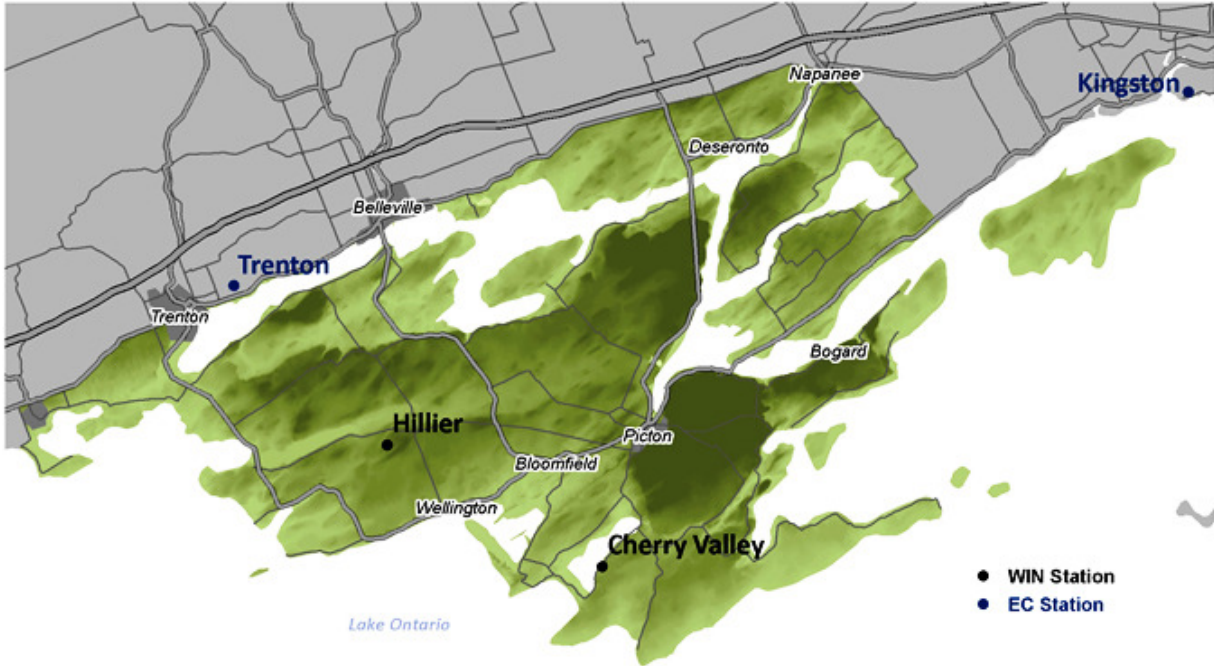




Weather INnovations Incorporated



February 2011:

