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Nebraska VineLines

Spring Edition

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska
Lincoln® EXTENSION

MAR/APR 2010
Volume: XIII — Issue 2

University of Nebraska Viticulture Program

Editors: Dr. Paul Read, Professor of Horticulture & Viticulture and
Stephen J. Gamet, Department of Agronomy & Horticulture

13th Forum Rated “BEST EVER!”

The 13th Annual Nebraska Winery and Grape Growers Forum and Trade Show took place March 4-6, 2010 at the Kearney Holiday Inn and was enthusiastically received by those attending. A few quotes underscore the success of this educational program: “Selling/Buying Grapes BEST Session”; “Steve Menke on Blending – great session”; “Tasting nights were a terrific way to meet all wineries!”; “WOW—this was the best banquet ever!”; “Donniella Winchell was great, just the type of person needed by the NWGGA”. Furthermore, the evaluations were overwhelmingly favorable, with over 90% indicating that information gained at this conference will help them make sound decisions about their enterprise.

Tim Martinson’s Vine Balance discussions were very effective, with several participants indicating that they really liked the workbooks and working in groups. Steve Menke’s focus on Winemaking Challenges was highly regarded and attendees especially appreciated Steve’s blending sessions, noting how much they liked the hands-on approach he brought to the audience. Donniella Winchell was “a breath of fresh air” and more than one attendee noted Donniella’s enthusiasm was infectious, yet her presentations were full of take-home messages and useful information. Other speakers also received high marks, including Seth McFarland, Mac’s Creek Vineyards, and Issam Qrunfleh (UNL Ph.D. viticulture student) discussing bud break delay and Lisa Smiley who shared ideas for improving customer service skills in the tasting room.

Most survey respondents rated the round table discussions highly and indicated a desire to continue including them as part of the program. In addition, a number of positive suggestions were provided in the conference evaluations and will be taken into consideration as more than 90% of evaluators indicated that they were “satisfied” or “very satisfied” with this year’s conference. One respondent said “Bravo Planning Committee – your hard work pays off! We can hardly wait for 2011!” (Editor’s note: the 14th Annual

Nebraska Winery and Grape Growers Forum and Trade Show is scheduled for March 3-5, 2011 at the Kearney Holiday Inn, so mark your calendars!) ✂

- Selling/Buying Grapes BEST Session!
- Steve Menke on Blending – great session!
- Tasting nights were a terrific way to meet all wineries!
- WOW—this was the best banquet ever!
- Donniella Winchell was great, just the type of person needed by the NWGGA. //

Look What’s Being Offered!

Winery Planning and Design CD Available

The 13th Edition of Winery Planning and Design by Bruce Zoecklein who heads the Enology Grape Chemistry Group at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Virginia, has been published in a 200-page online format CD.

The Winery Planning and Design CD, Edition 13, is available for \$95.00 through *Practical Winery and Vineyard* magazine. They may be contacted by e-mail at officepww@aol.com or by telephone at (415) 479-5819.

New Children’s Coloring Book

Julian’s Vineyard Adventures, a coloring book companion to *The Grapes Grow Sweet: A Child’s First Harvest in Wine Country* by Lynne Tuft, is now available from Rivervine Press in Geyserville, California. Both books can be obtained from Rivervine Press at P.O. Box 585, Geyserville, CA 95441; telephone: (707) 857-3704; fax (707) 857-3772.



Extension is a division of the Institute of Agriculture and Natural Resources at the University of Nebraska–Lincoln cooperating with the counties and the United States Department of Agriculture.

University of Nebraska–Lincoln Extension educational programs abide with the nondiscrimination policies of the University of Nebraska–Lincoln and the United States Department of Agriculture.

Mark Your Calendars for the Upcoming Grape Grower Events Scheduled for May 22 & June 12 & 14 – Eastern, Central, and Western Nebraska & July 19 in Iowa!

