

Wine-Grower-News #87

June 5, 2009

(Next Newsletter in One Week!)

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

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Murli Advertises Iowa Wine to the World

I was surfing the WWW this week and to my amazement I came across a couple of videos of Murli (Dr. Murli Dharmadhikari), the Director of our Midwest Grape & Wine Industry Institute. The two videos are of Clark Smith of Appellation American interviewing Murli about our Iowa wine industry and our wines. Part 1- is just over 5 minutes and shows Clark interviewing Murli about his background and the Midwest wine industry. Part 2 - is just over 8 minutes and shows Clark and Murli tasting wines from several Iowa wineries and Clark Smith remarking on how well they taste.

Many of you know Murli and know that he is much too humble to ever advertise the fact that he is now an **Internet Movie Star**. So, I guess I needed to. Check out his two debut movies here:

<http://wine.appellationamerica.com/index.aspx>

The Complete Idiots Guide to Starting and Running a Winery, by Thomas Pelichia, 344 pp.
\$12.89 at Amazon.com. Consumer 4.5 star rating.

http://www.amazon.com/Complete-Idiots-Starting-Running-Winery/dp/1592578187/ref=pd_sim_b_4

Shoot Thinning – Important for Vineyard Management

By: Randall Vos, Viticulture Instructor at Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC)

Ph: 515-965-7310 or rjvos@dmacc.edu

Shoot thinning is an important part of vineyard management that can often be over looked. Even if you prune a vine to 40 buds because you want 40 shoots does not guarantee you will have 40 shoots, you could have less than that in the event of a harsh winter, or you could have twice that many. We'll get to the reason for that later in this posting, but first we'll focus on the rationale for shoot thinning.

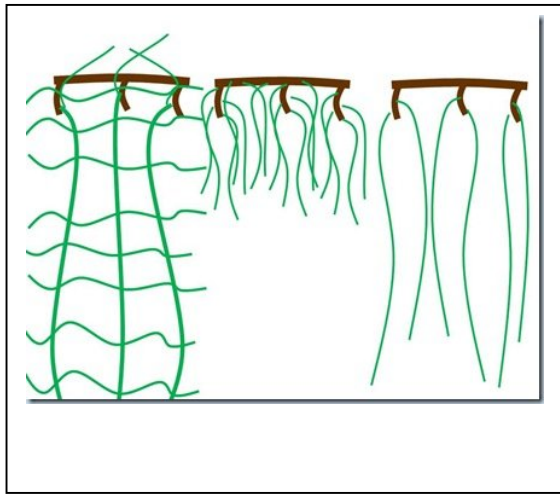


Figure 1

Too few shoots is not ideal nor is too many shoots. If we thin out too many shoots for a particular vine we first off all limit the yield. Secondly we also create a situation where there are not enough shoots to harvest the sunlight available to the vines, but eventually those few shoots will likely grow aggressively into what we call bull shoots, as seen on the left side of Figure 1. These tend to have a lot of laterals and tend to be less winter hardy and less fruitful for next year. If we leave too many shoots (middle of Figure 1), we may over crop this vines, or the shoots that we leave will shade out each other and the fruit. This overly thick canopy also leads to less cold hardiness, less fruitfulness of the buds for next year, and an increased potential for disease.

Ideally we leave the 'right' amount so as to get the balanced fruit yield, adequately harvest the sunlight, not shade out the vines, and not have excessively vigorous bull shoots that throw a lot of laterals (right side of Figure 1). So what is the 'right' amount of shoots? We don't really know exactly, but commonly used values for hybrid wine grapes are 4-6 shoots per foot of canopy. In some cases higher densities might be justified with highly vigorous vines that aren't very fruitful. For a more in depth look at canopy management for hybrid grapes, you can take a look at the following 6-27-09 Finger Lakes Vineyard Notes newsletter from Cornell University in New York: <http://locale.mannlib.cornell.edu/gsd/collect/flvn/index/assoc/HASH01c3.dir/doc.pdf>

Like was mentioned earlier, even if you leave something like 50 buds on a vine after dormant pruning because you want 50 shoots does not mean that your vine will have that many. If you take a look at the photo right, this shows an extreme example of this from the '08 growing season. In theory this vines were pruned to about 60 buds, but you can see that there are well over 100 shoots.

(Right) Marechal Foch with 120 shoots.



