



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

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Orchards and Vineyards Transition Program

The Ontario and Canada governments have officially released the Orchards and Vineyards Transition Program. The program was originally announced on February 8, 2007 for an amount of \$22.3 million over 4 years for grape, tender fruit and apple growers in Ontario.

Agricorp will administer the program. Application forms are now available from Agricorp on their website www.agricorp.com. Growers must complete the application form and submit it to Agricorp at their Guelph office:

1 Stone Road West, Box 3660, Stn. Central, Guelph, ON, N1H 8M4

A package on the Orchards and Vineyards Transition Program including a cover letter, colour brochure detailing the program as well as an application form and program guidelines is available at the GGO office.

Important News on the Transition Program



Agriculture and
Agri-Food Canada

Agriculture et
Agroalimentaire Canada

Ministry of Agriculture,
Food and Rural Affairs

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)





Winter Injury Studies 2007/08

Grape Bud Survival

April 14, 2008

Research Team

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Kevin Ker, PhD (cand), CCOVI Brock University & KCMS

Dr. Helen Fisher, University of Guelph

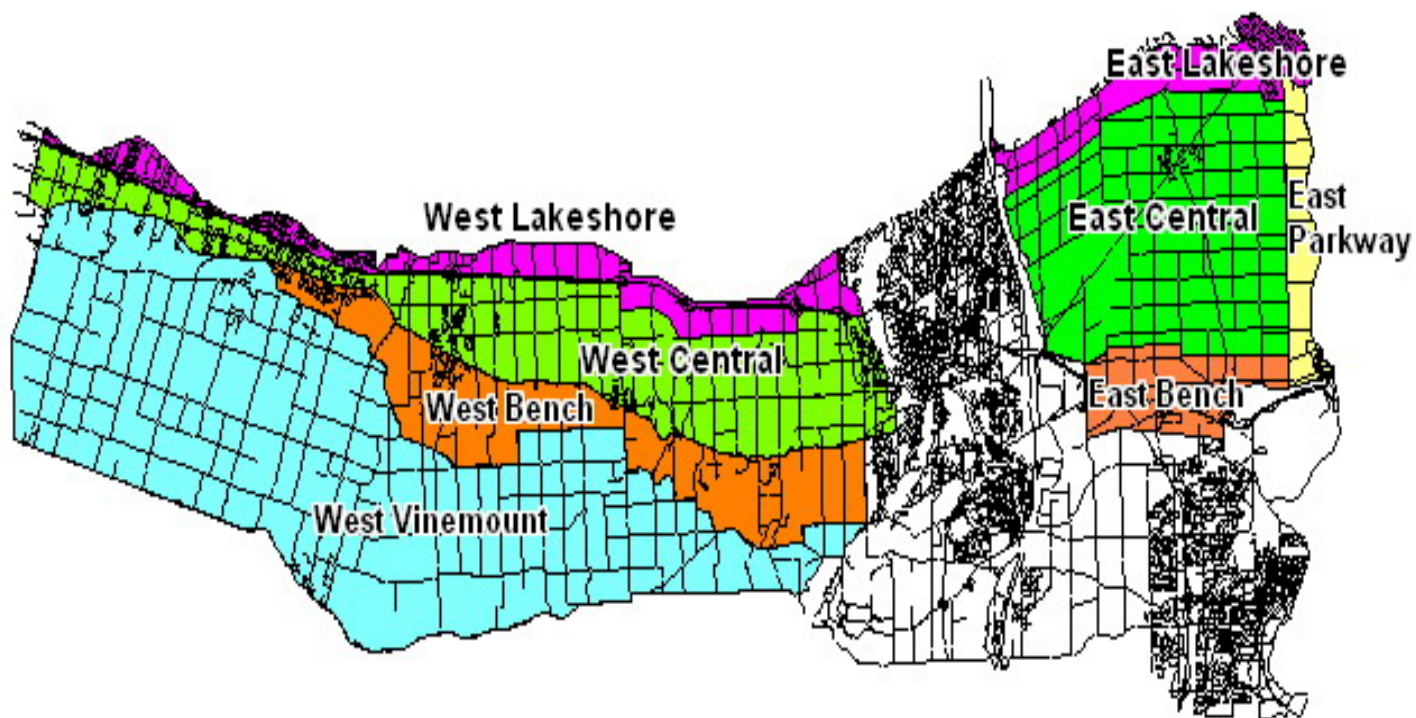
Ryan Brewster, KCMS Applied Research and Consulting Inc.

Grape bud sampling to establish winter survival is part of the 3 year - CanAdvance and CRESTech funded Winter Injury and Wind Machine project. The tables in this article, report the sampling results based on the bud collection during the week of April 14th, 2008. However, the percent alive may vary up or down from the last sample due to the variation in the samples taken. The tables are based on multiple samples and multiple sites within an area for each cultivar.

