



New York Sustainable Winegrowing Vineyard Certification Pre-Audit Checklist

In-person audits serve to evaluate documents and responses in the VineBalance workbook. It is imperative to gather necessary items to corroborate answers ensuring that audits run smoothly and are accurate.

Inspection Process

Following the Submission deadline of December 30th participants will be assigned a vineyard auditor who will reach out to schedule a time to meet. These audits will take around 1.5 to 2 hours so be sure to reserve ample time. During this time auditors will review your records, inspect facilities and equipment (particularly pesticide storage and mixing/loading facilities, identify and discuss any site-specific items using a vineyard map, and discuss each section of the workbook. Having a comfortable area with a table and chairs for this discussion is recommended.

Checklist of items to prepare for the audit

- Completed VineBalance workbook
- Completed action plans
- Vineyard map – (block boundaries, acreage, varieties, planting date, irrigation layout, pesticide mixing and loading area, shop)
- Production records (yield history, other information such as pruning weights, vine counts)
- Worker training (e.g., WPS, pesticide certification, etc)
- Nutrient application records
- Pesticide application records
- Current Petiole and soil analysis records
- Scouting records
- SWCD Conservation Plan records (if available)

Following the audit, an inspection report will be provided to you and the NYWGF Sustainability Program Manager (Justin Jackson). This report will summarize vineyard scores, any recommendations, and concerns or questions that arise during the inspection. If there is disagreement about the score listed in the report an appeal may be filed with the Sustainability program manager.

Confidentiality

The information arising from this audit will be considered confidential. No individually identifiable information about your responses or discussions that occurred during the audit will be disclosed.