

Wine-Grower-News #9

Midwest Grape & Wine Industry Institute: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Wine>
July 6, 2007

Information included in this issue includes:

Tree vs. Grapes (Trees always win!)

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Tree vs. Grapes (Trees always win!)

Trees and grapes do not mix very well. The shade from trees can DRAMATICALLY increase the disease pressure in a vineyard, especially those trees that cast shade from the eastern and/or southern side of a vineyard. The few extra hours of shade increases the drying time of rain and heavy dews. Early morning and late afternoon shade will also delay the ripening time for grapes. Trees also compete for water. It is not uncommon to see stunted grapes, the effects of water stress 75 feet from the trunk of large deciduous trees (leaves drop in the fall). Pines tend to have deeper tap roots and do not extend their roots as far as deciduous trees. Running a trencher along the vineyard boundary is one way to temporarily eliminate trees roots from the vineyard. Most of the tree roots will be in the top one foot of soil.

So, what to do? I often recommend removing any trees within 100 feet of a vineyard. Yes, tall trees cast a long shadow. Trees on the east and southern sides of a vineyard will cause more harm than trees on the west and north side. But,... it is best to remove them all. One last thing about trees. Trees provide a perfect perch for birds as they plan their attack strategy.

Spray Planes Everywhere!

There will be many nervous vineyard owners over the next few weeks as aerial applicators apply fungicides to corn fields. The practice of applying fungicides to corn is somewhat new to Iowa. There has been recent research and many on-farm trials showing that using the strobiluron class of fungicides on corn from tassel emergence through silking can increase yields from 6-20 bushels per acre depending on disease pressure. Most of the applications are costing around \$20/acre through a plane. \$4 corn can quickly make this application very profitable resulting in many farmers applying

fungicides to corn this year. In fact, this will be the largest aerial application run in the history of Iowa, weather permitting. The strobiluron fungicides being applied to corn will be:

Product	Manufacturer	Active Ingredient
Headline	BASF	23.6% pyraclostrobin
Stratego	Bayer	11.0% propiconazole 11.4% trifloxystrobin
Quadris	Syngenta	22.9% azoxystrobin
Quilt	Syngenta	7.0% azoxystrobin 11.7% propiconazole

These products are very similar to what we spray on our grapes. Abound (22.9% azoxystrobin), Pristine (12.8% pyraclostrobin & 25.5% boscalid) and Flint (50% trifloxystrobin) are similar fungicides we spray on our grapes.

Evening Vineyard Walk, July 12, 2007 – Batavia, Iowa

When: Thursday Evening, July 12th, 2007 (Rain or Shine)

Where: Dave & Pam Miller's Cedar Valley Vineyard, 2034 Dewberry, Ave. Batavia, IA 52533

Located on Highway 34 between Batavia and Fairfield. From the West, travel 3 miles East of Batavia on Highway 34 and turn North on Dewberry Ave. immediately after crossing the Cedar Creek bridge. From the East, travel 8 miles West of Fairfield on Highway 34 (past the Packwood turnoff) and turn North on Dewberry Ave. immediately before crossing the Cedar Creek bridge. Once on Dewberry Ave., the vineyard is on the left (West) side of the gravel road approximately 1/4 mile North of Highway 34 and is visible from the highway.

Who: Dave & Pam Miller, Owners of Cedar Valley Vineyard

Wayne Peterson, Midwest Grower Supply, Stansberry, MO: <http://midwestgrowersupply.com/>

Mike White, ISU Extension Viticulture Specialist

Agenda: 5:30 PM to 6:30 PM Registration & Informal tour Vineyard

6:30 PM Cedar Valley Vineyard - Dave & Pam Miller

6:45 PM Example Vineyard Spray Program Worksheet - Mike White

7:05 PM Wayne Peterson - Common Vineyard Pesticides

7:25 PM Break

7:35 PM Canopy Management Concepts

Yield Estimation

Matching Trellis - Site - Variety

9:00 PM Adjourn

Sponsor: Scenic Rivers Grape & Wine Association, Cedar Valley Vineyard, USDA Risk Management Agency and ISU Extension

Cost: \$10 each for Scenic Rivers Members, \$15 each for non Scenic River members

RSVP by calling Geode RC&D office at 319-752-6395 by 5pm, Wednesday, July 11th, 2007

Suggest bringing a lawn chair and mosquito repellent.

