

Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute

July 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



Stephanie taking samples of this year's Marquette grapes for the Northern Grapes Project

- [Northern Grapes Project](#)
 - Drs. Paul Domoto and Gail Nonnecke conducted an NGP field day on July 13. Tammi and Stephanie assisted with

registration. More than 55 people attended.

Outreach



VoAg teachers practice a white wine triangle test (photo by Mike White)

- A small group of VoAg high school teachers visited MGWII via VESTA on July 16 to learn about basic red and white wine production.

- On July 25, Mike White brought a group of plant pathology grad students to provide information on the grape and wine industry.
- Murli served as one of the judges for the Mid-American Wine Competition. Roughly 550-600 submissions were scored.



This basic wine making exhibit is on display at Grandfather's barn for the Iowa State Fair.

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
- No samples were processed in July

Lab activities

- Stephanie visited 3 wineries to conduct free sanitation audits.
- Wineries have until August 31st to take part in complementary on-site

sanitation reviews and microbial testing. Starting September 1st the institute will be offering these services at a cost.

- Chemical analysis services continued as usual

Personnel

- A **big thanks** to Justin Weibel for being a part of the Institute. Justin's temporary appointment (which was part of the Northern Grapes Project) came to a close at the end of July. He is already busy back home in California working in his new wine industry position.
- Congratulations to Jennie Savits for being awarded a 2013 ASEV-ES scholarship!

Expanding our knowledge

- Bear with us as the office tackles new phone and accounting systems.

Coming up...

- We expect to see a lot of traffic around here soon. ISU Classes resume on August 26th with record enrollment of nearly 30,000.

... 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.