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From: bounce-100763854-9785849@list.cornell.edu on behalf of Kevin A. lungerman [kai3@cornell.edu]
Sent: Sunday, July 14, 2013 4:54 PM
To: CCE Cold Country Viticulture List
Subject: Friday-Saturday, 9-4 Mid-season Disease Review & Canopy Management Working Seminar, Willsboro. Also: later Summer and Future(?)



CCE ENY Commercial Horticulture Program



Willsboro Working Seminar covering crop management and vine/crop quality. Friday, July 19, Saturday July 20, 9:00 - 4:00 PM.

So how has your early season disease management gone? Anything beginning to show up that you scratching your head about? Fungicide action to-date and ahead?

And how's the growth going: canopy relatively open? Fruit has dappled-light exposure? Crop is pretty well apportioned over the vine's real estate? Clusters apportioned to cane carrying capacity?

On both Friday and Saturday, July 19, 20, Willsboro Grape Technician Lindsey Pashow and I will be working in the vineyard to assess our vines performance on these aspects. It will be another of our working seminars and the quid pro quo is this: bring your questions and interest and we will have explanation and demonstration of how we are addressing / remedying canopy and crop load in the interest of eventual quality and more even maturation. We welcome your questions and participation for all or portions of the two days.

If you wish only to see what we are carrying out and our reasons for our actions, you may come on either afternoon at 1:00 PM.

Please reply to Lindsey Pashow at lepashow@hotmail.com if you plan to come.

Bring Information of what you are seeing in your vineyard.

As to symptoms we may see, and symptoms you may be seeing at home (bring along foliar or cluster samples or photos in this regard) we will attempt to sort things and for some things, arrange for follow-up review by folks at Cornell.

Perhaps the last chance to see the Willsboro Trial and its implications for your production choices.

We have 25 wine grape varieties at Willsboro, originally planted in 2005. Come compare these vines and see what site choice, IPM, and pruning/canopy management can achieve. Note trunk and cordon calipers. Our vines at Willsboro include:

Reds:	Whites:
Baco	Aromella, (formerly NY 76.844.24)
Foch	Cayuga White
Frontenac	Edelweiss
GR7	ES 6 - 16 - 30
Landot	Frontenac Gris
Leon Millot	LaCrescent
Marquette (formerly MN 1211)	LaCrosse
MN 1200	Louise Swenson
Noiret	Niagara
"Not Ravat 34"	Petite Amie
Sabrevois	Prairie Star
St Croix	St Croix
	St. Pepin

Apart from survival and regional suitability what can be seen or inferred?

Our Willsboro Trial has been a comparison of multiple varieties under uniform treatment with the idea of highlighting suitability to this particular L & L (latitude and longitude) region, especially as regards both crop and wood maturation for long term performance and survival.

Training System Inferences. While not a comparison of training systems per se, you can nevertheless see growth indications that suggest alternative training systems if you were actually planting a producing block rather planting a block of samples to assess climatic compatibility (which Willsboro is).

Vine Densities. And note vine x spacing realities: ours are uniformly at 10 feet between rows and 8 feet between vines in the row. Are you planting tighter? You may wish to reassess that and/or certainly assess your training system and required labor over the life of your vineyard very carefully.

Unique Vine Characteristics. As we work through the different varieties, we will note differences of growth habit, vigor, and even cluster and berry size at this relatively early date.

Differential Vulnerabilities. We will also point out the decline of some varieties over time due to winter injury (such as Cayuga White), the impact of virus (suspected in Landot - samples being submitted for analysis. [Also likely winter decline as well], and particular vulnerabilities, such as Prairie Star's intolerance of wind stress to young shoots [our only vine that we were compelled to modify to a lower wire training approach to avoid cane breakage). There are also differences of disease, pest, and nutritional response.

Incidentally, this may very well be the last season that the Grape Trial will be available for such educational purposes. It's future is uncertain.

Despite the help of volunteers with harvests and in these "working seminars" which both provide hands-on instruction to you and help to maintain the trial, the trial has also required proposal writing over the years to secure funds to underwrite its care and operational expenses (for instance seasonal technician aide, chemicals [fertilizers, protectants], testing, harvest supplies, etc.).

I will be retiring from Cornell later this fall and relocating to Minnesota. This cce-cold-country-viticulture-L site will cease by mid-October.

The Willsboro trial may or may not continue under a successor, as the role and actions of a potential successor may change. Personally, I have suggested there be a greater viticulture role (my position was ostensibly 70 : 30 apples to grapes) and that any successor be based either in Essex or Clinton County. (I have been based in Saratoga County). I would be glad to share my views of possibilities. Should you have interest in serving on a possible replacement search committee let me now and I will advance your name to Cornell.

Interest has been expressed and advanced for local private lease management of the Willsboro Trial in lieu of the present (or comparable) Cornell Extension role. I have not had a response from Cornell auspices as yet regarding this possibility.

So if you have never viewed the trial, the differences alluded to, and the cropping, this could be the last time you will see the extent of such an array of wine grapes in one place in the north country. I believe you will otherwise have to go to the USDA planting at Geneva or possibly Dr. Bruce Reisch's breeding vineyard also at Geneva.

Other Events this summer:

Note Lindsey Pashow's Post of other upcoming educational events, and watch for future announcements covering netting, raccoon deterrence, and of course harvest. As in 2012, we welcome posts noting veraison dates, brix progression, and harvest dates.

So, make the most of available learning resources!

Regards, K. Iungerman

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"Suggestions? Comments? Ideas? Possibilities begin with people sharing ideas and working together."