



Grape Growers of ONTARIO

Newsletter - Volume 5 - June/July 2009

...Dedicated to the Success of Ontario's Grape Growers

The Grape Growing Community Remembers a Grape King

Howard Lavelle Staff

May 19, 1920 - May 20, 2009

It is with great sadness that the Grape Growers of Ontario announces the passing of Howard Lavelle Staff on May 20, 2009. Mr. Staff was born and raised on the family farm in Jordon where he resided his entire life, planting and tending his vineyards. He was named

Grape King in 1967 and was a very active member in the community. His other passions included flying, hunting, and extensive travelling throughout North America with his wife, Lula. The Grape Growers of Ontario wishes to express their sincere condolences to the Staff family.



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GGO Services

- Grape Research, Pricing & Promotion
- Grape Inspection
- Government & Industry Relations
- Government Lobbying
- Government Policies & Regulations
- Farm Labour Legislation & Program
- Chemical Registration
- Nutrient Management
- Crop Insurance Requirements
- KCMS Code-A-Phone
- Business Risk Management (CAIS & SDRM)
- Weather INnovations Incorporated (WIN)

Up Coming Events:

CREW

3RD ANNUAL VINTAGE RELEASE PARTY

Dine Al Fresco with Don Luciano - Complimentary Tastings

\$55 per person - Cash Bar

Where: CREW - Colchester Ridge Estate Winery
108 County Road 50E, Harrow

When: 2PM - 7PM, June 20, 2009

For tickets, please call 519-738-9800 or email info@colchesterridge.com

PECWA - Prince Edward County Wine Growers Association Tradeshow and AGM

Friday, August 14th, 2009

- Field Day - Vineyards in the county
- Lake on the Mountain Annual Gala Dinner (6:30pm for 7:30pm)

Saturday, August 15th, 2009 (9am - 4pm)

- Trade Show and Seminars (PEC Community Centre)

Sunday, August 16th, 2009 (9:00am to completion)

- AGM (Bloomfield Town Hall) - Members only

For more information, please contact: www.thecountywines.com or

Sally Peck - sally@sugarbushvineyards.ca or Margaret Appleby - Margaret.appleby@ontario.ca

Or Bonnie Evans - cwhevans@bellnet.ca

RETIREMENT LIFE SHOW 2009

The show will take place on September 19th and 20th, 2009 at Bingeman's Conference Center in Kitchener and will focus on trying to put pre-retirement, retirement and after retirement into a LIFE situation, rather than just exotic traveling arrangements and selling items most people cannot afford. They will be showcasing Financial Planners, Estate Planners, a Fashion Show tailored for the 50 plus crowd, cooking ideas and many other day-to-day products and services on display. For more information, please contact www.retirementlifeshow.ca

Growing Forward - Food Safety and Traceability Initiative (FSTI)

A new funding opportunity is being offered under the Federal-Provincial - Territorial Initiative Growing Forward. The new program - Food Safety and Traceability Initiative (FSTI) is a cost-sharing funding program that has been developed to assist agriculture and agri-food facilities to improve food safety practices and traceability systems in their operations. OMAFRA is holding information sessions across the province to help those applying for the Food Safety and Traceability Initiative. Each session is 3 hours in length and will give background information, help applicants in conducting self-assessments on their facility and will explain what is needed to apply for funding on Option 1. All applicants applying under Option 1 must attend. For more information, please see the enclosed application and information package or call **1-888-479-3931** to preregister for an upcoming session.

PLEASE NOTE CHANGES: Premium Vineyard Production Practices is combined with an OMAFRA Soil and Irrigation hands-on Program. The Demonstrations have been expanded to full day programs.

