

Cornell Cooperative Extension Finger Lakes Grape Program



August 12th, 2020

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

In the Vineyard

It probably won't come as a surprise to learn that the Finger Lakes had it's warmest July in about 50 years, in terms of growing degree day (GDD) accumulation. The 50-year average (April – October) for July, as measured at Geneva, is 643.6 GDDs, and this July we accumulated 778.7, about 21% more than normal. This fact by itself probably doesn't mean a whole lot from a "quality of the vintage" standpoint right now, but it reinforces the warmer than normal trend we have seen since the latter part of May.

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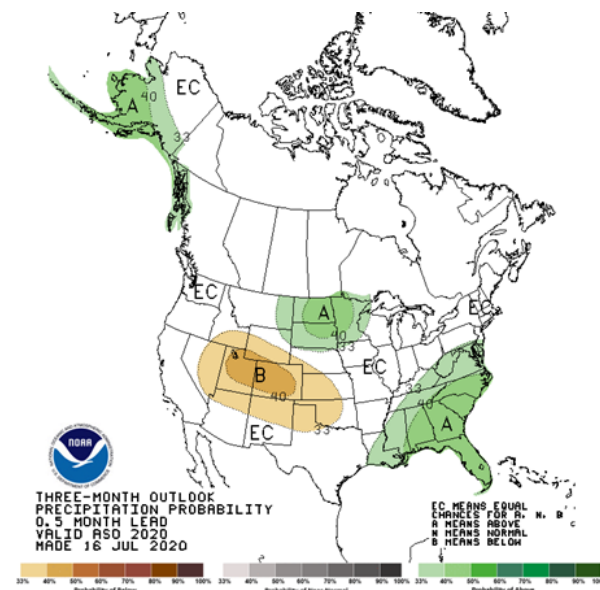
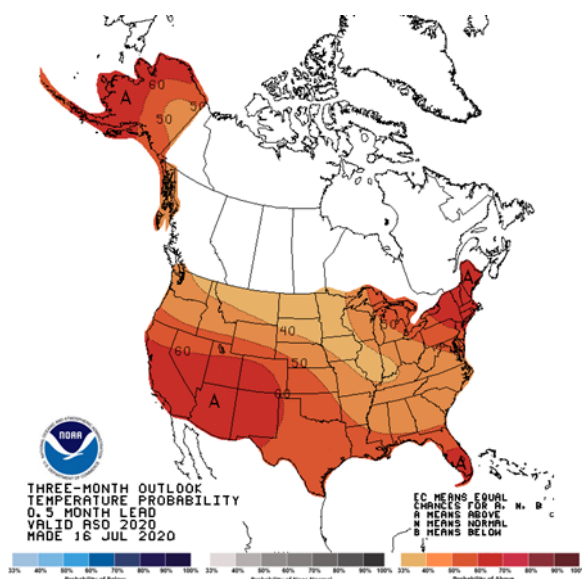
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Year	July GDDs (base 50°F)
2020	778.7
2011	761.7
2010	755.0
2005	724.0
1999	724.0
Average	643.6

The forecast from the National Weather Service Climate Prediction Center for August through October is for these warm conditions to continue on. In fact, they are forecasting that the entire country will probably be warmer than normal this year, with the highest probability being here in the northeast, along with the southwest and western Alaska. At the same time, the precipitation forecast is predicting something around normal levels during that period as well. So perhaps these two factors give us some hope of a warm and not too wet ripening period in September and October.

At the same time, remember that we had relatively normal rainfall (except for one very notable day in August) for most of the August – October period in 2018, but it was the humidity those days that likely had a major influence on the explosion of sour rot that we saw that year.

Top five July GDD accumulations at Geneva



Forecasts of temperature (left) and precipitation (right) for the August – October 2020 period from the National Weather Service.

IPM

Yesterday's (August 11) webinar on the biology and management of cluster rots in grapes was extremely well attended, with people participating from as far away as Panama and Saskatchewan. It was a timely topic given that we are entering the ripening period, and the focus for fruit quality is moving towards keeping cluster rots at bay, in part by controlling fruit fly populations. Drs. Greg Loeb and Katie Gold from Cornell AgriTech provided summaries of our current knowledge about how these rots develop and spread in the vineyard, both from a standpoint of the diseases themselves and the role of different insects in promoting them.

One of the items mentioned by Greg Loeb during the webinar was that there is a new material available for use to control spotted wing drosophila (SWD) in grapes in NY. *Verdepryn* (cyclaniliprole) is a new material for us this year, and represents a different category of insecticide (i.e., different IRAC number) than any of the other materials labelled for use against fruit flies, although it has the same IRAC number as Altacor and one of the components of Voliam Flexi, which are not labeled for fruit flies. Greg has not tested it here, but based on information from others Greg says it should provide "good to very good" control. The labeled rate is 8.2 – 11 fl oz./acre, but suggests using the highest rate for control of SWD. The material has a 4 hour re-entry interval and a pre-harvest interval of 7 days (similar to Delegate).

