

May 20th, 2020

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

In the Vineyard

So the good news is that we had a really cold April and early May that held the buds back so they wouldn't be as vulnerable to spring frosts. The bad news is that some vineyards still suffered frost injury this year – the question at this point is how much. Low temperatures have warmed up since last Wednesday, so the injury we are seeing likely happened either then or the previous week. The factor that may have made this event more damaging, especially during the morning of May 9, was that temperatures were below freezing for several hours straight overnight, and according to the weather data from a few of the NEWA weather stations, winds were moving at close to 10 mph, meaning there may not have been much of an inversion layer for frost machines to work with (anybody with a wind machine who can let me know their experience with them the past couple of weeks, please reach out to me).

I spent some time over on Keuka Lake yesterday, where some of the colder temperatures in the area hit. There is definitely injury in the earlier varieties including Baco, Concord, Geneva Red, and Marquette. It's hard to say how much at this point, and each grower will ultimately have to make their own assessments, but I anticipate there are some blocks in that area with 40-50% primary bud damage, and perhaps more depending on location. The shoots had not advanced as much as I was hoping they would in order to get a better sense of the level of injury, so I ended up squinting at and squeezing a lot of buds to see if they were still viable or not. Leaf edges or outer leaves in some cases were singed, but the interior leaves and shoot tip appeared to be unaffected.

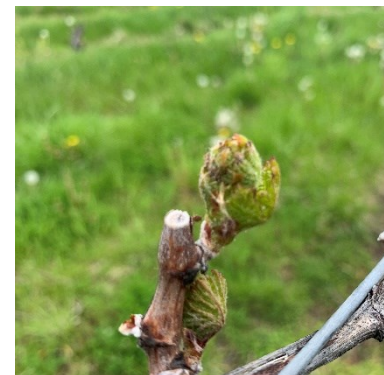
I started to hear this week from some growers on Seneca Lake who were also starting to see evidence of frost damage in some of their blocks. I will be spending some time over there tomorrow to get a closer look in a few of these vineyards. Beyond the ones stated above, the varieties that growers mentioned and that I would be most concerned about right now would include Chardonnay, Lemberger, Gewürztraminer, maybe Grüner Veltliner, and possibly the Pinots. Not saying there couldn't be damage in others, but those tend to be earlier varieties to budbreak and therefore would be more vulnerable.

We will continue to try to assess damage to the extent we can over the next few weeks. Don't be surprised if there is a very short survey sent to all of you sometime in the near future to ask about your own observations.

A reminder for growers with crop insurance – be sure to contact your agent right away if there's even a possibility for damage to your vineyard. It's much easier for them to close your case later if there will end up being no claim, than to try to open one up much later on.

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What's Up with Tailgate Meetings This Year?

The short answer is, "I wish I could tell you." The longer answer is that it's ultimately up to the state of New York and Cornell, based on when they decide it's safe enough for us to hold in-person meetings again. We have a schedule in place that begins June 9, but at this point it is highly unlikely that we will be able to hold any kind of in-person meetings before July (or later). If we are allowed to do so at all this summer, we will gladly begin holding them again. Trust me – I'm getting tired of doing this much extension work from my computer screen.

We are looking into converting the Tailgate Meetings into 'virtual' meetings, similar to what we did with the Spring IPM Meeting, and should still be able to offer NY pesticide credits for them. We'll get out some more information about that when we have it.

In the meantime, there is still no shortage of online meetings from our grape and wine colleagues at Cornell (and Penn State) that growers can take advantage of. These will all be posted on the 'Events' portion of our website at <https://flgp.cce.cornell.edu/events.php>.

Lake Erie Regional Grape Program Weekly Coffee Pot Meetings
Every Wednesday from now through July, 10:00 AM

Much like our Tailgate Meetings, the LERGP team has been holding informal 'Coffee Pot' meetings for a number of years now, and have moved them to an online format this year. Meetings are held every Wednesday from 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM, and 1 NY and PA pesticide credit is available for each meeting. These meetings are fairly informal in general, and some will have guest speakers to discuss specific topics.

