



Cornell Cooperative Extension

Finger Lakes Grape Program

March, 8th, 2023

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Winter Hardiness Update

Now that we're into March, we are starting to see most cultivars begin to deacclimate as we approach spring. Thanks to the relatively mild winter we have had this year, the vines have had plenty of opportunity to accumulate their required chilling hours (defined as the number of hours between 0° and 7°C), which vary a lot from variety to variety. Once vines have fulfilled their chilling requirements, they are essentially ready to come out of dormancy once temperatures begin to warm up.

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The rate of deacclimation varies among varieties as well. Cultivars with backgrounds that include *V. riparia* tend to deacclimate rather quickly in the spring, while others like Cabernet Sauvignon have a much more gradual process. A string of warm, sunny days will speed up the process and can result in an early budbreak, which then leads to a greater chance of frost damage.

All of this is to say that, even though our low temperatures will start to get warmer this month, the vines are also becoming less hardy as they approach budbreak, so we're not out of the woods quite yet with regard to potential bud damage. Fortunately, LT₅₀ values for the cultivars being monitored near Geneva are still below 0°F, but they are starting to trend up based on results both from the field samples collected and based on the cold hardiness model (see figure below).

Below are the most recent hardiness data for cultivars collected near Geneva, along with indications of whether the low temperature of -7°F recorded at Geneva on February 4 reached each cultivar's LT₁₀ or LT₅₀ value.

Cultivar	Measured LT ₅₀ (°)	Reached LT ₁₀	Reached LT ₅₀ on
Cabernet Franc	-3.8	Yes	No
Cabernet Sauvignon	-5.1	Yes	No
Cayuga White	-1.0	Yes	Yes
Chardonnay	-4.0	Yes	No
Concord	-6.2	No	No
Gewürztraminer	-3.5	Yes	Yes
Lemberger	-5.6	Yes	No
Marquette	-2.7	Yes	No
Merlot	-1.8	Yes	Yes
NY81.0315.17	-5.1	No	No
Riesling	-4.7	No	No
Sauvignon blanc	-2.0	Yes	Yes

* Samples collected on Feb. 28, 2023

Winter Hardiness (continued from pg. 1)

Given these results, it's possible that some growers might be looking at lower than average crops from the varieties shaded in blue (Cayuga White, Gewürztraminer, Merlot and Sauvignon blanc) and perhaps some amount of bud damage in those shaded in yellow too (Cab Franc, Cab Sauvignon, Chardonnay, Lemberger, and Marquette). As we saw last year, compensating for those potential losses by altering pruning practices to leave more buds in those situations can help to improve yield potential after events like this. As always, I really recommend doing your own bud cutting checks before making any pruning decisions.

I will put in one more plug for our industry spreadsheet where growers can enter their own results from bud cutting they have done in their vineyards. If you have any data on bud injury in your own vineyards, we would greatly appreciate getting that information via our spreadsheet. The link for the spreadsheet is <https://tinyurl.com/3s9s3ewx>.