While it may not be the strongest material for control of SWD, having another material to incorporate into a rotation this year should help growers to manage their populations this year if/when they appear.

You can find a pdf version of the Verdepryn label [here](#).

A recording of yesterday's webinar, "Biology and Management of Post-Veraison Fruit Rots" can be found at https://vod.video.cornell.edu/media/Co+Vit+2020+Virtual+Tuesday+Timely+Topics/1_yd0ohfi5?st=15.

Grape Berry Moth

Cooler sites in the Finger Lakes (e.g., Branchport, Hammondsport, South Bristol) are still within the 1620 – 1710 GDD window for controlling GBM, according to data from the NEWA network. Growers with sufficient damage to clusters (>15% in general, but less in higher-value cultivars) based on scouting should be making applications now. Warmer sites like our vineyard in Dresden, and on the east shore of Seneca and west side of Cayuga Lakes, are past the window at this point. Given the warm temperatures that we have experienced so far, and the prediction of more above-average temperatures in August and September, it is very possible that some sites will experience a fourth generation of GBM egg-laying before the larvae enter diapause – their overwintering phase.

Unfortunately, the model is not very effective at predicting a spray window later in the season as there is a lot of overlapping of generations (some egg laying going on while some adults are still mating and some larvae are actively feeding inside berries) at once, so further sprays after this current or just past window need to be done based on scouting results, rather than GDD accumulation by the model.



Concord berry with 3 grape berry moth eggs. Photo: Andy Muza, Penn State

IPM (continued from page2)

Damage from GBM larvae is one of the means for late-season cluster rots to develop in berries, so putting in the effort to scout for GBM damage for the next few weeks can pay off in catching this kind of injury early on.

Visual Symptoms of Phytoplasma diseases

As part of our project that is monitoring for potential invasive species in the region's vineyards, we are being asked to conduct visual assessments of any vineyard blocks for the following diseases:

- Australian Grapevine Yellows
- Stolbur Disease (a.k.a., 'bois noir')
- Flavescence doree

These diseases are caused by organisms called phytoplasmas, which are different from bacteria and viruses, but can cause some similar types of symptoms. I don't expect anybody to know what the symptoms of these look like in grapes (I had to get reacquainted with them myself), but I am asking that if you notice any symptoms similar to those shown below (there aren't big differences between them because they are caused by similar organisms), please let me or Ellen Coyne (ec858@cornell.edu) know so that we can come take a look at them for ourselves. Thanks!

[Australian Grapevine Yellows](#)

Symptoms of the grapevine yellows disease can be observed in leaves, tendrils, and fruiting clusters. Leaves of white grape varieties tend to become yellowed and may have veinal necrosis, as well as downward curling of the leaf margins. Unlike some other grapevine diseases, the grapevine yellows diseases are characterized by shriveling/abortion/necrosis of fruiting clusters



[Stolbur Disease](#)

Typical symptoms comprise discoloration of leaves including the veins, often associated with downcurling of the leaf blade, lack of or incomplete lignification of shoots that later turn black, abortion of fruit clusters or shriveling of the ripening fruit.



IPM (continued from page 3)

[Flavescence doree](#)

In general, symptoms resemble those of other grapevine yellows diseases (“leaf rolling, discoloration of lamina and veins, partial or total lack of reserve accumulation (lignification) with flexuous canes, and decline of a part or the entire vine stock”). Shoots of susceptible cultivars fail to ripen and are thin, rubbery, and hang down. The infected shoots become brittle and many small, black pustules develop along their length; buds may become necrotic. In more resistant cultivars, the nodes of infected shoots ripen but some of the internodes do not.



Every Year is a Powdery Mildew Year!



While it hasn't been an issue in most Finger Lakes vineyards this year, powdery mildew is always around and ready to take advantage if a management program doesn't keep up during the critical post-bloom period, when berries are susceptible to infection.

USDA Launches Farmers.gov Features to Help Farmers Hire Workers

U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Sonny Perdue announced July 27 new features on the U.S. Department of Agriculture's [Farmers.gov](https://www.farmers.gov) website designed to help facilitate the employment of H-2A workers.

“My mission from the beginning of my time as Secretary was to make USDA the most effective, most efficient, most customer-focused department in the entire federal government – these changes to [Farmers.gov](https://www.farmers.gov) are doing just that. USDA's goal is to help farmers navigate the complex H-2A program that is administered by Department of Labor, Department of Homeland Security, and the State Department so hiring a farm worker is an easier process,” Perdue said.

Background:

The primary new H-2A features on [Farmers.gov](https://www.farmers.gov) include:

- A real-time dashboard that enables farmers to track the status of their eligible employer application and visa applications for temporary nonimmigrant workers;

Streamlining the login information so if a farmer has an existing [login.gov](https://www.login.gov) account they can save multiple applications tracking numbers for quick look-up at any time;

- Enables easy access to the Department of Labor's (DOL) Foreign Labor Application Gateway (FLAG);

- Allows farmers to track time-sensitive actions taken in the course of Office of Foreign Labor Certification's (OFLC) adjudication of temporary labor certification applications;

- Allowing for farmers to access all application forms on-line.