You only need to register once to be eligible to attend all of these meetings, but you certainly don't have to attend all of them.

LERGP Online Coffee Pot Schedule

May 20	<p>Speaker: <i>Dr. Greg Loeb</i> - Department of Entomology, Cornell AgriTech</p> <p>Topic: Insect management for grapes</p> <p>Pesticide Credits: 1 NY and 1 PA</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/join/9tJYpdeyogD8uE9LvZWrt3eNpaol4r7BSFRUx</p>
May 27	<p>Speaker: <i>Dr. Katie Gold</i>, Plant pathology, Cornell AgriTech & <i>Bryan Hed</i>, Plant Pathology and Environmental Microbiology, Penn State</p> <p>Topic: Early Season Disease Management</p> <p>Pesticide Credits: 1 NY and 1 PA</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/join/9tJYpdeyogD8uE9LvZWrt3eNpaol4r7BSFRUx</p>
June 3	<p>Speaker: Heather Leach – Penn State Extension (Entomology)</p> <p>Topic: Spotted Lanternfly</p> <p>Pesticide Credits: 1 NY and 1 PA</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/join/9tJYpdeyogD8uE9LvZWrt3eNpaol4r7BSFRUx</p>
June 10	<p>Speaker: <i>Jennifer Russo</i>, <i>Kevin Martin</i>, <i>Andy Muza</i>, Extension Educators, LERGP</p> <p>Topic: Open Topic, Questions From the Field</p> <p>Pesticide Credits: 1 NY and 1 PA</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/join/9tJYpdeyogD8uE9LvZWrt3eNpaol4r7BSFRUx</p>
June 17	<p>Speaker: <i>Dr. Justine Vanden Heuvel</i> Professor , Horticulture Section, Cornell University & <i>Dr. Michela Centinari</i>, Associate Professor of Viticulture, Dept. Plant Science, Penn State</p> <p>Topic: Early Season Canopy Management/Under-Trellis Floor Management</p> <p>Pesticide Credits: 1 NY and 1 PA</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/join/9tJYpdeyogD8uE9LvZWrt3eNpaol4r7BSFRUx</p>
June 24	<p>Speaker: <i>Chris Gerling</i> Enology Extension Associate, Cornell AgriTech and <i>Dr. Misha Kwasniewski</i> Penn State, Department of Food Science</p> <p>Topic: Enology Discussion – Winemaking Issues</p> <p>Pesticide Credits: 1 NY and 1 PA</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/join/9tJYpdeyogD8uE9LvZWrt3eNpaol4r7BSFRUx</p>
July 1	<p>Speaker: <i>Jennifer Russo</i>, <i>Kevin Martin</i>, <i>Andy Muza</i>, Extension Educators, LERGP</p> <p>Topic: Open Topic, Questions From the Field</p> <p>Pesticide Credits: 1 NY and 1 PA</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/join/9tJYpdeyogD8uE9LvZWrt3eNpaol4r7BSFRUx</p>
July 8	<p>Speaker: <i>Jennifer Russo</i>, <i>Kevin Martin</i>, <i>Andy Muza</i>, Extension Educators, LERGP</p> <p>Topic: Open Topic, Questions From the Field</p> <p>Pesticide Credits: 1 NY and 1 PA</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/join/9tJYpdeyogD8uE9LvZWrt3eNpaol4r7BSFRUx</p>
July 15	<p>Speaker: <i>Dr. Richard Stup</i> - Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development Program, Cornell University</p> <p>Topic: Labor Relations</p> <p>Pesticide Credits: 1 NY and 1 PA</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/join/9tJYpdeyogD8uE9LvZWrt3eNpaol4r7BSFRUx</p>
July 22	<p>Speaker:</p> <p>Topic: Open Topic, Questions From the Field</p> <p>Pesticide Credits: 1 NY and 1 PA</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/join/9tJYpdeyogD8uE9LvZWrt3eNpaol4r7BSFRUx</p>
July 29	<p>Speaker: <i>Dr. Lynn Sosnoskie</i>, Weed Ecology and Management, Horticulture, Cornell AgriTech</p> <p>Topic: Weed Management</p> <p>Pesticide Credits: 1 NY and 1 PA</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/join/9tJYpdeyogD8uE9LvZWrt3eNpaol4r7BSFRUx</p>