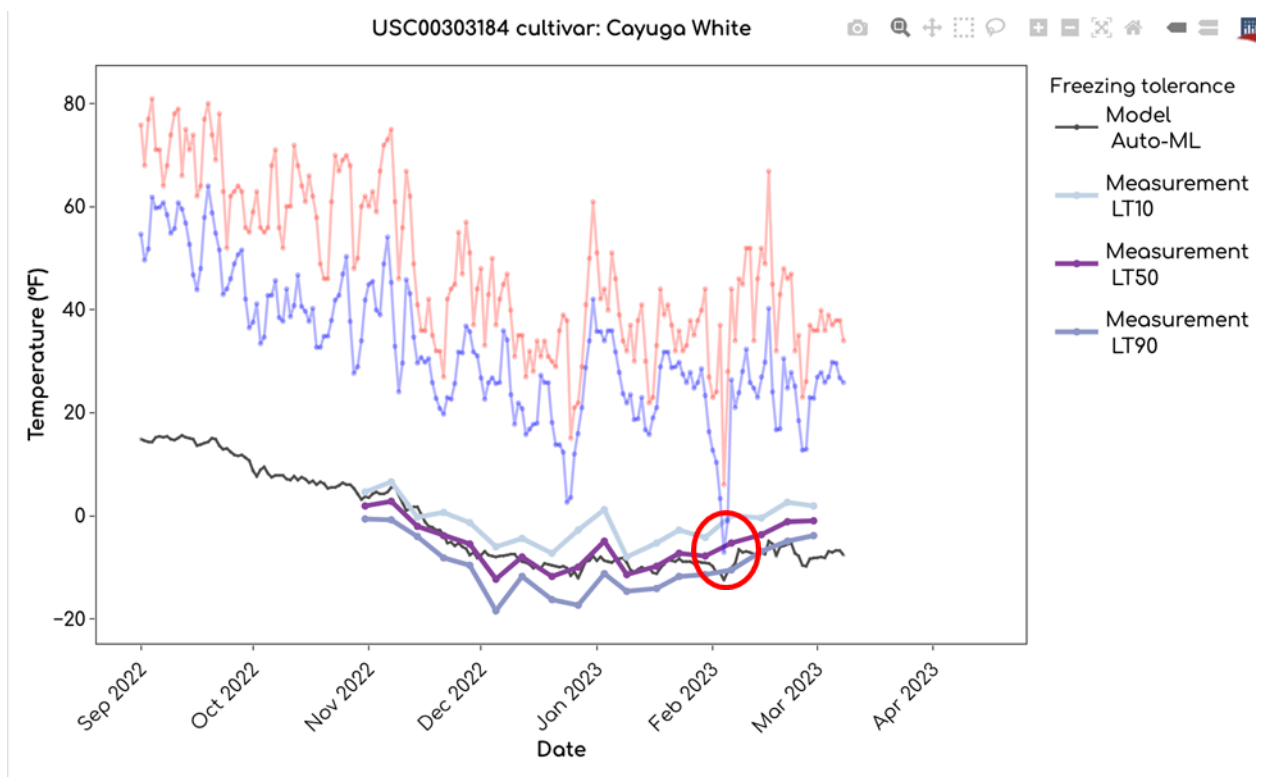


Fig. 1. Low temperatures hit -7°F in Geneva on February 4, 2023, which was the approximate LT₅₀ value for cultivars like Cayuga White (pictured), Merlot, Gewürztraminer, and Sauvignon blanc.

B.E.V. NY 2023 Program

REGISTER TODAY AT <https://www.bevny.org/register>



The program for this year's B.E.V. NY conference is now available at <https://www.bevny.org/schedule>. As mentioned earlier, instead of having each day focused on one specific topic – business, enology, or viticulture – there will be business, enology and viticulture tracks on each day of the conference, so there will be a lot of options to choose from.

B.E.V. NY will be held as a hybrid event this year, meaning that you can register to attend in person or virtually via Zoom. All of the sessions will be presented online, so you can still get all of the content from the comfort of home if you choose that option. But frankly, one of the best parts about B.E.V. NY for me is the personal interactions that happen between the sessions, in the trade show, at lunch, and over a glass of wine at the receptions at the end of each day. I really think you get the most out of the event if you can make the time and attend in person.

In addition to the wide variety of topics and speakers at B.E.V. NY this year, we're excited that our trade show is back and bigger than ever with almost 50 vendors registered to be part of this year's event. Many of them are familiar names and faces, but there are also a number of newcomers to the event who might be offering just what you are looking for. You can find the full list of vendors and sponsors for this year's B.E.V. NY at <https://www.bevny.org/sponsors#sponsors-2023>.