Save the Dates: Each year Iowa State University Extension schedules a series of public field days on several of their 14 research and demonstration farms across the state. A combination of livestock, crops, agricultural engineering and/or horticulture topics are covered at these field days. Each field day has a varied agenda. The 2009 field day schedule can be found here: <http://www.ag.iastate.edu/farms/fielddays.php>

Yes, Managing to Deter Fungicide Resistance is VERY Important!

“These fungicides are expensive, do I really need to buy so many different kinds?” Answer – Yes, because:

Increased incidences of diseases becoming resistant to fungicides have become more common in the U.S. Wide ranging instances of Powdery Mildew (PM) becoming resistant to the sterol inhibiting and strobilurin fungicides have become common. There are also many instances of the strobilurin fungicides failing to control Downy Mildew (DM). It is now being recommended to tank mix additional PM and DM fungicides of different modes of action when combining with the strobilurin fungicides when trying to control these two diseases. PM and Botrytis resistance to Topsin-M have also become a norm. The fungicides we use today control diseases via single or multiple sites of activity. The single site fungicides (ie..strobilurins) were very effective when they first came on the market. But once they were repeatedly used, the disease organism populations started to change towards greater levels of resistance. A resistant management plan is a must-do today when formulating your vineyard fungicide spray program. Read those labels carefully, vineyard fungicides prone to resistance will have directions on their labels one can use to deter resistance. Failure to adapt fungicide resistance tactics to YOUR vineyard spray program will create a great deal of FRUSTRATION and COST to you in the NEAR future. We now MUST use resistance management plans when using these resistant prone fungicides.

Fungicides with multiple sites of action have a much lower chance of developing resistance. The chart below identifies the major fungicides labeled for grapes and their risk of resistance.

The International Fungicide Resistant Action Committee has classified the following fungicides by **FRAC Code, Fungicide Group and Risk of Resistance Development (RORD):**

FRAC	Fungicide Group	RORT	Common Name	Trade Name(s)
1	Benzimidazole	high	thiophanate-methyl	Topsin-M
2	Dicaboximide	medium-high	iprodione	Rovral
3	Sterol Inhibitros	medium	myclobutanil	Rally (Nova)
			fenarimol	Rubigan
			tebuconazole	Elite, Mettle
			triflumizole	Procure
4	Phenylamide	high	mefenoxam	Ridomil Gold
7	Carboxamide(anilide)	medium	boscalid	Endura
9	Anilinopyrimidine	medium	cyprodinil	Vanguard
			pyrimethanil	Scala
11	Strobilurin-QoI	high	azoxystrobin	Abound

11 & 7	high & medium	famoxadone pyraclostrobin & bocalid kresoxim-methyl trifloxystrobin	Tanos Pristine Sovran Flint
11 & 3	high & medium	trifloxystrobin & tebuconazole	Adament
13 Quinolines	medium	quinoxigen	Quintec
17 Hydroxyanilid	low-medium	fenhexamid	Elevate
33 Phosphonates	low	phosphorous acid	Fungi Phite, K-Phite Fosphite, ProPhyt, Agri-Fos, Phostrol
40 Carboxylic Acid Amide	low-medium	mandipropamid	Revus
43 Benzamides	Resistance not known (but a tank mix partner is required on label)	fluopicolide	Presidio
Multiple Sites	low to very low	captan copper ferbam lime sulfur mancozeb sulfur thiram ziram	captan Kocide, Bordeaux Mix CupriFix, etc.... Ferbam Sulforix, etc.... Mancozeb, Penncozeb, Dithane, etc.... Sulfur Thiram Ziram

The basic methods of managing fungicide pest resistance include:

- a. Avoiding repetitive use or sole use of one fungicide.
- b. Avoid repeated use of High Risk fungicides.
- c. Tank mix with other fungicides of different modes of action (fungicide groups).
- d. Alternate applications with products of different modes of action (fungicide groups).
- e. Limit the number of treatments – apply only when necessary.
- f. Integrate with cultural disease control methods like, proper pruning, proper canopy management, disease tolerant cultivars and site selection.
- g. Proper application methods.
- h. Do not apply less than labeled rates.
- i. Read, understand and follow the label directions.

Fungicides with a medium or high risk of resistance are required to have specific resistance management instructions on their labels that must be followed. Typically they will require not more than 2 sequential applications to be made or tank mixing with other fungicides. Not enough can be said about using non-chemical methods for disease control. These would include planting tolerant varieties, site selection, canopy management, prompt harvesting, and the use of alternative disease controlling products like Sonata (*Bacillus pumilus* bacteria), Serenade (*Bacillus subtilis* bacteria), stylet oil, potassium bicarbonate and foliar calcium berry skin thickening sprays.

