

Welcome to the monthly *Vine to Wine* newsletter from the **Oregon Wine Research Institute** where faculty and staff work to provide research-based viticulture, enology and wine economics information for the advancement of the Oregon wine industry. This newsletter allows us to extend that information to you along with other news and events. Please contact **OWRI team members** with input, feedback or challenges you face in the vineyard, cellar, or tasting room.

Program Coordinator Report

Smoke Taint in Oregon

Smoke taint is becoming a more common occurrence in the West Coast. In response, the OWRI formed a multi-disciplinary study team this fall to seek information and develop solutions to this growing concern. The team includes viticulturists Patty Skinkis and Alex Levin, enologist James Osborne, sensory scientist Elizabeth Tomasino, and applied economist James Sterns, all OSU faculty and OWRI core faculty members. The group met in October to define the problem, evaluate resources and current research, and begin to formulate a science-based approach to acquiring the necessary knowledge upon which recommendations can be based. We will keep you informed about research progress through our website and future newsletters. In this issue of *Vine to Wine*, Drs. James Osborne and Elizabeth Tomasino provide an update on current research into smoke taint and next steps for the OWRI team addressing this issue. We also share crop insurance resources for grape growers to consider as a way to avoid economic losses in the face of smoke damage.

Mark L. Chien

Addressing smoke taint concerns in Oregon

Drs. James Osborne and Elizabeth Tomasino in the OSU Department of Food Science and Technology provide background on the problem of smoke taint in wines.

There have been increased instances of wildfires in the Pacific Northwest and California over the past 10 years resulting in wine grapes being exposed to smoke at concentrations that result in smoke taint. Smoke from wildfires contain a number of different volatile phenol compounds thought to contribute to smoke taint in wine. [READ MORE...](#)

New OSU video: How do Oregon wine grape growers manage risk?

Drs. Kent Fleming, OSU Applied Economics and Alexander Levin, OSU Department of Horticulture, produced a video that provides compelling testimony about the benefits of Whole Farm Crop Insurance.

Oregon wine grape growers face many production and marketing risks. These risks cannot be

eliminated, but they can be managed. While growers are relatively good at controlling their input costs, most could do a better job managing the financial risks associated with external forces, such as weather, disease, pests, and market prices. Recent concerns about smoke damage to fruit have elevated the need for growers to better understand the risk management tools available to them. [READ MORE...](#)

Increasing accuracy of sampling for Grapevine Red Blotch Virus

Dr. Achala KC, OSU plant pathologist in southern Oregon, explains when it comes to Grapevine Red Blotch Virus, growers should test and not guess.

Identification of a problem is always the key step in any disease management program. Most of the times we rely on symptoms and signs of a problem associated with diseases. Viral diseases are no different. We rely on symptom expression in the vines infected by a virus, and we look for signs of a vector. [READ MORE...](#)

OSU provides online research and technical information for the Oregon wine industry

Dr. Patty Skinkis, OSU viticulture extension specialist, provides information about two websites that offers growers and wine makers practical viticulture and enology information.

Members of the Oregon Wine Research Institute (OWRI) at Oregon State University work hard to provide you with current information on research that is in progress and provide access to research-based best management practices for vineyard and winery production. We have two online resources for your use, and they serve specific purposes: [READ MORE...](#)

The Intelligent Sprayer System - first year evaluation of a sprayer retrofit for management of grape powdery mildew

Dr. Jay Pscheidt, OSU Department of Botany and Plant Pathology, reports on research to develop a smart sprayer that combines real-time sensing technology with spray volume controls to enhance sprayer efficiency.

The Intelligent Sprayer Project consists of a multi-discipline research team across the USA working on improving spray application technology in specialty crops. The team has moved from proof of concept to evaluation of standard sprayers retrofitted with intelligent spray system (ISS) components. [READ MORE...](#)

Resources from OSU Extension

How much does it cost to establish and manage a vineyard?