Virtual Timely Tuesday Topics

Generally every other Thursday through early August @ 4:30 PM

This series of webinars is organized by Tim Martinson, statewide viticulture extension specialist with Cornell, and take place every other Tuesday afternoon from 4:30 – 5:30 PM (opposite weeks from the FLGP Tailgate Meetings). These webinars will focus on specific topics mostly centered around grape growing, featuring speakers from Cornell and elsewhere. There are currently no plans for these meetings to be eligible for pesticide credits.

You only need to register once to be eligible to attend all of these meetings, but you certainly don't have to attend all of them.

Cornell 'Timely Tuesday Topics' Schedule

May 26	<p>Speakers: Gregg McConnell, Farm Credit East, Kevin Martin, Business Management Educator, Lake Erie Grape Program , Hans Walter-Peterson, Finger Lakes Grape Program</p> <p>Topic: <i>What if I can't sell all of my grapes? Tools for evaluating the impact of COVID-19 market disruptions on NY vineyards.</i></p> <p>Description: The CoVid-19 pandemic is heavily impacting sales and demand for wine, along with tasting room visitation. COVID-19 is an unprecedented shock that will bring unpredictable short-term and long-term changes to the industry. How will this affect the market for grapes this year? Beyond this year? And what can growers do to adjust to this new situation?</p> <p>Join Gregg McConnell and Kevin Martin, and Hans Walter-Peterson for an informal discussion of how to plan now for COVID-19's impact on small-to-medium sized wineries, the grapes they buy, and the wine they will be making this fall.</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuf--tpjgiGdQdY3QLFP1g2FHWDfxCbkkp</p>
June 2	<p>Speakers: Greg Loeb, Cornell AgriTech Rufus Isaacs, Entomology, Michigan State University</p> <p>Topic: <i>Grape Berry Moth and Mealybug management tips</i></p> <p>Description: Biology and management of Grape Berry Moth and Grape Mealybug (vector of leafroll virus) will be discussed</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuf--tpjgiGdQdY3QLFP1g2FHWDfxCbkkp</p>
June 16	<p>Speakers: Regional viticulture extension staff</p> <p>Topic: <i>Questions from the field</i></p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuf--tpjgiGdQdY3QLFP1g2FHWDfxCbkkp</p>
June 30	<p>Speakers: Jim Meyers, Eastern NY Commercial Horticulture Program Others TBD</p> <p>Topic: <i>Vineyard Establishment and care in the first 3 years</i></p> <p>Description: Eastern NY has seen significant plantings of new grapes outside of traditional grape-growing areas. Join us for a discussion of care of non-bearing vineyards.</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuf--tpjgiGdQdY3QLFP1g2FHWDfxCbkkp</p>
July 14	<p>Speakers: Chris Gerling, Enology Extension, Cornell AgriTech Misha Kwasniewski, Penn State University</p> <p>Topic: <i>Winemaking topic TBD</i></p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuf--tpjgiGdQdY3QLFP1g2FHWDfxCbkkp</p>
July 28	<p>Speaker: TBD</p> <p>Topic: <i>TBD</i></p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuf--tpjgiGdQdY3QLFP1g2FHWDfxCbkkp</p>
Aug 11	<p>Speaker: Katie Gold, Grape Pathology, Cornell AgriTech Others TBD</p> <p>Topic: <i>Botrytis, cluster/sour rot management</i></p> <p>Description: Updates on research; fruit fly resistance; materials</p> <p>Register at: https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuf--tpjgiGdQdY3QLFP1g2FHWDfxCbkkp</p>

COVID-19 Safety Plans Required for All Business in “New York Forward”

Richard Stup, Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development Program

[New York Forward](#) is the state’s plan to begin re-opening in phases as regions of the state achieve certain COVID-19 management metrics. An important part of New York Forward is for all businesses to have a customized, written safety plan that details specifically how each business will prevent and manage COVID-19. Details for particular industries, including agriculture can be found here: <https://forward.ny.gov/industries-reopening-phase>.

