



Vine to Wine Update

Oregon Wine Research Institute

Welcome to the *Vine to Wine Update*. This monthly e-newsletter is designed to inform you of news, information and events from the [Oregon Wine Research Institute](#), highlighting our research programs and providing relevant information about the OWRI and our researchers. We continue to provide research-based viticulture and enology information for the Oregon wine industry. As always, we welcome industry input, so please ask [OWRI team members](#) questions from the vineyard or the cellar.



Preparing for the Upcoming Harvest

Dr. James Osborne, Enology Extension Specialist and Associate Professor

Harvest is here and in the winery there are many things to prepare for before the fruit starts arriving. One key area to prepare for is yeast and nutrient management. While yeast and nutrient management are always key factors in conducting successful fermentations, extra care is needed in years like this where grape composition may lend itself to more problematic fermentations. Because of the warm and dry growing season fruit may contain high °Brix and low nutrients. This fruit chemistry can cause problems with alcoholic fermentations as yeast need to metabolize a greater amount of sugar with a lower amount of nutrients in a high alcohol environment. The end result is often a very slow/sluggish fermentation or fermentations that stall out with a few Brix still remaining.

[Continue reading.](#)

Jim Bernau Receives 2016 OSU College of Agricultural Sciences Hall of Fame Award

Jim Bernau, founding owner of Willamette Valley Vineyards in Turner, OR, received the 2016 Oregon State University [College of Agricultural Sciences Hall of Fame Award](#), which pays tribute to individuals who have made outstanding contributions in agriculture. He joins Dai Crisp (2015) and David Adelsheim (2013) as wine industry recipients of this honor.

Jim is an advocate of research and education efforts at OSU, supporting the Oregon Wine Research Institute and the OSU Fermentation Sciences program. Along with a team of industry representatives, his efforts to increase legislative funding enhanced OWRI research in four OSU departments, provided resources to hire an enology faculty research assistant and a research vineyard manager, and a new faculty position in OSU Applied Economics. These resources allow OWRI to better serve the wine industry.

Jim's lobbying efforts extend to the early 1980's with the start of the Oregon Wine Advisory Board (now the Oregon Wine Board) and the establishment of a grape tax to fund the

organization. The OWB provides funding opportunities for viticulture and enology research through a granting process. He also supported legislative initiatives aimed at the building of wineries in farm zones, direct wine to consumer sales, and wine tasting in stores. OWB executive director Tom Danowski states, "Jim's generous spirit has lifted our industry through his gifts to iSalud! and Oregon State University. He has been an effective spokesperson for our industry in Salem and Washington, D.C."

Jim's contributions to OSU extend past his legislative efforts. When Jim was president of the Nor'Wester Brewing Company of Portland, he made a personal donation to OSU's food science department to establish the first professorship for fermentation science in the nation. Along with the donation, Bernau worked with OSU to establish a pilot brewery equipped with tanks and equipment, used to educate students on the mechanisms behind beer brewing and production.

Jim demonstrates his efforts in sustainability by his commitment to Oregon Low Input Viticulture and Enology. In the organization's beginning, Jim served on the LIVE board of directors, and he has dedicated a significant amount of time ensuring all vineyards under his control at Willamette Valley Vineyards are LIVE certified.

Mark Chien stated, "I met with Jim to interview him he had just returned from meeting with the governor, who wanted an update on the Oregon wine industry. The fact that she called Jim for the information speaks volumes of his role and importance to the state government and the Oregon wine community. The Oregon Wine Research Institute believes Jim deserves this honor."

Cheers to Jim!

OWRI Expands Program to Include Wine Economics, Marketing

In 2015, a grant from the OWRI funded two projects-*The Evaluation of American Viticultural Areas* and *Consumer Wine Preferences*. These projects were developed by industry members and the OWRI in partnership with the Department of Applied Economics. Dr. Susan Capalbo, Department Head of Applied Economics is an advocate of the collaboration. Dr. Robin Cross will study the how the value of AVA designation affects vineyard and winery businesses, and Dr. James Sterns is researching consumer preferences for Oregon wines. Besides the two projects noted above, Dr. Nadine Streletskaia will join Applied Economics in September. Dr. Streletskaia has conducted postdoctoral research in wine marketing at Cornell University.

The creation of an economics, business, and marketing subcommittee will further this mission. Members include Tom Danowski; Oregon Wine Board, Kevin Chambers; Koosah Vineyard, Bill Sweat; Winderlea, Ellen Brittain; Brittain Vineyards, Susan Capalbo; Oregon State University, and Mark Chien; Oregon Wine Research Institute. This team is working to identify economic, business, and marketing issues facing the wine industry in a series of focus groups. Members of the subcommittee visited eastern Oregon and the Columbia Gorge in August. Team members will also hold focus groups in southern Oregon, the Umpqua Valley, and the Willamette Valley. The key concerns will then be prioritized and addressed by OWRI team members and other available resources. The OWRI aims to achieve the greatest benefit and impact to the wine industry as a result of this process.

The OWRI is excited to add this research component to its mission. If you are interested in wine economics, the American Association of Wine Economists publishes the [Journal of](#)

[Wine Economics](#) that has several articles in their archives on this topic.

We welcome your comments, suggestions, and participation. Please contact Mark Chien, OWRI program coordinator at mark.chien@oregonstate.edu or call him at 541.737.1273.

