March 10th, 2021

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Many People to Thank for a Successful B.E.V. NY



Well, I think we pulled it off after all. The B.E.V. NY conference made a (mostly) smooth transition this year to an all-virtual format that brought together over 400 people from many parts of the country and the world for an outstanding program (in my humble opinion) filled with information on business, enology and viticulture.

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There were a lot of people involved in making this year's program work. First of all, I want to recognize and thank the 22 companies and organizations who supported the conference through their sponsorships. Most of them would normally have been part of our trade show, but we are incredibly grateful for them continuing to be a part of B.E.V. NY even without the benefit of face-to-face contact with clients and customers. You can see a list of all of this year's sponsors at https://www.bevny.org/sponsers, and if you know or work with any of these companies, please offer them your thanks (and business as appropriate) as well.

One of the positive aspects of "going digital" this year was that we could invite speakers from other states or countries that we would not be able to afford to have at a live conference. We had an amazing array of speakers this year, who covered a wide range of topics, highlighted by a few key international speakers – renowned wine writer Jancis Robinson, one of the world experts on climate change and viticulture, Dr. Hans Schultz, and Dominik Sona, winemaker and grower for Weingut Koehler Ruprecht. The ability to tap into a broader range of experts and expertise in this way gives us something to think about for future B.E.V. NY programs. A number of more familiar faces from both industry and academia also gave great presentations and perspectives, including Gavin Sacks, Katie Gold, Rich Olson-Harbich, Ian Barry, Jason Hazlitt, Jim Trezise, Gregg McConnell and many others.

The NY Wine & Grape Foundation has always been an important partner for us at Cornell in many ways, but their efforts this year on behalf of B.E.V. NY went to the next level. From putting together an incredibly strong program on business, sales and marketing, to publicity and communications for the event, and especially their support through offering registration as part of their annual membership drive – we can't say enough about how much we appreciate their efforts. Special thanks to Sam Filler, Valerie Venezia-Ross and Amy Ellsworth, who saw how the B.E.V. NY sausage was made but still jumped right in to make it better.

Chris Gerling and Anna Katharine Mansfield have been my partners in crime with B.E.V. NY ever since we decided to try combining our two separate industry meetings back in 2014. They put together another terrific program for our winemakers this year, even allowing some interloping growers and a viticulturist to be part of one of them. They are great colleagues and great friends, and I can't wait to work on the next conference with them (actually I can wait, but you know what I mean).

Finally, and most importantly, there were three people who really made this conference work and deserve the much of the credit for its success – Gemma Osborn and Kim Paul, event coordinators at AgriTech, and Brittany Griffin, administrative assistant for the FLGP. They managed the website, registration, sponsorships, pesticide credits, evaluations, and speakers, and that was all before the conference even started. Gemma and Kim ran the Zoom meetings each day, and Brittany was our media guru during the conference. They are three of the biggest reasons that B.E.V. NY was as successful as it was.

Bud Hardiness Update

Our most recent bud hardiness sampling was last Monday, March 1, and the results from the lab indicate that the buds are still very hardy as of the beginning of this month (see Table). We should expect to see these LT₅₀ values begin to climb higher due to this week's warm weather.

Cultivar	FLX Location	LT ₅₀ value (°F)
Concord	East Keuka	-20.0
	West Keuka	-16.4
	East Seneca	-13.7
	West Canandaigua	-22.2
Cayuga White	East Keuka	-16.1
	West Keuka	-18.0
	East Seneca	-16.6
	West Cayuga	-15.3
	West Canandaigua	-11.6
Cabernet Franc	East Keuka	-17.6
	East Seneca	-20.4
	West Cayuga	-13.5
Riesling	East Keuka	-17.9
	East Seneca	-15.3
	West Cayuga	-15.0
	Sodus	-9.6
Catawba	West Cayuga	-18.0
Lemberger	Sodus	-14.3

This winter has been another mild one for us, with temperatures dipping below 0°F on just one morning in early February at one of the NEWA stations located in Finger Lakes vineyards. The dry weather last fall doesn't seem to have affected periderm formation on canes to any great extent, and reports from growers have been positive overall about the quality of the wood available for this year's canes and spurs.



