



Mira Garner &lt;mira.garner@gmail.com&gt;

---

## Weekly Update

5 messages

---

**April Mahovlic** <aprilmahovlic@gmail.com>

Sun, Aug 16, 2020 at 12:06 PM

To: Mira Garner &lt;mira.garner@gmail.com&gt;, "Wolkovich, Elizabeth" &lt;e.wolkovich@ubc.ca&gt;

Hi Mira and Lizzie,

I hope you are both enjoying the weekend! I've been doing my best to stay cool out in the field with the hot weather we've been having.

Here with another update email on how this past week has gone!

Veraison is now underway at all sites. All varieties at Nkmip and Dark Horse are in veraison, and it is starting to finish up for the Syrah at Nkmip, as well as the Pinot Noir and Chardonnay at Dark Horse. Almost all varieties at McIntyre are in veraison (except the Cab Sauv) however it is a little behind the other southern sites. Veraison is just starting at Quails gate with the Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Sauv Blanc, Syrah and Riesling.

The berries are turning quickly, and I'm noticing big changes each time I visit a site. I've got a great flow going with my schedule, and I'm able to hit each site every 3 days so I can catch changes as quickly as possible.

I've got a good technique going with feeling the clusters for softness, however am not able to be as precise as I was with bloom. For this reason, you will notice I do not have every 5% increment from 5-100 included in my data sheet.

In addition, I am noticing photos are less helpful in keeping my measurements consistent, as grapes often soften before color change in the red varieties, and color change is difficult to discern with the white varieties. I have been regularly posting photos, however sometimes the measurements do not seem represented in the photos for this reason. I'm not sure if it is helpful or confusing for me to keep uploading photos where the percentage of veraison isn't necessarily represented in the photo? Let me know!

A question. I'm noticing when a grape has pest damage, it sometimes doesn't undergo veraison at the same rate as the rest of the cluster, sometimes not at all. I'm wondering if I should still be including these grapes in my estimations as not having undergone veraison, or exclude them from my observations? I hope that makes sense.

Lastly, I've been in touch with all the supervisors for the southern sites and let them know the dates we are hoping to do Brix. From what it sounds like, they usually stop scheduled sprays (such as Sulfur) once veraison has begun. This is to ensure there are no residual chemicals on the grapes come harvest, and that they don't interfere with the wine making process. So we should be in the clear for those dates. However, there may be intermittent sprays for insect pests such as leafhoppers. I'm always in regular contact with the supervisors to schedule my monitoring visits, so I will be sure to check again before our brix dates to make sure we can have them blocked off of any sprays.

Thanks for reading another short novel about my week in the field! Haha.  
Take care and enjoy the rest of your weekend.

Warm Regards,

**April Mahovlic**

BSc Hons. Microbiology

[aprilmahovlic@gmail.com](mailto:aprilmahovlic@gmail.com)

250-488-4386

---

**Elizabeth M Wolkovich** <wolkovic@mail.ubc.ca>

Sun, Aug 16, 2020 at 12:24 PM

Reply-To: e.wolkovich@ubc.ca

To: April Mahovlic &lt;aprilmahovlic@gmail.com&gt;, Mira Garner &lt;mira.garner@gmail.com&gt;

Hi April,

Thanks for this update! It's really interesting to hear the progress across the valley -- as I have only ever worked at one site before I am fascinated by the variation from Nkmip to Quails gate. And it sounds like our plan to sample Brix 26-27 August is pretty good timing (though we may skip Quails gate if it is not very far along, but we'll see).

Thanks for your efforts on photos! I would say add a few more photos -- it's helpful just to know they may not look dramatically different, but maybe don't spend as much time on photos as you did for the other stages.

As for the diseased/damaged ones -- we should make a note, stop recording that cluster and switch to a healthier cluster if there is one nearby.

That's great about the spraying!

See you next week!

Lizzie

On 8/16/20 12:06 PM, April Mahovlic wrote:

Hi Mira and Lizzie,

I hope you are both enjoying the weekend! I've been doing my best to stay cool out in the field with the hot weather we've been having.

Here with another update email on how this past week has gone!

Veraison is now underway at all sites. All varieties at Nkmip and Dark Horse are in veraison, and it is starting to finish up for the Syrah at Nkmip, as well as the Pinot Noir and Chardonnay at Dark Horse. Almost all varieties at McIntyre are in veraison (except the Cab Sauv) however it is a little behind the other southern sites. Veraison is just starting at Quails gate with the Pinot Noir, Chardonnay, Sauv Blanc, Syrah and Riesling.

The berries are turning quickly, and I'm noticing big changes each time I visit a site. I've got a great flow going with my schedule, and I'm able to hit each site every 3 days so I can catch changes as quickly as possible.

I've got a good technique going with feeling the clusters for softness, however am not able to be as precise as I was with bloom. For this reason, you will notice I do not have every 5% increment from 5-100 included in my data sheet. In addition, I am noticing photos are less helpful in keeping my measurements consistent, as grapes often soften before color change in the red varieties, and color change is difficult to discern with the white varieties. I have been regularly posting photos, however sometimes the measurements do not seem represented in the photos for this reason. I'm not sure if it is helpful or confusing for me to keep uploading photos where the percentage of veraison isn't necessarily represented in the photo? Let me know!

A question. I'm noticing when a grape has pest damage, it sometimes doesn't undergo veraison at the same rate as the rest of the cluster, sometimes not at all. I'm wondering if I should still be including these grapes in my estimations as not having undergone veraison, or exclude them from my observations? I hope that makes sense.

