter-Peterson—Team Leader
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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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