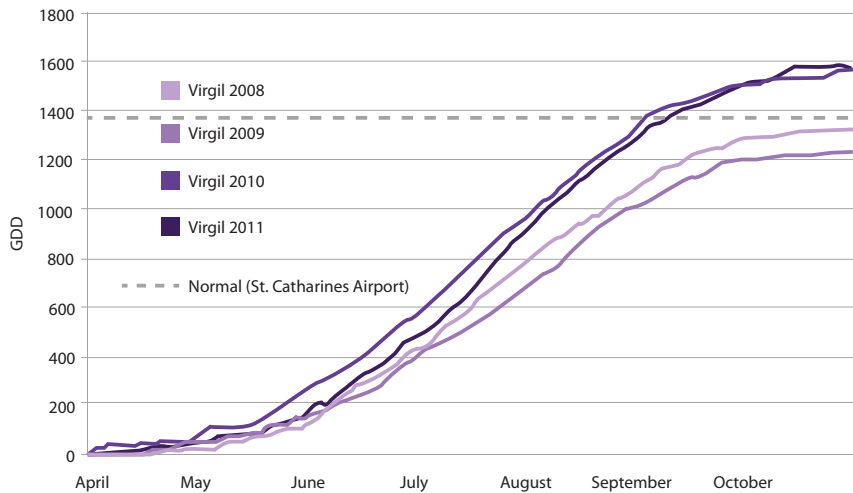


2011 Growing Season Weather Report



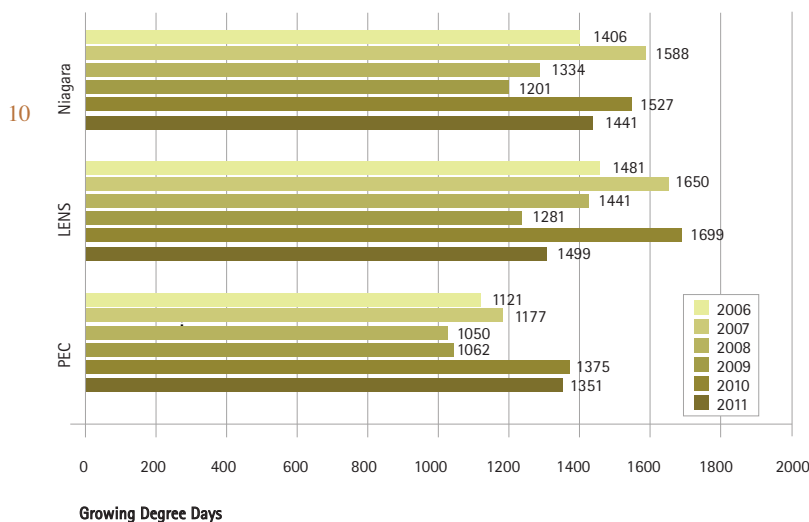
2011 Accumulated Base 10°C Growing Degree Days | Compared to 2010, 2009, 2008 and 30 Year Normal



2011 comprised many temperature and rainfall extremes. The year consisted of periods of extremely high and low temperatures and rainfall, resulting in both a unique and challenging growing season. It will no doubt be remembered in Lake Erie North Shore for its relentless rainfall and in Niagara and Prince Edward County for its incredibly wet spring & fall, but hot & dry summer. The preceding winter brought two extreme cold events to Niagara exactly one week apart in January 2011. Temperatures fell below -25°C at a number of Niagara stations, with the coldest temperatures reaching -28.7°C at the Grimsby station in Niagara. The coldest temperature reached in Lake Erie North Shore was -22.4°C at the Kingsville station, while the lowest temperature reached in Prince Edward County was -35.2°C at the Hillier station.

Seasonal Accumulation of Base 10°C GDD

April 1 - October 31



The spring of 2011 was much cooler than the very warm spring of 2010 and even slightly cooler than the 30-year normal. On the positive side, however, daily minimums in May were above normal and never below 1°C at any of the stations. There was thus no concern for May frosts. Temperatures quickly turned around beginning in June and consistently hot conditions throughout the summer months led to a steady and greater than normal accumulation of growing degree days.

Niagara: December 2011 Icewine Hours

Temperatures were much warmer than normal as winter approached, thus resulting in an exceptionally low number of icewine hours in December 2011. The accumulation of icewine hours ranged from 0-19 hours across the Niagara appellation, 0 hours across the Lake Erie North Shore appellation and 45-51 hours in Prince Edward County.