All information can be found at www.farmers.gov/manage/h2a.

Source: <https://www.usda.gov/media/press-releases/2020/07/27/usda-launches-new-farmersgov-features-help-farmers-hire-workers>

NYCAMH/NEC Farmworker Needs Assessment Survey

The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health (NYCAMH) is a private, nonprofit agricultural organization that has been working to provide health and safety services to agricultural workers for nearly forty years. In order to understand the unique challenges that farmworkers are facing in relation to the COVID-19 pandemic, they would like to have farmworkers fill out a brief survey. The information will help them to create materials and programs that are more appropriate and helpful to both farm owners and their workers.

To gather this data, they are asking growers to share the following survey link with your workers:

NYCAMH/NEC Farmworker COVID Survey:

Please click here to take the survey in English - <https://redcap.bassett.org/redcap/surveys/?s=NH8CHXX499>

Please click here to take the survey in Spanish: <https://redcap.bassett.org/redcap/surveys/?s=LND3MR9TPD>

You can either email the link directly to your workers or contact NYCAMH to request paper copies that can be distributed to them. You can also contact NYCAMH if you would prefer to have your workers complete the survey over the phone or if they need assistance completing the survey (assistance is available in English or Spanish). [contact: Nicole Blanchard at 607.422.7527 or farmworkercovidsurvey@bassett.org]. The survey is voluntary and responses are confidential (no contact information will be requested in the survey).

You can find more information about NYCAMH and their work at their website, www.nycamh.com or www.necenter.org.

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.



FLGP Virtual Tailgate Meeting – Final Tailgate of the 2020 season!

August 18, 2020

4:30 – 6:00 PM

(There will be no Tailgate Meeting on August 4 as Hans will be on vacation)

Guest speaker: Terry Bates, Cornell's Lake Erie Research and Extension Lab – Portland, NY

Join FLGP viticulturist Hans Walter-Peterson (and the occasional guest speaker) for any or all of this year's Tailgate Meetings, held every other Tuesday afternoon during the 2020 growing season. These meetings feature a free-flow discussion of what's been happening in vineyards, timely reminders about important practices, and updates on some of the applied research being done in grapes this year. Tailgate Meetings have been approved for 0.75 NY pesticide recertification credits.



Register for this year's online Tailgate Meetings at

https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwvc-6qpjoiHtS5l2AQssfPXzXe_iKnx4f7

Cation exchange and other winemaking practices for dealing with high pH and high TA fruit and wines

Part of the Tuesday Timely Topics webinar series

Tuesday, August 25

4:30 PM

Wines with both a high pH and high titratable acidity (TA) are problematic due to their increased likelihood of fault development. Most interventions to reduce either pH or TA would be exacerbated by the other parameter. Cation exchange is an effective treatment to reduce wine pH while minimally increasing TA. In trials conducted with Norton, Chambourcin, Valvin Muscat and Syrah, cation exchange reduced wine pH by exchanging K^+ , Ca^{+2} , and Na^+ cations with H^+ .



Misha Kwasniewski, Assistant Research Professor and model for "brooding academic" stock photos, Penn State University

Chris Gerling, Sr. Extension Associate and model for "wait, that guy's old enough to work with wine" stock photos, Cornell University

Via Zoom. Register at:

<https://cornell.zoom.us/j/94386583830?pwd=MmtmY1VwZW01VWk4NUhmOGg1TWQxUT09>

[Click here to submit winemaking questions to Chris and Misha](#)

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2020 GDD & Precipitation

FLX Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
8/5/2020	77.1	62.3	0.01	19.7	1783.8
8/6/2020	76.1	57.1	0.00	16.6	1800.4
8/7/2020	78.1	60.6	0.00	19.4	1819.7
8/8/2020	81.5	64.1	0.00	22.8	1842.5
8/9/2020	87.1	64.9	0.00	26.0	1868.5
8/10/2020	91.6	70.8	0.00	31.2	1899.7
8/11/2020	90.3	69.9	0.00	30.1	1929.8
Weekly Total			0.01"	165.8	
Season Total			11.20"	1929.8	

GDDs as of August 11, 2019: 1729.0

Rainfall as of August 11, 2019: 13.61"



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	261.5	254.4	-3
June	543.1	480.2	+1
July	714.5	643.6	+ 8
August	247.5	592.2	+10
September		358.3	
October		110.0	
TOTAL	1842.7	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	1.30"	3.16"	-1.86"
June	1.44"	3.60"	-2.16"
July	4.12"	3.42"	+0.60"
August	0.37	3.23"	
September		3.53"	
October		3.42"	
TOTAL	9.77"	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

August 12th, 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

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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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