Eastern Iowa IWGA Roundtable, July 18 at Stone Cliff Winery

The second Iowa Wine Growers Association Roundtable forum will be held July 18, 2007 at Stone Cliff Winery in Dubuque. Three of these Roundtable forums are being held to give an opportunity for growers and winemakers alike to voice concerns, hopes and visions for our industry. It is also a

chance for the IWGA Board to clarify and to share information with members regarding the direction they would like to see this industry heading.

Time: 7-9 PM , Wednesday, July 18, 2007

Location: Stone Cliff Winery, 600 Star Brewery Dr., Dubuque, IA 52110 (563-552-1200)

<http://www.stonecliffwinery.com/>

Agenda: Making the Iowa Wine Industry Successful
Barriers and Threats to the Iowa Wine Industry
Establishing the First Mid-America Vintner's Quality Alliance
IWGA's Focus for 2007 and 2008

Cost: No Charge

RSVP by NOON, Tuesday, June 17 at IWGA office: 800-383-1682

Misc. Trellis Information Sites for Those About to Build

1. Constructing a Vineyard Trellis, Dr. Paul Domoto, ISU 2002:
<http://viticulture.hort.iastate.edu/info/pdf/domototrellis.pdf>
2. Engineering a Modern Trellis System, Dr. Thomas Zabadal, Michigan State University:
<http://grapes.msu.edu/pdf/cultural/engineerTrellis.pdf>
3. Grape Training Systems, Univ. of Mo
<http://extension.missouri.edu/xplor/agguides/hort/g06090.htm>
4. Trellis Systems for Your Vineyard, Uni. Of NE:
http://agronomy.unl.edu/viticulture/trellis_systems_for_your_vineyard.htm
5. Calsota Supply, Mendota, MN: <http://www.calsota.com/>
6. MDT & Assoc., Robindale, MN: <http://www.mdtgrow.com/>
7. Midwest Vineyard Supply, Decatur, IL: <http://www.Midwestvineyardsupply.com>
8. Jim Supply Co., Bakersfield, CA: <http://www.jimssupply.com/vineyardhome.htm>
9. Parks Vineyard & Trellis Systems, Napa CA: <http://www.pvts.net/>
10. Spec Trellising, Ivyland, PA: <http://www.spectrellising.com/vinesupport/index.php>
11. A&P Ag Structures, Visalia, CA: <http://www.aandpag.com/>

The Language of Wine

I just finished reading the June, 2007 edition of Wine & Spirits. Why? Every once in a while I will try to learn from the sophisticates of wine. Those who use that special nomenclature that only wine sophisticates know. It only took a perusal of several pages before I realized that once again I was way out of my league. These people must carry a dictionary of wine descriptors with them. It absolutely amazes me what these people see, taste and spell while tasting wine. Here are just few of the wine descriptions I found in the June 2007 edition:

A taste of the truth.

A solid block of flavor enhanced by mineral & violet scents and supported by lamb worthy tannins.

Earthy and firm with tense tannins and juicy red fruit, gentle and refined.

Dusty and mineral, fruity and meaty, full of complexity and charm.

Its luscious tannins and refreshing acidity enhance a forestry character.

Intriguing seductive aroma of cinnamon, dust and meat.

Voluptuous in fruit and austere in tannins.

Cascade of toffee, chocolate, sweet spices and vibrant fruit flavors; with mineral and tobacco scents.

The tannins feel as lean and tense as the muscles of a marathon runner.

Floral and as peppery as extra virgin olive oil.

*Complex, young, firmly structured and bold on a light and silky frame.
Ripe and round, yet elegant and sophisticated.
Savory warmth along with a rich velvety tannin.
Ripe and smooth propelled by the warm of alcohol, finished on a balance of plushness and acidity
along with meaty, smoky tannins.*

Unfortunately my wine dictionary only has 10 words to choose from: red - white, sweet - dry, good - bad, oaked – unoaked, expensive or cheap. I think I need to go buy a bigger and better wine dictionary!