All Farms Need a Plan

All farms are required to have a written plan, this includes essential, food-producing farms (e.g., dairy, fruit, vegetable) that have been open all along, and non-food-producing farms (e.g., ornamental horticulture, equine). The state provides a [Business Safety Plan Template](#) that farmers can use to meet the requirement. Completed safety plans do “not need to be submitted to a state agency for approval but must be retained on the premises of the business and must (be) made available to the New York State Department of Health (DOH) or local health or safety authorities in the event of an inspection.” If a business already has a prior written plan that addresses some or all of the issues in the safety plan, then that plan can be updated to current guidelines and used as the safety plan. A Cornell Extension team is working to develop further educational resources to help farms with safety plan compliance.

New Guidelines for Non-Food Farms

[Detailed Guidelines for Non-Food Agriculture](#) (e.g., ornamental horticulture, equine) is part of the New York Forward plan. These businesses may re-open as of May 15 if they are in a [region that meets the state’s metrics](#), they have a safety plan developed, and they are actively carrying out all aspects of that plan. Note that the state instructs farms at the end of the guidance document to “affirm that you have read and understand your obligation to operate in accordance with this guidance: <https://forms.ny.gov/s3/ny-forward-affirmation>.”

Enforcement

It is not entirely clear at this time how the state will enforce the New York Forward guidance but most likely enforcement will be complaint driven as incidents arise. The New York Forward plan includes an online form and phone number for anyone to file a complaint, the NY State Department of Labor has a separate [online form](#) for employees to file COVID-19-related complaints against their employers. Certainly, businesses will need to provide their safety plans in the event of an actual COVID-19 case or outbreak in the business. Enforcement, however, should not be the primary motivating factor. Farm businesses should develop safety plans and continue safety practices to protect employees, customers, services providers, neighbors, and communities because it is the right thing to do.

Risk Management

A likely outcome of the COVID-19 pandemic is an increase in lawsuits: customers might sue businesses they interacted with and employees might sue their employers for real or perceived injuries. These are highly uncertain times but farm businesses can take steps to help control the risk of being sued and improve their ability to defend themselves in court. This topic deserves a more complete discussion, but for now, consider taking every action you can to:

1. understand government requirements,
2. develop plans and procedures to meet requirements,
3. enforce discipline and compliance with established procedures in your workplace, and
4. document your plans, actions, and important decisions that affect employees and customers.

New York Farm Bureau Creates “Farm Relief Worker Database”

Press Release from New York Farm Bureau



New York Farm Bureau is launching a new system to connect farms in need of labor during the COVID-19 pandemic. During this time of uncertainty, farms may temporarily be down some employees who may have to quarantine due to the virus or to take care of a sick family member. This could potentially create issues on the farm, especially when livestock need to be cared for or during a critical time of the growing season.

In turn, there is now an online database for farmers to turn to and for people who may be looking for additional, temporary agricultural work, perhaps someone who is in need of employment, may be retired from farm labor, or would like to add additional hours. Anyone who is interested and willing to work on a farm is encouraged to submit their information to the new database to potentially be matched up with a farm in need in their area. [Click here](#) to view the database.

New York Farm Bureau hopes this will serve as a resource for its members to have needed staff on hand throughout this pandemic while also providing an opportunity for job seekers. It will be up to the individual farm to appropriately screen and hire any potential employees.

In addition, New York Farm Bureau is still making its COVID-19 resource page on its website, www.nyfb.org, open to all farms, regardless of membership to provide the latest information and guidance to all of agriculture in these difficult times.

New York Farm Bureau is encouraging all farms to continue to take this pandemic seriously, follow all of the recommended safety guidance and protocols, and have a plan in place to mitigate the spread, both in the workplace and in farmworker housing should it be provided. Protecting farmworkers and fellow family members is a priority for the agricultural community.