The Grape Growers of Ontario (GGO) and the Wine Council of Ontario (WCO) are the major sponsors of the project. Other partners include; Stephane Bosc – Orchard Rite; Roger Vail – Chinook; KCMS Applied Research and Consulting; Agricorp; Ontario Tender Fruit Producers' Marketing Board; the Niagara Peninsula Fruit & Vegetable Growers' Association; OMAFRA; Brock University and the University of Guelph.

The Parkway zone runs approximately 1 km along the west side of the Niagara River from Niagara-on-the-Lake to Queenston; the Lakeshore zone is approximately 1 km south of the lake from the Niagara River to Grimsby; the Central zone continues south of the Lakeshore zone to the base of the escarpment; the Bench zone starts at the south side of the Central zone to the brink of the escarpment and the Vinemount zone runs south of the Bench Zone.





8 Sampling Zones Used

% Live Buds - Labrusca – April 14, 2008 (NS means no sample taken)

| Cultivar | Location | East of Canal | West of Canal |
|----------|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| Concord | Vinemount | NS | 90 |
| Niagara | Vinemount | NS | 95 |

% Live Buds - Hybrids – April 14, 2008 (NS means no sample taken)

| Cultivar | Location | East of Canal | West of Canal |
|-----------|-----------|---------------|---------------|
| Baco Noir | Central | 90 | 95 |
| | Parkway | 99 | NS |
| | Vinemount | NS | 97 |
| Foch | Central | NS | 83-90 |
| | Vinemount | NS | 97 |
| Vidal | Central | 69-86 | 77-88 |
| | Lakeshore | 88 | NS |
| | Parkway | 89-92 | NS |
| | Vinemount | NS | 71-79 |



% Live Buds - Vinifera – April 14, 2008 (NS means no sample taken)

| Cultivar | Location | East of Canal | West of Canal |
|--------------------|-----------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| Cabernet Franc | Bench | 59 | 71-94 |
| | Central | 72-91 | 50-95 |
| | Lakeshore | 83 | 90 |
| | Parkway | 89-91 | NS |
| | Vinemount | NS | 68-90 |
| Cabernet Sauvignon | Central | NS | 100 |
| | Lakeshore | NS | 87 |
| | Parkway | NS | NS |
| Chardonnay | Bench | 70 | 78 |
| | Central | 84-95 | 88-97 |
| | Lakeshore | 95 | NS |
| | Parkway | 89-99 | NS |
| | Vinemount | NS | 100 |
| Gamay | Parkway | NS | NS |
| Merlot | Bench | 11-43 | 70-83 |
| | Central | 57 | 29-70 |
| | Lakeshore | 91 | 70-89 |
| | Parkway | 92 | NS |
| | Vinemount | NS | 27 |
| Pinot Noir | Bench | 84 | 82 |
| | Central | 88 | 91-100 |
| | Lakeshore | NS | 90-94 |
| | Parkway | 78 | NS |
| | Vinemount | NS | 70-96 |
| Riesling | Bench | 79 | 70-96 |
| | Central | 93-95 | 75-98 |
| | Lakeshore | 74-97 | 89 |
| | Parkway | 83-95 | NS |
| | Vinemount | NS | 83-96 |
| Sauvignon Blanc | Central | 80 | 87 |
| | Lakeshore | NS | NS |
| Syrah | Lakeshore | NS | 92 |
| | Parkway | NS | NS |



Grape Growers of Ontario Cuvée Award of Excellence in Viticulture

The Cuvée Gala showcases the best Ontario VQA wines and it is in this same spirit that Cuvée will recognize a grower who promotes excellence in their vineyard practices.

CUVÉE

Nomination Guidelines:

- Nominations will open June 10, 2008 and remain open until June 30, 2008.
- Application/Nominations are limited to the first ten (10) nominees.
- The Nominator must be a member of the Grape Growers of Ontario. The Nominator can only put forward one Nominee in any given year and should only nominate within the specified “Award Category” of that year.
- The Nominee must be a member of the Grape Growers of Ontario.
- Nominations are to be directed to the Niagara Community Foundation (NCF). The ten successful nominees will be confirmed in writing by the NCF. All others will also be notified by the NCF.
- The award winner will be notified by the NCF and receive two complementary tickets to attend the Cuvée Gala to accept the award. The NCF will contact the award recipient for further details.

Award Categories:

- One (1) award will be given annually on a rotating basis in the following categories:
Best White Vinifera Best Red Vinifera Best White or Red Hybrid

Selection Criteria:

- Only one (1) block may be nominated per grower/owner each year. One (1) block is considered to be a minimum of one (1) contiguous hectare within a business that is ten (10) commercial hectares (minimum) in size.
- Vineyard management must be under the direction of the nominee or direct employee of the nominee (no vineyards custom managed by a 3rd party paid strictly to manage the vineyard will be allowed – however, true share cropping agreements are acceptable).