The newly updated vineyard enterprise budget for the costs of establishing and producing a Pinot noir vineyard in Oregon's Willamette Valley is now [available online](#). This guide will be useful for those who are new to vineyard development and for those developing vineyard budgets.

Prevent herbicide drift from neighbors by sharing this guide!

The OSU Extension publication, [Are Your Weed-control Products Damaging Nearby](#)

[Vineyards?](#), was developed to help the public understand the damaging effects that common herbicides can have on grapevines. Share this extension document with your neighbors to help reduce herbicide drift damage to grapevines.

OWRI Seminar: spotted wing drosophila research

Dr. Vaughn Walton, OSU entomologist, and Rachel Blood, undergraduate student, will present a seminar titled: *A pesticide-free alternative to reduce spotted wing drosophila egg laying in damaged grapes*. It will be on **Tuesday, December 11 at 3 PM in Kidder Hall 202** on the OSU campus. It will also be live streamed on [OSU LIVE](#). Note: Live chat feature is not available, but questions can be sent to mark.chien@oregonstate.edu, and they will be addressed during the Q&A session.

Drosophila suzukii is an insect pest of worldwide distribution on soft-skinned fruit. This species is able to also attack wine grapes in seasons when fruit are compromised by cracking. The aim of the current study was to create and evaluate a novel behavior disruptor as a management tool for *D. suzukii* in commercial cropping systems. Our laboratory trials resulted in a reduction in oviposition in controlled laboratory trials. Field trials resulted in a similar reduction in egg laying over periods of multiple days in commercial-standard conditions. These results indicate that the insecticide-free behavioral disruptor significantly reduces *D. suzukii* damage under commercial production conditions. This reduction may be due to a combination of altered behaviour and the division of reproductive resources. The current work will likely expand integrated pest management options to control *D. suzukii* populations in commercial field settings.

Professional Development & Training

Join the American Society for Enology & Viticulture (ASEV)

[ASEV](#) is the top professional organization in the US providing science-based information and a professional community of industry and academics. Being at the top of your game is only possible with the best knowledge, and you access to the latest wine industry research by joining the ASEV as a member. Membership provides you with access to two journals ([American Journal of Enology and Viticulture](#) and [Catalyst](#)) and registration discounts for major industry events, including [Unified Wine & Grape Symposium](#) and the [ASEV National Conference](#). More importantly, ASEV provides members with professional development and a community of other industry professionals across the US and world. Members are welcome from any stage, including students, industry professionals, and university academics. Click [here](#) to learn more about becoming a member.

Pesticide Applicators - OSU Online Course Series

Six online training modules are available at any time for Oregon and Washington pesticide recertification credits, including IPM, managing weeds, safe pesticide handling, pesticide labels, and more. Learn more [here](#).

Growing Farms: Successful Whole Farm Management

The [OSU Small Farms Program](#) offers a hybrid course for those interested in establishing their own farms or are new farmers (within the first 5 years). This course is excellent for those new to the industry. Course runs from January to March. Learn more about the program [here](#).

Exploring the Small Farm Dream 2019

The [OSU Small Farms Program](#) is offering a class series to help you determine if farming is right for you. In this course, you will learn about current opportunities in small-scale

agriculture, explore objectives, assess personal and financial resources, conduct preliminary market research, and learn about farm business finances that will all feed into an action plan and guide your next steps. Learn more [here](#)

Upcoming Events

OWRI Seminar Series | Dr. Vaughn Walton, Dec. 11, 3:00 to 4:00 p.m., OSU campus, Corvallis, OR

Oregon Wine Symposium | February 12-13, Oregon Convention Center, Portland, OR

WAVEx and OWRI Viticulture and Enology Workshop | Mar. 6, Readiness Center, The Dalles, OR

OWRI Grape Day | Apr. 3, 2019, 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., OSU campus, Corvallis, OR

Have a particular topic or question you would like to see addressed in the *Vine to Wine*? Please [contact us](#).

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