Mapping of Photoperiod-induced Growth Cessation in the Wild Grape *Vitis riparia*

Amanda Garris², Lindsay Clark¹, and Chris Owens  
U.S. Department of Agriculture-Agricultural Research Service, Grape Genetics Research Unit, 630 West North Street, Geneva, NY 14456

Steven McKay and James Luby  
Department of Horticultural Sciences, University of Minnesota, 342 Alderman Hall, 1970 Folwell Avenue, St. Paul, MN 55413

Kathy Mathias and Anne Fennel  
Department of Horticulture, Forestry, Landscape, and Parks, South Dakota State University, NPB 201, Box 2140A, Brookings, SD 57007

**Abstract.** In grapevines (*Vitis* spp.), the timing of growth cessation in the fall is an important aspect of adaptation and a key objective in breeding new grape cultivars suitable for continental climates. Growth cessation is a complex biological process that is initiated by environmental cues such as daylength and temperature, as well as water and nutrient availability. The genetic control of growth cessation in grapevines was studied by mapping quantitative trait loci (QTL) in a hybrid grape population. An F₂ mapping population was developed by selfing a single F₁ plant derived from a cross between an accession of the North American species *Vitis riparia* and the *Vitis* hybrid wine cultivar Seyval (Seyve-Villard 5–276). A linkage map was constructed using 115 simple sequence repeat (SSR) markers and six candidate genes in a population of 119 F₂ progeny. The markers provided coverage of the 19 *Vitis* linkage groups with an average distance between markers of 8.4 cM. The critical photoperiod for growth cessation in lateral buds for the parents and F₂ progeny was determined in a replicated field trial in 2001 and 2002 and under controlled photoperiod treatments in a greenhouse in 2002, 2003, and 2004. QTL analysis using composite interval mapping identified a single major QTL in the field and greenhouse trials. However, the field and greenhouse QTL mapped to different linkage groups in the two different environments, suggesting the presence of additional, nonphotoperiodic cues for induction of growth cessation in the field. In the greenhouse, where noninducing temperatures were maintained, a QTL on linkage group (LG) 13 explained 80.0% to 96.6% of the phenotypic variance of critical photoperiod for growth cessation. In the field, where vines experienced natural fluctuations in temperature and rainfall in addition to the naturally decreasing photoperiod, a QTL on LG 11 explained 85.4% to 94.3% of phenotypic variance.

The Eurasian domesticated grape *Vitis vinifera* is adapted to areas with moderate winter temperatures. Breeding new grapevine cultivars for the continental climate of North America has required the combination of fruit quality traits from *V. vinifera* with adaptive genes from wild North American *Vitis* species to promote survival and productivity in regions with shorter growing seasons, colder midwinter temperatures, and greater variability in spring and fall conditions. Grapes have a seasonally indeterminate growth habit and are particularly vulnerable to early fall frosts; freezing temperatures in the fall before vines are fully cold-acclimated can result in bud death and trunk damage (Keller and Mills, 2007; Kovacs et al., 2003). Thus, the sensitivity to environmental cues that induce growth cessation is one critical aspect of adaptation to continental climates. A better understanding of the genetic control of growth cessation and the identification of associated molecular markers would facilitate breeding for adaptation to such climates.

In northern latitudes, woody plants undergo several gradual and concurrent developmental changes before the onset of winter, including growth cessation, dormancy induction, cold acclimation, and leaf senescence. Growth cessation requires the termination of cell division in apical and axillary meristems and suppression of internode elongation. Endodormancy suppresses bud growth, even under permissive environmental conditions. The physiological and metabolic changes associated with cold acclimation allow plant tissues to withstand colder temperatures without damage. The cessation of growth before leaf senescence redirects resources into acclimation processes and remobilizes nutrients from leaves to overwintering shoots and roots.

The control of growth cessation is complex and can be triggered in response to environmental cues, including light, temperature, and water status. Woody plant growth cessation commonly is induced by low, nonfreezing temperatures (2–6°C), which can also lead to endodormancy and cold acclimation. In apple (*Malus pumila*) and pear (*Pyrus communis*), low temperatures (<12°C) induce cold acclimation and dormancy (Heide and Prestrud, 2005). Induction of dormancy and cold acclimation by low temperatures also was reported in red osier dogwood (*Cornus sericea*), birch species (*Betula* spp.), and...
Some woody species contain an additional mechanism for induction of growth cessation through a pathway mediated by photoperiod sensitivity. Ecotypic variation for growth cessation in response to the decreasing photoperiods that occur in northern latitudes in late summer has been identified in black cottonwood (Populus trichocarpa) and birch (Betula pubescens, Betula pendula) (Howe et al., 1995; Juntilla et al., 2003). Ecotypes from higher latitudes frequently initiate growth cessation in response to longer critical daylengths (the longest photoperiod that elicits a short-day response) than their southern counterparts, resulting in earlier cessation of growth (Frewn et al., 2000). Studies suggest that genetic control of photoperiodic induction of growth cessation is inheritable and controlled by a small number of genes or quantitative trait loci (QTL) (Fennell et al., 2005; Frewn et al., 2000; Howe et al., 2000).