You can find the full program at <https://www.bevny.org/schedule>. Here are short summaries of this year's viticulture program sessions:

Tuesday, March 28

Session title: Soil Health A

*Speakers: Justine Vanden Heuvel, Cornell University
Amelie Gaudin, UC-Davis*

Healthy soils are able to provide critical functions for crops and the environment while lowering input needs. This session will discuss how regenerative practices like improving microbial diversity and livestock re-integration can impact soil ecosystems, their ability to store carbon, and the sustainability and resilience outcomes in vineyards

Session title: Soil Health B

*Speakers: Robert Schindelbeck, Director – Cornell Soil Health Lab
Thijs Verschuren, H.J. Wiemer
Bob Betts, Betts Vineyards
Jennifer Russo, Lake Erie Regional Grape Program*

Many of us have an idea of what soil health is, but can it actually be measured, and in turn, managed? When it comes to soil health, Cornell has an important tool to measure various physical, chemical and biological factors that are associated with healthy soils. And one of the most effective ways to manage soil health in agricultural systems is with cover crops. This session will bring some

B.E.V. NY 2023 Program Now Available (continued from pg. 3)

experienced voices together to discuss this.

Session title: The Path to New Grape Varieties in New York

Speakers: Bruce Reisch, Cornell University

Anna Katharine Mansfield, Cornell University

The approaching retirement of Dr. Bruce Reisch, who has led Cornell's grape breeding program for over 40 years, gives us a chance to take a look at the progress that has been made in developing new grape varieties that are better adapted to an ever-changing environment. The session will include a tasting of a few selections from the Cornell program, including NY81.0315.17, which will have its new name announced during B.E.V. NY!

Wednesday, March 29

Session title: Pest Management Updates

Speakers: Katie Gold, Cornell University

Greg Loeb, Cornell University

Brian Eshenaur, NYS IPM Program

Growers in New York need to stay on top what's happening in the world of pest management. New techniques, new products, and even new pests are hard to keep up with, but fortunately this session features important updates on all of these from some trusted and well-known people to New York growers (NY pesticide recertification credits will be available to both in-person and virtual attendees).

Session title: Pest Management Technology

Speakers: Lynn Sosnoskie, Cornell University

Jason Deveau, Ontario Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs

While it's important to keep up on the best materials and practices to control pests, the equipment that one uses can be just as important for an effective pest management program. Our speakers will walk growers through the important information they need to know to keep their sprayers running at peak performance, as well as introducing some newer technologies that could be appearing in vineyards in the near future (NY pesticide recertification credits will be available to both in-person and virtual attendees).

Session title: Measuring and Managing Cold Hardiness in Grapevines

Speakers: Jason Londo, Cornell University

Hongrui Wang, Cornell University

Jim Willwerth, Brock University

There are many challenges to growing grapes in the northeastern U.S., but one of the biggest might be adapting our vineyards and practices to improve vines' ability to survive winter conditions, which are undergoing significant change and becoming increasingly unpredictable. This session will talk about new information and tools available to growers to do just that.

B.E.V. NY 2023 Program (continued from pg. 4)

Thursday, March 30

Viticulture Keynote: Better Vineyard Measurements, Better Vineyard Management

Speaker: Mark Greenspan, Advanced Viticulture, Inc.

In vineyards, it seems there's an almost limitless list of data that you could collect – yield, cluster and berry weight, phenology dates, pruning weight, plant and soil nutrients, and on and on. Not to mention all the sensors and the internet of things as well. Are there some of these data, though, that can give growers a bit more “bang for the buck” when it comes to some of the management decisions that need to be made? Our speaker, Mark Greenspan, has collected all sorts of data in his clients' vineyards over the years, and will talk about how he thinks about the data he collects and how he and his clients use it to improve their decision-making.

Session title: Vineyard Data: Lo-Tech & "Mid-Tech" Approaches

Speakers: Terry Bates, Cornell University

Hans Walter-Peterson, Cornell Cooperative Extension

Brent Sams, E&J Gallo

There has been a lot of progress in developing new, hi-tech methods of data collection in vineyards, like remote sensing from satellites and drones, using complex GIS mapping software to visualize vineyard conditions, or sensors that can measure brix or volatile compounds out in the field. All of that can feel overwhelming and too far above our heads to use on the farm. But there are still plenty of lo-tech and “mid-tech” approaches to gathering and understanding important information from the vineyard that growers can easily implement in their vineyards right now.