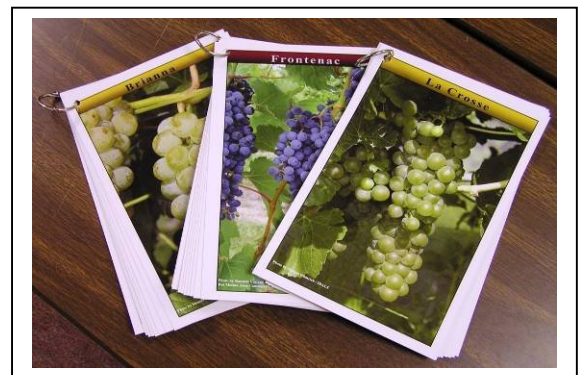
The art of developing an effective fungicide spray schedule is not easy. In fact, it is probably one of the most complicated parts of a quality grape growing program. Resistance management just adds to this complexity. Luckily we have some good grape spray guides and disease management manuals available to guide us through this maze. More information about fungicide resistance can be found here at the International Fungicide Resistance Action Committee: <http://www.frac.info/frac/>

Additional Resources:

1. 2009 Midwest Commercial Small Fruit and Grape Spray Guide:
<https://www.extension.iastate.edu/store/ListItems.aspx?Keyword=pm%201375>
2. 2009 Guidelines for Developing an Effective Fungicide Spray Program for Wine Grapes in Virginia,.: <http://arecs.vaes.vt.edu/webinfo/files/Nita-VA%20Wine%20Grape%20Spray%20Guideline%2020091.pdf>
3. 2009 New York and Pennsylvania Pest Management Guidelines for Grapes:
<http://ipmguidelines.org/grapes/>
4. Dr. Wayne Wilcox, Grape Disease Control 2009, Cornell Univ.:
<http://blogs.cce.cornell.edu/grapes/files/2009/04/wilcox-grpdis-409.pdf>
5. Organic Small Fruit Disease Management Guidelines, Ohio State Univ.:
<http://www.oardc.ohio-state.edu/fruitpathology/organic/PDF/OSU-Organic-Grape-Diseases.pdf>

Laminated Grape Descriptor Cards Available from IDALS

The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship (IDALS) has developed a set of 10 grape descriptor cards for Brianna, Edelweiss, Frontenac, Frontenac Gris, LaCrescent, LaCrosse, Marechal Foch, Seyval Blanc, St. Croix, and Vidal Blanc. The sets of cards will come with a punch hole in the upper left corner and with a ring binder that may be opened to add or remove cards. The text on the cards was written with the goal of reaching and educating as wide a group of people as possible. Three paragraphs make up the description for each cultivar; the first paragraph relates the origin of the cultivar, the second some characteristics of the plants and grapes, and the third paragraph details some of the qualities associated with the wines made from that cultivar.



(Above) Laminated Grape Descriptor Cards from IDALS

People can also obtain individual 5 ½ X 8 ½” heavy-stock laminated cards, or a set of ten cards each of different cultivar, by contacting:

Jeanne Miksich, Printed Products, PO Box 65205
West Des Moines IA 50265, Ph: 515-221-3434 or PrintedProducts@aol.com

Sets of cards will come with a punched hole in the upper left corner and with a ring binder that may be opened to add or remove cards. The images are also available as posters in at least two different sizes. Please check with Jeanne for details. Pricing is subject to change, but expect a set of ten descriptor cards to be somewhere between \$16.00 and \$17.00. Individual cards will cost between

\$1.50 and \$2.00. There is a first printing with a June 25th deadline. Those orders will be mailed out in early July. Orders after the June 25th deadline will be accumulated by Printed Products for a year-end printing. Those orders will be available at the IDALS display table at the next Iowa Winegrowers Association Annual Meeting in late winter of 2010, or, if unable to attend that meeting, mailed at that time.

IDALS hopes to take or obtain pictures of other common Iowa-grown grape cultivars this fall to increase the number of descriptor cards available for Iowa's wineries, vineyards, and other interested parties.