PREMIUM VINEYARD PRODUCTION
PRACTICES and DEMONSTRATIONS

Come to either:

Tuesday June 23, 2009

OR

Wednesday June 24, 2009

9:00 am – 3:30 pm

9:00 am – 3:30 pm

**Dave Lambert Farm
370 Line 1,
Niagara on the Lake**

**Henry of Pelham Winery
1469 Pelham Rd,
St Catharines**

Registration is required : includes lunch and reference materials

Morning:

Vine Nutrition & Soil Quality (fertility, cover crop, micronutrients, mulch);

Organic Matter (soil compaction, tillage, water infiltration);

Irrigation (soil moisture probe, irrigation scheduling).

Afternoon:

Crop Balance & Fruit Zone Management (leaf pulling, cluster & shoot thinning)

Crop Estimating

Leaf Pullers and Hedgers Machinery demo:



WPB Custom Welding



Field Experts: OMAFRA Soil Team; Helen Fisher U of G; Kevin Ker, KCMS; Andy Reynolds CCOVI; Ken Slingerland OMAFRA; Wendy McFadden-Smith OMAFRA

Registration Deadline: Friday June 19, 2009
Please call GGO 905-688-0990 office or email mjcombe@grapegrowersofontario.com
Map enclosed



***Invitation to a Research Study to understand what kind of support
agricultural employers need to maintain their
migrant workers' safety and health***



Dr. Miya Narushima and Dr. Ana Sanchez, professors in the Department of Community Health Sciences, Brock University, invite your participation in their research project entitled: ***Views of Farm Owners Regarding the Health and Safety of Migrant / Temporary Foreign Workers in the Niagara Region***. The study is funded by Brock University and has been approved by Brock University's Research Ethics Board. All information will be strictly confidential and later anonymized.

Why the study? Several investigations have been undertaken lately to emphasize the different health and safety needs of Niagara's migrant agricultural workers, but little has been done to better understand the obstacles and challenges agricultural business owners face in fulfilling those needs while contributing to the economic prosperity of the region.

Who and what for? We are inviting agricultural employers ranging from individual growers to larger corporations (including farms, wineries, greenhouses and nurseries) to help us identify viable health and safety solutions that can be implemented with the participation of all stakeholders: employers, workers, community, government and civil organizations.

How? Ensure that your voice is heard! All of your opinions will be a valuable resource for the planning future strategies. Your participation only requires 60-90 minutes of your time for an interview, at your convenience, in your workplace. If you wish to participate or if you want to know more about the study, please contact Dr. Miya Narushima (mnarushima@brockun.ca or 905-688-5550 Ext. 5149) at Brock University.

'New' Wine Program Launched at CCOVI - WSET® (Wine & Spirit Education Trust)

The internationally renowned wine and spirits program is coming to Niagara through the Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute (CCOVI) at Brock University. CCOVI will be the first university in southwestern Ontario, and only the sixth in Canada, to offer the Wine & Spirit Education Trust®. WSET is a London, England based program offered throughout the world for wine enthusiasts and those employed in the drinks industry.

A qualification recognized around the world - simply put, the WSET offers the most highly regarded, respected and transferable wine certification available anywhere!

See below for the Levels offered or contact Barb Tatarnic at ccovi@brocku.ca to see what wine program is right for you!

Level 1 – WSET Foundation in Wine – Sunday, June 7 (one day only)

Introductory course suitable for anyone wishing to start their wine education in a structured and concise way. You will acquire a basic understanding of grape varieties and the characteristics of the common grape varieties used to produce wine. Server Training in the areas of wine, health, safety and legal issues as well as food and wine pairing are covered.

Level 2 – Intermediate Certificate in Wine and Spirits – September, 2009 (9 weeks)

Course is appropriate for those employed in the drinks industry or anyone with a serious interest in wine and spirits wishing to broaden their knowledge in a structured way.

Level 3 – Advanced Certificate in Wines and Spirits – January, 2010 (14 weeks)

Advanced is intended to provide in-depth knowledge of a wide range of wines and spirits.

