



# finger lakes vineyard update

May 1, 2013



## In The Vineyard

*Hans Walter-Peterson*

Whether you're ready or not, the 2013 growing season is starting to crank up in the Finger Lakes. Buds on many varieties are shedding their scales and starting to swell, and given the forecast for the next several days, I'm sure we'll start to see young leaves emerging soon.

Mike and I spent yesterday visiting vineyards around the Branchport area and out on the bluff on Keuka Lake, looking primarily at Concord and Catawba vineyards along with some hybrid varieties. In most of the places we looked, buds are pushing from almost all of the retained canes and spurs and doing so very uniformly. We'll probably see exposed shoot tips in early breaking varieties like Concord, Niagara, Baco and Marquette in the next day or two. Varieties like Catawba and Cayuga White, which typically break a little later, are just about at the same stage of growth as well. We also didn't see cases where certain vineyards or blocks of a single variety in different locations were significantly advanced or delayed compared to others, which can make timing of some early season practices like scouting and spraying easier to manage. Riesling and Cabernet Franc vines were starting to push off bud scales, but are still in the very early stages of budbreak.

### Inside this issue:

<b>Tailgate Meeting</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>IPM</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>GDD's</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Upcoming Events</b>	<b>5</b>



Swelling buds on Catawba vines near Keuka Lake.

### *Concord Bloom and Veraison Predictions from Lake Erie*

Terry Bates, viticulture researcher with Cornell in the Lake Erie region, recently released his annual prediction for bloom date in Concord based on heat accumulation of the water in Lake Erie. While not a perfect tool by any means, it has done a pretty good job at predicting the bloom date, and thereby the date of veraison as well, within a few days.

# finger lakes vineyard update

## In The Vineyard (cont.)

Terry's prediction this year is that Concord bloom will happen on June 15, and that veraison will hit 69 days later (which happens pretty consistently) on August 23, give or take a couple of days. This is just a day later than their long-term average bloom and veraison dates of June 14 and August 22, respectively. Obviously past performance does not guarantee future results, as prolonged warm or cool weather between now and bloom could impact the actual date of bloom.

I mention this because our phenology patterns are usually pretty similar to what the Lake Erie region experiences in terms of it being an early or late season (with the obvious exception for problems like early-season frost damage). So based on Terry's prediction, I think we are probably also looking at a bloom date that would be close to average in the Finger Lakes also. One of the main implications of this for Concord growers, if it turns out to be true, is that this reduces the potential for ripening a larger than average crop. Based on some of Terry's previous work, we know that a change of 3 days from average bloom date can impact how much fruit that can be ripened (i.e., if bloom is 3 days earlier than average, a grower can ripen 1 ton more than their average crop, and vice versa).

## Tailgate

*Mike Colizzi*

It's hard to believe but its that time of year again, buds are starting to swell and possible open as I am typing this. Last night a fairly large crowd helped us kick off our summer tailgate meetings. The meeting was held at Morse Vineyards. We talked about steely beetle, phomopsis, grape cane gallmaker, weed spraying, compaction, and just general phenology. Everyone enjoyed the weather for this year's first meeting over last years sleet and 30-degree temperatures.

The nice weather we have had recently has kept everyone moving right a long with fieldwork. Based on observations from Tuesday most varieties seem to be developing quite evenly this spring. Some growers have been seeing small numbers of steely beetle with the warm weather. The numbers do not seem anything like what we saw last year, however the potential is still there. Regular scouting is very important. Another early season pest to be on the look out for is phomopsis. Last year we saw pretty heavy phomopsis pressure. That means the risk is increased for this year. For more information on steely beetle and phomopsis please refer to the pest section of this update.

The topic of compaction and possible methods to alleviate it was discussed at the meeting last night. Some growers talked about their methods for dealing with compaction while other said that they haven't worried about it. We have seen from recent testing in several vineyards that compaction could be a bigger issue than we think. We will be hosting a workshop in late July to discuss what can be done to alleviate compaction in vineyards. At the workshop we will also demonstrate different machines that can be used. If you have a particular practice or piece of equipment that you use on your farm to deal with compaction we would be interested in talking with you.

We would like to thank Bob and Darren Morse for hosting the meeting. Our next tailgate meeting will be May 14<sup>th</sup> at Sawmill Creek Vineyards in Hector. ([Click here for a map](#)) We look forward to seeing you there.

