



June 16th, 2021

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

In the Vineyard

Bloom continues to march ahead this week. Earlier varieties like Baco, Marquette and the like are finished and are starting to give us a look at what fruit set will be like on those vines, while most other varieties are at least 50% completed or more by now.

It's been a mad dash for growers trying to keep up with everything during this flurry of growth and development. With the rapid shoot growth, I've been noticing more VSP-trained vineyard starting to get a little bushy, so moving catch wires to keep shoots positioned and "in line" is quickly becoming a priority need in *vinifera* blocks. Not only does this keep it easier to do anything in the vineyard, it also enables better air movement and light penetration in the fruit zone during this critical period of development and disease susceptibility, particularly for the clusters.

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Rain during bloom can complicate things a bit, like making it harder for the caps of the flowers ('calyptra') from being shed by the cluster, which can disrupt pollination.

IPM

We often say that the period from bloom through the first 4-6 weeks afterwards is the most important with regard to disease management, primarily because it is when not only the foliage and shoot tissues that are susceptible to disease but the newly forming berries as well. But at varying points after bloom and fruit set, the berries become resistant to new infections and the focus for disease management programs returns to keeping the foliage clean and functional through harvest.

The timing of this *ontogenic* resistance developing in the berries is depends on which disease you are talking about, and what kinds of grapes. In general, native cultivars like Concord develop this resistance faster than *vinifera*, and hybrids can be anywhere in between them. Here are rough estimates of when grape berries become resistant to a few of the diseases:

IPM (continued from pg. 1)

Powdery Mildew:	About 4-5 weeks after bloom
Downy Mildew:	About 4 weeks after bloom
Black Rot:	About 6-8 weeks after bloom
Anthracoze:	About 7 weeks after bloom

This is not to say that “new” infections won’t be observed after these times – an infection can get started before the cluster is fully resistant but not become visible until later on when it grows large enough to be seen.

GBM Model – June 8

For the 2021 season, I will be including an update of the status of the Grape Berry Moth model each week based on data from several weather stations around the Finger Lakes. The biofix dates are those provided by the model based on seasonal growing degree days, with the exception of the Dresden station which uses the date that we observed about 50% wild grape bloom nearby (May 30). If you believe that 50% wild grape bloom was different than the date at a particular location, you can change that date in the model, [which is found on the NEWA website](#). The current status of GBM development and management recommendations will be included for each location, based on the GDD accumulation at that site. At certain points in the season, the status and recommendations will be different at different sites. Different symbols in the table will indicate different statuses with accompanying explanations for each.

Location	GDDs	Biofix Date	Pest Status	Management Recom-
Dresden	382	5/30/2021	**	##
Lodi	351	5/26/2021	*	#
Romulus	354	6/1/2021	**	##
Hammondsport	309	6/3/2021	*	#
South Bristol	311	6/3/2021	*	#
Williamson	268	6/5/2021	*	#

* First generation of grape berry moth larvae are hatching and beginning feeding. Grape berry moth will not be at significant population levels except perhaps in the highest risk vineyards.

** Feeding by first generation will cease and pupation will begin when approximately 500 DD have accumulated after wild grape bloom.

Management Recommendation

Research has shown that this insecticide timing for the first generation provides little, if any, additional control of grape berry moth in vineyards classified as being at low, intermediate or high risk for grape berry moth damage. However, an insecticide included with the immediate post-bloom fungicide application may be beneficial in vineyards experiencing significant crop loss from grape berry moth on a yearly basis or in high value vinifera blocks.

The time for treatment of first generation grape berry moth is over.

What Employers Can and Cannot Say About Unions

Richard Stup, Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development Program

New York farm employees will have the right to organize in unions and collectively bargain under the [state's new farm labor law](#) that took effect January 1, 2020. Farm employers need to understand that in an environment where employees may try to organize there are some special rules about what employers can and cannot say or do about unions. State and federal laws identify these activities as “unfair labor practices” and they may apply to employers, unions, or to employees.

The [new law permitting farm employee unions](#) is a *state* law and will be administered by the [NY Public Employee Relations Board](#) (PERB). The new law has a clause in it that says: “It shall be an unfair labor practice for an agricultural employer to discourage union organization or to discourage an employee from participating in a union organizing drive, engaging in protected concerted activity, or otherwise exercising the rights guaranteed under this article.” It remains to be seen how strictly the state will interpret and enforce this clause.

Most unions are governed by a *federal* law called the [National Labor Relations Act](#) (NLRA). We won't know with certainty exactly how the state will administer the new state law until its been in place for a few years, but we can take some general guidance from how the federal law is administered. As always, this is general guidance for educational purposes, not specific legal advice. You should seek competent legal counsel if you have specific questions about union organizing activities and your management response to it.

Two acronyms, TIPS and FOE give employers general guidance about what they can and cannot say or do during a union organizing effort. Again, these are based on *federal* labor law.

T-I-P-S covers what employers cannot say or do:

T is for Threats. Employers cannot threaten employees with consequences if they support or vote for the union. Employers can't discipline, terminate, reduce benefits, or take other adverse action against employees because they support a union.

I is for Interrogate. Employers are not allowed to ask employees questions about the organizing effort, what they think about it, or the names of employees who support the union or attend meetings.

P is for Promise. Employers cannot promise pay increases, greater benefits, promotions or other valuable items in exchange for keeping the union out.

S is for Surveillance. Using spies (whether employees or not), video cameras, or taking photos of people attending a union meeting are all banned as surveillance.