Session title: MyEV Workshop

Speakers: Terry Bates, Cornell University

Hans Walter-Peterson, Cornell Cooperative Extension

Nick Gunner, Orbitist

The Efficient Vineyard project is an ongoing national effort to advance the use of precision viticulture in wine, juice, and table grape production. One of the most important tools that has emerged from that project is the My Efficient Vineyard mapping platform (MyEV), which lets growers easily and quickly apply any kind of spatial data to a map using a simple interface. This afternoon's session will provide growers with an introduction to the MyEV system and help them get started with this powerful yet easy-to-use tool. The workshop will be appropriate for growers who are new to MyEV as well as those who have had some experience using the system already. This will be a hands-on workshop, so growers should bring their own laptops or tablets to work on.

Don't Forget to Enroll in the Grape Program for 2023

Be sure to sign up for the Finger Lakes Grape Program for 2023. For several years, the FLGP managed this process on behalf of the county associations, but the process is back in the hands of the individual county Extension offices now, as they are the ones who require this for their growers. Growers should have received enrollment forms or notices from their local Extension office in December or January (or maybe earlier).

The enrollment process for ag extension programs in New York is unique in that it is the only one in the country (that I am aware of) that requires farmers to pay to be on our mailing list and receive information from us, which in the case of the FLGP is mostly through our Vineyard Update and Veraison to Harvest newsletters, and other emails. It's not something that the FLGP requires, but rather the counties that we serve require this of their growers. The annual fees that growers send to enroll in the Grape Program are used by the county Extension offices to help offset some of the funding that they give the FLGP each year. The amount of that enrollment fee is set by each county, so they are not the same for every grower in the Finger Lakes. Enrollments from growers or others outside of our six counties go directly to the FLGP.

If you have not submitted your enrollment and payment for 2023, or if you're not sure if you have, please contact your local Extension office (contact information is below).

