



Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

2013 Spring Grape Pest Management Meeting

Hans Walter-Peterson

Thursday, May 16, 2013 4:00 – 6:20 PM

Clearview Farms

4150 Stever Hill Road

Branchport NY ([click here for map](#))

Please pre-register by Monday, May 13

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'.

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 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. The DEC has awarded 2.0 pesticide recertification credits for this meeting. If you want to receive credits, please provide your pesticide applicator ID number to Karen when you register.

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Upcoming Events: [more details in Upcoming Events](#)

Vineyard Tailgate Meeting	May 14, 2013
2013 Spring Grape Pest Management Meeting	May 16, 2013
Introductory Spanish Workshop	Session 1- May 6 & 8 Session 2 -May 20 & 22

In The Vineyard—May 8, 2013

Hans Walter-Peterson

The warm, sunny weather over the past week has pushed buds on most varieties to be near or past the budbreak stage by now. We continue to see even development of young shoots along canes and cordons, and very few canes with fewer than half their buds showing signs of life and growth.



Cayuga White



Catawba



Riesling

Shoot Thinning

Early varieties like Foch, Gewurtztraminer, Chardonnay, and Lemberger will probably reach 5-6" of shoot growth within the next several days, which is the start of the window where shoot thinning could be considered. Shoot thinning can help to open up crowded portions of the canopy with a high number of shoots in a small area. These crowded shoots cause shading in the interior of the canopy, which can negatively impact bud fruitfulness (and therefore next year's crop) and promote disease development by preventing the fruit and canopy from drying out quickly. Leaves that are shaded inside of these crowded areas also act in a parasitic way to the vine, because they don't have enough sunlight to properly undergo photosynthesis.

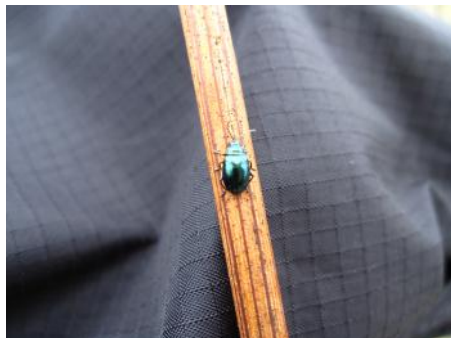
The "challenge" with shoot thinning, or any canopy management practice, is that its benefits need to outweigh the costs to do it. While the practice itself may take less than 2 hours per acre to do, it also reduced the crop on the vine, so growers need to be able to recoup the costs of both the labor to do it and the lost crop. A few different studies on both hybrids and vinifera varieties have been ambiguous at best about the impacts of shoot thinning on fruit and wine quality, which makes it more difficult to justify the practice. However, the benefits gained from the improved canopy environment (better light penetration and air movement) may make the practice worthwhile regardless of the impacts on yield and quality. But each grower needs to make that assessment on their own, on their own site.

The general rule of thumb is to leave 4-5 shoots per foot of canopy for vinifera varieties, but those numbers can bump up a little bit for hybrids on top wire systems. Native varieties like Concord can have 15 shoots per foot and still be highly productive, so thinning is usually not necessary in these varieties when they are pruned using "traditional" pruning formulas. If you consider doing some shoot thinning, I suggest trying it on a small portion of your vineyard first, and see if you notice any differences in disease levels, sugar content, color, etc.

You can read some more information about shoot thinning in the upcoming May issue of the *Finger Lakes Vineyard Notes*, which should be coming out sometime next week.

IPM—Steely Beetle/Grape Flea Beetle

Hans Walter-Peterson



We are still not finding flea beetles out in the vineyards that we have visited this week. We continue to see one or two buds that appear to have been chewed on by beetles or climbing cutworms, but still not nearly at the levels that we were finding last year. It will still pay to scout potential hotspots for their presence, especially near woods and in areas that were especially hard hit with damage last year.

Just as a reminder, Greg Loeb suggests a level of 2% bud damage where growers should consider applying a control material for steely beetle or climbing cutworm. The beetles are most active on warm, sunny days, so be sure to scout for them when we have those conditions. Materials that are labeled for steely beetle control (as listed in the [2013 Grape IPM Guidelines](#)) include Sevin, Danitol, Baythroid and Leverage.

Phomopsis

Early varieties are just about at 1-3" of shoot growth, which is the suggested window for the first early season phomopsis spray. While we have had warm and dry conditions over the past week or so, which help to prevent phomopsis infections, the weather forecasts are saying there is a greater potential for rain over the next several days, which can get the initial infections going. These first 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 continue to 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 infection events for phomopsis.

NEWA Grape Forecast Models

Select a disease or insect:
Grape Diseases
Map Results More info

Weather Station:
 Dresden (FLGP/FLCC)

Ending Date:
 5/8/2013

Calculate

Grape Disease Infection Events for Dresden (FLGP/FLCC)

	Past	Past	Current	Grape Disease 5-Day Forecast					Forecast Details
	May 6	May 7	May 8	May 9	May 10	May 11	May 12	May 13	
Phomopsis	No	No	No	-	-	-	-	-	
Powdery Mildew	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	-	-	-	
Black Rot	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: 1 inch shoot

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	The early spray at around 3 inch shoot growth, when clusters first become visible, is most important for controlling rachis infections, shoot infections that serve as future sources of inoculum, and infections that move from berry stems into the fruit. <u>A minimal spray program should include at least one application during this period to protect against infection events</u> , especially in blocks with a history of Phomopsis and on <u>highly susceptible varieties</u> .
Powdery	A lot of powdery mildew the previous year = More primary inoculum to cause infections this spring. The model logs potential primary infection events. Consider early sprays near the 3-5 inch shoot growth stage for highly susceptible <i>V. vinifera</i>

The Finger Lakes Teaching Vineyard

Mike Colizzi

The Finger Lakes Teaching Vineyard, a partnership between the Finger Lakes Grape Program, Finger Lakes Community College, and Anthony Road Wine Company was planted in May of 2012. In just under a year there has already been a great deal of learning taking place. Students from the Viticulture and Wine Tech program at FLCC were busy helping with the establishment and maintenance, while prospective grape growers learned that there is a lot more to starting a vineyard than they may have thought. The teaching vineyard located at Anthony Road Wine Company is designed to educate students, industry personal, and the community about grape growing in the Finger Lakes.