# finger lakes vineyard update

## IPM

*Hans Walter-Peterson*

### **Steely Beetle/Grape Flea Beetle**

Now that we're into the full budswell/ budbreak stage of development this year, we're on the watch for steely beetles to start showing up in vineyards. Many growers will remember last year that we saw much higher populations of steely beetle than we're used to - in some cases, to the point where growers were spraying to control them. Part of the problem last year was that we had a prolonged period where buds stayed in that stage of development because of colder weather that appeared after that very early warm spell that pushed things out so early. This gave them a longer period to feed on young buds and shoots and cause more damage. With the forecast this week, we will hopefully move past the point where buds are vulnerable to damage by these beetles in a shorter period of time.



We did not see any beetles during our vineyard stops yesterday, and growers at yesterday's Tailgate meeting did not indicate that they were seeing any in their vineyards as well. We did see a couple of buds that had been hollowed out in one or two blocks, but nowhere near the level to be concerned about at this point. Greg Loeb suggests a level of 2% bud damage where growers should consider applying a control material for steely beetle. The beetles are most active on warm, sunny days, so they should make their presence known over the next several days if they are around. Materials that are labelled for steely beetle control (as listed in the [2013 Grape IPM Guidelines](#)) include Sevin, Danitol, Baythroid and Leverage.

### *Phomopsis*

The onset of budbreak and the warm weather that we're supposed to have this week also means that early varieties will probably be reaching 1-3" of shoot growth within the next few days, which is optimal timing for the first phomopsis spray of the season. These first couple of early sprays have been shown to be very important in protecting the base of the shoots and cluster stems from infection at this point in the season, which helps to avoid yield losses near harvest by preventing shoot breakage and fruit shelling.

We had very heavy phomopsis pressure back in 2009, especially in native varieties trained to high wire trellis systems. It can take several years of good management practices to get this disease back under control after significant outbreaks like we had two years ago. If we maintain a fairly dry and sunny weather pattern over the next few weeks, that will help to reduce the pressure from the disease. Be sure to check the [disease model at the NEWA website \(http://newa.cornell.edu/index.php?page=grape-diseases\)](http://newa.cornell.edu/index.php?page=grape-diseases) for information about predicted infection events for phomopsis.

# finger lakes vineyard update

## IPM (cont.)

### Grape Disease Infection Events for Dresden (FLGP/FLCC)

	Past	Past	Current	Grape Disease 5-Day Forecast			Forecast Details	
	Apr 29	Apr 30	May 1	May 2	May 3	May 4	May 5	May 6
<b>Phomopsis</b>	No	No	No	-	-	-	-	-
<b>Powdery Mildew</b>	No	No	No	No	No	-	-	-
<b>Black Rot</b>	No	No	No	-	-	-	-	-

**Phomopsis** - calculates when weather conditions may allow spores to infect susceptible tissue.  
**Powdery Mildew** - runs from bud break until early bloom; calculates when weather conditions may allow overwintered, primary spores (ascospores) to infect susceptible tissue.  
**Black Rot** - calculates when weather conditions may allow spores to infect susceptible tissue.

Phenological stage:

Choose the phenology stage for the grape variety of interest to display management messages. Concord grape phenology is estimated by the model from historical records for this variety.

Disease	Disease Management
Phomopsis	In vineyards with heavy inoculum pressure (hedged vines, dead canes, pruning stubs), prepare to apply protective sprays as early as 1 inch shoot growth, ahead of infection events. Damage to shoots, leaves, clusters and fruit caused by Phomopsis is more prevalent when inoculum is allowed to build up on dead canes or pruning stubs in the vines and when <a href="#">early-season sprays for this disease</a> are omitted.

## 2013 GDD Accumulation

We are tracking growing degree day (GDD) and precipitation accumulation again this year, but we will be reporting data from [our weather station located at the teaching & demonstration vineyard in Dresden](#), at Anthony Road Wine Company, instead of using the station at Geneva. We will continue to monitor GDD accumulation at Geneva in order to see how our new location compares with it, and to provide context of where we are with regard to heat accumulation compared to our long-term average.

