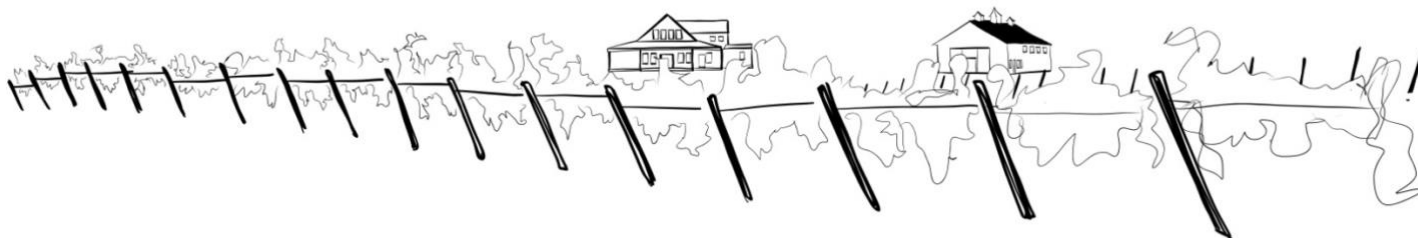


Vineyard Chronicles

the journal of a winegrower in Maine

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The headline for this week, we've officially reached veraison!

Veraison is the point in the growing season where grape berries shift from concentrating on cellular growth (berries getting noticeably bigger each day) to ripening (increasing sugars and changing colors to attract birds and humans to eat the fruit).

After veraison, the berries will continue to expand slightly in size as sugar levels rise, skins soften, and the colors change from green to pink, purple or golden yellow, depending on variety. Veraison (the French term for this time in the season when berries change color) is not an immediate change.



Instead, we see one or two berries on a cluster begin to blush and then accumulate more pigment slowly over time (anthocyanins, for the science folks). Veraison will then continue sporadically across the cluster until all the berries have changed color.

Within the next couple of weeks, we'll see veraison across all our varieties, but (consistent with the history of our vineyard) the first variety to reach the stage this year is Marquette in the west block.

We're also starting to come back to life in the winery, with organizing and cleaning in advance of harvest. We are getting ready to bottle our wines from the 2024 vintage, a long-awaited and highly anticipated expanded portfolio. After our largest harvest to date last year, we are excited to usher in six new estate-grown wines over the next couple of months.

A big part of preparation for the 2024 wine releases is a rejuvenation of our packaging, with new labels and new branded corks in the works. We're so excited to share the whole range of wines – you can get an early peek at our mock-ups if you visit the tasting room over the next couple of weeks.