The Grape Descriptor Cards can be found Online on the Homepage of the Iowa Grape & Wine Development Commission here:

http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/Horticulture_and_FarmersMarkets/grapeAndWineCommission.asp

Questions – Contact: Paul Ovrom at 515-242-5028 or Paul.Ovrom@idals.state.ia.us

Time to Register for IFVGA Summer Field Day

What: Annual Iowa Fruit & Vegetable Growers Association Summer Field Day

When: 9:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday, June 29, 2009

Agenda: 9:30 a.m. Gather & Tour Bill Campbell's Brickyard Orchard, 1414 Nishna Ave., Harlan, Iowa 51537, 712-755-5882

Noon – 1:30 p.m. Travel to ISU Armstrong Research & Demonstration Farm, 53020

Hitchcock Ave, Lewis, IA 51544: <http://www.ag.iastate.edu/farms/armstrong.php>

1:30 – 3:30 p.m. Tours and Discussions with ISU Faculty

Cost: \$20 per person or \$30 per couple. Open to members and non-members.

Contact for registration: Dorothy Lewis, Executive Secretary at 515-232-5801 or ifvga@q.com

Sponsored by: the Iowa Fruit and Vegetable Growers Association:

<http://www.iafruitvegetablegrowers.org/>

USDA Rural Development Rural Energy for American Program (REAP)

Complete applications for grants and/or loans for the purchase of energy efficiency improvements or renewable energy systems must be received in the appropriate USDA Rural Development Area Office by 4:30 P.M. Friday, July 31. A list of the 11 area offices can be found here:

http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia/Ia_locations.html

173 applications were submitted to Iowa Rural Development and 167 applications were selected for funding in 2008. The number and types of project applications were:

18 Geothermal	4 Biomass	13 Large Wind
3 Small Wind	10 Energy Efficiency Building or Industrial	
125 EE-Grain dryers		

Check out the entire energy grant/loan program here:

http://www.rurdev.usda.gov/ia/rbcs_RE-EE_Section_9006.html

New Date for Master Sommelier Test at DMACC

By Paul Gospodarczyk , DMACC Enology Instructor

The Des Moines Area Community College (DMACC) Ankeny, IA Campus will be the host site in 2009 for the first level of examinations leading to the title of Master Sommelier. The date has been changed to July 1 and 2, 2009.

The Master Sommelier diploma is the highest distinction a professional can attain in the fine wine and beverage service. A Master Sommelier is a person who has passed four levels of examinations—an introductory sommelier course, the certified sommelier exam, an advanced sommelier course; and lastly, the Master Sommelier diploma exam. When a candidate has successfully passed all four levels, he or she earns the Master Sommelier diploma and can be referred to as a Master Sommelier. To become a Master Sommelier is truly an honor as there only 96 professionals who hold the title Master Sommelier in North America and only 167 professionals worldwide. The first Master Sommelier examination was held in the United Kingdom in 1969.

The DMACC introductory sommelier course will be held July 1 and 2, 2009 in Bldg. #7 on the DMACC Ankeny, IA Campus. The cost is \$495 and seating is limited. The DMACC site will be the only location in between Kansas City and Chicago to offer the test in 2009.

“At the end of the second and final day of the course, a short exam will be administered by the Master Sommeliers who teach the session,” said DMACC Enology Instructor Paul Gospodarczyk. *“This is a great opportunity for restaurants, wine retailers, and wine wholesalers to expand wine service.”*

“It’s more than opening a bottle of wine—it’s knowing how to properly sell and serve a bottle of wine,” said DMACC Chef Phil Carey, C.C.E, C.E.C. *“A great wine steward really increases the restaurants’ bottom line.”*

For more information on Master Sommeliers, go to <http://www.masterssommeliers.org>
For more specific information on the July 1 and 2 exam being offered at DMACC, contact Paul Gospodarczyk at (515) 964-6406 or ptgospodarczyk@dmacc.edu

The DMACC Ankeny Campus offers both [Enology and Viticulture programs](#), which works closely with DMACC’s Culinary Arts program, which was recently renamed the [“Iowa Culinary Institute™”](#), signifying the national prominence of one of DMACC’s great educational programs. In addition, the DMACC Ankeny Campus hosts the Annual Mid-American Wine Competition each summer. The competition is open to commercial wineries from 16 Midwestern states. In 2008, over 640 wines were entered by 112 different wineries.

DMACC is committed to educating, training and encouraging success for students of all ages. DMACC is Iowa’s largest community college, annually serving nearly 30,000 students enrolled in credit classes and nearly 34,000 students in non-credit programs on six campuses and many other locations across Central Iowa.

