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June / July 2005

Volume VIII, Issue 3

Nebraska Vine Lines

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*Editors: Dr. Paul Read, Professor of Horticulture & Viticulture
Donna Michel, University of Nebraska Viticulture Program*

Growing Season Begins with a Bang!

At least for some growers, late frosts and freezes led to sleepless nights as they tried to prevent damage to precocious-emerging buds and shoots. Early budbreak had occurred for many Eastern and some Central Nebraska growers in late April because unusually warm weather in early April stimulated early budbreak. Many approaches were employed to protect the tender young buds and shoots, including bonfires in the vineyards, use of airblast sprayers (with and without water) and sprinkler irrigation (see the UNL Viticulture Program website for details of how to use sprinkler irrigation for

frost protection – remember for the irrigation to be effective, ice must be continuously freezing on the vines until melted off in the morning by the warmth of the irrigation water, **not by the air temperature going above 32°** Although serious loss of primary buds, shoots, and in some cases secondary buds, have been reported by several growers, mostly in Eastern Nebraska, Western Nebraska growers, at least at the time of this writing seemed to escape significant damage. As can be often anticipated, low-lying vineyards, frequently experienced the most serious losses (what is it the realtors say? “Location, Location, Location!”)

In spite of these reports of vine and crop damage, it appears that a majority of Nebraska vineyards received little to no damage. Now if we can escape the ravages of hail, insects, diseases, wildlife and tornados, 2005 should be an excellent vintage. As a reminder to those of you experiencing frequent rain events, it will be critical for you to vigilantly pursue a strong program of fungicide applications, because excess moisture and humidity exacerbate problems such as Black Rot, Phomopsis and Downy Mildew.

Organic Grape Field Day Offered Near Hartington

June 25 field day near Hartington will offer an introduction to growing grapes organically, a University of Nebraska-Lincoln viticulturist said. The Field Day will begin at 9:30a at the Nissen Brothers Vineyards in the Bow Valley region of

Nebraska near Hartington, said Paul Read, UNL viticulture specialist in the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Topics include an introduction to grape growing and the sensitivity of grape cultivars to sulfur, which is used as an

organically certified fungicide. Following the program at the Nissen Brothers Vineyards, participants will travel to Cuthills Vineyards near Pierce where they will observe mature vines and the Cuthills breeding program.

Registration is \$15 and

Then continue on to Cuthills Vineyards

Continued from Page 1



Meet us all at the Nissen Brothers Vineyard on June 25, 2005 at 9:30a

includes lunch. For more information about the field day or to register, contact Donna Michel at (402) 472-8747 or e-mail dmichel@unl.edu. UNL Extension, UNL Viticulture Program, the Organic Farming Research Foundation and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education are sponsoring the field day. **Directions:** The location of Nissen Brothers is 3 miles north of Hartington on hwy 57 to 886 road. Then 2 1/2 miles East to 566 Ave, turn south onto 566 Ave for 1/2 mile. (End)

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Missouri Valley Multi-State Grape Field Day

"The Field Day will feature the ISU grape cultivar research plots established in 2002 and 2003."

ISU Armstrong R & D Farm Lewis, Iowa—June 18, 2005 The Multi-State Grape Field Day is a cooperative program between Iowa State University, Kansas State University, University of Nebraska, South Dakota State University and Southwest Missouri State University. This year, Iowa State University Horticulture, ISU Extension, ISU Research & Demonstration Farms, Wallace Foundation of Rural Research & Development, and

Golden Hills RC&D are hosting the field day at the ISU Armstrong Research & Demonstration Farm, 53020 Hitchcock Ave, Lewis, IA on Saturday, June 18, 2005. The farm is located just off of U.S. Highway 6 between Oakland and Atlantic. From I-80, you can get to the farm by taking either of the following exits: Avoca (Exit 40), Walnut (Exit 46) or Atlantic (Exit 60).

