

September
2016 Update

Update
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Iowa State
University
Extension
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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 are limitless.

MGWII Hosts Pre-Harvest Workshop

On August 1, 2016, the Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute (MGWII) held a one day Pre-Harvest Winemaking Workshop for 23 participants. The one-day workshop featured fermentation management, winery hygiene and harvest safety and was led by Dr. Nichola Hall and Michael Jones of Scotts Laboratories. Michael kicked off the day talking with attendees about fermentation management in winemaking. Nichola finished the day by addressing winery sanitation and other winemaking topics. MGWII employees Drew Horton, Maureen Moroney and Erin Norton also did a winery safety presentation. A wine tasting was held after the workshop featuring some Iowa wines.



Pre-Harvest Winemaking Workshop attendees listen to Michael Jones of Scott Laboratories talk about fermentation management in winemaking.

"I'm excited to be a part of research that will showcase cold hardy grapes as a sustainable crop in the midwest."

-Somchai Rice,
MGWII
Assistant
Scientist

Second Intensive Tasting Proficiency Training Held



Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute employees pour wine at the August 6th Intensive Tasting Proficiency Training.

Due to high demand, a second Intensive Tasting Proficiency Training opportunity was held by the staff of the Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute on August 6, 2016. Fifteen attendees attended the one day training led by MGWII Education and Outreach Coordinator Erin Norton. The workshop is designed to benefit both beginners and established professionals to have better wine tasting skills for producing, selling, serving, purchasing or simply enjoying quality wine. Fourteen flights of wine were presented throughout the course of the day. The first part of the course addresses the

major components of wine including sugars, acids, alcohols and tannins. The training also included exercises in white and red wine aroma and taste identification, varietal identification, wine flaw and fault identification and consistency in wine quality scoring, among others.

Somchai Rice Joins MGWII Staff

On August 16, 2016, Somchai Rice joined the Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute as Assistant Scientist. Somchai is not new to viticulture or enology. For the past five years, she has been working with the Northern Grapes Project (The Northern Grapes Project is funded by the USDA's Speciality Crops Research Initiative Program of the National Institute for Food and Agriculture, Project #2011-5118130850.) that ended on August 31, 2016. She was involved through the Agriculture & Biosystems Engineering department at Iowa State University (ISU)



Somchai Rice assists with wine pouring at the August Intensive Tasting Proficiency Training.

doing chemical and sensory profiles of cold climate grapes using Multidimensional Gas Chromatography Mass Spectrometry – Olfactory (MDGC-MS-O) analysis.

Somchai has lived in Iowa over 30 years, growing up in north central Iowa. Somchai earned her B.S. (Biology), M.S. (Toxicology) and is currently a Ph.D. candidate (Toxicology) at Iowa State University. Her background and interests are in analytical instrumentation including high performance liquid chromatography, gas chromatography, and mass spectrometry. As an Assistant Scientist, she will lead enology research projects using state-of-the-art instrumentation. She will also participate in workshops and seminars to support extension and outreach to the wine industry in the upper Midwest region, including the state of Iowa.

Iowa State Fair Wine Experience Success

For the eighth year, the Iowa Wine Growers Association (IWGA) held the Wine Experience on the hilltop at Grandfather's Barn at the Iowa State Fair. Every day of the eleven days, Iowa State University Extension and Outreach (ISUEO) Viticulture Field Specialist Mike White led four Grape Stomps a day. Three teams comprised of three to four people sign up to compete against each other to see who can create the most juice. This year the grapes were donated from Annalise Winery in Indianola, Iowa. It is a highlight attraction at the Iowa State Fair and listed as one of the top activities for fairgoers to participate in. Iowa State Fair attendees are also able to purchase a small sampling of Iowa wines inside the barn. Award winners of the Iowa State Fair wine competition are showcased inside the barn.



IWGA Marketing Director Nicole Eilers and ISUEO Viticulture Field Specialist Mike White coordinate afternoon activity details at the Iowa State Fair.



ISU Extension and Outreach leadership team members try their hand at grape stomping.

This year, Vice President of ISUEO, Dr. Cathan Kress; ISU College of Human Sciences Dean, Laura Jolly; and ISUEO Director of Advancement, Jacy Johnson teamed up with a fairgoer from Washington, D.C. to compete in an afternoon Grape Stomp. Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute (MGWII) employees Erin Norton and Lani McKinney also volunteered their time and Drew Horton gave an afternoon presentation on wine barrels. Other notable visitors included Iowa's Secretary of Agriculture Bill Northey.

The Grape Stomp Competition held as part of the Wine Experience is listed in The Des Moines Register's "Top 13 Hidden Treasures at the Iowa State Fair" - <http://www.desmoinesregister.com/story/news/local/iowa-state-fair/2016/08/10/hidden-treasures-iowa-state-fair/87757442/>. All ages enjoy participating in the grape stomp experience.



Drew Horton talks to Iowa State Fairgoers at this year's state fair where he presented on wine barrels.

Drew Horton Moves to Minnesota

Drew Horton's last day at the Midwest Grape and Wine Industry Institute (MGWII) was Wednesday, August 31, 2016. Please direct all contact and calls to Lani McKinney at lanim@iastate.edu or 515.294.3308. Drew will be missed. We are pleased to report, however, he hasn't moved too far away. He will still be heavily involved with cold climate grapes and winemaking at his new position as Extension Enologist at The University of Minnesota in Chaska, MN. The MGWII has taken steps to get the job of Field Specialist II or III/Winemaker advertised through Iowa State University. You can find the link to the online job posting at <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/wine/>. For guaranteed consideration, please apply before October 2, 2016.

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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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