The following listing of educational programs has been developed by the NWGGA Growers Council Co-Chairs, Cathleen Oslzly (coslzly@gmail.com) and Karen Skinner (mariahjane5@yahoo.com). In addition, **mark your calendars for the Multi-state Field Day, hosted by Iowa State University's Armstrong Research Center, just a short trip across the creek (the Missouri, that is) on July 19, 2010.** Paul Domoto has indicated that a block of vines will be earmarked for removal, so no sprays will have been applied – a great opportunity to observe diseases (depending upon what weather has occurred.)

Grafting & Tail Gate Field Day – Monday, June 14, 2010 at 4:00 PM, Schillingbridge Winery and Microbrewery in Pawnee City will be our host. Max Hoffman has initiated a top-working project by grafting over Lacrosse vines to Riesling and deChaunac to Pinot Gris. More details to follow, but again, mark your calendars for this “don’t miss it” field day event. Check the University of Nebraska Viticulture Program Web site at <http://agronomy.unl.edu/viticulture>.

•Central Nebraska Field Day – May 22

Location: Cedar Hills Vineyard, 48970 375th Road, Ravenna, Nebraska

Joyce and Paul Sears, Hosts

Presenter: Vaughn Hammond, Extension Technologist, University of Nebraska, Kimmel Education and Research Center

Topic: Disease, Insect, and Weed Spraying Program – 2010 Midwest Commercial Small Fruit and Grape Spray Guide

Time: 9:00 – early afternoon

Objective: To gain a better understanding of the 2010 Midwest Commercial Small Fruit and Grape Spray Guide. How the guide can be effectively used in making management decisions concerning vineyard disease, insect and weed issues. Pesticide application safety topics will also be covered to increase the producer's awareness on topics surrounding pesticide handling and application. An overview covering sprayer calibration will also be presented.

•Eastern Nebraska Field Day – June 12

Location: Deer Springs Winery, 162nd and Adams St., Lincoln, Nebraska

Jennifer and Jon Reeder, Hosts

Presenters: Michael White, Iowa State University Extension Viticulture Specialist
Vaughn Hammond, Extension Technologist, University of Nebraska, Kimmel Education and Research Center

Topic: Canopy Management and Crop Estimation

Time: 9:00 – early afternoon

Objective: Learn about canopy management through the season and how it is determined by interaction of the cultivar, vineyard site, seasonal climate, inputs and the trellis system. Participants will learn when and what canopy management procedures should be considered through the season. Mike and Vaughn will also briefly review the steps in taking a preliminary June yield estimate that could be used to adjust crop load if needed and/or inform potential buyers of the potential yield.

•Western Nebraska Field Day – June 12


Location: 17 Ranch Winery, 304 Main St., Lewellen, Nebraska

Ellen and Bruce Burdick, Hosts

Presenter: Steve Gamet, Viticulture Technologist, University of Nebraska–Lincoln

Topic: Sustainable Canopy and Crop Management for Western Nebraska and Eastern Colorado throughout the Season.

Time: 9:00 – early afternoon

Objective: Stephen Gamet, University of Nebraska Viticulture Technologist and Vineyard/Winery owner in western Nebraska, will present a workshop on Sustainable Canopy and Crop Management for Western Nebraska and Eastern Colorado throughout the season. List of topics will include shoot thinning and positioning, leaf removal, crop load, crop thinning and crop estimation (mid-season) for potential yield. How site, climate and cultural practices can or will affect them. Time management and cost estimations will also be examined for different trellis systems and how different cultivars on these systems could be affected. We will cover these topics classroom style in the morning and then have hands on experience in the field in the afternoon. 