Lastly, I've been in touch with all the supervisors for the southern sites and let them know the dates we are hoping to do Brix. From what it sounds like, they usually stop scheduled sprays (such as Sulfur) once veraison has begun. This is to ensure there are no residual chemicals on the grapes come harvest, and that they don't interfere with the wine making process. So we should be in the clear for those dates. However, there may be intermittent sprays for insect pests such as leafhoppers. I'm always in regular contact with the supervisors to schedule my monitoring visits, so I will be sure to check again before our brix dates to make sure we can have them blocked off of any sprays.

Thanks for reading another short novel about my week in the field! Haha.  
Take care and enjoy the rest of your weekend.

Warm Regards,  
\*April Mahovlic\*  
BSc Hons. Microbiology  
[aprilmahovlic@gmail.com](mailto:aprilmahovlic@gmail.com) <<mailto:aprilmahovlic@gmail.com>>  
250-488-4386

--  
Elizabeth M Wolkovich  
Forest and Conservation Sciences  
University of British Columbia  
3041 - 2424 Main Mall  
Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4  
Office: 604-827-5246  
[www.temporalecology.org](http://www.temporalecology.org)

---

**April Mahovlic** <aprilmahovlic@gmail.com>

Sun, Aug 16, 2020 at 1:09 PM

To: e.wolkovich@ubc.ca

Cc: Mira Garner &lt;mira.garner@gmail.com&gt;

Hi Lizzie,

Thanks for your reply!

Were we planning on sampling brix at Quails Gate on those dates too? I must have missed that from your first email. I haven't spoke to Judy about it yet. She is away next week, and said they won't be spraying, but I'm not sure about the week we will be doing brix. Let me know.

I can definitely add some more photos! I definitely haven't been spending as much time on it as I did for bloom.

As for the damaged clusters, thanks for the clarification. I can make an effort to search for healthier clusters nearby. I have already been doing this for clusters with lots of damage. If I don't end up finding a better looking cluster, I'll just keep the note that there is pest damage on the cluster being monitored. Most vines have at least some damage on each cluster, so I wasn't sure if I should be spending too much time moving flags around.

Thanks for all the help!

Cheers,

April

[Quoted text hidden]

--

[Quoted text hidden]

---

**Elizabeth M Wolkovich** <wolkovic@mail.ubc.ca>

Sun, Aug 16, 2020 at 1:51 PM

Reply-To: e.wolkovich@ubc.ca

To: April Mahovlic &lt;aprilmahovlic@gmail.com&gt;

Cc: Mira Garner &lt;mira.garner@gmail.com&gt;

Hi April,

As it's our first year I have little idea how Brix will go. Our priority is the southern vineyards, but if time allows we might try to do Brix at Quails' Gate so please check in with Judy if you can, but let her know it's tentative.

I think you're on the right track with photos they are *\*definitely\** less critical to have for veraison than flowering so maybe take a few more and that could be enough.

Thanks for the info on the damaged clusters .... I am not used to that much damage, but it might be normal for this far north. If that many clusters have damage then we should not move flags around so much. Generally the rule is to move if you have an 'unusual cluster' ... if most have damage it's not that unusual! Maybe you should add a column to the datasheet for damage and note the clusters with damage in that column (you could either do Y or N in there or put a 1 if the cluster has a little damage, a 2 for moderate etc. -- you probably have the best sense of how many levels you can quickly determine).

All the best,  
Lizzie

On 8/16/20 1:09 PM, April Mahovlic wrote:

Hi Lizzie,

Thanks for your reply!

Were we planning on sampling brix at Quails Gate on those dates too? I must have missed that from your first email. I haven't spoke to Judy about it yet. She is away next week, and said they won't be spraying, but I'm not sure about the week we will be doing brix. Let me know.

I can definitely add some more photos! I definitely haven't been spending as much time on it as I did for bloom.

As for the damaged clusters, thanks for the clarification. I can make an effort to search for healthier clusters nearby. I have already been doing this for clusters with lots of damage. If I don't end up finding a better looking cluster, I'll just

keep the note that there is pest damage on the cluster being monitored. Most vines have at least some damage on each cluster, so I wasn't sure if I should be spending too much time moving flags around.

Thanks for all the help!

Cheers,  
April

[Quoted text hidden]

<<mailto:aprilmahovlic@gmail.com> <<mailto:aprilmahovlic@gmail.com>>>

> 250-488-4386

>

--

Elizabeth M Wolkovich

Forest and Conservation Sciences

University of British Columbia

3041 - 2424 Main Mall

Vancouver, BC V6T 1Z4

Office: 604-827-5246

[www.temporalecology.org](http://www.temporalecology.org) <<http://www.temporalecology.org>>

--

\*April Mahovlic\*

BSc Hons. Microbiology

[aprilmahovlic@gmail.com](mailto:aprilmahovlic@gmail.com) <<mailto:aprilmahovlic@gmail.com>>

250-488-4386

[Quoted text hidden]

---

**April Mahovlic** <[aprilmahovlic@gmail.com](mailto:aprilmahovlic@gmail.com)>

Sun, Aug 16, 2020 at 2:00 PM

To: [e.wolkovich@ubc.ca](mailto:e.wolkovich@ubc.ca)

Cc: Mira Garner <[mira.garner@gmail.com](mailto:mira.garner@gmail.com)>

Hi Lizzie,

Thanks for clarifying, I'll try and get in contact with Judy this week and let her know our plans.

I can definitely add a column for damage for the clusters. Sounds like I've been on track so far, and trying to only move flags if the cluster has a lot of damage and isn't representative of the vine as a whole. I'll see what works best for making notes on damage and let you know how it goes!

Thanks again, I'll be in touch next week!

Cheers,  
April

[Quoted text hidden]

[Quoted text hidden]