It may be challenging to decouple the effects of photoperiod and temperature on cold acclimation and dormancy induction, given that tree species may be responsive to both (Li et al., 2002; Welling et al., 2002). It has been suggested that photoperiod and temperature work synergistically by acting on common downstream components such as hormones (Arora et al., 2003; Heggie and Halliday, 2005). Elucidation of the interplay between multiple environmental cues, the points of convergence on common downstream targets, and the effects on the timing of growth cessation and the depth of dormancy or cold hardiness will provide insight on the molecular basis of adaptation.

Grapevines are seasonally indeterminate and do not set a terminal bud at the shoot tip in the fall, the hallmark phenotype of most growth cessation studies in woody plants. Instead, the gradual process of growth cessation is marked by suspension of cane and summer lateral elongation, abscission of the meristematic shoot tip, induction of endodormancy in latent axillary buds, and eventual leaf senescence (Alleweldt and During, 1972; Wake and Fennell, 2000). Vitis labrusca and V. riparia contain photoperiod-sensitive ecotypes (Fennell and Hoover, 1991; Wolpert and Howell, 1986), although the most extreme photoperiod sensitivity is found in V. riparia, whose northern clones exhibit leaf senescence well before the first frost (Pierquet and Stushnoff, 1978). The genetic basis for this photoperiodic induction of growth cessation in grapevines is not known.

The objective of this study was to develop a map suitable for QTL analysis to identify regions of the genome associated with growth cessation in grapevine. Integrated grapevine maps provide a robust framework for the design of mapping studies (Doligez et al., 2006; Vezzulli et al., 2008). QTL analysis has been used successfully in grapevines to identify genomic regions associated with flavor, yield components, plant nutrition, and pest and disease resistance (Doucielle et al., 2004; Fanizza et al., 2005; Fischer et al., 2004). Several of the Vitis maps have incorporated wild grape species, either in crosses with V. vinifera or as crosses between wild species (Doucielle et al., 2004; Krivanek et al., 2006; Lowe and Walker, 2006).

The F2 mapping population for this study was derived from the cross V. riparia (USDA PI 588289) × ‘Seyval’ (Seyve Villard 5–276), ‘Seyval’ is a disease and a phylloxera resistant, relatively cold hardy hybrid wine cultivar derived from a complex hybridization of V. vinifera (55% by pedigree) with wild species native to the south-central United States, Vitis rupestris, and Vitis aestivalis var. lincecumii. The V. riparia parent has a longer critical photoperiod (∼13.5 h) that confers earlier growth cessation and better midwinter cold hardiness than ‘Seyval’ (critical photoperiod ≥11 h) (Fennell et al., 2005). The photoperiodic response of the F1 is intermediate to the parents. Photoperiod sensitivity in the F2, measured by growth cessation at the 12-h photoperiod indicates the trait is inheritable and suggests the action of a single gene and dominance of the V. riparia photoperiodic response (Fennell et al., 2005). In this study, the F2 progeny of V. riparia × ‘Seyval’ were used to develop a linkage map of simple sequence repeat (SSR) markers to identify regions of the genome associated with growth cessation in the field and under controlled conditions in the greenhouse.

Materials and Methods

Population development. The F2 mapping population was generated by selfing a single F1 derived from the cross V. riparia (USDA PI 588289) × Vitis hybrid ‘Seyval’ (Seyve Villard 5–276). The seedlings were grown one season in the greenhouse, induced into dormancy, cycled through storage (4 °C), and returned to active growth. After one season’s growth, the vines were clonally propagated on their own roots for field studies. The original potted vines were cycled seasonally between the greenhouse and 4 °C storage for controlled environment studies.

Phenotypic evaluation. In 2002, 2003, and 2004, 115 F2 plants were grown in climate-controlled greenhouses with an automated photoperiod system (Van Rijn Enterprises Greenhouse Systems, Grassie, ON, Canada) in Brookings, SD (lat. 44°19’N) with 25/20 ± 3 °C (day/night) temperatures. Four replicates of the V. riparia parent, ‘Seyval’, and the F1 were included as controls. All plants were cycled annually through dormancy in a cold room at 4 °C for at least 150 d. Each spring, ecodormant plants were root pruned and repotted in 1:2:2 soil media (soil:peat:perlite by volume) to prevent root binding and to maintain uniform growth throughout the studies. Vines were grown in 15-L pots at 25/20 °C under a 15-h photoperiod. Three shoots per plant were trained vertically on bamboo stakes. Plants were watered daily and fertilized twice weekly with a 200 mg·L−1 20N–8.7P–16.6K solution. Once the shoots reached 12 nodes, the photoperiod was decreased weekly by 0.5 h using the automated white-covered photoperiod system (Van Rijn Enterprises Greenhouse Systems). The automated photoperiod system blocked light pollution from adjacent greenhouses, providing uniform photoperiod control under controlled temperature conditions.

In addition, the parents, F1, and F2 progeny were clonally replicated on their own roots and were evaluated under field conditions (parents and F1, six replicates; F2, three replicates). The field planting of three replicates in a completely randomized design was established at the University of Minnesota Horticultural Research Center in Chanhassen, MN (lat. 44°59’N) in Spring 2000. Plants were spaced 0.7 m apart in rows with 2 m between rows with a single trunk height of 1.5 m. Plants were irrigated during the establishment year, but rainfall during the growing season was sufficient in 2001 (average 8.4 cm/month) and sufficient to excessive in 2002 (average 11.4 cm/month). In Winter 2001 and Winter 2002, vines were pruned back to spurs at 0.3 m above the ground. Although
three full replicates of 104 F2 genotypes were initially planted, some plants died and others were damaged in one year; hence, data were collected on 93 genotypes in 2001 (223 plants) and 2002 (228 plants). For two genotypes, only one year of data were collected.

