

# Cornell Cooperative Extension Finger Lakes Grape Program



August 4th, 2021

## Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

### In the Vineyard

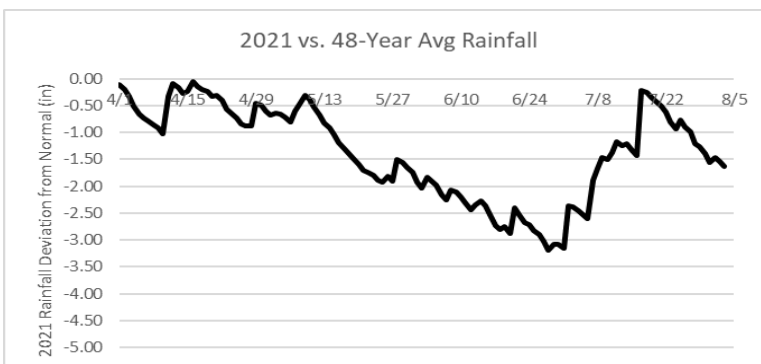
Veraison continues to march on in the Finger Lakes. Earlier varieties like Marquette, Baco noir and Regent are almost completely colored by now (depending on location), and a few early white-fruited varieties like Cayuga White are starting to soften. We are still a little ahead of normal this season based on the past few years of data from the Teaching Vineyard. This will be helpful for those vineyards with higher than normal crops this year – which is most vineyards – by giving us a few extra days of ripening at the beginning of the period.

In This Issue:	
In the Vineyard	pg. 1
IPM	<a href="#">pg. 3</a>
Grower's Forum	pg. 4
Farm Worker Prog.	pg. 5
Events	<a href="#">pg. 6</a>
GDD	<a href="#">pg. 7</a>



Marquette (left) and Regent (right) almost through veraison at the Teaching Vineyard near Dresden.

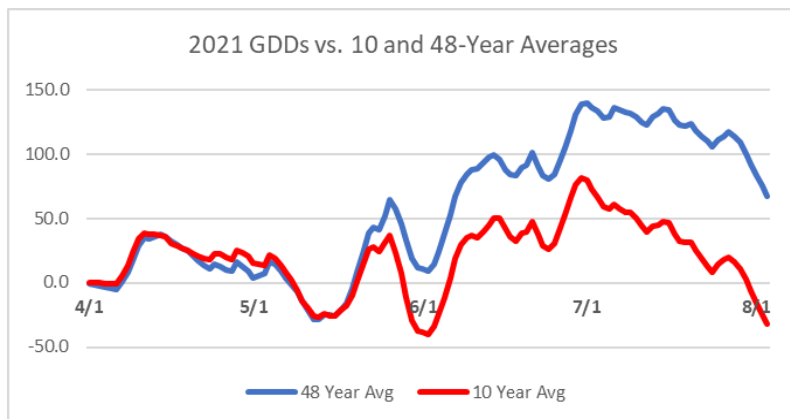
I was updating this year's weather data today and thought I would share a couple of graphs that I thought illustrate the growing season so far pretty well. Both of these illustrate how growing degree days (GDD) and rainfall recorded at Geneva are faring compared to the average accumulation of each since 1973 (the first year of the data set I have).



To my mind, the rainfall data confirms the general trend that we have seen in the Finger Lakes this year – dry weather from early May through the first of July, then a complete reversal of that for the first 2½ weeks of July (the dramatic upward swing). Since about July 20, we've been in another "drier than normal" phase, fortunately. The amount of rain that fell during those couple of weeks in July varied a lot, ranging from a little less than 4" to more than 6" at the NEWA weather stations, and some growers have said they had closer to 8-9" during that stretch. Regardless

of the actual amount, it kept growers on edge with adapting spray their programs and keeping up with accelerating canopy growth. As of today, August 4, we're about 1.6" below our normal rainfall for the year.

### In the Vineyard (continued from page 1)



The GDD data also gives us a glimpse of how the season has fared so far in terms of heat accumulation. Again, it confirmed most of my thinking of how the season has gone so far, with a warm end to May and then a much warmer June (June 2021 has the 2<sup>nd</sup> highest GDD accumulation at Geneva in 50 years. Only June 2005 was warmer). As it did with rain, July changed the story compared to the month before, with GDDs about 10% below normal. As of August 3, we are about 4 days ahead of the 48-year average GDD accumulation to this point in the season, but about 2 days behind the average for the most recent 10-year period.