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.



Timely Tuesday Topics Webinar: What if I can't sell all of my grapes? Tools for evaluating the impact of COVID-19 market disruptions on NY vineyards.

Tuesday, May 26 4:30 – 5:30 PM

*Speakers: Gregg McConnell, Farm Credit East
Kevin Martin, Business Management Educator, Lake Erie Grape Program
Hans Walter-Peterson, Finger Lakes Grape Program*

The COVID-19 pandemic is heavily impacting sales and demand for wine, along with tasting room visitation. COVID-19 is an unprecedented shock that will bring unpredictable short-term and long-term changes to the industry. How will this affect the market for grapes this year? Beyond this year? And what can growers do to adjust to this new situation?

Join Gregg McConnell, Kevin Martin, and Hans Walter-Peterson for an informal discussion of how to plan now for COVID-19's impact on small-to-medium sized wineries, the grapes they buy, and the wine they will be making this fall.

Register at: <https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJAuf--tpjgiGdQdY3QLFP1g2FHWDfxCbkkp>

2020 GDD & Precipitation

FLX Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
5/13/2020	55.0	30.0	0.00	0.0	38.2
5/14/2020	66.5	36.6	0.07	1.6	39.7
5/15/2020	79.8	55.2	0.89	17.5	57.2
5/16/2020	61.5	49.3	0.00	5.4	62.6
5/17/2020	70.6	42.1	0.01	6.3	69.0
5/18/2020	58.3	55.1	0.29	6.7	75.7
5/19/2020	70.9	56.8	0.00	13.9	89.5
Weekly Total			1.26"	51.4	
Season Total			4.21"	89.5	

GDDs as of May 19, 2019: 151.6

Rainfall as of May 19, 2019: 5.05"



Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)

Growing Degree Days

	2020 GDD ¹	Long-term Avg GDD ²	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) ³
April	12	63.8	-23
May	65.2	254.4	-16
June		480.2	
July		643.6	
August		592.2	
September		358.3	
October		110.0	
TOTAL	77.2	2502.6	

¹ Accumulated GDDs for each month.

² The long-term average (1973-2019) GDD accumulation for that 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

Precipitation

	2020 Rain ⁴	Long-term Avg Rain ₅	Monthly deviation from avg ⁶
April	2.54"	2.83	-0.29"
May	1.08"	3.16	
June		3.60	
July		3.42	
August		3.23	
September		3.53	
October		3.42	
TOTAL	3.62"	23.19	

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)

COVID-19 Resources

Need information? View the following Cornell CALS and CCE Resource Pages Updated Regularly

General Questions & Links:

<https://eden.cce.cornell.edu/>

Food Production, Processing & Safety Questions:

<https://instituteoffoodsafety.cornell.edu/coronavirus-covid-19/>

Employment & Agricultural Workforce Questions:

<http://agworkforce.cals.cornell.edu/>

Cornell Small Farms Resiliency Resources:

<https://smallfarms.cornell.edu/resources/farm-resilience/>

Financial & Mental Health Resources for Farmers:

<https://www.nyfarmnet.org/>

Cornell Farmworker Program

www.farmworkers.cornell.edu

www.trabajadores.cornell.edu (en espanol)

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Finger Lakes Grape Program

May 20th, 2020

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

Luke Haggerty- Constellation Brands

Tina Hazlitt- Sawmill Creek Vineyards

Cameron Hosmer- Hosmer Winery

T.J. Brahm – Randall Standish Vineyards

Harry Humphreys- Overlook Farms

Gregg McConnell- Farm Credit East

Herm Young– Young Sommer Winery

John Santos- Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards

Steve Sklenar– Sklenar Vineyards

Justine Vanden Heuvel- Cornell University

Peter Weis – Weis Vineyards

Kim Marconi – Three Brothers Wineries & Estates

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Cornell Cooperative Extension Finger Lakes Grape Program

Hans Walter-Peterson—Team Leader

Donald Caldwell—Viticulture Technician

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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