Surviving genotypes in the field (n = 93) were evaluated for growth cessation beginning in July when the shoots averaged 12 nodes. Growth was evaluated at each hour of natural decrease in photoperiod: 15 h (24 July), 14 h (17 Aug.), 13 h (6 Sept.), and 12 h (26 Sept.) in 2001 and 2002. In the greenhouse, all genotypes (n = 115) were evaluated in 2002, 2003, and 2004 under simulated photoperiods at 15-, 14-, 13-, 12-, and 11-h daylengths (Fennell et al., 2005). Unlike the constant rate of artificial photoperiod decrease in the greenhouse (1 h decrease every 2 weeks), the natural rate of photoperiod decrease varies in the field. Any vines still growing at the last photoperiod scored were assigned growth cessation for the next 1-h decline in photoperiod (i.e., 11 h in the field and 10 h in the greenhouse).

Growth cessation was evaluated by monitoring summer lateral emergence. Summer laterals are shoots that develop from the prompt bud in the axils of the leaves on most grape shoots; they grow in the same season in which they are formed (Fig. 1). Summer lateral emergence begins six to eight nodes below the shoot tip. Because cessation of lateral emergence was shown to be a reliable proxy for cessation of shoot elongation and induction of bud dormancy (Fennell et al., 2005), it was used as the measure of growth cessation. The number of nodes with a summer lateral with at least one fully expanded leaf was recorded at each hour decline in photoperiod. The critical photoperiod for growth cessation was defined as the photoperiod where no additional summer laterals with at least one fully expanded leaf were produced.

![Fig. 1. Photograph of a growing shoot of Vitis riparia. Arrows indicate lateral shoots emerging from prompt buds.](image-url)
of the linkage groups according to the current Vitis chromosome nomenclature (Doligez et al., 2006).

**Genome Length and Map Coverage.** The estimated genome length was calculated using the method of moment estimator,

\[ E(G) = M(M - 1)/2K, \]

where M is the number of loci, X is the maximum map distance among all loci pairs above LOD = 5.0, and K is the number of loci pairs having LOD values ≥ 5.0, identified through the Strong Linkage tab in Joinmap, with the default parameter for strong linkage set to LOD > 5.0 (Chakravarti et al., 1991; Hulbert et al., 1988). The 95% confidence interval for genome length, \( L_d(G) \), was calculated as in Gerber and Rodolphe (1994). The expected genome coverage of the map \( E(C_n) \) was calculated after Bishop et al. (1983). A LOD threshold of 5.0 and Kosambi map distances (cM) were used for all calculations. For further details on the equations used, see Riaz et al. (2004).

**QTL Analysis.** Composite interval mapping (Zeng, 1994) was conducted using WinQTL Cartographer 2.5 (Basten et al., 2005). Permutation tests with 1000 permutations were conducted to determine the experiment-wise significance threshold (Doerge and Churchill, 1996). For each trait, the LOD corresponding to an experiment-wise type-I error rate of 5% was chosen as the threshold to declare QTL significant. The maximum LOD score was used to estimate the individual QTL positions, and a one-LOD support interval for the QTL positions, and a one-LOD support interval for the confidence interval.

**Candidate Gene Mapping.** Molecular markers were developed within seven candidate genes. Primers for the Vitis homologues of the FLOWERING LOCUS T (VvFT) were based on published sequence (Sreekantan and Thomas, 2006). Markers for phytochrome A (VvPHYA), phytochrome B (VvPHYB), phytochrome C (VvPHYC), phytochrome E (VvPHYE), cryptochrome 1 (VvCRY1), and CONSTANS (VvCO) were based on identification of their single putative homologues in the grape genome sequence (Jaillon et al., 2007). Constans is a part of a large gene family, and the Vitis homolog identified is highly similar to CO, a member of the Group I subfamily that contains CO and COLI–5 (Griffiths et al., 2003). The F1 was screened to locate gene regions that were heterozygous for an insertion-deletion polymorphism and could be converted into a PCR-based marker and analyzed for length polymorphism as described for the SSRs above. Where heterozygous indels could not be found, heterozygous single nucleotide polymorphisms were scored in sequenced amplicons. For sequencing, PCR products were quantified, purified with SAP (Promega) and ExoI (New England Biolabs, Ipswich, MA), and sequencing was performed by the Cornell Life Sciences Core Sequencing Laboratory. Chromatograms were analyzed using Sequencer 4.1.4 (GeneCodes, Ann Arbor, MI). Primer pairs used in mapping candidate genes are listed in Table 1.

### Results

**Phenotypic Analysis.** The critical photoperiod for growth cessation was determined by identification of the photoperiod at which laterals ceased to emerge. Clonal replication of V. riparia, 'Seyval', and the F1 allowed assessment of the within-genotype variability for the timing of growth cessation. With the exception of V. riparia in the field environment (2001 and 2002), all genotypes displayed moderate within- and between-year variability for the timing of growth cessation (Fig. 2). In addition, comparison of the parental genotypes shows that plants in the greenhouse show greater variation (within and between clones) for the timing of growth cessation than do the same plants in the field (Fig. 2).

