



Cornell Cooperative Extension

Finger Lakes Grape Program

August 18, 2023

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

In the Vineyard

Thank you to everyone who took the time to enter their information in the Yield Loss Survey that we sent out earlier this week. We had 71 growers respond to the survey – 56 from the Finger Lakes, 9 from the Hudson Valley and eastern NY, and 6 from western NY. The Finger Lakes growers who responded to the survey represent about half of the acreage in the region.

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The data for the vinifera varieties that we first asked about showed that, as expected, there is a wide range of estimated yield losses for them. Taking into consideration the estimated yield loss and the number of acres of each variety, we calculated the following estimates of damage for each of these varieties:

Variety	Estimated crop (% of “normal”) All respondents	Estimated crop (% of “normal”) FLX respondents
Riesling	65.6%	62.8%
Cabernet Franc	67.1%	77.1%
Chardonnay	58.3%	63.1%
Pinot noir	55.6%	63.4%
Gewürztraminer	56.1%	56.4%
Blaufraunkisch/Lemberger	66.5%	65.1%

Based on this data, as well as information and observations from a few colleagues around the state, I wrote a letter to Commissioner Ball stating the only variety that I think probably surpasses the 40% yield loss required to allow a waiver of the “100% NY fruit” requirement for farm wineries would be Gewürztraminer. While the survey indicated that Pinot noir and Chardonnay damage might also surpass that level, there is enough acreage of those varieties in regions that did not have yield losses (i.e., Long Island) to counterbalance those in upstate New York.

It is entirely possible that there are other varieties planted that might qualify for the waiver to the NY grapes requirement in the Farm Winery Law, but we don’t have enough information or time to make those determinations this year. What would help to make better decisions about these kinds of issues would be an up to date vineyard acreage survey (which the NY Wine & Grape Foundation is working on right now), and a current database of all commercial grape growers in the state.

Saying that there is not enough damage to warrant waiving the “only New York fruit” rule for farm wineries obviously does not mean that there will be enough fruit to fulfill every demand from buyers this year. This year’s crop is still going to be lower than normal, which will make things more challenging for growers and winemakers who are still dealing with the effects of last year’s smaller crop as well.

In the Vineyard (continued from pg. 1)

If you are a New York grower or buyer, don't forget that the [NY Grapes and Wine Classifieds site](https://www.fingerlakesgrapes.com/) is still up and running, and might be the easiest way to let everyone in the industry know what you are trying to buy or sell.

2023 Grape Prices list is being compiled

We are in the process of collecting grape prices from Finger Lakes buyers for our annual Finger Lakes Grape Price Listing. Once we get a few more into our list, we will send it out to everyone. As always, there might be a couple of versions of the list depending on if we get some lists after the first one goes out. We are hoping to send the list out next week, so stay tuned.

You can see some grape price lists from previous years on our website at <https://blogs.cornell.edu/flxgrapes/category/business-marketing/>.

Veraison still creeping along

Cabernet Franc (top) and Concord (bottom) just starting to show a little color.



Marquette at the Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard, Dresden NY



Two types of netting installed at the Teaching Vineyard to see if they can protect fruit from damage caused by yellow jackets, and therefore reduce sour rot.

Grape Microbiome Study

Elsa Petit is with the University of Massachusetts Extension. She is studying grape microbiomes and would like to collect some grape and soil samples from a few Finger Lakes vineyards on August 22-23. It is a short and non-invasive process that won't harm plants nor take too much of your time.

If you are interested, please fill this 30-sec form: <https://forms.gle/tdChbKMRaZ9Ukp63A>.

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.

Tailgate Meeting

August 22, 2023 4:30 – 6:00 PM
Fox Run Vineyards
670 Route 14, Penn Yan, NY



Our final Tailgate Meeting will be on Tuesday, August 22 at Fox Run Vineyards near Penn Yan. These meetings are a time for growers and the FLGP staff to discuss what's going on in the vineyards, ask questions, and learn from each other. There is no set agenda for the most part, so bring questions, observations, thoughts, etc. and let's talk about them. Each meeting has been approved for 1.25 pesticide recertification credits by DEC.

Gold Vineyard Pathology Field Day

Wednesday, September 6 9:00 AM
Jordan Hall @ Cornell AgriTech
630 W North Street, Geneva NY

Registration by email to Dave Combs at dbc10@cornell.edu by September 1.

The Gold pathology lab is hosting a field day on Wednesday September 6th at Cornell AgriTech in Geneva. Registration will start at 8:30AM at Jordan Hall and the program at 9:00AM. This will be open to industry representatives as well as New York grape growers who want to see not only the technology that the lab is working with for early grape disease detection, but also have a rare opportunity to peruse the vineyards where the fungicide efficacy trials take place at Cornell AgriTech. Some of the technology that will be demonstrated will be the phytopatholobot- capable of detecting disease with HD cameras; Mjollnir and M-600 drones – equipped with lidar, multispectral and hyperspectral cameras, as well as the handheld hyperspectral camera – recently proven to detect the longevity of active fungicides on the leaf surface. Lab members will also be discussing the extensive fungicide testing programs against powdery mildew, downy mildew, black rot, botrytis, sour rot and phomopsis. Carpooling is encouraged as travel to the field sites will be in personal vehicles.

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2023 GDD & Precipitation

FLX Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
8/11/23	77.5	61.7	0.02	19.6	1838.2
8/12/23	80.1	62.2	0.00	21.2	1859.4
8/13/23	79.0	63.7	0.00	21.4	1880.7
8/14/23	75.9	63.3	0.00	19.6	1900.3
8/15/23	70.0	64.0	0.60	17.0	1917.3
8/16/23	79.7	64.4	0.01	22.1	1939.4
8/17/23	79.5	64.0	0.00	21.8	1961.1
Weekly Total			0.63"	142.5	
Season Total			18.60"	1961.1	

GDDs as of August 17, 2022: 2115.1

Rainfall as of August 17, 2022: 11.96"

Seasonal Comparisons (at Geneva)



Growing Degree Days

	2022 GDD ¹	Long-term Avg GDD ²	Cumulative days ahead (+)/behind (-) ³
April	135.9	62.8	+13
May	216.8	256.3	+3
June	470.9	484.6	+3
July	702.1	646.1	+4
August	333.6	597.4	+4
September		360.2	
October		112.5	
TOTAL	1859.3	2519.8	

¹ Accumulated GDDs for each month.

² The long-term average (1973-2022) 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.

2023 GDD & Precipitation

Precipitation

	2023 Rain ⁴	Long-term Avg Rain ⁵	Monthly deviation from avg ⁶
April	5.73"	2.80"	+2.97"
May	1.90"	3.07"	-1.17"
June	4.61"	3.56"	+1.05"
July	5.64"	3.43"	+2.21"
August	1.34"	3.21"	
September		3.47"	
October		3.41"	
TOTAL	19.21"	23.02"	

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)

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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

Gregg McConnell- Farm Credit East

Matt Doyle- Doyle Vineyard Management

Tara Farnan- Barrington Cellars

Chris Gerling- Cornell University Extension

Mike Colizzi- E & J Gallo

Tina Hazlitt- Sawmill Creek Vineyards

Cameron Hosmer- Hosmer Winery

Herm Young— Young Sommer Winery

John Santos- Hazlitt 1852 Vineyards

Steve Sklenar— Sklenar Vineyard

Justine Vanden Heuvel- Cornell University

Peter Weis — Weis Vineyards

Adam Folts—Vineyard View Winery

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

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