Wine Business Monthly Requests Participation in Their 2009 Vineyard Survey

Wine Business Monthly has posted their 2009 Vineyard Survey online at here <http://www.winebusiness.com/survey/vineyardsurvey2009.cfm>

The goal of this survey is to gather data that will allow them to analyze vineyard trends. A summary of the results will appear in the November issue of Wine Business Monthly.

They have encouraged that I share this survey notice with you. The more responses they receive from qualified and knowledgeable people, the more accurate and robust the results will be, and the more the industry will benefit as a whole.

If you have any questions about the survey or Wine Business Monthly, please email them at memberservices@winebusiness.com or phone 707-939-0822

If you are not yet familiar with Wine Business Monthly, visit <http://www.winebusiness.com/wbm/>.

Show n Tell



(Left) Check out the deck on this barn. I came across this barn in the 5-30-09 Iowa Farmer Today newspaper:
<http://www.IowaFarmerToday.com>

Check out this recreation retreat located near Wright City, MO here:
<http://www.cedarlakefarm.net>

This patio & deck idea would work great for many of you “barn” wineries out there!

Comments from Readers

“Hi Mike,

I just wanted to tell you that the last 3 newsletters have been extra informative and a real help to me. I just got some new soil tests back and was contemplating their recommendations for adding N to both my grapes and other perennial fruit crops. Specifically, that everything looks great and is growing great - especially those rambunctious grapes.... But that the recommendation was to add N. Thanks to your recent newsletter, I am going with no added N for now as our organic matter is around 3%.

We had winter kill again in our grapes here in Carrington, ND as I expected. Thanks to your newsletter and MGGGA and NDGGA meetings I think I am better equipped each year to grow and prune these things, so hopefully this cycle of excess growth levels off soon. I have a nice crop of grass started this spring and I hope we continue to get a little rain to keep it growing this year. Our cool weather will help.

Glad you still have your job! If any of your colleagues need a job in agriculture, tell them to consider North Dakota where Ag is still supported by the people and the governor.”

--- Kathy Wiederholt, Carrington REC, North Dakota

Quotes of the Week

“Europe is embroiled in a war of words over wine after banning imports of United States bottles labelled 'chateau', 'clos' or 'vintage'. American wines using special terms such as 'fine', 'classic' and 'tawny' have also been banned. American commentators say the EU ban amounts to protectionism. Worried members of the US Congress representing 10 winegrowing states, are urging the US trade ambassador to resolve the dispute.”

--- US in trouble over wine labeling, 6-2-09 New Zealand Herald:

http://www.nzherald.co.nz/business/news/article.cfm?c_id=3&objectid=10575716

“To recap: In a series of experiments utilizing both natural and imposed sources of shading, Powdery Mildew (PM) severity on shaded leaves has been anywhere from 8 to 45 (!) times greater than on fully-exposed leaves on the outside of the canopy, whereas disease severity on shaded clusters has been 50 to 100% greater than on those provided “good” sun exposure. It appears that sunlight helps to limit PM development.”

--- Dr. Wayne Wilcox, page 7, Grape Disease Control 2009, Cornell

Univ.: <http://blogs.cce.cornell.edu/grapes/files/2009/04/wilcox-grpdis-409.pdf>

*Panel = the distance between
two consecutive posts in a
vineyard row.*

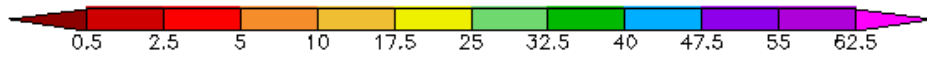
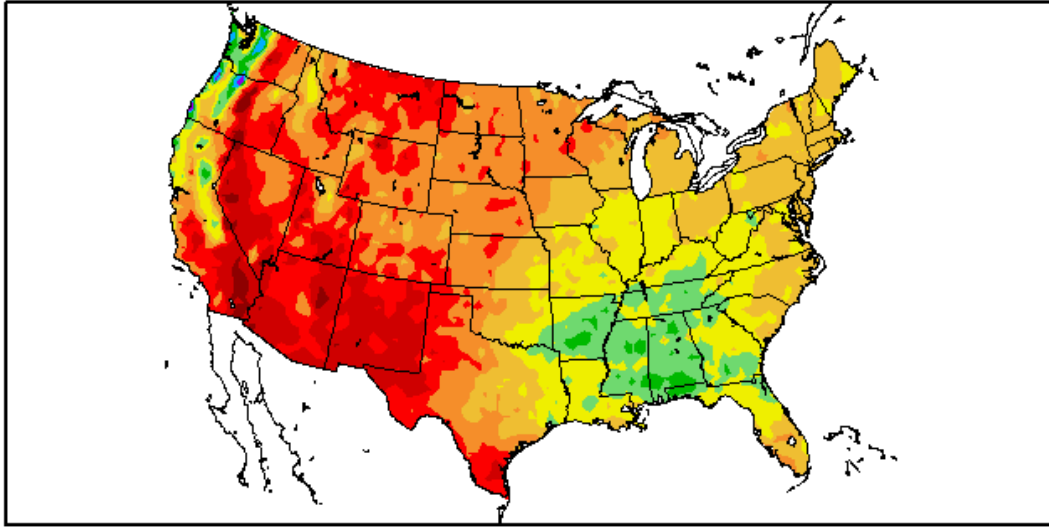
Articles of Interest

