

Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute

August Updates 2013

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Research, Quality, Training

The Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute was formed as a result of the state's evolving grape & wine industry.

Goals of the Institute include:

- Conduct research to evaluate cold-hardy grape varieties that can thrive in the Midwest
- Conduct enology research
- Assist with implementation of the Iowa Quality Wine Consortium (IQWC) - a quality-assurance stamp of approval program
- Establish an outreach program to the industry by training a team of specialists
- Partner with community colleges to develop job training programs specific to growing grapes and making wine

Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute

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Helping support the state's evolving grape and wine industry, because the potential economic opportunities in wineries, value-added agriculture and tourism are limitless.

Research

- [Northern Grapes Project](#)
 - We enjoyed a meeting with Bill Gartner, University of Minnesota, and Haiyang Song, Hong Kong Polytechnic University, who were traveling around Iowa and the Midwest making preparations for the branding study which will take place in Hong Kong this spring.
 - [August 2013 issue of the Northern Grapes News](#) featuring team profiles of Paul Domoto and Murli is now available on the website.
- Jennie and Murli have started fermentation on La Crescent wines using juice donated by Tassel Ridge to explore the unique flavor and aroma

profiles of the varietal using advance analytical techniques.

- Steph has begun trials using La Crescent and Marquette varietals to explore biological strategies for malic acid reduction.

Outreach



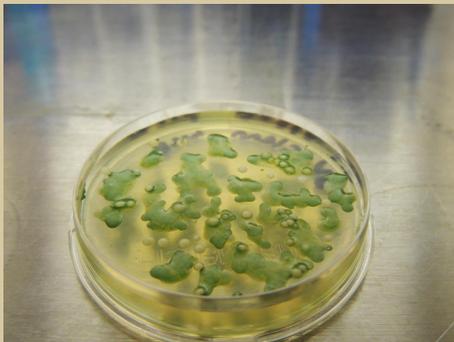
Precision Bottling of Wisconsin runs their mobile bottling line at Train Wreck Winery, Algona, IA

- Murli visited several wineries to do consultations and see operations.
- Nearly 300 wines from commercial wineries in 12 states and Canada were submitted to the Minnesota Grape Growers Association, International Cold Climate Wine Competition 2013. Murli served with 20 other expert judges to award 15 Gold, 55 Silver, 93 Bronze, and a Best in Show ratings.

IQWC program support to Iowa Wine Growers Association

- Work continues on the new extensive database system which will allow the Institute to better manage and organize IQ related information
- Six samples were processed in August

Lab activities



Wine yeast isolated from winery services throughout Iowa

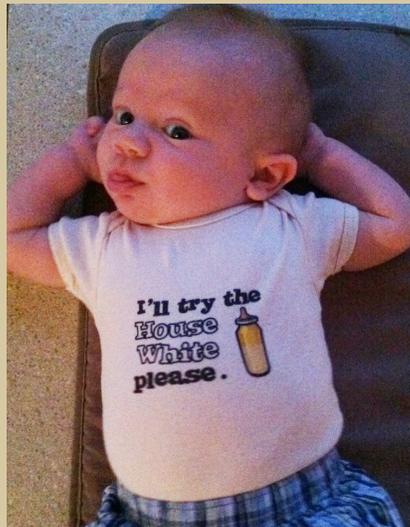
- Unsure when to harvest? The institute offers grape analysis for Brix, pH, TA, and YAN. More details on our [website](#).
- Seven wineries took advantage of the free introductory sanitation reviews and microbial stability analysis.
- Chemical analysis services continued as usual.

Personnel

- It's great to have Jennie back in the office after several weeks of family leave.

Coming up...

- September 26th begins the 7th year of the Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute serving Iowa's wine industry.
- Look for microbial services descriptions and fee schedule on our website later this month.
- Intensive Tasting Proficiency Training coming up in October. Watch for the announcement...



Beau Savits has started daycare (possibly the first step to becoming a great winemaker).

- Undergraduate students Annie and Danielle will be helping out with lab activities again this semester.

... and justice for all

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Cooperative Extension Service, Iowa State University of Science and Technology, and the United States Department of Agriculture cooperating.