Next week's samples will probably be our final one for the 2020-21 winter. Once we complete that, we will do some final checks for bud injury at the Teaching Vineyard and one or two colder vineyards, and report those results out to everyone near the end of the month.

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Respirator Fit Testing in 2021?

Last year, the EPA allowed for an exemption to the annual fit testing requirement for respirators, which is required by the Worker Protection Standards. I have asked our local DEC representatives if the exemption is being extended into 2021, and there is currently no final answer on whether that will happen or not. At this point, the guidance from the DEC is that growers should try to get fit tested if they have the means to do so.

As a reminder, the exemption in 2020 only applied to growers who had completed a fit test in 2019, and were still using the same respirator as when the they were tested. If the exemption remains in place, I will assume a similar standard would apply. If you have an employee who has not been fit tested since 2019 and will need to be this year, I imagine they would be required to get fit tested.



Source: nycamh.org

The exemption only applies the respirator fit testing requirement, so all other aspects of the WPS, including the annual training, must still be done before any handling or application of pesticides this year.

I will let everyone know when we find out more about whether or not the fit testing exemption will continue. I am also looking to see where fit testing clinics might be held this spring, and will pass that information along as well.

You can find more information about the WPS requirements and lots of training materials at https://www.epa.gov/pesticide-worker-safety/agricultural-worker-protection-standard-wps.

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Registration open for Transitioning to Supervisor course

Course applicable to all New York agricultural commodities

Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development has opened registration for two six-week courses in the new Supervisory Leadership Certificate program. Offered again, because of high demand, "**Transitioning to Supervisor**" course materials release March 19, 2021, with the first live Zoom class meeting on March 25. "**Organizing Work for High Quality Results**" materials will release June 12, 2021, with the first class the following week. Each six-week course costs \$275 and spaces in the course are limited.

Registration link for the first two Agricultural Supervisory Leadership courses

Information link for the Agricultural Supervisory Leadership certificate program

The Agricultural Supervisory Leadership certificate helps farm supervisors and managers learn and apply human resource management practices and leadership skills that foster rewarding workplaces and drive business results. Confident managers who thoughtfully apply leadership and management skills improve employee performance, develop teams, reduce employee turnover, and increase employee engagement. The six courses within the certificate program will offer extensive practice and engagement activities to build confidence and skill sets.

Transitioning to Supervisor

Materials release March 19, 2021 and the course runs through April 29, 2021

This is the course you've been waiting for: how to lead people in your farm business! Learn the essential skills for supervising more effectively and creating a great place to work. Transitioning to Supervisor helps new and experienced managers make the difficult, but critical, transition from individual performer to supervisor. Participants learn essential leadership skills, such as: building effective work relationships, essential communication skills, managing conflict, leading a multi-cultural team, and how to build an effective workplace culture.

Organizing Work for High Quality Results

Materials for this course will release June 12, 2021

Organizing Work for High Quality Results teaches how to: Develop clear expectations and standard operating procedures, delegate effectively, and diagnose and correct performance problems.

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Registration open for Transitioning to Supervisor course (cont. from page 4)

Course applicable to all New York agricultural commodities

Who should attend?

This course, and the whole certificate series, is appropriate for both new and experienced farm supervisors and managers, and those preparing to become supervisors. All participants will learn leadership concepts and practice skills that will improve their ability to build a positive workplace and get results through leading others.

From the comfort of your home or office, watch prerecorded presentations on your own schedule, and engage with classmates and instructors during weekly, live discussion sessions. Corresponding assignments are due each week. To get the most out of the experience, expect to spend approximately two hours per week on lessons and assignments.

Course instructors include:

- Richard Stup, Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development Specialist
- Elizabeth Higgins, Ag Business Management/Production Economics Extension Specialist with the Eastern New York Commercial Horticulture team
- Libby Eiholzer, Bilingual Dairy Specialist
- Bob Milligan, Cornell University Professor Emeritus

Direct questions to Rachel McCarthy, Agricultural Supervisory Leadership Coordinator, at rachel.mccarthy@cornell.edu.