Register on-line at: www.brocku.ca/ccovi





**'NEW'
CODE-A-PHONE
NUMBER**

The new call-in number is:

905-708-6620

Once on the line follow the prompts to option #2 for grape information.

MARK YOUR CALENDER TO ATTEND

**2009 - TRIGGS INTERNATIONAL
PREMIUM VINIFERA LECTURE SERIES
AT CCOVI**

featuring

DR. MARK GREENSPAN

Advanced Viticulture, LLC (USA)

TWO EXCITING DAYS – TWO EXCITING OPPORTUNITIES

September 2

VINEYARD VISITS/TECHNICAL WORKSHOP

visiting four Niagara vineyards

&

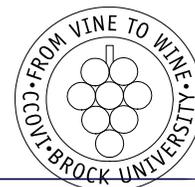
September 3

PUBLIC LECTURE

ADMISSION IS FREE

Look for upcoming details in your GGO Newsletter

or watch: www.brocku.ca/ccovi/



**ONTARIO GRAPE AND WINE RESEARCH INC.
REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**

Ontario Grape and Wine Research Inc. was pleased to announce their inaugural request for proposals on May 1, 2009, closing June 1, 2009. OGWRI is dedicated to insuring prosperous growth within the industry by focusing its efforts on three instrumental research pillars: (viticulture, oenology and market research). Applicants interested in funding were encouraged to fill out a pre-proposal form, which was available on the Grape Growers of Ontario and Wine Council of Ontario's websites. Submitted pre-proposals will be reviewed by OGWRI and those approved will be asked to submit a full proposal.

**For more information, please contact Nick Hubbard at 905-688-0990 x229 or
nhubbard@grapegrowersofontario.com**

AGRICORP UPDATE



Agricorp still accepting OVTP applications

Agricorp is still accepting applications from growers who want to participate in the Orchards and Vineyards Transition Program (OVTP). Applications are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis, subject to the availability of funds allocated for each program year. OVTP funds for 2009 are now available. If the funding limit for 2009 is reached, eligible applicants will be placed on a priority list for 2010. Applications are available from Agricorp or at the GGO's board office.

If you have already applied, you do not have to resubmit your application for 2009 funding. Agricorp will send you a Notice of Acceptance stating the number of approved acres and the deadline to complete your removal project. To be eligible for a payment, approved applicants must contact Agricorp to inspect the completed removal by the deadline, keep the land in or available for agricultural use for five years, and meet all other program requirements.

OVTP is a joint federal and provincial program to help grape, apple, and tender fruit producers adapt to industry pressures and changing markets. To date, Agricorp has delivered over \$5.9 million in financial support to 427 growers, representing 3,685 acres.

Use good farm management practices to maintain your PI coverage

To maintain your Production Insurance (PI) coverage, you are expected to use good farm management practices at all times, for example, timely applications of pesticides and fungicides. If you use practices that contribute to a production loss, you may lose your insurance coverage. You must also report all crop damage as soon as it occurs. Failing to report damage right away may cause your claim to be reduced or denied.

PI only protects your crops from yield reductions and losses caused by the following insured perils:

blossom set failure caused by adverse weather	excessive moisture
multi-coloured Asian lady beetle	freeze injury
structural damage caused by excessive wind	hail
fungal diseases for Niagara and Concord varieties	excessive heat
frost	wildlife
drought	hurricane
excessive rain	tornado

Production Insurance does not provide protection if you are unable to secure a contract for your marketable grapes.

2008 AgriStability forms due June 30

If you participate in AgriStability and have paid your 2008 fee, you must submit your 2008 AgriStability form to Agricorp by June 30, 2009. You must also submit your 2008 tax information. Individuals should send their T1163 forms to Canada Revenue Agency by June 15, 2009 and corporations should send their Statement A forms to Agricorp by June 30, 2009.

AgriStability is a margin-based program that protects producers from margin declines. Program benefits are paid if your current production margin declines by more than 15 percent compared to your historical reference margin.