Oregon Wine Symposium Call for Experimental Wines

The 2017 Oregon Wine Symposium will continue the Experimental Wine Program with several organizational improvements. The committee is seeking experimental wines from around the state that demonstrate how full-scale trials conducted in the vineyard and/or winery can potentially impact a wine. As the 2016 growing season begins to ramp up, please start thinking about potential concepts that have been a curiosity in the past. [Click here](#) to read more about this tasting and things to consider if you are interested in participating.

Oregon Winegrape Pest Management Strategic Plan Now Available

The Pest Management Strategic Plan (PMSP) is the result of a proactive collaboration between the Oregon Wine Board, Oregon State University and the Oregon wine industry. After receiving Oregon Wine Board grant funding in June 2015, OSU's Joe DeFrancesco, assistant professor, pest management and research assistant Katie Murray met with a representative group of growers, researchers, extension agents, and consultants to identify specific pests and critical needs of wine regions throughout Oregon. The development of this plan provides a realistic view of pest management issues and strategies used in the field and a forum for growers to set meaningful research, regulatory, and educational priorities. With this comprehensive document, researchers, educators, and others working in and with the industry will be able to reference the critical needs identified in the PMSP as they pursue funding for projects designed to meet the specific pest management challenges identified as priorities to the industry. The EPA also uses the detailed information in a PMSP when conducting risk assessments and other regulatory reviews or decision-making processes that could impact the wine grape industry. This document will be revisited and updated after 2-3 years so the industry remains up-to-date on changing pests and management challenges, as well as to monitor status and progress toward meeting cited needs.

The document can be downloaded [here](#).

Factors Influencing Yield Management of Pinot Noir Vineyards in Oregon

Dr. Patty Skinkis, Viticulture Extension Specialist & Associate Professor
Dionne Uzes, former graduate student, OSU Department of Horticulture

Oregon's wine grape industry uses yield targets to achieve quality in Pinot noir vineyards, and this practice has led to increases in cost of production. A multiapproach study was conducted to investigate how vineyard target yields are set, why yield thresholds exist, and who influences decisions related to vineyard target yields. Growers suspect that higher yields are possible without compromising quality, but they are unable to change yield targets due to winery and buyer decision making. To be effective in eliciting change and

realizing impact, Extension educators need to conduct targeted outreach to grape buyers and wine makers in addition to growers and consider participatory research.

Read the full *Journal of Extension* article [here](#).

2016 Pest Management Guide for Wine Grapes Available

This publication reviews the growth stages of grapes. For each growth stage (or group of growth stages), the document lists the more effective pesticides used to control insects, weeds, and disease, their rates, and application timing for Oregon grape growers. It also covers the effectiveness of various fungicides for control of grape diseases; strategies for controlling powdery mildew, botrytis bunch rot, and spider mites; methods of controlling vertebrate pests and weeds in vineyards; and resources for organic growers. It also includes a vineyard airblast sprayer calibration worksheet.

To access this publication, follow the link below:

https://catalog.extension.oregonstate.edu/sites/catalog/files/project/pdf/em8413_3.pdf

Chemeketa Community College Wine Studies Program

School is starting soon and is a great time to hone your grape growing and winemaking skills. The Chemeketa Wine Studies Program operates in the Northwest Wine Studies Center at Chemeketa Eola. The site includes a vineyard planted with cool climate grapes and a commercial-sized winery.

Their program resources and expert faculty offer a unique opportunity for hands on experience and technical mastery to prepare for a career in the wine industry.

- Earn a Winemaking AAS degree
- Vineyard Management AAS degree
- Vineyard Operations Certificate

Training is appropriate for employees or potential employees of vineyards and wineries in the cool climate wine industry or for people wanting to establish such a business.

Need financial assistance to attend school? Check out the scholarships available on our website.

For more information, click [here](#).

Upcoming OWRI Seminar

Impact of Grape Leafroll Associated Virus-3 on Transcription Regulation and the Distribution of small RNA During Ripening

Amanda Vondras, Ph.D. student, Dr. Laurent Deluc, OSU Department of Horticulture

Thursday, November 17, 3:30 PM

Kidder 202 (Campus map [here](#))

Grapevine leafroll associated virus 3 (GLRaV-3) is the most economically impactful virus affecting grapevine worldwide. However, there is little that can be done to reduce the consequences of viral infection for the plant on fruit production. Ultimately, targeted attempts to mitigate the effects of the virus will require an understanding of the plant-pathogen interaction at the molecular level, to understand how mechanisms that underpin normal fruit development are altered by the virus, and whether particular regulatory pathways might account for system-wide responses to the virus. Regulation of gene expression through small RNA and alternative splicing are essential components of plant development and responses to stress. We used Next Generation Sequencing technologies (RNA and small RNA sequencing) to assemble a holistic view of these regulatory agents during normal ripening in *Vitis vinifera* and how they are altered in response to GLRaV-3 infection.

To watch this event live, visit: <http://live.oregonstate.edu/>

*Please note, the event will not be available until 3:30 PM on Thursday, November 17.

Save the Date! 2017 WAWGG Convention: February 7, 8 and 9

The WAWGG Convention is the premier educational and networking opportunity for the Washington and Eastern Oregon grape and wine industry with sessions for growers, vintners, viticulturists, enologists, tasting room staff, marketers, and more! This three-day event features a 200-booth trade show, a poster session showcasing the latest industry research, educational sessions, an Honor Reception recognizing industry leaders and legends, and networking opportunities.

For more information, just click below:

- [Trade Show](#)
- [Sponsorships & Advertising](#)
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Have a particular topic or question you would like to see addressed in the Vine to Wine? Let us know.

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