In the greenhouse experiment, the F2 progeny showed transgressive variation in critical photoperiod for cessation of lateral emergence, and a similar frequency of critical photoperiod was observed across years in the greenhouse (Figs. 2 and 3). Several progeny had a critical photoperiod of 14 h, which is longer than the V. riparia parent, and 80% to 90% had critical photoperiods of 13 and 12 h. ANOVA indicated significant

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### Table 1. Sequences of primers used in mapping of candidate genes for growth cessation. Primers flank a polymorphism in the F1 of a cross between North American wild grape species Vitis riparia and the Vitis hybrid wine cultivar Seyval. The type variation targeted included single nucleotide polymorphisms (SNPs) and insertion-deletions (indels).

| Locus | Forward primer (5'–3') | Reverse primer (5'–3') | Type | Scaffold in ML8X genome (no.) |
|-------|------------------------|------------------------|------|-----------------------------|
| VvPHYA | AGCTGATGAAATTGGGATGTC | GCCCTTTCCTTTTCCCCCTAAA | SNP  | 27                           |
| VvPHYB | ACAACCATGTAAGGCAACAG  | AAAATCTTCTGACTAAATCAAGCAA | Indel | 64                           |
| VvPHYC | GCCATGCGAGTCCTGCACTA  | CTCAACCCCTTACCGAGCACA | Indel | 47                           |
| VvPHYE | CATCCCCCTGCTTTTTTCTC  | CATTATGTTGCTGATCCCCAAA | Indel | 143                          |
| VvCRY1 | CCCCCAGGGAATTTTTTCA   | TCCCCAGGTTCTAATGGGTA  | SNP   | 409                          |
| VvFT   | CTGTTGGTGCAGTACGACCTGT | TGAAATGGCATGAACTCCAA | SNP   | 409                          |
| VvCO   | AGAAAAAGGGCCTACACCTG  | TTCAAAAACCATTACATCGGAAA | SNP   | 9                            |
(P < 0.05) genotype effects and year effects for critical photoperiod in the greenhouse (Table 2).

In the field experiment, the F2 progeny also showed variation in the critical photoperiod for cessation of lateral emergence with a similar trend across years (Figs. 2 and 4). However, the distribution of the phenotypes differed from the greenhouse experiment. None of the progeny had a critical photoperiod of 14 h, fewer individuals had a critical photoperiod of 13 h, and a majority (≥ 60%) had a critical photoperiod of 12 h. Both genotype and year effects on critical photoperiod were significant (P = 0.079) (Table 3). Values for the critical photoperiod were slightly and positively correlated across years in the field (r = 0.176, P = 0.01), but there was no significant correlation between a genotype’s critical photoperiod in the field and greenhouse experiments (r = 0.104, P = 0.332). Additionally, critical photoperiod values for 2004 in the greenhouse were also slightly and positively correlated with those values from 2002 and 2003 (r = 0.212 and 0.221, P = 0.030 and 0.027, respectively); 2002 and 2003 greenhouse values were not significantly correlated (r = 0.101, P = 0.309).

In addition to the identification of the critical photoperiod for growth cessation, the number of emerged laterals at each hour of photoperiod was scored. Although vine age and size increased during the study, the average number of summer laterals that developed at each hour of photoperiod between 15 and 12 h was similar in all 3 years in the greenhouse (Fig. 5). In the greenhouse treatment, ANOVA indicated significant (P < 0.05) genotype effects for the number of laterals at 14-, 13-, and 12-h daylengths (Table 2). Year effects were significant (P < 0.05) for the number of laterals at 14- and 13-h daylengths. In the field, genotype effects across years were significant for the number of laterals at the 13-h daylength (P = 0.011), but not at the 12-h daylength; they were not significant for any trait in analyses of individual years (Table 3). Genotype × year interactions were not significant, but year effects were (P < 0.05).

**Marker analysis and linkage map construction.** Of the 205 primer pairs selected to provide genome coverage for map construction, 19 (9.2%) did not amplify, 48 (23.4%) did not segregate, 10 (4.9%) produced more than two alleles, and 19 (9.2%) amplified poorly in multiplex. The remaining 120 (56.1%) were informative for mapping. Linkage analysis based on these SSR markers using a LOD of 5.0 resulted in 21 linkage groups and four unlinked markers (Fig. 6). Comparison with the integrated *Vitis* map confirmed that all linkage groups were covered, but LG 8 and LG 18 were fragmented into two groups each (Doligez et al., 2006). Under less stringent criteria, LG 8 and LG 18 could be joined into single groups, using LOD 2.0 and 3.0, respectively.

**Four markers** (VMCNG2H1, UDVI09, VMC3B10, and VMC5G6) could not be grouped at LOD 5.0. Markers VMCNG2H1 (LG 11) and VMC3B10 (LG 2) likely were ungrouped because of their significant segregation distortion (P < 0.01).
Segregation distortion at VMC3B10 was the most extreme, with only homozygotes for the ‘Seyval’ allele recovered in the F2. According to the integrated map, UDV-109 (LG 2) is about 20 cM from the nearest marker on our map, therefore a high rate of recombination may be the cause of its failure to group (Doligez et al., 2006). According to the assembled grape genome sequence, UDV109 and VMC3b10 are both located on LG 2, ≈3.5 Mb apart (Jaillon et al., 2007). Interestingly, VMCNG2H1 and VMC5G6 cannot be assigned unequivocally to positions on linkage groups in the current genome assembly.