What does all of this mean for veraison and harvest? Other than pest pressures that have been promoted by the moisture we've had lately, probably not a whole lot. There is plenty of experience in the vineyards here to state pretty confidently that what happens from the end of August through early October will ultimately dictate the final quality and quantity of fruit that gets harvested in any given year, and I have little doubt that this year will be any different. As I mentioned earlier, veraison seems to be arriving a little earlier than normal this year, which we anticipated based on an early bloom (reminder that there is no consistent relationship between GDDs and the number of days between bloom and veraison). Every grower knows that Mother Nature is ultimately in charge of what happens in the vineyard – her influence just becomes even a little more important from this point onward.



Tuesday's Tailgate Meeting included a demonstration of two under-vine mowers that are being used in the Finger Lakes region. Dave DeMarco, Seneca Shores Wine Cellars, demonstrated this unit with two mowing heads and a weed sprayer that can apply contact herbicides to catch weeds that the mower doesn't, particularly around the base of the vine. Dave Stamp, Lakewood Vineyards, also demonstrated a similar mower but without the herbicide sprayer. The mower at Lakewood Vineyards was purchased by Schuyler County Soil & Water and is available for use by Schuyler County growers. Yates County SWCD will be purchasing two under-vine mowers that will hopefully be available next season.

### IPM

The drier weather over the past week or so has helped to alleviate some of the DM pressure that was so present a few weeks earlier. However, we're seeing the visible symptoms of that pressure in a growing number of vineyards. Lots of the recent activity is on the portions of shoots newly emerged, as it often can be at this time of year. Rapid growth due to the rains in July has resulted in some leaves and shoots growing beyond the point where sprayers can reach them, or they are bending back over and being shielded by the lower portion of the canopy. The weather over the past couple of days and for the rest of the week should help to tamp down pressure for the moment, but depending on how much inoculum is present, including a material with post-infection activity could still pay dividends.

#### *Grape Berry Moth Model Results – August 4, 2021*

Location	GDDs	Biofix Date	Pest Status	Management Recom-
Dresden	1554	5/30/2021	**	##
Romulus	1466	6/1/2021	*	#
Hammondsport	1348	6/3/2021	*	#
South Bristol	1357	6/3/2021	*	#
Williamson	1339	6/5/2021	*	#

\* Second generation larvae are protected within berries and completing their development.

\*\* Females are active and egg-laying is at its peak.

#### Management Recommendation

# The most effective time for treatment of second-generation grape berry moth is over. Prepare to scout all vineyard blocks for grape berry moth damage when DD accumulation reaches 1470-1620 DD. During scouting, determine if the number of damaged clusters from previous generation exceeds the treatment threshold of 15%. If above threshold, control measures should be applied starting at 1620 DD

## Control measures should be timed to coincide with 1620 DD in high risk vineyards. For materials that must be ingested, e.g., Intrepid, Altacor, it is important to get insecticides on as close to 1620 DD as possible.

# Eastern Viticulture and Enology Forum

## *Grower and Winemaker Town Hall: Questions From the Field and Cellar*

*A webinar series for Eastern Growers and Winemakers in collaboration with viticulture and enology extension programs at: Ohio State University, University of Maryland, Rutgers University, North Carolina State University, University of Georgia, University of Tennessee, Mississippi State University, Texas Tech, Texas A&M, Colorado State University, New Mexico State University, University of Nebraska, Iowa State University, Purdue University, University of Minnesota, Michigan State University, and University of Wisconsin*

**Regional viticulture and enology specialists will present a Grower and Winemaker Town Hall virtual meeting series to give seasonal updates and answer pre-submitted and live questions from grape and wine industry stakeholders.**

*The structure of these meetings depends on pre-submitted questions. Use this link to pre-submit questions for viticulture and enology specialists to answer live during the meeting. [Please feel free to submit questions related to any topic by August 9<sup>th</sup>](#). But please see below for the topic area suggestions for the August 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.*

Viticulture focus area: véraison to pre-harvest (crop adjustment, fruit zone management, late season diseases and insects, vertebrate pest management)

Enology focus area: winemaking additions (SO<sub>2</sub>, yeast nutrients, etc.) & secondary fermentation

**There will be a total of four town hall meetings throughout the growing season.** Meetings will be held from 3PM to 5PM on the following Tuesdays: June 8<sup>th</sup>, July 13<sup>th</sup>, August 10<sup>th</sup>, and September 7<sup>th</sup>. The first two meetings will be hosted by Cornell University and the second two meetings will be hosted by Penn State Extension. *Meetings will not be recorded.*

**[Register using this link](#) and choose your breakout room (viticulture or enology) for the August 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.** After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting.