As the vineyard enters its second leaf we look back at just some of the learning opportunities the vineyard has already provided. Last fall the Finger Lakes Grape Program held a beginning grower workshop at the teaching vineyard focusing on site selection and preparation. Attendees also pruned young vines and learned how management strategies can differ depending on variety. The fourteen different varieties planted in the vineyard afford visitors just a glimpse of all that the Finger Lakes grape industry

has to offer. Last year we had one and a half rows left unplanted. This spring the full row will be planted to Chenin Blanc while the half row will be a mixture of Elvira, Catawba, and Niagara. You are probably wondering why we would plant a mixed row like that. Due to recent market trends we have seen many vineyards ripped out and replanted to a more lucrative variety. This half row will be used to demonstrate and evaluated the feasibility of field grafting. This process has been shown to save time and money as well as produce a crop in its second year.

This past year FLCC students had the opportunity put their classroom knowledge to the test. The students helped with tasks such as site preparation, planting, and installation of the trellis and irrigation system. They also spent a couple classes pruning and tying.

We recently installed soil moisture sensors in the vineyard, which will allow us to track the volumetric

water content and temperature of the soil. These sensors use the dielectric constant of

the soil to measure the amount of water present. They are essentially measuring the electro conductivity of the soil. As the water content of the soil increase the dielectric constant will also increase. These measurements will greatly improve our irrigation efficiency, and can help us track the vines peak water demands. We decided to place one moisture sensor in each of the two soil types. Most of the vineyard is made up of Honeoye silt loam, however there is one part that has a large sand content. This project has provided great learning opportunities for all who are involved with it. We look forward to hosting more workshops this year.



A Riesling vine at the teaching vineyard.

The Cost of Spraying Every Row

Kevin Martin, Farm Business Management Specialist, Lake Erie Regional Grape Program

Sometimes the conversation at a coffee pot still surprises me. Yesterday, nobody was shy about his practice. Over half the growers were committed to spraying every row, most at 3-5". Others couldn't imagine wasting their time. Off the cuff, I was not confident articulating the additional cost of switching to every row. Nonetheless, here is that information.

The additional cost of a spray application every row is \$9.85 per acre, per application. Of that cost, \$2.10 per acre represents additional labor. Tractor costs including fuel, depreciation and maintenance total \$5.75 per acre. Depreciation and sprayer maintenance for a typical sprayer would add an additional \$2 per acre. Over the course of the season, the additional cost would probably total slightly less than \$50 per acre.

For most growers, most of the additional expenses (depreciation and maintenance) arise after harvest. Costs incurred in real time are limited to fuel and labor. The total cost for fuel and labor is \$16 per acre. When superior coverage results in an increase in yield, the gain will typically be realized prior to the expense. Most growers should be able to realize savings of \$16 per acre by managing their material costs.

These additional costs assume growers are attempting to spray every other row year round. Reality is more complex, of course. Many growers switch to every row at some point in the season. Some growers find themselves, on average, using one additional late season spray. Other growers hope for lower disease pressure.

In my opinion, the reality is, few things cost \$50 per acre. If that is the adequate cost of coverage, I am buying. If a grower has to do anything as a result of higher disease pressure, it will likely cost more than \$50 per acre. Growers typically spend more than \$50 per acre, annually, on surfactants adjuvants and foliar feeds. That is not to say some of those are not necessary. Only an attempt to put the cost in perspective, as one of the least expensive things you can do.

This article originally appeared in the LERGP's Crop Update, May 2, 2013.

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.

Finger Lakes Vineyard Update

Here is the schedule for the rest of our Tailgate meetings this season:

Date	Address
May 28	Hicks Farm, 5301 Seneca Point Road, Canandaigua, NY 14424
June 11	Hosmer Vineyards, 6999 Route 89, Ovid NY 14521
June 25	Dr. Konstantin Frank's Wine Cellars, 9749 Middle Road, Hammondsport NY 14840
July 9	Hermann J. Wiemer Winery, 3962 State Route 14, Dundee NY 14837
July 23	Vine Country Farms (Roy & Gordon Taft), 8531 County Rd 79, Prattsburgh NY 14873
August 6	Atwater Vineyards, 5055 Route 414, Hector NY 14841
August 20	Goose Watch Winery, 5480 Route 89, Romulus NY 14541

2013 Spring Grape Pest Management Meeting

Thursday, May 16, 2013 4:00 – 6:20 PM

Clearview Farms

4150 Stever Hill Road, Branchport NY

See the announcement at the beginning of this week's Vineyard Update.

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 or 347-409-2559.

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
4/17/13	56.0	38.4	0.00	0.0	23.5
4/18/13	69.1	40.8	0.00	5.0	28.5
4/19/13	74.5	44.2	0.20	9.4	37.8
4/20/13	45.2	32.5	0.02	0.0	37.8
4/21/13	45.7	27.8	0.00	0.0	37.8
4/22/13	59.7	28.7	0.00	0.0	37.8
4/23/13	60.9	35.2	0.00	0.0	37.8

April 2013 GDD: 69.4
Long-term Average GDD for April: 65.9
April 2013 Rainfall: 2.18"
Long-term average Rain for April: 2.87"

Additional Information

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>.

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