

EXPLANATION OF FROST TERMS

Additional information has been added to the tolerance term.

MINIMUM BOG TEMPERATURE	The temperature that average bogs in the Wareham area may experience on a clear, calm night.
POSSIBLE	Weather conditions are unsettled so that there is a 50% chance that temperatures won't drop to the minimum temperature forecasted. The expected minimum temperature is essentially the same as the tolerance of the buds or berries, so that little damage would result on the average bogs if temperatures should drop to the forecast.
PROBABLE	Weather conditions are relatively stable so that there is a better than even chance that temperatures will drop to the minimum temperature forecasted. The expected minimum temperature is slightly below the tolerance so that damage may result on the average bogs if temperatures drop to the forecast.
RATHER DANGEROUS	Weather conditions are stable and temperatures are expected to drop to the minimum temperature forecasted. The expected minimum forecasted is a degree or more below the tolerance and damage would result on the average bogs if temperatures drop to the forecast.
DANGEROUS	Weather conditions are stable and temperatures are expected to drop to the minimum temperature forecasted. The expected minimum temperature is at least two degrees below the tolerance, and general damage would result on the average bogs if temperatures drop to the forecast.
VERY DANGEROUS	Weather conditions are stable and temperatures are expected to drop to the minimum forecasted. The expected minimum bog temperature is well below the tolerance and heavy damage would result if temperatures drop to the forecast.
TOLERANCE	The lowest temperature to which Early Black, Howes, Ben Lear and Stevens can be exposed without damage. Tolerance is based on a survey of vines in the Wareham area. Frost tolerance fact sheets are available at the Cranberry Station. While there is minimal research on spring frost tolerances on newer Hybrids, the indicators are that their tolerance stages are similar to Stevens and Ben Lear. Our fall observations are that Crimson Queen, Demoranville and HyRed tend to develop similarly to Ben Lear. Mullica Queen and Grygleski are similar to Stevens.
LOCAL BALANCE	The local balance is based on the temperature readings taken at East Wareham. It is the difference between the dry, wet and dew point temperatures. This is used as another guide for issuing a warning. If the local balance is “in our favor” that would mean that the predicted low temperature may not occur. If the balance is “against” there is a good chance that the minimum bog temperature may be reached. We will be providing you the degrees of the local balance. As an example: if we say the minimum bog temperature is 3 degrees “against us”, it means the minimum bog temperature will likely be 3 degrees colder than the formula indicated. “In our favor” would mean the minimum bog temperature would likely be 3 degrees warmer. “Even” would remain the same.