Nebraska VineLines Calendar of Events

• May 22 – Central Nebraska Field Day

Cedar Hills Vineyard, Ravenna, NE

• June 12 – Eastern Nebraska Field Day

Deer Springs Vineyard, Lincoln, NE

• June 12 – Western Nebraska Field Day

17 Ranch Winery, Lewellen, NE

• June 14 – Grafting Tail Gate Field Day

Schillingbridge Winery and Microbrewery, Pawnee City, NE

• July 19 – Multistate Field Day

Iowa State University's Armstrong Research Center

Future Nebraska Winery & Grape Growers Forums

- 2011 – March 3 – 5, Holiday Inn, Kearney
- 2012 – March 1 – 3, Holiday Inn, Kearney
- 2013 – February 28 – March 1-2, Holiday Inn, Kearney

***Please be sure to visit us on the Web for important registration information and other updates at:**
<http://agronomy.unl.edu/viticulture>


License to Steal:

National Wine Marketing Conference
April 13-15, 2010
Geneva-on-the-Lake, Ohio 44041

Three full days where the best minds in American wine, tourism and economic development meet to learn, share, exchange and 'steal' from one another's successes.

The event will open with a very special tasting conducted by Georg Riedel who will illustrate how his spectacular glassware complements wines produced in our region. Attendees will take home complementary Riedel glasses.

A featured presentation on Content Marketing by internationally noted author and blogger Joe Pulizzi will be the highlight on Wednesday. His presentation is sponsored by the Ohio Grape Industries Committee offering Ohio Wines, Love at First Sip.

License to Steal: National Wine Marketing Conference is presented by wine marketing programs in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Missouri, New York, Ohio and Pennsylvania. For more information please visit www.NationalWineMarketing.com or contact Donniella Winchell, Executive Director of the Ohio Wine Producers Association, dwinchell@OhioWines.org or 800.227.6972. 

From Recipe to Reality Seminar Presentation in South Sioux City, Nebraska

Northeast Community College is offering the University of Nebraska Food Processing Center's nationally recognized "From Recipe to Reality" seminar on **Saturday, May 1, 2010** in South Sioux City, Nebraska. The seminar is the first phase of the Food Entrepreneur Assistance Program. This program, which has existed since 1989, is the only program in the nation that provides complete assistance to individuals wanting to start a food business. Please encourage entrepreneurs to contact Pam Miller to request an information packet for this upcoming seminar.

Pam Miller
Northeast Community College
P.O. Box 989
South Sioux City, NE 68776
402-241-6405
pamm@northeast.edu

Due to limited space, early registration is encouraged.

WASP CONTROL


Will this work in Nebraska vineyards? It's worth a try. The procedure follows:

An internet suggestion for wasps has been reported to work really well with raspberries.

Gather up as many plastic pop or water bottles as you can, put a little water (1/2-1 inch) with a wee bit of liquid detergent in the bottle, then smear in a sweet, sticky bit of fruit jam as far down inside the bottle as you can reach. You can fashion a wire hook to hang the bottles from your trellis wire or an outside vine if you like.

The wasps smell the jam and crawl inside, try to fly out, but the opening is too small, and if they fall in the water, the detergent breaks the water tension so that they slip in and drown. I was really skeptical, but within three days, I couldn't find any wasps returning to my berries, and the bottles had lots of drowned wasps.

It has been reported that if you set them out early in the season, you might get lucky and trap a couple of queens, thus lowering the overall problem. It's virtually free, not difficult to do, and you'll know if it's working in short order.

Adapted from an e-mail received from Bob Thaden. 

Was it a Tough Winter for Nebraska Grapevines?

The answer to the question noted in the title is a bit like the answer I sometimes give my students: "it depends". Depends on what?

It depends on in what part of the state a vineyard is located on some vineyards experienced more severe cold than others. On average, the recently concluded (we hope!) winter was not severely cold, just **long**. The coldest temperature experienced in our research vineyards at Nemaha, Peru and Nebraska City was minus 10 ° F. Of course many other parts of the state reported much colder temperatures. (Ed Swanson said it hit minus 28 ° F in the coldest part of his Cuthills Vineyard location.)

I have cut buds and canes on a selection of cultivars and have found little to no damage on even slightly tender cultivars such as Delaware and Leon Millot. Of course no damage has been observed on reliably cold hardy cultivars such as Frontenac and LaCrescent.