FL Teaching & Demonstration Vineyard – Dresden, NY					
Date	Hi Temp (F)	Lo Temp (F)	Rain (inches)	Daily GDDs	Total GDDs
4/24/13	68.2	43.2	0.05	5.7	43.5
4/25/13	57.0	36.1	0.00	0.0	43.5
4/26/13	56.0	36.8	0.02	0.0	43.5
4/27/13	66.2	36.5	0.00	1.4	44.9
4/28/13	70.6	43.6	0.07	7.1	52.0
4/29/13	59.9	51.1	0.04	5.5	57.5
4/30/13	68.3	55.5	0.00	11.9	69.4

# finger lakes vineyard update

## Upcoming Events

### Vineyard Tailgate Meetings

*Tuesday, May 14, 2013 5:00 - 6:30 PM*

*Sawmill Creek Vineyards*

5587 State Route 414, Hector NY 14841 ([click here for a map](#))

These are a series of informal meetings held with growers in different locations around the Finger Lakes during the growing season. Meetings are held every other Tuesday afternoon, starting at 5:00 PM and usually ending around 6:30 PM. During the day of each meeting, Mike and I visit a few growers and vineyards near the meeting location to get a sense of what has been happening in the area, and give us some ideas about some potential topics for the meeting later that day. There will also be ample time to discuss any questions or issues that others want to bring up as well. There is no need to register ahead of time - just show up when you can, and leave when you have to.

There will be 0.75 pesticide recertification credits available for each meeting. As with other events where credits are available, you need to be present at the beginning of the meeting to sign the meeting roster - make sure to have your card with you - and stay until the end to receive your certificate.

### 2013 Spring Grape Pest Management Meeting

*Thursday, May 16, 2013 4:00 - 6:20 PM*

*Clearview Farms*

*4150 Stever Hill Road, Branchport NY*

Whether we're ready for it or not, spring is approaching (although we're more ready than we were a year ago), bringing with it all of the vineyard work that is associated with it. But in between the post pounding, de-hilling, vine tying, and weed spraying, make sure to also make time to come to the annual Spring Grape Pest Management Meeting on Thursday, May 16 at the Tones family's Clearview Farms in Branchport.

This meeting is intended to give growers quick but thorough updates on important pest management issues including new materials, new sprayer technology and application techniques, important updates on relevant research projects and more. The meeting will feature familiar faces including Andrew Landers, Wayne Wilcox and Greg Loeb, as well as Robin Bellinder who will cover some important weed management information. Our other speaker at this year's meeting will be Marc Fuchs, our virologist from the Experiment Station in Geneva, who will talk about a new viral disease recently found in grapes called 'Red Blotch'.

# finger lakes vineyard update

## Upcoming Events (Cont.)

Following the meeting, be sure to stick around for the BBQ dinner and social time with your fellow growers.

We need everyone to pre-register for the meeting so that we can know how much food we will need for dinner. Please contact Karen Gavette at our office at 315-536-5134 or by email at [kag255@cornell.edu](mailto:kag255@cornell.edu) to register no later than Monday, May 13. There is no cost for the meeting for those enrolled in the FLGP, but there is a \$10/person fee for those who are not enrolled in the Grape Program. We anticipate that pesticide recertification credits will be available for the meeting. If you want to receive credits, please provide your pesticide applicator ID number to Karen when you register.

### Introductory Spanish Workshop: Focusing on Agriculture & Viticulture Language

*Session 1:*

*May 6 & 8, 2013*

*6:30 - 8:00 PM*

*Session 2:*

*May 20 & 22, 2013*

*6:30 - 8:00 PM*

*Damiani Wine Cellars*

*4704 NY Route 414, Burdett NY*

This will be an introduction for farmers, grape growers, and anyone interested in crossing linguistic barriers to improve quality, productivity, approachability and human connection.

Registration cost is \$25 for each of the two sessions. To register, contact Rachel Orlyk at [rachel.orlyk@gmail.com](mailto:rachel.orlyk@gmail.com) or 347-409-2559.

## finger lakes vineyard update

Got some grapes to sell? Looking to buy some equipment or bulk wine? List your ad on the [NY Grape & Wine Classifieds website](#) today!

Become a fan of the [Finger Lakes Grape Program on Facebook](#), or follow us on [Twitter \(@cceflgp\)](#). Also check out our website, "The Grape Lakes – Viticulture in the Finger Lakes" at <http://flg.cce.cornell.edu>.

*Finger Lakes Vineyard Update* is an e-mail newsletter produced by the Finger Lakes Grape Program and sent out by subscription. For subscription information, please call us at 315-536-5134 or look for subscription forms at <http://blogs.cornell.edu/flgp/enroll/>.

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.