On U.S. Hwy 6 between M47 and Hwy 48, watch for a blue sign with

"ISU Armstrong Farm" on it. Travel 1/2 mile south on 525 Street to Hitchcock Ave. (T-intersection). Turn east and you will see the Wallace Foundation Learning Center on the next hill <http://www.ag.iastate.edu/farms/armstrong.html>. On the same weekend, June 17-19, the town of Walnut will hold their annual Antique Walk that draws 40,000 people. If you wish to stay over night to enjoy this event, consider lodging in Council Bluffs or Omaha.

Continue to Page 4



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Top Ten Insects in Nebraska

Chelsey M. Wasem and Frederick P. Baxendale Dept. of Entomology, University of Nebraska-Lincoln

Visit the Viticulture Program

Web-site for a full listing of all the Top Ten Insects in Nebraska.

agronomy.unl.edu/viticulture/entomology

The top ten insects that have been identified for Nebraska are insects that have recently been found in Nebraska vineyards either in large quantities or causing great amounts of damage. This list may vary greatly by area and grape cultivar, but can be used as a general guideline of what insects may be found in Nebraska vineyards.

Apple Twig Borer
Grape Flea Beetle
Climbing Cutworm
Eastern Leafhopper
Grape Berry Moth
Grape Phylloxera
Spider Mites
Grasshoppers
Redbanded Leafroller
Sphinx hornworm caterpillar

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Missouri Valley Multi-State Grape Field Day ISU Armstrong R&D Farm Lewis, Iowa (continued from Page 2)

The Field Day will feature the ISU grape cultivar research plots established in 2002 and 2003 with grants from the Leopold Center for Sustainable Agriculture, and USDA specialty crop funds awarded to the Iowa Grape Growers Association (now the Iowa Wine Growers Association). The research plots are evaluating 30 wine and 5 seedless table cultivars at the Armstrong Farm and three other sites across Iowa [Ames (central), Crawfordsville (southeast), and Nashua (northeast)]. Progress reports in this activity are posted on the ISU Viticulture Home Page <http://viticulture hort.iastate.edu/home.html> . Exhibitors are being invited and a demonstration of various vineyard airblast sprayers is being arranged.

Program:

9:00 Registration at the Wallace Foundation Learning Center

9:30 Tour of the research vineyards with discussion of the various cultural practices. Dr. Paul Domoto (ISU), and others from around the region.

10:30 Demonstration of airblast sprayers in the vineyard

11:30 Lunch (catered at Learning Center) and visit with the exhibitors

1:30 Discussion of crop prospects around the region: Dr. Paul Read (U of Nebraska.), Eli Bergmeier (Golden Hills RC&D), and others from around the region.

2:00 Calibrating vineyard sprayers for applying insecticides and fungicides. Dr. Paul Domoto, ISU

2:45 Adjourn to Whispering Hills Vineyards near Carson, IA for a tour and tasting of the local wines.

Registration: \$15.00 per individual (includes lunch)

Pre-registration is required by Wednesday, June 15. Please register by completing the form below and mailing it with your check made payable to "Golden Hills RC&D" to the following address:

Golden Hills RC&D
Grape Field Day
P.O. Box 189
Oakland, IA 51560

Registration questions should be addressed to Gloria Lyman, who can be reached via email at gloria.lyman@goldenhillsrca.org , or telephone at (712) 482-3029.

We look forward to seeing you on June 18, 2005

**Missouri Valley Grape Field Day Registration
Iowa State University Armstrong Research Farm; Lewis, IA
June 18, 2005**

Attendee Name (s) _____

Company _____

Street Address _____ State _____ Zip _____

Telephone _____ Email Address _____

Total Due = Number Attending _____ x \$15.00 per Attendee = \$ _____

Please return with payment to: Golden Hills RC&D, Grape Field Day, P.O. Box 189, Oakland, IA 51560

Reminder—NWGGA

Membership for NWGGA runs from April 1, 2005 through March 31, 2006. If you have not yet renewed your membership, please do so soon! We want you to get your full benefits of membership mailings and events.