What Employers Can and Cannot Say About Unions (continued from pg. 3)

Richard Stup, Cornell Agricultural Workforce Development Program

Of course, farm employers have free speech rights under the [First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution](#). **F-O-E** outlines the things that employers can say during a union organizing effort.

F is for Facts. Employers can share factual information about the union organizing process and potential collective bargaining process, and other matters such as union dues. They can talk about real, verifiable facts about the financial condition of the business and the industry and implications for employee compensation and benefits. They can also talk about how relationships between management and employees will change if a business becomes a union environment.

O is for Opinions. Employers can make clear their own personal opinions about a union, whether supportive or against. If an employer expresses an opposing opinion, it is important that it not be delivered as a threat. If an employer says to employees during the organizing process: "I'm not in favor of a union and I do not think it is the best thing for our business," this may or may not be an unfair labor practice, depending on the context and whether it could be received as a threat. If the employer adds to this statement, "but I will respect the law," then it would most likely not be an unfair labor practice.

E is for Examples. Employers are allowed to share specific examples such as actual union contracts that have been negotiated, news reports of other union activities, or examples of current results from managers and employees working together directly.

It is important to note that the NY state farm labor law specifically identified a few other unfair labor practices:

- Farm employees or unions are not allowed to strike or otherwise slow down farm work.
- Farm employers are not allowed to "lockout" or prevent employees from working as a result of a contract dispute.

Upcoming

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

Tuesday, June 22 4:30 – 6:00 PM

Via Zoom

Registration link: <https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwrceqprzksHNXJTbu-5ViDvfB9E0hcUObf>

Our second virtual Tailgate Meetings will be held on Tuesday, June 22. As always, the agenda for these meetings is very loose, so please come with your questions, observations, opinions about what's going on in the vineyard.

Participants will need to register before attending their first virtual meeting in order to receive the Zoom link. Registration for the online Tailgate Meetings is only required once – the link you receive when you register will work for all four online meetings this year.

The virtual and in-person Tailgate Meetings have been approved for 0.75 pesticide recertification credits. We will also need to receive an image or photocopy of your pesticide license before the first meeting that you attend. These images/copies can be sent to Brittany Griffin at bg393@cornell.edu. More information will be included in your confirmation email.

FLGP In-Person Tailgate Meeting

Tuesday, July 6 4:30 – 6:00 PM

Boundary Breaks Vineyards

1428 Porter Covert Road

Lodi NY 14521

Our next in-person Tailgate Meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 6. These meetings are primarily intended for those who are not able to or prefer not to participate in our virtual Tailgate meetings, but are open to anybody. The agenda for these meetings is very loose, so please come with your questions, observations, opinions about what's going on in the vineyard. The DEC has approved the meeting for 0.75 pesticide recertification credits (Categories 1a, 10, 22).

There is no longer a limit on the number of people who can attend these outdoor meetings, and therefore we are not requiring any pre-registration for them. Those who are fully vaccinated for COVID-19 are not required to wear masks or remain 6' apart during the meeting. Those who are not vaccinated will still need to wear a mask and keep physically distant from others.

Upcoming Events (continued from page 7)



EnoCert Classes for 2021

The EnoCert program is offered by Cornell's Enology Extension Laboratory. It is intended for current winery employees who would like to expand their practical knowledge of winery operations, or for motivated amateurs. All courses will be offered in one or two-day mix and match modules. Our goal is to provide a recognizable standard of training for participants who earn EnoCertification.

For more information, visit <https://grapesandwine.cals.cornell.edu/extension/enocert/> or email Cortni Stahl at ckm53@cornell.edu.

ENOCERT 202 Certification Course: Tasting Room Sales Strategies*

NEW Online format! Synchronous sessions approx. 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

August 2, 2021

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, participants will learn how to engage guests to create a fun and profitable tasting room experience.

ENOCERT 101 Certification Course: Basic Viticulture & Enology* (Formerly new grower/new winery workshop)

NEW Online format! Synchronous sessions approx. 8:30 am – 12:00 pm

August 3-4, 2021

Overview: This course will cover the basics of grape growing from the ground up. Through live interactive lectures, participants will understand how vineyard site, climate, and trellising systems impact grape production and quality. Participants 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.

2021 GDD & Precipitation

FLX Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
6/9/2021	80.1	69.1	0.01	24.6	558.4
6/10/2021	80.4	60.6	0.00	20.5	578.9
6/11/2021	83.5	58.6	0.00	21.1	600.0
6/12/2021	79.3	62.4	0.00	20.9	620.8
6/13/2021	84.6	58.1	0.00	21.4	642.2
6/14/2021	77.7	60.6	0.55	19.2	661.3
6/15/2021	72.0	59.4	0.01	15.7	677.0
Weekly Total			0.57"	143.2	
Season Total			5.51"	677.0	

GDDs as of June 15, 2020: 529.4

Rainfall as of June 15, 2020: 5.57"



Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)

Growing Degree Days

	2021 GDD ¹	Long-term Avg GDD ²	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) ³
April	72.0	62.7	+2
May	256.6	254.6	+1
June	297.0	481.5	+6
July		646.4	
August		593.2	
September		358.7	
October		109.9	
TOTAL	625.6	2507.1	

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

	2021 Rain ⁴	Long-term Avg Rain ₅	Monthly deviation from avg ⁶
April	2.34"	2.83"	-0.49"
May	1.86"	3.12"	-1.26"
June	1.10"	3.55"	
July		3.43"	
August		3.20"	
September		3.49"	
October		3.40"	
TOTAL	5.30"	22.89"	

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)

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

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Cornell Cooperative Extension Finger Lakes Grape Program

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

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