

June
2017 Update

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Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute

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

First Sensory Proficiency Tasting Training in 2017

Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute (MGWII) staff conducted the first Sensory Proficiency Tasting Training of 2017 on May 11th. Education and Outreach Coordinator Erin Norton guided 25 participants through a presentation on how to taste wine using the senses before starting them through exercises in identification of sugars of acids in water and in wine. They also were guided through both a white and red wine aroma descriptors exercise for both aroma and taste. White wines used were Chardonnay, Sauvignon Blanc, Pinot Grigio, Brianna, Vidal Blanc and Edelweiss. Red wines used were Pinot Noir, Cabernet Sauvignon, Merlot, Marquette, Petite Pearl, and Chambourcin. In the afternoon, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach (ISUEO) Field Specialist - Enology Jennie Savits presented on wine faults. Participants were led through aroma and tasting exercises relating to wine faults, as well. The afternoon wrapped up with flights of wines demonstrating varietal regional differences where the same variety was used but from different regions. Another training is scheduled for July 20th. - www.aep.iastate.edu/wine



MGWII student worker, Kelsey Dyball, and ISUEO Field Specialist (Enology) Jennie Savits pour wines. Education and Outreach Coordinator Erin Norton led the one day training. Jennie Savits also presented on wine faults in the afternoon session.

MGWII hires new student lab technician, Chelsea, who began working in the labs end of April/beginning of May.

MGWII Staff Host Job Shadow Student



Assistant Scientist Somchai Rice gives job shadow student, Jordan Nicholson, from Ames Middle School a quick overview of the lab sensory equipment.

On May 11, 2017, Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute (MGWII) staff hosted a job shadow student, Jordan Nicholson. She is an 8th grader at Ames Middle School. Jordan sat in on the initial presentation given by MGWII Education and Outreach Coordinator Erin Norton at the May 11th Sensory Proficiency Tasting Training where she learned about the olfactory system and the major part it plays in wine tasting. She also was also guided by MGWII Research Associate Maureen Moroney in an aroma exercise where participants don't taste, but smell specific labeled aromas and then try to match

them to smells of blind or unlabeled aroma samples on an adjacent table.

Following this, Jordan was given a tour of the wine laboratories by Assistant Scientist Somchai Rice where she learned about the various pieces of sensory equipment that assist in evaluation of wines and other foods on a fee-for-service and research basis. Later in the day, she joined some

fellow high school students in MacKay Hall food laboratories where she learned more about nutrition before joining back up with MGWII staff. MGWII Administrative Specialist Lani McKinney gave her an overview of the communication services she performs for the group before taking her on a quick trip to the Iowa State University (ISU) Research Station to see where the university grows cold-hardy climate grapes for sale and research. Because of recent spraying, they weren't allowed to go into the vineyard, but it was a beautiful day to drive by the various vineyard plots anyway. It was Jordan's first visit to the ISU Research Station which is also sometimes referred to as the Horticulture Farm.

Other MGWII Activities in May

The Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute's (MGWII) staff served Iowa wines at the Food Science and Human Nutrition Department's External Advisory Committee reception on May 1, 2017 in the lower hallway of the Food Sciences Building. The department's external advisory committee shares ideas and resources with the department in order to enhance its ability to serve its intended audiences. Bob Wersen of Tassel Ridge Winery serves on the committee.



FSHN External Advisory Committee (EAC) member Bob Wersen talks with MGWII staff serving Iowa wines at the afternoon reception.

Iowa State University Extension and Outreach (ISUEO) Field Specialist (Enology) Jennie Savits



ISUEO Field Specialist (Enology) Jennie Savits presents at the final SO₂ workshop at Buchanan House Winery on May 5th.

conducted her final SO₂ workshop at the Buchanan House Winery in Tipton, Iowa on May 3, 2017. It was the last of a series of three she taught across the state of Iowa, this one on the eastern side of the state. The workshop addressed sulfur dioxide (SO₂) management and explained why SO₂ is important as well as provided tips for proper management and methods used to measure it. Participants were encouraged to bring samples for hands-on lab activities. The workshop ended with a walk through exercise demonstrating how to calculate SO₂ additions with take-home examples. To express interest in future events, please contact Jennie Savits, jsavits@iastate.edu, 515.294.4612.

On May 12, 2017, Iowa Governor Terry E. Branstad again signed a proclamation declaring May "Iowa Wine Month". Winery owners from around the state, an Iowa wine business owner (Wines of Iowa), an Iowa Wine Growers Association (IWGA) staff member, and Mike White, ISUEO Field Specialist - Viticulture, were present to witness the signing of the proclamation. To read more about how Iowa's wine industry continues to grow, please see ISUEO Field Specialist - Enology Jennie Savit's recent article here: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/article/iowas-wine-industry-continues-grow>



Iowa Governor Terry E. Branstad signs the proclamation declaring May as Iowa Wine Month.



Assistant Scientist Somchai Rice introduces new student lab technician, Chelsea, to the HPLC.

A full day Iowa Wine Growers Association Spring Cellar Workshop series was hosted by Tassel Ridge Winery in Leighton, Iowa on May 24, 2017. ISUEO employees Mike White, Jennie Savits and Maureen Moroney were in attendance. Topics included on-site/on-demand nitrogen generation and bottle selection/sourcing as well as a topic addressing oak barrels vs. additives.

Also, at the end of April/beginning of May, Chelsea Nelson joined the MGWII as a lab technician. Hailing from Chicago, she will work at the institute in the upcoming semester as she continues her academic journey at Iowa State University (ISU). Chelsea just completed her first year in Food Science at ISU. Welcome, Chelsea!

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You can find other information about Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute on our website:



<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/wine/>

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