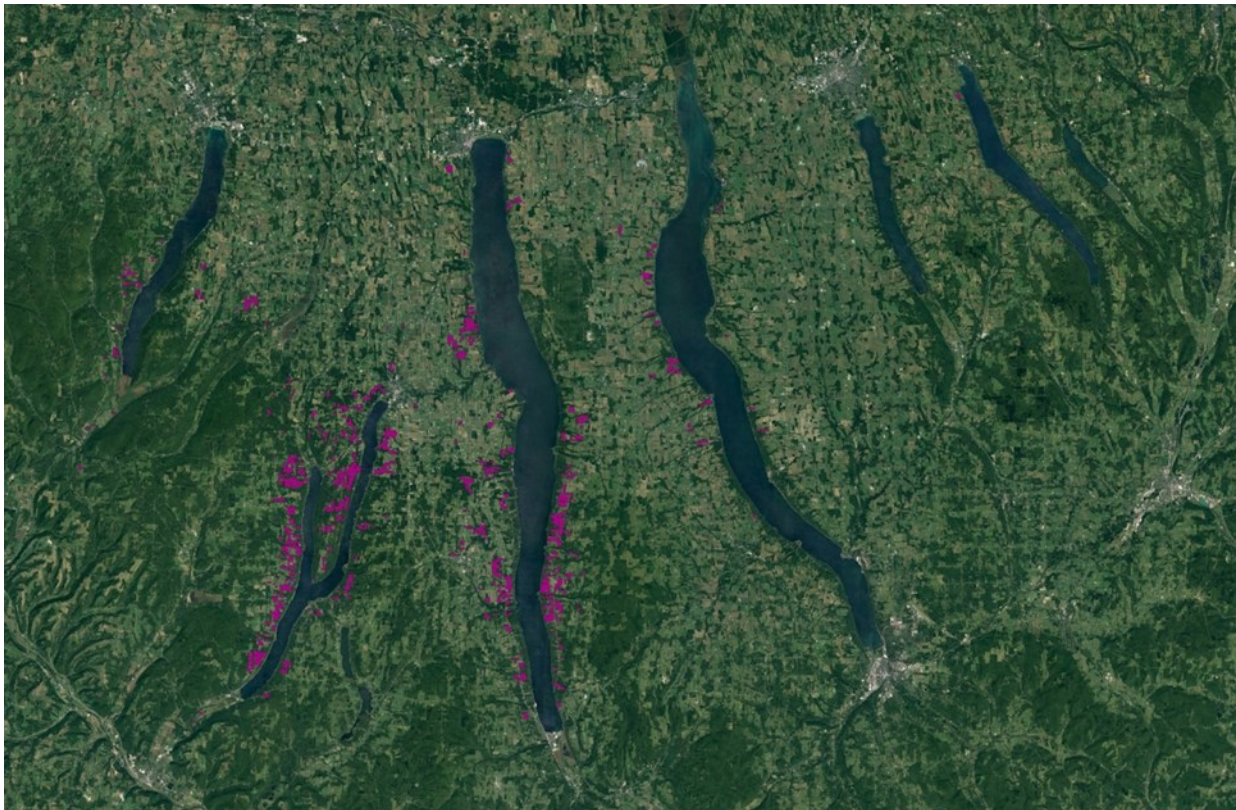
<u>CCE-Ontario County</u> 480 North Main Street Canandaigua, NY. 14424 (585) 394-3977 http://cceontario.org/agriculture/ag-enrollment Enrollment Fee: \$75	<u>CCE-Steuben County</u> 20 East Morris Street Bath, New York 14810 (607) 664-2300 http://putknowledgetowork.org/agriculture/regional-agriculture-programs Enrollment fee: \$0 <i>Steuben County CCE has eliminated their fee for ag extension enrollment</i>
<u>CCE-Schuyler County</u> Schuyler County Human Services Complex 323 Owego Street, Unit #5 Montour Falls, New York 14865 (607) 535-7161 http://cceschuyler.org/ Enrollment fee: \$75	<u>CCE-Wayne County</u> 1581 Route 88 North Newark, NY 14513 (315) 331-8415 http://ccewayne.org/agriculture/ag-specialist-teams Enrollment fee: \$65
<u>CCE-Seneca County</u> Main Street Shop Centre, Ste #308 Waterloo, New York 13165 (315) 539-9251 http://senecacountycce.org/agriculture/finger-lakes-grape-program-enrollment Enrollment fee: \$75	<u>Out-of-Area Enrollment</u> <i>(outside of the six counties listed)</i> CCE-Yates County 417 Liberty Street Penn Yan, NY 14527 (315) 536-5123 Enrollment fee: \$130
<u>CCE-Yates County</u> 417 Liberty Street Penn Yan, NY 14527 (315) 536-5123 http://yates.cce.cornell.edu/ Enrollment fee: \$75	

GIS Vineyard Mapping

I am really pleased to announce that Ellen Coyne is once again working with us this winter on updating our GIS map of Finger Lakes vineyards. If you have not had your vineyard mapped in the past, or it's been a while, or you have recently planted some new blocks, please get in touch with Ellen to make an appointment with her to get your information into our maps.

We use these maps to give us a bigger picture of the Finger Lakes grape industry, from acreage numbers to trends in locations and cultivar plantings. As we move into doing more in the area of digital viticulture, these maps will also help to enhance that work as we can see how different spatial patterns in the environment might be influencing production or fruit quality.

You can contact Ellen by email at ellencoyne@yahoo.com to arrange a time to meet with her.



Sustainability Champion for New York Vineyards, Cornell Emeritus Extension Associate to Receive ASEV's Highest Honor

Press Release from the American Society for Enology and Viticulture

Davis, Calif., March 6, 2023

A leader and collaborator in grape extension and research at Cornell University, Dr. Timothy Martinson will receive the American Society for Enology and Viticulture's (ASEV) highest honor, the ASEV Merit Award. Martinson led New York's sustainability initiatives in wine throughout his career and will be presenting his Merit Award presentation, *An Insect Ecologist's "Random Walk" Through the Viticultural Landscape* at the 74th ASEV National Conference, in Napa, California this June.