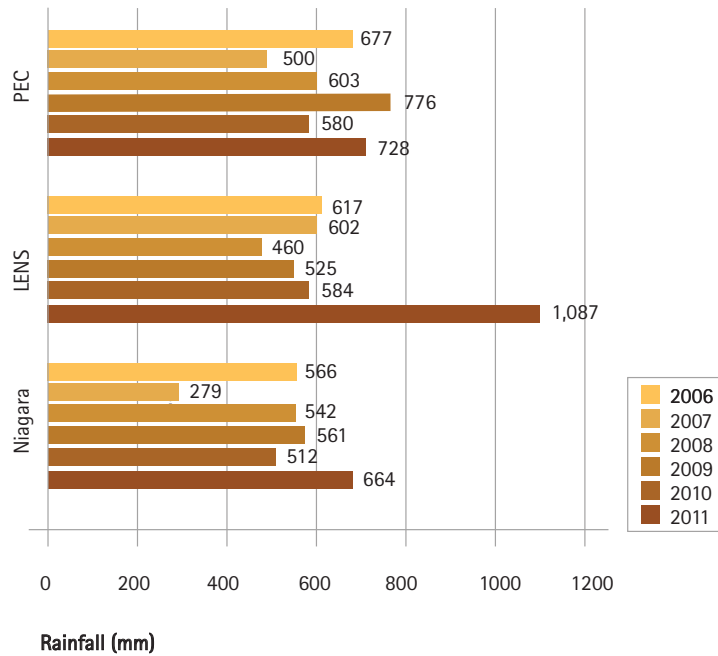
The 2011 growing season will be remembered for its unique temperatures, its rainfall and harvest challenges and a later than usual start to the icewine harvest resulting from an extremely warm winter.

Comparing Seasonal Rainfall Accumulation | April 1 - October 31

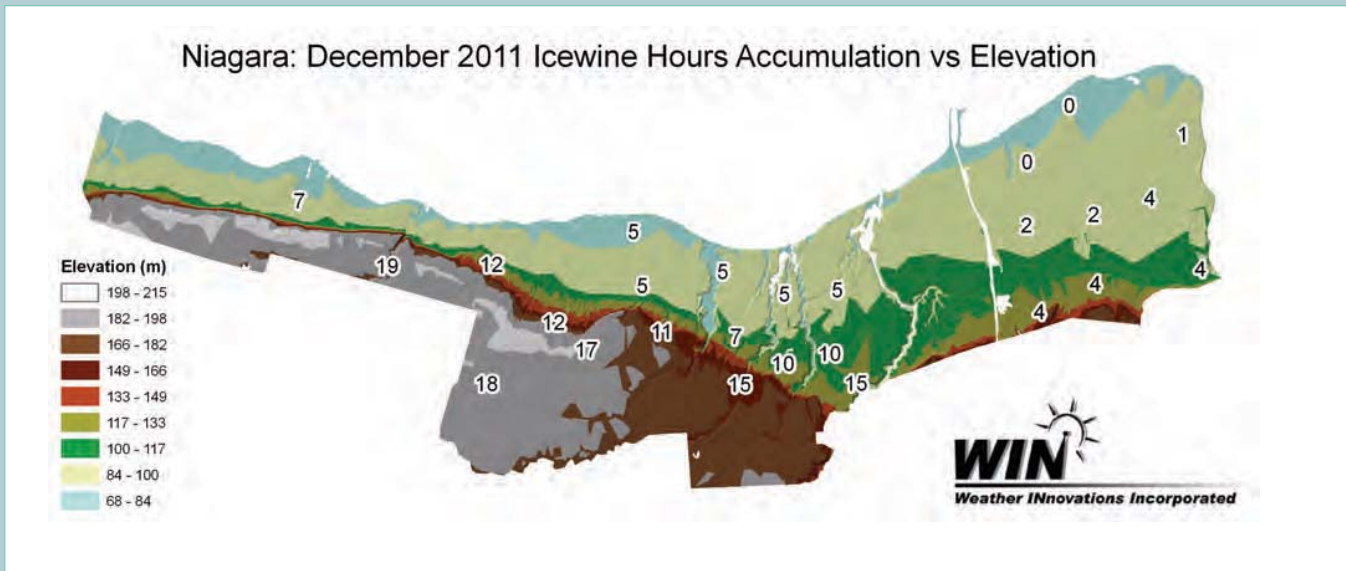
An intensely dry summer, sandwiched between a tremendously wet spring and fall, encapsulated the 2011 growing season in Niagara, resulting in above-normal seasonal rainfall accumulations. Moreover, it was the wettest growing season in recent memory in the Lake Erie North Shore appellation, with an astounding 1087mm falling between April and October. Only the month of June brought near-normal rainfall totals to this appellation. The Prince Edward County appellation experienced a significant fluctuation in precipitation levels throughout the growing season. Extremely high precipitation occurred in both the spring and late fall, but near-normal totals were experienced for June and July. Cherry Valley experienced nearly twice the amount

of rainfall as compared to Hillier during the month of August. Although September brought below-normal rainfall for each location, the month of October returned

to above-normal rainfall totals. The above normal rainfall during the fall in each appellation led to challenges in finding suitable harvest windows.



Hours Accumulation vs. Elevation



For more detailed weather data, management tools and weather reports throughout the year, visit www.vineandtreefruitinnovations.com sponsored by the Grape Growers of Ontario