**MAP LENGTH AND COVERAGE.** The estimated genome length was 1784 cM, with a 95% confidence interval of 1579.82 to 2048.78 cM. The combined length of the 21 linkage groups was 871 cM, providing an estimated genome coverage of 83.7%.

The average distance between markers was 8.4 cM (SD = 6.6). The average linkage group size was 46.4 cM, with individual linkage groups ranging in size from 22 cM (groups 6 and 15) to 76 cM (group 10) (Table 4).

There were six gaps greater than 20 cM on this map, on LGs 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, and 19. Within these intervals, additional SSR markers were tested: six were monomorphic and two failed to amplify. In addition, there were eight gaps greater than 20 cM relative to the framework map (Doligez et al., 2006). Efforts were made to fill these gaps, but the twenty tested markers in these intervals either failed to group, failed to amplify, or were monomorphic.

The map contained 95 markers in common with the framework map, and marker order was highly conserved (Doligez et al., 2006). Several potential inversions are noted in Fig. 6 on LGs 1, 2, 6, 8, and 16. Only two of these inverted loci (on LG 16; VMC1e11 and VMC3g11) can be attributed to segregation distortion and close proximity, which can complicate the determination of marker order. The remaining inverted loci did not show segregation distortion and may represent artifacts or real differences between the *V. riparia* genome structure and the framework maps.

**CHROMOSOMAL-SCALE SEGREGATION DISTORSION.** Of the informative markers, 25% (29) showed significant departure from the Mendelian expectation of segregation of 1:2:1 ($P < 0.01$). These markers were included in the analysis because they did not disrupt marker order, and all but three of the markers with segregation distortion were clustered on specific linkage groups. They formed clusters (>3 consecutive loci) on the upper arm of LG 5, the center of LG 16, and the entire length of LG 7, LG 11, and LG 15 (Fig. 6). The skew in allele frequency could be determined on each linkage group, with overrepresentation of the *V. riparia* allele on LG 5, LG 7, and LG 16, and the ‘Seyval’ allele on LG 11 and LG 15.

**MAPPING OF CANDIDATE GENES.** *VvPHYA, VvPHYB, VvPHYC, VvPHYE, VvCO, and VvCRY1* were mapped successfully in the F2 population (Fig. 1, Table 1). Each mapped to a different linkage group, except *VvPHYA and VvCO*, which both mapped to LG 14, 51 cM apart. The *Flowering Locus T* homolog (*VvFT*) (Sreekantan and Thomas, 2006) could not be mapped due to extreme segregation distortion ($\chi^2 = 28.3$). In the F2 population, 43.3% of the progeny were homozygous for the ‘Seyval’ allele, 47.5% were heterozygous, and only 9.2% were homozygous for the *V. riparia* allele. In an effort to place this locus on the map in silico through comparison with the grape genome sequence, the gene was found on ML8X scaffold 409, which could not be assigned to a chromosome in the current genome assembly (Jaillon et al., 2007).

**QTL ANALYSIS.** QTL analysis was performed for the number of expanded laterals at each 1-h decline in photoperiod and the critical photoperiod for lateral growth cessation in the field and controlled greenhouse environment. A single QTL of major effect was identified in each of the two critical photoperiod experiments (field and greenhouse); however, the locations of the QTL differed by growing environment. In the greenhouse, where noninducing temperatures were maintained, a QTL on LG 13 explained 80.0% to 96.6% of the phenotypic variance (Table 5, Fig. 6). In the field, where vines experienced more disease pressure, natural fluctuations in temperature and rainfall, and a naturally decreasing photoperiod, a QTL on LG 11 explained 85.4% to 94.3% of phenotypic variance (Table 6, Fig. 6).

The QTL for critical photoperiod in the greenhouse overlapped with the QTL for the number of laterals in the greenhouse in the longest photoperiod scored (14 h). The QTL for growth cessation in the field colocated with the number of laterals in the field at the 12-h photoperiod in 2002 and the number of laterals in the greenhouse at the 13-h photoperiod in 2002. Many other QTL for the number of laterals at various photoperiods were identified (Tables 5 and 6), but colocated QTL were identified on LG 17 (field laterals at 12 h in 2001 and field laterals at 13 h in 2001) and LG 15 (field lateral at 12 h in 2002, greenhouse lateral at 12 h in 2002, greenhouse laterals at 12 h in 2004). The effect of these QTL ranged from 20% to 75%. Candidate genes selected for their putative relationship to terminal budset and dormancy induction did not colocalize with the growth cessation QTL.