## Cornell Farmworker Program's Support for Farmworkers throughout the COVID 19 Pandemic

In March 2020 when most programs that collaborate with farmworkers came to an abrupt stop with the outbreak of COVID-19, we responded to farmworker requests to find ways to continue to support farmworkers using text messages and telephone calls instead of our typical face-to-face interactions. It was important that we develop a strategy for critical actions to support farmworkers who were deemed essential workers during the COVID-19 crisis. Transforming our activities nearly overnight, the CFP created workshops and Spanish and English language information for farmworkers and farmers to ensure that everyone had accurate and up to date information to maximize worker's safety.

Due to the nature of working and living conditions on farms, social distancing among farmworkers is nearly impossible. Several early outbreaks of COVID infections among farmworkers highlighted the need for pivoting our work to this area for much of 2020. While most other programs that support farmworkers closed their doors, we continued to innovate, making our mission of maintaining communication with farmworkers and connecting these families with needed resources all the more vital.

In an effort to continue serving one of New York's most vulnerable populations, agricultural workers, almost overnight, we created a method to distribute text messages to the 3000 farmworkers in our database. Access to the private numbers of so many undocumented workers is the result of the program's excellent reputation and the trust built over decades of listening to farmworkers. We have organized weekly calls with farmworkers to continue to learn about their concerns. In a short period of time, the CFP developed and provided:

- Text messages to 3,000 farmworkers with links to short visually graphic **videos and FAQs about coronavirus in Spanish, Mam and other indigenous languages**. These were also posted on our Spanish language website: [www.trabajadores.cornell.edu](http://www.trabajadores.cornell.edu). The fact sheets we developed for farmworkers were distributed statewide, and adapted for use by farmworker service providers in Pennsylvania, Ohio, and Florida.
- Text messages linking farmworkers with **Spanish language phone calls** on how to protect themselves in light of COVID 19. We organized and widely publicized **Q & A sessions with Dr. Jose Canario**, Medical Director of Finger Lakes Community Health on April 13, April 22, May 20. July 28, October 22, 2020 and March 11, 2021. Over **500 farmworkers participated** in these webinars, emailing or texting ahead of time their COVID-related questions. The webinars and written responses to questions raised are posted on our website: [www.farmworkers.cornell.edu](http://www.farmworkers.cornell.edu)



### How to Wear and Wash Your Mask / Cómo Usar y Lavar su Mascarilla

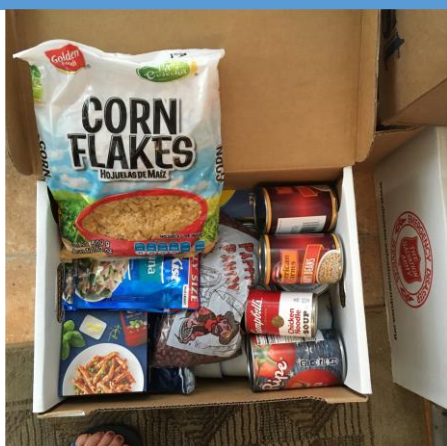


- are posted on our website: [www.farmworkers.cornell.edu](http://www.farmworkers.cornell.edu)
- **English language webinars** with Dr. Canario on COVID safety and regulations. We publicized these widely with education, health, legal, and child care services providers and with farmers. Similarly, attendees could email or text COVID related questions in advance of the webinar or raise concerns during the call. Over **500 producers and service providers** participated in two English language webinars on April 7 and July 28, 2020.
  - Distributed over **8000 cloth face coverings to farmworkers**, sewn by community volunteers and students organized by the CFP.

Each mask is accompanied with inserts including Spanish language information (below) on use and care of masks, telephone numbers for all the farmworker health clinics, general information and FAQs on COVID-19. While it is too early yet to evaluate the impact of our COVID prevention measures on farmworker well-being, the demand for support is a good indicator of the perceived need. When many H-2A temporary guest workers were arriving to NYS, medical masks were unavailable. The CFP coordination of free masks helped to bridge that gap. For more details, see the Cornell Chronicle article:

<https://news.cornell.edu/stories/2020/04/program-delivers-masks-covid-19-info-ny-farmworkers>

- **Organized emergency food drops** when accessing food became more difficult than usual for farmworkers that were prohibited from leaving the farm to go grocery shopping. To meet this need, we coordinated with CFP volunteers to locate, receive, organize and deliver food to farmworkers families in need. This coordination was time consuming since offices were closed and we had to rely on numerous text and e-mail messages to make the connections. Several local farmers made large donations of meat for farmworkers, but this also required that we locate available freezer space for temporary storage, recruit cooks and volunteers to move the meat, assess the food needs of farmworker families, and coordinate packing meals and making arrangements for volunteer drivers to deliver the food to farms at a time when families could safely receive meals. Our training and vetting of community volunteers over the past few years was crucial for organizing no-contact deliveries to farms and farmworker's houses.



