Long Island Sustainable Winegrowing Inc.

Certification Program

2019

The 18 Core Criteria

Number 1 is from Soil Management Section (pages 15-16 of Workbook):

Question: If vineyard has a high runoff potential, is a plan in place to mitigate the runoff?

Reason for inclusion: Ensures that some plan is in place to reduce the risk of sedimentary and pesticide runoff utilizing physical structures (i.e. diversion ditches, buffer strips), vineyard floor management, and timing of pesticide/fertilizer applications (precipitation forecasts).
(growers must provide a written conservation plan to satisfy this requirement)

Number 2 is from Nutrition Management Section (page 40 of Workbook):

Question: Combines the questions regarding tissue/soil analysis timing

Reason for inclusion: Will ensure that tissue analysis (2 years) and soil analysis (3 years) are performed in able to reduce unwanted and wasteful (read lost$) fertilizer application.

Number 3 is from Nutrition Management Section (page 41-44 of Workbook):

Question: What criteria are used to determine the rate of N fertilization?

Reason for inclusion: Basing the N fertilization rates on at least 4 of the listed criteria will require some basic reasoning for N fertilization, again potentially reducing over fertilization and possible Nitrate issues– a huge issue for Long Island groundwater protection.
(exception—fall application of cured compost)

Number 4 is from Nutrition Management Section (page 49 of Workbook):

Question: Combines questions regarding fertilizer storage

Reason for inclusion: Will require that if fertilizers are stored (scoring a 3) during the season, the method in which they are stored is safe and reduces the risk of spills/leaching.

Number 5 is from Vineyard Management Section (page 53 of Workbook, Vineyard Map section only):

Question: Does a vineyard map exist?

Reason for inclusion: Basic mapping is beneficial to the grower and can help them make better decisions regarding numerous areas of vineyard management, including weed, insect, and disease control.

Number 6 is from Weed Management Section (page 72 of Workbook):

Question: What factors are used to determine weed control strategies?

Reason for inclusion: As part of sustainable vineyard management, it is not necessary to have pristine weed control throughout the season. Critical times and "hot spots" in your vineyard should be part of the overall weed management plan.

Number 7 is from Weed Management Section (page 73/74 of Workbook):

Question: Are the leaching potential of herbicides and soil characteristics considered in choosing soil applied herbicides? Are you using pre-emergent herbicides?

Reason for inclusion: Would require that soil characteristics and leaching potential are considered when applying herbicides. Materials such as Simazine and Diuron are **NOT ALLOWED** thereby reducing ground/surface water contamination risk. Page 74 is changed to include Chateau under score of 2.

Number 8 is from Weed Management Section (page 75 and 77 of Workbook):

Question: Is the herbicide sprayer calibrated properly? What types of herbicides are used?

Reason for inclusion: Would require that the herbicide sprayer is serviced and calibrated annually reducing the risk of over/under applying herbicides, ensuring efficacy and mitigating contamination risk. High risk materials like Gramaxone are **NOT ALLOWED**.

Number 9 is from Pest Management Section (page 80 of Workbook):

Question: What type of canopy sprayer is used?

Reason for inclusion: Will ensure that some drift reduction efforts are being made when applying crop protection. Simple modifications to most sprayers (i.e. nozzle orientation) have proven to reduce unwanted drift significantly. A recycling sprayer is greatly preferred. Efficient spraying techniques and drift modifications for airblast sprayers can be found in the annual NY & PA Pest Management Guidelines for Grapes.

Number 10 is from Pest Management Section (page 82, 83 of Workbook):

Question: Combines questions regarding sprayer calibration, environmental considerations, and sprayer maintenance.

Reason for inclusion: Will ensure that proper calibration and maintenance of sprayer will reduce over/under application of crop protectants and that weather conditions are considered to reduce drift potential. (standard calibration worksheet to be included)

<u>Number 11</u> is from Pest Management Section (page 92 of Workbook):

Question: Is scouting done for fungal and viral diseases?

Reason for inclusion: Scouting for diseases and pests can enable the grower to make better decisions regarding action. One can also scout for viral diseases but there is no course of action. An answer of 3 will be accepted so long as the grower includes in their Action Plan a record keeping goal and uses the standardized form to be provided.

<u>Number 12</u> is from Pest Management Section (page 94 of Workbook):

Question: Where possible are reduced risk fungicides, bio-pesticides, minimum risk fungicides and/or organic fungicides used?

Reason for inclusion: lower risk materials contribute to a safer environment. **A score of 1 is required**.

<u>Number 13</u> is from Pest Management Section (page 99-100 of Workbook):

Question: Does scouting for insect and mite pests take place? Is spot treatment used for insect/mite infestations?

Reason for inclusion: Scouting for diseases and pests can enable the grower to make better decisions regarding action. An answer of 3 will be accepted so long as the grower includes in their Action Plan a record keeping goal and uses the standardized form to be provided. (use of broad spectrum insecticides must be linked to an IPM scouting report)

<u>Number 14</u> is from Pesticide Management Section (Pages 108, 109)

Question: Combines questions regarding pesticide storage, specifically what is the condition of the floor in storage area, what security measures are taken, and what is the condition of the containers.

Reason for inclusion: Safe and proper pesticide storage is the aim of this Criteria. Will require that at least an impermeable floor (Score of 3) is present in storage area, limiting potential contamination from spills, a separate and signed and secure (Score of 2) location is present to deter theft and inadvertent access, and that the condition of the containers is such that the contents can be identified (Score of 3 as long as contents are identifiable (i.e. hand label). The presence of unknown/old pesticides will be allowed so long as participation in a local Clean Sweep NY program is indicated on the growers Action Plan.

<u>Number 15</u> is from Pesticide Management Section (page 110-111 of Workbook):

Question: What type of mixing/loading area is used?

Reason for inclusion: A proper mixing/loading area is important to reduce the risk of ground contamination due to spillage. There have been programs available to growers to share in the cost of

building mixing/loading sites, however they may not be available at this time due to funding. To that end a Score of 3 will be accepted until participation in such cost sharing programs is available.

Number 16 is from Pesticide Management Section (page112 of Workbook):

Question: Is a proper anti-backflow device in place?

Reason for inclusion: As a means of protecting the waters of NYS, the Department of Environmental Conservation requires an effective anti-siphon device on any water source used to fill pesticide spray tanks. Approved devices are RPZ (reduced pressure principle devices), RPDA's (reduced pressure detector assembly) or an air gap separation between the end of the supply pipe/hose and the flood rim of the receptacle (distance shall be at least double the inside diameter of the supply pipe). Contact the NYS DEC, CCE-SC, NRCS or SCS&W for more information.

Number 17 is from Pesticide Management Section (Page 116 of workbook, Determine if Record Keeping and WPS requirements met)

Question: Are pesticide records up to date and accurate?

Reason for inclusion: This Criteria will ensure that mandatory DEC records and proper WPS postings/trainings are in place.

Number 18

A written plan is essential for proper long term planning of an Ecological Compensation Area. This report can help explain the specifics of this area on your property.