Contact Agricorp (7 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday to Friday)

Phone: 1-888-247-4999 Email: contact@agricorp.com

Fax: 519-826-4118 www.agricorp.com

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR:

Dear Grower:

In our effort to keep you informed of the ongoing discussion with both the Wine Council of Ontario and the Government of Ontario, the following information is an update from our May communique. The final document from our structural change process is not yet finalized and a final report is expected in June. However, as was mentioned in the last communiqué, we have begun meeting through the Grape for Processing Industry Advisory Committee to discuss the issues related to this year's supply and demand. There are two more meetings scheduled prior to the start of the 2009 negotiations which are scheduled to begin early in July (expected start date the week of July 6th).

As many growers are aware, two major processors have reduced their tonnage requirements by restricting the number of tonnes per acre. These crop restrictions will be the benchmark for growers in the future and will ensure higher quality grapes are grown. In response to these tonnage restrictions your Board has asked the WCO to participate in requesting VQAO to review the current brix minimums for VQA. It is imperative that VQAO recognize that our growers 5-year brix average exceeds all current VQA minimums on every variety.

Please do not hesitate to contact your grower committee member or Board member with any concerns.



George, Chair GGO

IN MEMORIAM:

Betty Ann Pohorly

It is with deep sadness that the Grape Growers of Ontario announces the passing of Betty Ann Pohorly, wife of Joseph Pohorly on May 20, 2009. Betty Ann was Director of Joseph's Estate Winery. Our condolences are extended to the Pohorly family.

Get Your Grape Grower Sign!

Contact the GGO Board office at
905-688-0990

for an application form.

If you have any questions email Julie at
jdixon@grapegrowersofontario.com

Grape Contracts

The Grape Growers of Ontario encourages all growers to have a contract in place before they plant!

For Sale	Contact	Telephone
• Turbo mist sprayer, 400 gallon, excellent condition.	George	(905) 682-8076
• Wine fermenters, stainless steel, double jacket, all sizes.	Bill	(416) 230-5400
• International Harvester 685 tractor with a Braun grape hoe & GB sprayer. \$17,000 or best offer.	Doug	(905) 984-3457
• 34 acres grape farm, mostly vinifera, located corner of Townline Road and Line 3. Best offer.	Joseph	(905) 941-4241
• Manure from straw pack • Mulch bales	Dale	(905) 941-3258
• 8 ft. wood posts, approx. 80, very good condition, best offer. • 1,000 L sprayer, excellent condition, best offer.	Tony	(905) 643-2423
• Destemmer E1 Vaslin Bucker in very good condition with electronic variable speed, two cages size of 20 & 25 mm holes, direct feed, TSSA approved 220 V/3 phase. Ideal for premium grapes.	JL	(905) 468-1806 ext. 222
• 500 gallon sprayer with tandum wheels, vineyard shroud, rebuilt pump & regulator. \$7,000 or best offer.	Ed	(905) 329-3606
• Tractor discs for grapery • 1,000 litre sprayer • 370 litre weed killer sprayer • Posts (wood & T Bar)	Ernie	(905) 945-4733
• 5,000—8 ft. used steel posts, best offer.	John	(905) 687-6579
• French antique grape press, 11' x 7' x 6', all working parts. Can be used with rejuvenation or as display.	James	(519) 686-8401
WANTED		
• Rectangular plastic grape boxes (16" x 24" x 6")	Rob	(905) 468-7738 ext. 25
• Used 3 point hitch 5 foot rotary mower	Eddie	(905) 562-0522
• Small weigh scale (0-250 lbs) in working condition.	Wayne	(905) 562-6083

Grapes for Sale?

Please call Julie Dixon at
905-688-0990 x228

To place an ad, please contact

Sylvana Lagrotteria at 905-688-0990 x231 or
slagrotteria@grapeandtenderfruitontario.com