- Organized ten **virtual legal clinics** linking farmworkers with pro bono immigration and family law legal assistance. In order to do this, we had to explain to each of the farmworker participants how to download Zoom to their mobile phones, give them tutorials in how to navigate it and use it to participate in a meeting, and then connect them with lawyers working remotely from all over Upstate New York. Navigating a legal system in a foreign country, in a language that is not your own, is confusing enough without adding the complicating factor of a pandemic, court dates postponed by COVID-19, law offices being closed, and learning how to use an unfamiliar technology.
- Helped organize “pop-up” **COVID-19 vaccination clinics** on farms throughout NYS. We sent text messages linking farmworkers with clinics in their area and provided assistance in registering for vaccinations.



The desired outcome of our COVID -19 support efforts is that reliable information be available in everyone's native tongue and that all area farmworkers know how to reach the CFP to access services they need. To date we have responded to **over 1,000 farmworker family requests for support** during the COVID pandemic in 21 NYS counties and others states including Pennsylvania, Florida, Michigan, Ohio, Washington and Puerto Rico.

### 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

*Tuesday, August 17, 2021 4:30 – 6:00 PM*

*Via Zoom*

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

Our final Tailgate Meeting for the 2021 season (wow, how did that happen?) will be held on Tuesday, August 17. 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.

One topic of conversation for the meeting will be an update on sour rot management. Dave Combs, field technician for Katie Gold's lab, will be present to talk about the latest understandings about bunch rots like sour rot.

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](mailto:bg393@cornell.edu). More information will be included in your confirmation email.

### Eastern Viticulture & Enology Forum Town Hall

*Tuesday, August 10 3:00 – 5:00 PM*

*Registration link: <https://cornell.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJYscu6srjlpHtWO3cqzRlupEEEmmPF34dK3g>*

See announcement in this week's Vineyard Update

### 2021 GDD & Precipitation

FLX Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
7/28/21	75.7	59.7	0.00	17.7	1613.7
7/29/21	78.6	59.0	0.10	18.8	1632.5
7/30/21	71.1	56.3	0.00	13.7	1646.2
7/31/21	73.6	53.4	0.00	13.5	1659.7
8/1/21	69.6	59.7	0.52	14.7	1674.4
8/2/21	73.8	56.1	0.07	15.0	1689.3
8/3/21	79.7	52.2	0.00	16.0	1705.3
Weekly Total			<b>0.69"</b>	<b>178.2</b>	
Season Total			<b>13.79"</b>	<b>1705.3</b>	

GDDs as of August 3rd, 2020: 1744.5

Rainfall as of August 3rd, 2020: 10.94"



#### Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)

#### Growing Degree Days

	2021 GDD <sup>1</sup>	Long-term Avg GDD <sup>2</sup>	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) <sup>3</sup>
April	72.0	62.7	+2
May	256.6	254.6	+1
June	608.9	481.5	+7
July	599.7	646.4	+5
August	40.8	593.2	+4
September		358.7	
October		109.9	
TOTAL	1481.7	2507.1	

<sup>1</sup> Accumulated GDDs for each month.

<sup>2</sup> The long-term average (1973-2019) GDD accumulation for that month.

<sup>3</sup> 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 <sup>4</sup>	Long-term Avg Rain <sub>5</sub>	Monthly deviation from avg <sup>6</sup>
April	2.34"	2.83"	-0.49"
May	1.86"	3.12"	-1.26"
June	2.23"	3.55"	-1.32"
July	4.95"	3.43"	+1.52"
August	.32	3.20"	
September		3.49"	
October		3.40"	
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>11.70"</b>	<b>23.02"</b>	

<sup>4</sup> Monthly rainfall totals up to current date

<sup>5</sup> Long-term average rainfall for the month (total)

<sup>6</sup> 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  
**Luke Haggerty**- E & J Gallo  
**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 Vineyard  
**Justine Vanden Heuvel**- Cornell University  
**Peter Weis** – Weis Vineyards  
**Kim Marconi** – Three Brothers Wineries & Estates

*Cornell University Cooperative Extension provides equal program and employment opportunities. CCE does not endorse or recommend any specific product or service. This program is solely intended to educate consumers about their choices. Contact CCE if you have any special needs such as visual, hearing or mobility impairments.*

## Cornell Cooperative Extension Finger Lakes Grape Program

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

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.

[flgp.cce.cornell.edu](http://flgp.cce.cornell.edu)



*"Cornell Cooperative Extension is an equal opportunity, affirmative action educator and employer"*