Upcoming courses include:

- **Managing Performance:** Understand motivation. Harness the power of performance feedback and coaching. Build clear and effective workplace communications, including leading team meetings. Set safety expectations. Conduct effective performance reviews.
- Ethics and Employment Regulations for Supervisors: Implement responsible and ethical labor practices and understand why this matters for agriculture. Recognize and prevent sexual harassment. Understand and follow minimum wage and overtime laws. Implement Equal Employment Opportunity laws to prevent discrimination and harassment. Handle employee discipline and termination.
- Becoming an Effective Trainer: Identify training needs. Understand learning styles. Design and plan learning experiences that accommodate learner needs. Develop effective training skills and techniques. Evaluate learning results and training effectiveness.
- Staffing and Organizing Your Team: Develop job descriptions. Learn how to find potential employees, interview and select the right people. Implement new hire documentation, employment authorization, and onboarding: bringing new employees into the business successfully and productively.

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Finger Lakes Grape Program

March 10th, 2021

Registration open for Transitioning to Supervisor course (cont. from page 5)

Course applicable to all New York agricultural commodities

Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development's mission is to help farms and agribusinesses build committed and effective teams who will carry out the important work of feeding the world. We believe that agricultural work can, and should be, engaging and rewarding for everyone involved. Managers can build committed teams by applying the best human resource management practices for the agricultural setting. Key program goals include:

- Provide leadership and management development education focused on farm supervisors, middle managers, and owners
- Clarify workforce regulations that apply to farms and increasing levels of compliance
- Build consistent channels of communication and learning opportunities about agricultural workforce issues
- Conduct research into workforce problems and challenges that confront agriculture

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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.



Spring Grape IPM Virtual Meeting

Wednesday, April 28, 2021 4:30 - 6:00 PM

Save the date for this year's Spring Grape IPM meeting, which will be held virtually over Zoom once again this year. This year's list of speakers will include Greg Loeb, Katie Gold, Justine Vanden Heuvel and Alice Wise. Information on registration and sponsorship opportunities will be coming soon.

The meeting has been approved for 1.5 pesticide recertification credits for NY growers.

2021 Vineyard Pest Management Series: Spotted Lanternfly Update

Tuesday, March 30, 2021 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

The 2021 Vineyard Pest Management Series - Spotted Lanternfly Update will review the latest information on spotted lanternfly management in vineyards. As well as present research findings on potential damage to grapevines, management options, and other observations from the 2020 field season. A brief overview will be given on future Spotted Lanternfly research that will start in summer 2021 in Southeast Pennsylvania.

There is no fee, but registration is required. Click here to go to the event page to register.

2021 Vineyard Pest Management Series: Conventional and Alternative Vineyard Floor and Weed Management Wednesday, March 31, 2021 10:00 AM – 12:00 PM

The "Conventional and Alternative Vineyard Floor and Weed Management" session will review alternative under-vine management strategies as well as conventional weed management options with herbicides. Benefits, drawbacks, and best management practices for mowing, cultivation, and using perennial under-vine cover crops will be discussed. Herbicide options for the management of weeds in vineyards will be discussed in addition to how herbicide choices and programs should be refined based on the specific weeds (e.g., annual, perennial, glyphosate resistant) observed in your vineyard.

There is no fee, but registration is required. Click here to go to the event page to register.

2021 Vineyard Pest Management Series: Disease and Insect Updates

Thursday, April 1, 2021

10:00 AM - 12:00 PM

The 2021 Vineyard Pest Management Series - Disease and Insect Updates will review vineyard disease and insect management considerations for the 2021 growing season. As well as Disease and insect management findings from 2020. An update will also be given on current pesticides registered for grapes.

There is no fee, but registration is required. Click here to go to the event page to register.

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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://instituteforfoodsafety.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)

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Finger Lakes Grape Program

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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
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

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.

Hans Walter-Peterson—Team Leader
Donald Caldwell—Viticulture Technician

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