1. *Virginia's wine industry is still growing*, (Virginia ranked 7th in the nation in winegrape production in 2008, producing 7,000 tons, up 25% from 2007.) 6-2-09 Washington Business Journal: <http://www.bizjournals.com/washington/stories/2009/06/01/daily40.html>

Neeto-Keeno WWW Stuff

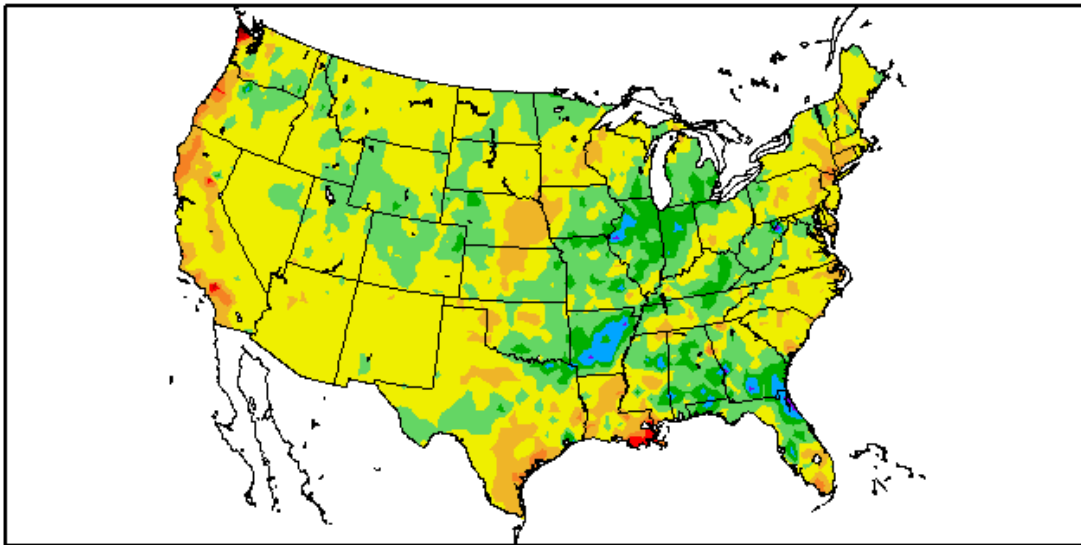
1. Tuscany Jeep Safari, 3:50 minute video on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mDadWly2gN4>
2. European Wine College & International Wine College: <http://www.ewaplatform.org/>
3. National Wine Centre of the Czech Republic: <http://www.wineofczechrepublic.cz/en.html>
4. “A Day in the Life of a Missouri Winery” blog – check out the manure spreader in the vineyard YouTube video: <http://saintegenevievewinery.blogspot.com/2009/06/modern-day-fertilization.html>
5. *Snooth*, the world's largest wine site, today announced on 5-31-09 the launch of its iPhone application. The app will allow users to access Snooth's database of 1 million wines and 11,000 merchants from their mobile device. <http://www.snooth.com/>

Precipitation (in)
1/1/2009 - 6/4/2009



http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/maps/current/index.php?action=update_daterange&daterange=Year

Departure from Normal Precipitation (in)
1/1/2009 - 6/4/2009



http://www.hprcc.unl.edu/maps/current/index.php?action=update_product&product=PDept

Post & View Classified Ads here: <http://iowawinegrowers.org>

Past issues archived as html and/or pdf here:

<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Wine/Resources/viticulture.htm>

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