So there are lots of reasons for optimism for Vintage 2010, but it still "depends". Will we experience warm temperatures that promote early bud break? Will a late cold temperature event (frost/freeze) occur? Will moist, humid weather promote disease problems? What about hail? Birds? Well, there is "many a slip twixt cup and lip", but hope springs eternal and I for one am looking forward to a great vintage in 2010. Will it exceed what for many was a great 2009? Only time will tell.

Wishing you a great grape growing and winemaking year, your University of Nebraska Viticulture Program staff, Paul, Steve, Issam, Christina and Carola. 

FOR SALE:

- Two New and unused 160 Gal. Stainless Steel Sloped Bottom Tanks With Cooling Jackets, Manways, Thermometer, Variable Capacity With Floating Lids (W/Air Pumps). Purchased From St. Patricks of Texas Item #Sb600lc. \$1,795.00ea.

- Spadoni 20x20 plate and frame filter. New and unused. Stainless steel cart, pressure gauge, 110 volt pump, model PF30. Also purchased from St. Patricks of Texas. \$1,150.00

- Variable Speed flexible impeller pump. New, 29 gallons/minute, 220 volt 1-phase, 1.5" tri-clamp. Model Euro-30-MVI. \$1750.00. Please call 402-306-0069.



Pesticide Sensitive Crop Locator

The Nebraska Department of Agriculture (NDA) is pleased to announce the development of the Pesticide Sensitive Crop Locator, a Web site designed to provide pesticide applicators with information on sensitive crops located near the sites they plan to apply pesticides (i.e., herbicide, insecticide, fungicide, etc.). Commercial growers of pesticide sensitive crops can enter their crop locations and contact information, which can then be viewed by pesticide applicators from a list queried from the database, or viewed from an interactive map of the state.

In the last decade or so, organic crops, vineyards, and other “pesticide sensitive” crops have been dotting the landscape in increasing numbers. Markets are being created by consumer demand for these products, and sales from these crops are contributing to agriculture’s economic diversity. While all agricultural crops can be damaged by accidental pesticide drift, many of these crops are especially sensitive to pesticides, causing drastic economic impacts to individual growers.

Pesticide applicators are encouraged to use this Web site to determine if any sensitive crops are near a planned pesticide application site, and adjust their procedures (timing or application method) accordingly. Keep in mind, however, that lists in this locator are voluntary and not all sensitive crop locations may be listed at any one time. Applicators are encouraged to use this service and document known locations in your application records, or simply print out a view from this locator. It would also be a good idea to scout the area beforehand to become familiar with the landscape.

Stop and visit with neighbors who may have sensitive crops to let them know of your intents, and try to allay any concerns they may have.

NDA encourages commercial growers of pesticide-sensitive crops to register their locations at this Web site, so pesticide applicators can access information for their area. Sensitive crops in the following categories will be accepted: fruits or vegetables, grapes (vineyards), honey, nursery (ornamental plants, plants for seed, flowers/cut flowers, etc.), orchard (trees for fruit/nuts), organic, and other commercially-grown crops that may be sensitive to pesticides.

This service is only as good as the information contained here, so new information should be updated as soon as possible. In addition, growers should take the time to contact their neighbors and/or local pesticide dealers/co-ops to let them know of concerns about the potential for pesticide damage. **Good communication is the key to avoiding these problems.**

Access to the grower data input page, the database search page, and the interactive map page can be found at NDA’s Pesticide Sensitive Crop Locator Web page (<http://www.agr.ne.gov/division/bpi/pes/psci.htm>). Currently, the database contains only locations for vineyards, but it will be promoted to growers of other sensitive crops this fall and winter. These Web sites are also being modified and improved based on feedback from growers and applicators, and should be completed by the 2010 application season.

This project was funded by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and Nebraska Winery and Grape Board, with oversight provided by NDA, the University of Nebraska Center for Advanced Land Management Information Technologies and the University of Nebraska Viticulture Program. 