

Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute

June Updates
2014

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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.

VIP Visit



Murli discusses MGWII research projects with Lt. Governor Reynolds (left) and Governor Branstad (center) while touring the lab.

Governor Terry Branstad and Lt. Governor Kim Reynolds along with ISU President Steven Leath came to learn about the Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute on June 16. Their visit included an informational presentation,

tasting of Jennie's research La Crescent, and tour of the facilities. Last month Governor Branstad approved an additional fifty thousand dollars funding for MGWII in FY 15 through the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. This was a good opportunity to show that the funds will be well utilized.



Bob Wersen, Tassel Ridge Winery, presented the industry perspective.

Research

[Northern Grapes Project](#)

Cornell University successfully submitted the renewal application to USDA-NIFA for 2 more years funding for the Northern Grapes Project. Funding results are expected sometime in the next two months. More information about the NGP and the June issue of Northern Grapes News can be found at the link above.

Lab activities

Chemical analysis services continued as usual with any quiet moments being utilized to make the lab *sparkle* in preparation of the Governor's visit.

Outreach



Maria Peterson, Filtration Specialist, Scott Laboratories presented "Separation Anxiety – Observational Insights to Understanding Wine Filtration".

The Institute hosted back-to-back seminars June 3 and 4. There were between 20-30 attendees representing 6 states each day

with most participants taking advantage of both seminars.

The focus for Day 1 was wine filtration including: Basics of wine clarification by filtration; practical applications of plate and frame, DE, cross flow, sterile filtration, cartridge filtration, reverse osmosis, as well as case study problem solving.



Randy Worobo, Professor, Cornell University, presented "Dirty Cellar Secrets – Winery Sanitation"

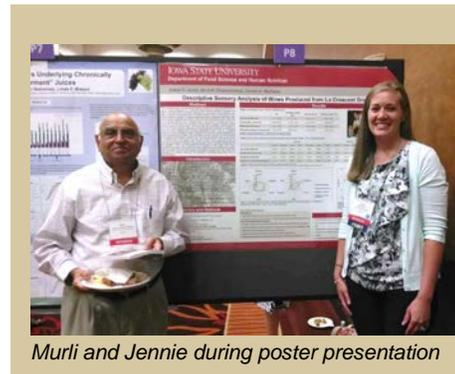
The focus on Day 2 was winery sanitation including: Developing a sanitation plan, cleaning procedures, training, inspections, chemical compounds, cleaning and sanitizing winery equipment, and good manufacturing practices.

Participant reviews were overwhelmingly positive. Greater attendance by Iowa wineries is the main area for improvement.

Expanding Our Knowledge

Murli and Jennie traveled to Austin, Texas for the 65th National Conference of the American Society for Enology and Viticulture (ASEV) in conjunction with the 39th ASEV Eastern Section annual meeting. The meetings offered

two special seminars dealing with "Water use efficiency" and "Wine making for challenging environment". Murli and Jennie attended industry presentations and seminars, and met with academics and vendors. Overall they learned about the ongoing research in other universities and networked with experts to keep abreast of the most advanced information on grape growing and wine making.



Murli and Jennie during poster presentation

In addition, Jennie had the honor of being selected to present a poster on her master's work regarding the descriptive analysis of La Crescent wines. There were over 80 posters in all from contributors around the country and around the world.

Coming up...

- July 14/15 Tasting Proficiency Training workshop (wait list)

Back issues of monthly Updates are available on our website: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/wine/content/institute-updates>

... 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.