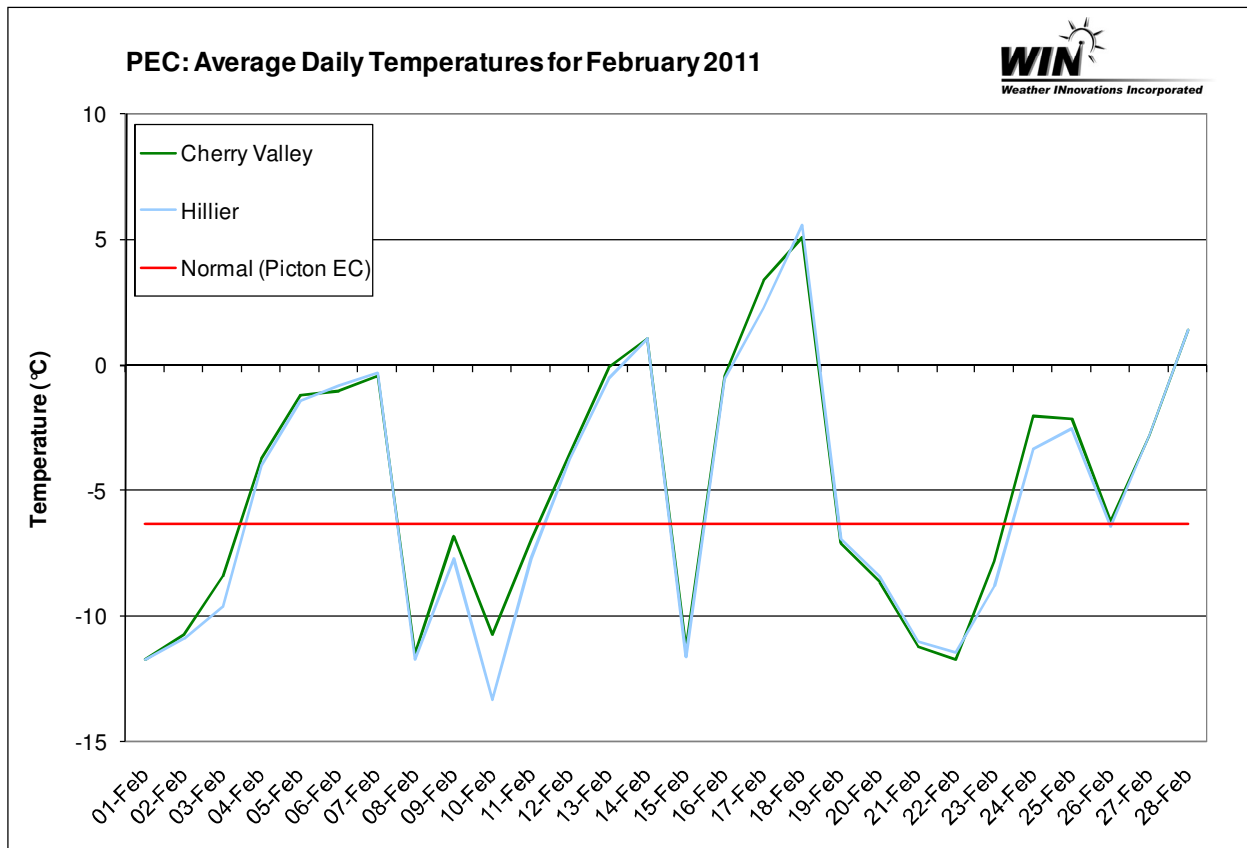
Prince Edward County

WIN Staff
March 7, 2011



OVERVIEW

The vine deacclimation process began in February, as the coldest winter temperatures passed and the temperature trend increased throughout the month. Overall, daily temperatures in February 2011 were warmer than normal. The average monthly temperature across the Prince Edward County stations was 1.1°C – 1.4°C above the normal daily mean, based on Environment Canada’s 30-year normal for Picton. The monthly minimums occurred during the overnight periods on the 2nd-3rd and the 9th-10th, with the coldest February temperature reaching -27.8°C at the Hillier station. Throughout February there were a significant number of days suitable for icewine harvest; however, most, if not all of the harvest would have taken place in December and January.




TEMPERATURE ANALYSIS:

The February 2011 minimum temperatures in the Prince Edward County appellation were much lower than those in February 2010 respectively: -19.0°C (-17.6°C in 2010) at the Cherry Valley station and -27.8°C (-18.1°C in 2010) at the Hillier station. A brief warm spell on the 17th and 18th may have slightly accelerated the deacclimation process. There were 18 days in February when temperatures fell below -8°C at one or more of the stations. These aspects are noted in the following figure.

PEC: February 2011 Daily Minimums		
Date	Cherry Valley	Hillier
1-Feb	-13.9	-14.2
2-Feb	-13.5	-15.1
3-Feb	-19	-26
4-Feb	-4.9	-6.3
5-Feb	-2.9	-3
6-Feb	-2.8	-2.5
7-Feb	-3.3	-3.8
8-Feb	-15.1	-15.1
9-Feb	-9.2	-10.5
10-Feb	-18.2	-27.8
11-Feb	-10.7	-18.6
12-Feb	-6.1	-7.7
13-Feb	-7.8	-14.4
14-Feb	-8.9	-9.2
15-Feb	-15	-16.4
16-Feb	-5.9	-7.6
17-Feb	-3.5	-6.2
18-Feb	-0.1	-0.4
19-Feb	-10	-10.1
20-Feb	-13.5	-14.4
21-Feb	-14.5	-14.5
22-Feb	-16.3	-16.5
23-Feb	-14.5	-17.3
24-Feb	-8.1	-11.2
25-Feb	-5.6	-9
26-Feb	-8	-9.5
27-Feb	-7.5	-7.6
28-Feb	-2.5	-3.6

	Days with Icewine Temperatures
	Monthly Minimum



SUMMARY:

Above normal temperatures were observed in February, with the coldest event occurring on the 9th – 10th. The coldest temperature reached in February 2011 was -27.8°C compared to only -18.1°C in February 2010. There were suitable hours for icewine harvest throughout the month of February; however, the majority of the harvest was completed in December and January. The temperature trend increased throughout the month of February, which prompted the deacclimation process. A brief warm spell on the 17th and 18th may have slightly accelerated this process. Continued near normal temperatures into the spring should help maintain a desired and gradual rate of deacclimation.