**DISCUSSION.**

**COMPARISON WITH OTHER LINKAGE MAPS.** The percentage of polymorphic markers (76.6%) in this study is within the range reported for other *Vitis* maps (55.8% to 88.4%) (Adam-Blondon et al., 2004; Fischer et al., 2004; Grando et al., 2003; Lowe and Walker, 2006; Mandl et al., 2006). With a combined length of 871 cM, this is one of the smallest maps in grape, as maps range in length from 756 to 1639 cM (Doucleff et al., 2004; Grando et al., 2003). Our genome size estimation of 1784 cM is within the range for grapes, from 1468.7 for *V. vinifera* ‘Ramsey’ (Lowe and Walker, 2006) to 2385 for *V. vinifera* ‘Riesling’ (Riaz et al., 2004). The size of the maximum distances between markers was 33.31 cM, similar to values in a map of *Vitis champaillii × V. riparia* (Lowe and Walker, 2006) and lower than those found by Riaz et al. (2004) for the cross *V. vinifera* ‘Riesling’ × *V. vinifera* ‘Cabernet Sauvignon’.

The percentage of loci showing segregation distortion (25%) was higher in this cross than in any published reports thus far.
For *V. vinifera* crosses, the range commonly is between 7% and 11% (Adam-Blondon et al., 2004; Doligez et al., 2006). However, both interspecific and intraspecific crosses that include wild species have a higher frequency of markers with segregation distortion, in the range of 16% to 22% (Grando et al., 2003; Lowe and Walker, 2006). In our population, almost all of the segregation distortion occurred on a chromosomal scale, with contiguous markers consistently skewed toward ‘Seyval’ or *V. riparia* alleles. Segregation distortion may be attributed to several sources. Competition or selection can occur at several stages in reproduction through gametophytic factors such as pollen lethality, pollen-tube competition, or selective fertilization, selective elimination of zygotes, and structural rearrangements (Taylor and Ingvarsson, 2003). However, it is not known which of these factors caused the high segregation distortion observed in this population.

**GENETIC ARCHITECTURE OF GROWTH CESSATION.** Comparison of parental replicates revealed a significant amount of variation among clones in the precise timing of growth cessation. For example, although the majority (3/4) of *V. riparia* clones in the greenhouse had a critical photoperiod of 13 h, one clone did not cease lateral emergence until the 12-h photoperiod. This variation between clones of the same genotype indicates the complexities of measuring growth cessation in grapevines and suggests that though cessation of lateral emergence can be informative and heritable, it can be affected by a shoot’s growth habit (drooping or bending change apical dominance effects) and environmental variation other than photoperiod and temperature. Studies of growth cessation in woody species such as poplar and birch monitor the formation of the terminal bud, a phenotype that does not occur in grapevine shoots. Despite differences in shoot morphology, in most woody species, growth cessation precedes dormancy induction, allowing redirection of resources to acclimation and dormancy processes and it is therefore a useful indicator phenotype for photoperiod sensitivity despite its inherent variability.

Previous segregation data suggested that short day-induced growth cessation is controlled by a single dominant gene or small family of genes (Fennell et al., 2005). Through QTL analysis of the greenhouse experiment, we identified a QTL that explained 80% to 96% of the phenotypic variance for the critical photoperiod for growth cessation. We conclude that

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**Fig. 6. Continued on next page.**
In contrast to plants in the greenhouse experiment, plants in the field experienced naturally decreasing photoperiods in combination with natural variation in rainfall, temperature, ultraviolet light, and other environmental factors. Consequently, the growth cessation QTL on LG 11, which explains 85.4% to 94.3% of phenotypic variance, cannot be ascribed to a particular environmental cue. Different QTL in the field and greenhouse are consistent with the lack of correlation we observed between a genotype’s critical photoperiod in the two environments and overall differences in phenotypic distributions across treatments. This suggests that the QTL for growth cessation in the field encompasses a gene or genes for response to a nonphotoperiodic cue or perhaps a combination of environmental cues that may include a photoperiod component.

The absence of the extremely early growth cessation phenotype in the F2 in the field suggests that permissive growing conditions could suppress or slow the rate of the early photoperiod response. A similar phenomenon was observed in poplar; genetic differences in photoperiodic responses played only a small role in explaining differences in the timing of bud set in the field, even in photoperiod-sensitive ecotypes (Chen et al., 2002). More specifically, higher temperatures alter photoperiod response in several species. In bay willow (Salix pentandra), temperatures of 21 °C are sufficient to delay the onset of dormancy (Junttila, 1980). In strawberry (Fragaria vesca), a temperature increase of 3 °C decreased the critical photoperiod for flowering by 2 h (Heide and Sonstey, 2007). Similarly, in Prunus species, growth cessation was suppressed under the inducing photoperiod at high temperature (21 °C) (Heide, 2008). This suggests that a thermosensitive pathway in plants can override photoperiod cues in developmental transitions, although the molecular mechanism has not been identified. In addition to differences in day and night temperatures between the field and greenhouse, the greenhouse experiments could have had greater temperature and light microenvironmental variation. For example, root temperatures likely fluctuated more in the greenhouse because of the fixed soil volume equilibrating with air temperature and daily cooling caused by watering.

Growth cessation occurred more synchronously in the field, but we have no evidence the cue for growth cessation is...
photoperiod alone in this environment. Whereas temperature, water status, and nutrient availability were controlled in the greenhouse experiment, growth cessation under field conditions could have been induced by any number of environmental cues in addition to photoperiod, including drought, nutrient availability, or exposure to low, nonfreezing temperatures (Arora et al., 2003). Rainfall was sufficient in 2001 and 2002, making drought stress unlikely, although differences in microclimates across the 8 × 125-m vineyard or slight drought stress cannot be excluded as a source of variation. Infection of shoot tips in the field by downy mildew (Plasmopara viticola) was observed, especially in the wetter 2002 season, which may also have affected growth cessation. The greater synchrony in the field could be due to a synergistic response to daylength with temperature and other environmental factors that affect the rate of growth cessation.

