

Happy Spring! Grape growers across the state are gearing up for the growing season or in some cases may see budburst in their vineyards. Here are a handful of updates and reminders for the onset of the growing season.

Vineyard Pest Management

Our team of pest management specialists have published a Pest Management Guide(PMG) for 2022.

https://www.pubs.ext.vt.edu/content/dam/pubs_ext_vt_edu/456/456-017/ENTO-463-C.pdf

For more updates and resources, check out the blog from our Grape Pathologist, Dr. Mizuho Nita: <https://ext.grapepathology.org/>

As well as Extension Entomologist, Dr. Doug Pfeiffer:

<https://virginiafruitinsectupdates.blogspot.com/>

Here are a couple general vineyard reminders for this time of year:

- Review your plan for weed management in the vineyard, especially if you are using a pre-emergence herbicide.
- Additional as the buds swell in the vineyard, [Climbing Cutworms](#) and [Grape Flea Beetles](#) are common threats.
- As shoots grow, think about Phomopsis and start protective control of fungal pathogens. See Dr. Nita's blog for a spray template or the PMG for chemical control options.

Speaking of Pesticide use in the vineyard, here are two legal requirements:

- First, The Worker Protection Standards (WPS) require that employees that work in an area treated with pesticides must receive a WPS worker training every year and keep record of that training. Here is a checklist for agricultural employers: <https://pesticideresources.org/wps/hosted/wps-ag-employer-checklists.pdf>
- Keeping a record of the spray applications available for vineyard workers is a requirement of the WPS. A template for recording keeping is attached to this message. Dr. Nita's Web Tool [GrapelPM.org](#) will help with recordkeeping.

Spring frosts

For reminders on frost injury and strategies to mitigate damage, check out this article available from PSU <https://extension.psu.edu/understanding-and-preventing-spring-frost-and-freeze-damage-to-grapes> *

*If the link above does not work, enter "understanding and preventing spring frost and freeze damage to grapes" into a search engine.

Update from Research Vineyard

We have a new research vineyard in the Northern Shenandoah Valley. Dana Acimovic, Viticulture Research Associate here at the lab inspected bud mortality from the varieties grown in the research vineyard March 31 following the cold spell on March 28, when the meteorology station in the vineyard recorded 19.25 °F at 6am.

Most of the varieties here in Winchester were not showing much bud enlargement at that point. Most cultivars were at [E-L phenology](#) stage 2, with the exception of SK-77, which was at stage EL-3 in Winchester, VA. As SK-77 was the most advanced, it displayed the damage. Other cultivars being tested and the Cab Franc and Chardonnay “standards” have exhibited minimal damage at this point; please see table below. These vineyards were planted in 2020 and 2021, so they are young vines.

Developmental Stage on March 31, 2022

Variety	Bud Mortality (%)	EL-2 (%)	EL-3 (%)
SK-77	24	21	79
Fleurtai	14	67	28
Verdejo	0	33	0
Soreli	7	40	0
Teroldego	3	36	0
Garanoir	8	98	0
Marselan	46	51	0
Gamaret	0	97	0
Eco-1 (San Marco)	4	59	0
Itasca	0	46	0
Saperavi	4	100	0
Cab. Franc	0	68	0
Chardonnay	3	73	0

The good news is that most other cultivars were still in the winter bud stage (EL-1) and were not injured during this event.

Upcoming Meetings:

Eastern Viticulture and Enology Forum -Practical Precision Viticulture Tools for Modest Sized Vineyards - Webinar

April 12th 2022

3 pm

Registration required: <https://extension.psu.edu/practical-precision-viticulture-tools-for-modest-sized-vineyards>

*If the link above does not work, enter “Practical precision viticulture tools for modest sized vineyards” into a search engine.

Grape IPM tutorial – Virtual Meeting

April 15th 2022

11 am

Registration required: <https://forms.gle/pWmN1hMTt6BNzmSy6>

VVA Technical Meeting – In person

May 12 & 13th 2022

Charlottesville

Registration required: <https://virginiavineyardsassociation.org/winter-technical-meeting-registration/#id=134&cid=1041&wid=3301>

Survey

Dear Wine and Grape Industry Members,

Spotted Lanternfly (SLF) threatens the grape and wine industry. However, we have not formally collected evidence on ***SLF impacts on the grape and wine industry regarding yield loss, management costs, potential business reputation loss, and industry outlook.***

With your help, this survey aims to fill this gap and collect data on SLF's actual costs to grape and wine industry members.

Even if your vineyard or winery is not impacted, please fill out the survey.

You can access the survey here: https://pennstate.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_b1I8IGq5cZxQMIO

If you have questions about this survey, please contact Claudia Schmidt (czs786@psu.edu).



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