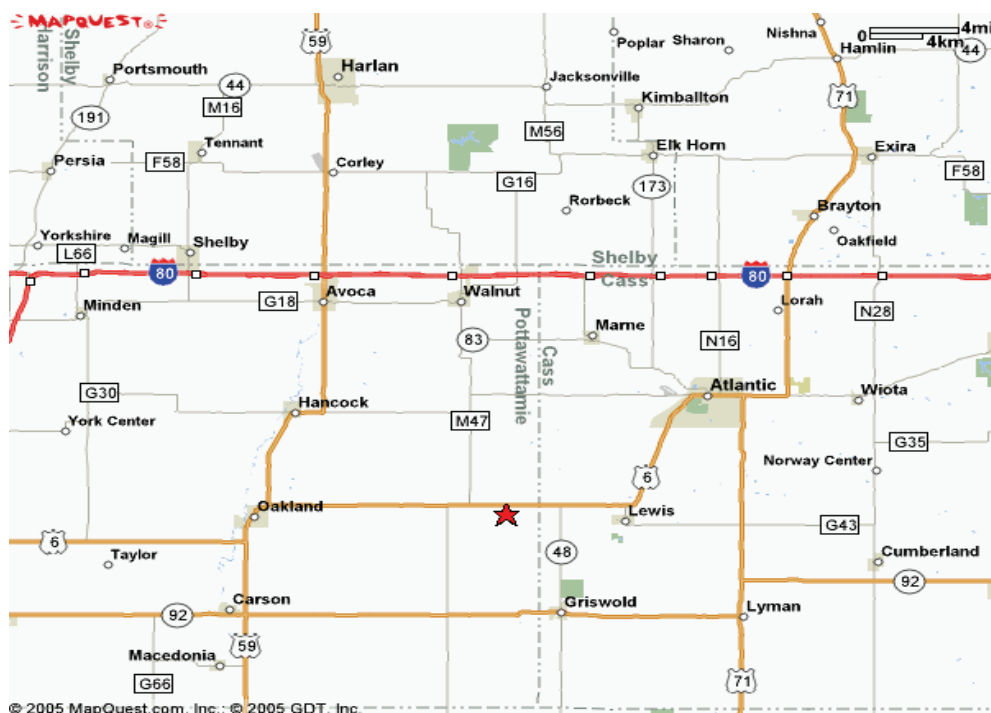
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bigcottonwood@hntel.net

Deb Cox, Secretary
Ph: (308) 546-2853
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Membership mailing address:

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Map to:
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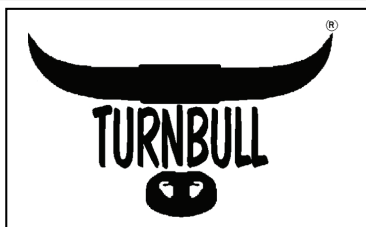
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Carboys - 3,5,6,6.5 & 14 gallon	Airlocks	Crusher/Stemmers	Drilled Soppers
pH Meters	Wine Bottles - clear, green, cobalt blue, dead leaf green	Corkers	Refractometers
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Table Mountain Vineyards is opening in Huntley, WY offering wines made from Wyoming grapes, fruit and agricultural products. It is Wyoming's first full scale winery using 100% Wyoming products. Its first wine release is its Raspberry Dessert Wine made from Wyoming Raspberry producers. Goshen County, WY is home to over 30 growers and 15 acres of up and coming vineyards. The tasting room offers its wines as well as other wines from around the country, food pairings, and private wine tastings. The tasting room is located on the Zimmerer family farm approximately 2 miles from Lyman, NE and is open by appointment. Contact Bruce or Patrick Zimmerer at 307-788-17078 or email pzimmerer@msn.com.



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REMEMBER—Future Forums

2006—March 3 and 4—Holiday Inn, Kearney, NE
2007—March 2 and 3—Holiday Inn, Kearney, NE
2008—February 29 and March 1—Holiday Inn, Kearney, NE

November 5, 2005—Fall GrapeGrowers Workshop
University of Nebraska Viticulture Program

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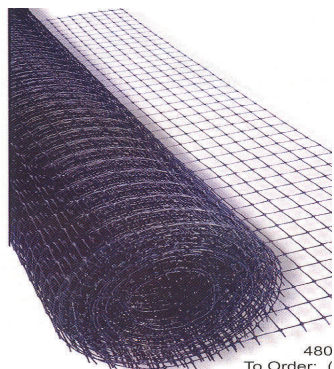
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