Wisconsin Wineries May Lose Right to Distribute

Senator Russ Decker (D-Weston) and the Beverage Distributors included an amendment in the current budget to force Wisconsin's 41 wineries to wholesale their wine only through distributors. The Senate budget was approved on 7-3-07. Winery representatives said the plan will also hurt their ability to ship wine directly to consumers by requiring them to obtain expensive permits and fill out extensive paperwork. Bill Nelson, president of WineAmerica stated that this new legislation will dramatically limit the growth of the Wisconsin winery industry. Senator Decker indicated that this action was needed to bring the state into compliance with the 2005 U.S. Supreme Court *Granholm vs. Heald* decision that eliminated giving special privileges to in-state wineries that out of state wineries do not have. The amendment would also drastically limit the number of wineries shipping into the state due to the \$1,000 permits and other complicated paperwork.

Representative Garey Bies, (R-Sister Bay) who represents wineries in Door County, has vowed to try to remove the language in the Assembly's version of the budget. His chamber is expected to consider the budget next month.

7-3-03 Forbes article: <http://www.forbes.com/feeds/ap/2007/06/29/ap3873312.html>

Granholm vs. Heald decision:

<http://a257.g.akamaitech.net/7/257/2422/16may20050800/www.supremecourtus.gov/opinions/04pdf/03-1116.pdf>

Iowa Winery-Vineyard Update

The Iowa Alcohol Beverage Division had 66 entities holding a Iowa Native Winery license as of 7-3-07. The Iowa Wine and Beer Promotion WWW site shows 54 of these wineries open for business. I am currently aware of 371 commercial vineyards in Iowa covering approximately 850 acres.

Results of 2006 Iowa Vineyard & Winery Survey – Just Released

2006 USDA AG Statistics Iowa Vineyard Survey Summary

1. Average years of grape growing experience:

< 2 yrs.	9%
2-4 yrs.	39%
5-10 yrs.	43%
> 10 yrs.	10%

2. 16% of vineyard owners also owned a winery.

3. 23% of vineyard owners plan to open a winery in the future.
4. 71% of growers intended to sell to a commercial winery.
5. 16% of growers were using a written contract.
6. 2% (6 acres) of growers were growing certified organic grapes.
7. The 236 vineyards responding to this survey reported 539 acres averaging 2.3 acres per vineyard.

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Iowa/Publications/Crop_Report/reports/2007/News%20RIs%20Vineyard.pdf

2006 USDA Ag Statistics Iowa Winery Survey Summary

1. Average years of commercial winemaking experience:

< 2 yrs.	35%
2-4 yrs.	33%
5-10 yrs.	19%
>10 yrs.	13%
2. 92% of respondents plan to produce wine commercial in the future.
3. 63% reported buying Iowa grown grapes/juice to meet their needs.
4. 44% reported being able to purchase Iowa grown grapes/juice.
5. 54% presently seeking other Iowa grown grapes/juice.
6. Wineries also seeking Iowa grown raspberry, cherry, apple, rhubarb, and black berry fruits and juice.
7. 86% planned to source Iowa grown fruits/juices in the future.
8. 2009 wine production predicted to be 9 times greater in 2009 than in 2002.
9. 68% of production estimated to be utilized from Iowa grapes in 2009 vs. 35% in 2002.
10. Predicted that less than < 33% of wine production will come from non-Iowa grapes/juices in 2009 vs. 66% in 2002.

http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Iowa/Publications/Crop_Report/reports/2007/News%20RIs%20Winery.pdf

Slow Rise in Worlds Wine Consumption

(4-30-07 Wine Business Insider)

The International Organization of Wine and Vine released its latest 6 month report. Highlights of the report included:

1. 2006 World consumption was up 1.4% in 2006.
2. U.S. Consumption was up 3.1% in 2006.
3. U.S. wine production was down 14% in 2006.
4. China's wine production was up 7.1% in 2006.
5. South Africa's wine production was up 9.0% in 2006.

Entire report here: <http://www.winebusiness.com/SalesMarketing/webarticle.cfm?dataId=48110>

Neeto-Keeno WWW Stuff

1. Iowa Alcohol Beverages Division: <http://www.iowaabd.com>
2. Iowa Ag Statistics: http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Iowa/index.asp
3. Wines & Vines "New" Web Site: <http://www.winesandvines.com/>

4. UC David “New” Integrated Viticulture Site: <http://iv.ucdavis.edu/>

Past issues archived here: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ag/newsletters/winegrowers.html>

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