The low temperature induction of growth cessation of the V. riparia and ‘Seyval’ parents has not been examined. However, in 2001 and 2002, low night temperatures of 10 °C occurred occasionally during the 14-h photoperiod (August) and regularly during the 13- to 12-h photoperiod (September). Dormancy induction by low, nonfreezing temperatures has been observed in other woody species, such as birch, apple, pear, raspberry, and dogwood (Heide and Prestrud, 2005; Junttila et al., 2003; Palonen, 2006; Svendsen et al., 2007). The field growth cessation QTL may represent a gene or genes involved in low, nonfreezing temperature-induced growth cessation. The presence of a major effect QTL in the field that is distinct from

Table 4. Summary statistics for the Vitis riparia × Vitis hybrid ‘Seyval’ (Seyve-Villard 5–276) map. Estimated genome length and expected map coverage were calculated with map distances based on the Kosambi mapping function and logarithm of odds (LOD) of 5.0.

| Markers tested (no.) | 205 |
|----------------------|-----|
| Markers monomorphic in F2 (no.) | 48 |
| Markers with poor amplification (no.) | 19 |
| Markers producing multiple bands (no.) | 10 |
| Markers for mapping (no.) | 115 |
| Linked markers (no.) | 111 |
| Unlinked markers (no.) | 4 |
| Strong linkages between pairs (no.) | 230 |
| Maximum observed map distance (cM) | 31.311 |
| Estimated genome length (cM) | 1,784 |
| 95% confidence interval (cM) | (1,579.82, 2,048.78) |
| Expected map genome coverage (%) | 83.7 |
| Average distance between markers (cM) | 8.4 |

Table 5. Location, significance, and effect of individual QTL for the critical photoperiod for growth cessation and the number of summer laterals at 14- to 12-h photoperiods in F2 progeny of the cross Vitis riparia × Vitis hybrid ‘Seyval’ (Seyve-Villard 5–276) under greenhouse conditions.

| Trait | Year | LG | Peak (cM) | Nearest marker | Interval (cM) | LOD | R2 | a |
|-------|------|----|----------|---------------|--------------|------|----|---|
| Critical photoperiod | 2002 | 13 | 34 | VMC9H4_2 | 2–34 | 340 | 96.6 | -6.01 |
| Critical photoperiod | 2003 | 13 | 34 | VMC9H4_2 | 34–38 | 250 | 88.0 | -6.12 |
| Critical photoperiod | 2004 | 13 | 36 | VVIP10 | 6–36 | 314 | 80.0 | -6.12 |

| No. of summer laterals | Year | LG | Peak (cM) | Nearest marker | Interval (cM) | LOD | R2 | a |
|------------------------|------|----|----------|---------------|--------------|------|----|---|
| LATERALS AT 14 H | 2002 | 13 | 8 | VMC3D12 | 2–14 | 14.8 | 15.0 | -1.39 |
| LATERALS AT 13 H | 2002 | 17 | 40 | VVIP36g | 36–56 | 42.0 | 39.4 | -2.91 |
| LATERALS AT 13 H | 2003 | 10 | 37 | VMC9G4 | 34–42 | 13.2 | 9.5 | -0.64 |
| LATERALS AT 12 H | 2002 | 12 | 4 | VMC4D9 | 2–8 | 42.8 | 51.2 | -1.62 |
| LATERALS AT 12 H | 2003 | 12 | 4 | VMC8E8 | 27–55 | 21.4 | 23.8 | 0.44 |
| LATERALS AT 12 H | 2004 | 15 | 8 | VMD30 | 0–10 | 75.3 | 75.4 | -1.27 |

*LG = linkage group; Peak = location of local logarithm of odds (LOD) maximum in cM from the top of the linkage group; Nearest marker = microsatellite closest to the local LOD maximum; Interval = confidence interval of QTL position in cM from the top of the linkage group; LOD = local LOD maximum (only LODs above the α = 0.05 experiment-wise type-I error rate are reported as determined by 1000 permutations); R2 = proportion of total phenotypic variance explained by QTL; a = estimate of the additive effect on the trait.

Table 6. Location, significance, and effect of individual QTL for the critical photoperiod for growth cessation and the number of summer laterals at 13- to 12-h photoperiods in F2 progeny of the cross Vitis riparia × Vitis hybrid ‘Seyval’ (Seyve-Villard 5–276) in the field.