"To be acknowledged by your peers for your life's work is humbling and a great honor. I am overjoyed to receive the ASEV Merit Award and to be able to share my work with colleagues and future leaders at the National Conference," says Martinson. My career has offered me the opportunity to interact with an informed and active grower community and collaborate with so many great colleagues at Cornell and elsewhere. Whatever impacts my program has fostered are the direct result of cooperative efforts with colleagues and growers."

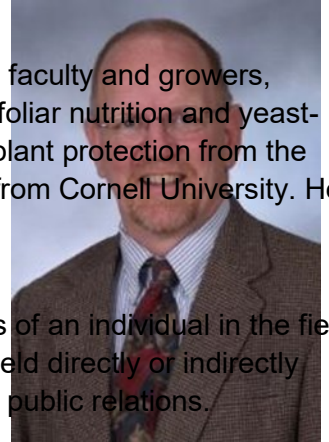
Martinson, a senior extension associate emeritus at Cornell University and for more than 30 years, has been responsible for providing extension leadership and applied research in viticulture to support the growth and profitability of the New York wine and grape industry. In addition to his New York-focused extension effort, Martinson was involved in two nationwide research and extension projects. He led the 12-state Northern Grapes Project (2011-2016), which focused on newly-released cold-hardy "Minnesota varieties" that spawned a new small winery industry in the upper Midwest and Northeast, and served as outreach/extension leader for the multistate VitisGen2 project from 2018-2022. He is best known for the development of the *VineBalance* sustainable viticulture program and the production of The New York Guide to Sustainable Viticulture Practices Grower Self-Assessment Workbook (2007), which covers over 100 specific topics to provide growers with a comprehensive review of environmental, economic and social aspects of their production practices and develop an action plan. This work is currently part of the New York Wine & Grape Foundation's pilot statewide sustainable winegrowing certification program that began in March 2022. The certification is based on a grower's assessment and a third-party audit using the latest version of the *VineBalance* workbook.

In addition, Martinson published the weekly Véraison to Harvest newsletter distributed statewide throughout New York (2007-2021) and Appellation Cornell, a quarterly publication highlighting research, extension and teaching programs in viticulture and enology at Cornell from 2010-2021. He has authored or coauthored 48 refereed research publications and numerous extension and trade publication articles. He has received many honors and awards, including but not limited to, New York Wine and Grape Foundation's Sustainability Award (2022), Wine Business Monthly's Wine Industry Leader (2020), American Society for Enology and Viticulture – Eastern Section's Outstanding Achievement Award (2019) and Outstanding Achievements in Extension Award (2015) from Cornell University's College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

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Martinson's research focused on cooperative, on-farm research projects working closely with faculty and growers, including insect and disease management, pruning and training systems, variety evaluation, foliar nutrition and yeast-assimilable nitrogen, cold hardiness and winter injury. He received a Bachelor of Science in plant protection from the University of Idaho, a Master of Science (1988) and doctorate degree (1991) in Entomology from Cornell University. He retired from Cornell University in January 2022.



The ASEV Merit Award, presented since 1955, is designed to celebrate the accomplishments of an individual in the field of enology or viticulture. The yearly award acknowledges achievement or excellence in any field directly or indirectly related to enology or viticulture, including education, technology, research, management and public relations.

Founded in 1950 by a group of researchers and winemakers, ASEV is dedicated to the interests of enologists, viticulturists, and others in the fields of wine and grape research and production throughout the world. The ASEV National Conference is a forum for sharing and disseminating the latest scientific information relevant to winemaking and grapegrowing. For more information about the [74th ASEV National Conference](#) scheduled June 26-29, 2023, visit www.asev.org.

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Finger Lakes Grape Program

March, 8th, 2023

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

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Bill Dalrymple- Dalrymple Farm

Matt Doyle- Doyle Vineyard Management

Eileen Farnan- Barrington Cellars

Chris Gerling- Cornell University Extension

Mike Colizzi- E & J Gallo

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Cameron Hosmer- Hosmer Winery

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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 partnership between Cornell University and the Cornell Cooperative Extension Associations in Ontario, Seneca, Schuyler, Steuben, Wayne and Yates Counties.

flgp.cce.cornell.edu

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