| Trait | Year | LG | Peak (cM) | Nearest marker | Interval (cM) | LOD | R2 | a |
|-------|------|----|----------|---------------|--------------|------|----|---|
| Critical photoperiod | 2001 | 11 | 48 | VVIP36g | 46–52 | 443 | 85.4 | 0.40 |
| Critical photoperiod | 2002 | 11 | 48 | VVIP36g | 48–54 | 447 | 94.3 | 0.18 |
| LATERALS AT 12 H | 2001 | 17 | 8 | VMC3c11.1 | 2–16 | 36.4 | 54.1 | -0.87 |
| LATERALS AT 12 H | 2002 | 11 | 50 | VMC3c11.1 | 2–24 | 36.4 | 54.1 | -0.87 |
| LATERALS AT 12 H | 2002 | 15 | 2 | VMD30 | 0–4 | 21.1 | 30.7 | -2.36 |
| LATERALS AT 12 H | 2002 | 2 | 9 | VRZAG93 | 9–11 | 10.2 | 10.8 | -0.49 |
| LATERALS AT 13 H | 2001 | 17 | 6 | VMC3c11.1 | 0–16 | 17.2 | 20.4 | -0.092 |
| LATERALS AT 13 H | 2002 | 12 | 17 | VMC3c11.1 | 2–20 | 17.4 | 15.7 | -1.58 |

*LG = linkage group; Peak = location of local logarithm of odds (LOD) maximum in cM from the top of the linkage group; Nearest marker = microsatellite closest to the local LOD maximum; Interval = confidence interval of QTL position in cM from the top of the linkage group; LOD = local LOD maximum (only LODs above the α = 0.05 experiment-wise type-I error rate are reported as determined by 1000 permutations); R2 = proportion of total phenotypic variance explained by QTL; a = estimate of the additive effect on the trait.

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the photoperiod-related QTL in the greenhouse experiment suggests that grapevines have a second system for growth cessation, resulting in flexible developmental responses to variable cues such as rainfall or temperature and reliable cues like photoperiod. Further studies will be required to determine what temperatures are sufficient to induce growth cessation in *V. riparia* or *Seyval*.

The identification of stable QTLs across years, coupled with low interannual correlations, merits additional discussion. Further inspection of the data suggests that extreme phenotypes seem to be largely responsible for what little correlation exists. Removal of the extreme observations yields substantially reduced, or even reversed, correlations between years within the field data, as well as within the greenhouse data. In contrast, exclusion of the intermediate observations resulted in greatly enhanced correlation values. The individuals with consistent but divergent phenotypes are also likely to explain the detection of consistent QTLs.

**Candidate Genes.** The candidate genes tested were selected based on information from photoperiod response in other species, but none of the genes colocalized with the QTL for growth cessation in the field or greenhouse. Elements of photoperiodic pathways are conserved between annuals and woody species, although developmental targets vary (e.g., flowering or tuberization vs. growth cessation and dormancy induction). The photoperiod response in woody species relies on a functional phytochrome system, demonstrated by the reversibility of short day-induced bud set by night-break experiments in cottonwood (Howe et al., 1996) and over-expression of the oat *PHYA* in hybrid aspen (*Populus tremula* × *P. tremuloides*) (Olsen et al., 1997; Welling et al., 2002). A potential role for phytochrome B is suggested by the colocalization of *PHYB1* and *PHYB2* with QTL for bud set and growth cessation in poplar, although the underlying genes have not been identified (Chen et al., 2002). We eliminated several photoreceptor genes as determinants of photoperiod sensitivity in *V. riparia*, including the four phytochromes in *Vitis* (*PHYA*, *PHYB*, *PHYC*, and *PHYE*) and *CRY1* and conclude that the causal gene resides downstream of the phytochrome genes.

In addition to regulating flowering time and tuberization in response to photoperiod in some annual species, the *CONSTANS/FLOWERING LOCUS T (CO/FT)* regulatory module controls short day-induced growth cessation and bud set in aspen (*P. tremula*) and norway spruce (*Picea abies*) through downregulation of FT transcripts under short days (Bohlenius et al., 2006; Gyllenstrand et al., 2007). Our *Vitis* homolog of CO did not coloclate with any QTL, and the *Vitis* FT homolog could not be mapped due to severe segregation distortion. However, the grape *FT/TFI* gene family contains at least four other genes that could serve as candidate genes (Carmona et al., 2007), and in arabidopsis (*Arabidopsis thaliana*), the *CONSTANS* family contains 17 genes (Griffiths et al., 2003). Many candidate genes are plausible, as other downstream genes continue to be identified, such as the MADS-box transcription factors shown to cosegregate with a nondormant (evergreen) mutant in peach (*Prunus persica*) (Bielenberg et al., 2008) and genes involved in hormone synthesis, such as the genes regulating short day-induced reduction in gibberellins (Molmann et al., 2003).

The regions covered by the QTL are large, spanning about 25 cM for the greenhouse QTL and 8 cM for the field QTL. These regions are too large to narrow the field of candidate genes using available genome sequence, and finer scale mapping will be required to identify the genes underlying these QTL. The availability of the grape genome sequence and development of a large numbers of single nucleotide polymorphism (SNP) markers makes it possible to improve marker density for fine mapping.

We constructed a map for an *F2* population from the cross *V. riparia* × *Seyval* and identified a QTL responsible for the segregation of photoperiod-induced growth cessation, as well as a separate field QTL for growth cessation that suggests environmental factors, which may include photoperiod, contribute to growth cessation in the field. This map will be useful for mapping additional traits such as cold hardiness and endodormancy requirements for budbreak. The development of climate-adapted grapevines is a major challenge for breeding programs, and a better understanding of the genetic control of growth cessation, identification of allelic variants with useful phenotypes, and the availability of robust associated markers will facilitate selection and introgression of photoperiod responsiveness from *V. riparia* into nonresponsive germplasm.

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