Vineyard Evaluation Procedure Process:

- Vineyard Evaluation will take place three times.
- The Grower Nominee will not know the specific date for Site Visits One (Confirmation and “Tagging”; timeline: 2nd to 3rd week of July) and Two (Veraison Evaluation; timeline: 3rd week of August) but will be contacted prior to the visit for permission and safety reasons.
- The Nominee must notify the Evaluation Team coordinator at least 3 days prior to harvest to allow for judging of Site Visit #3 (Harvest Evaluation). Failure to notify the Evaluation Team Coordinator will void the applicant from the competition.

Grape Crop Report

This is the Grape Crop Alert for May 9 sponsored by the Grape Growers of Ontario prepared by Kevin Ker and Ryan Brewster of KCMS Applied Research and Consulting Inc.

We are seeing green tissue throughout the area and this means it is time to begin fungicide applications for Phomopsis. Labrusca and hybrids are more susceptible to infection than vinifera. However, if you have had problems in the past, starting at the first fully expanded leaf stage could be a good option. Captan/Maestro and Folpan are registered. If you have experienced problems with Erineum mite (EM) in the past, the addition of a sulphur material with the Phomopsis spray may be worthwhile. This EM spray is not a recommendation for a general spray but is site and cultivar specific.

There has been little or no detected insect activity at this time. There is no need for any insecticides. GBM traps are out but there has been no catch to date. The mimic moth has been observed so do not be fooled if you are using traps this year.

Now is a good time to get your weed control program underway and to take care of those problem perennial weeds. Remember that application of materials containing glyphosate must be applied prior to the appearance of new green tissue. Young canes may also be injured if these products soak into the young wood. Pre-emergent herbicides require some precipitation after application to increase efficacy, so watch the forecast for optimal timing.

Icewine Harvest Registration Ends May 30

2007 Vintage Juice

All harvest details must be entered in the VQAO online recording system before midnight on May 30, 2008. If the details of your harvest and pressing are not entered into the system, this juice will not be eligible for use in any VQA wine.



The system will shut down at midnight on May 30, 2008 and no further entries will be accepted. There will be no exceptions made for the 2007 vintage.

Notice to Users or Buyers of Icewine Juice

Juice is not eligible unless it is registered in the VQA online registration system. Make sure that all juice you intend to use in VQA Icewines or Late Harvest Wines is registered by getting a copy of the “harvest” form or the “purchase” form. If in doubt, please contact the VQA Ontario office at 416-367-2002 before May 30.

Wines that are made with any content of unregistered juice will not be approved by VQA Ontario and cannot be labelled as Icewine, Late Harvest or using any Ontario appellation terms.

Ontario Grape and Wine Research Inc. Now Complete

The Grape Growers of Ontario and the Wine Council of Ontario have signed the incorporation papers for the Ontario Grape and Wine Research Inc. Meet the Board of Directors!

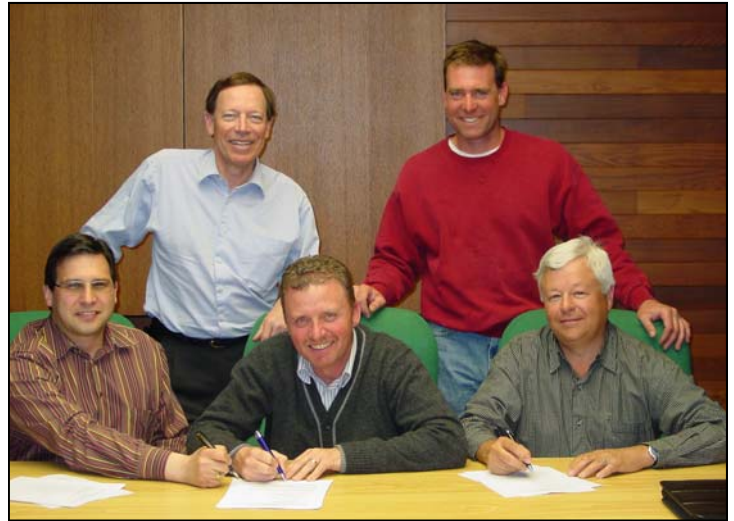
Back row from left to right:

- Bruce Walker and Kevin Watson.

Front row from left to right:

- Paul Speck, Matthias Oppenlaender (Chair) and Jim Morrison.

Absent from photo: Paul Bosc Jr.



Niagara New Vintage Festival

NIAGARA
NEW VINTAGE
festival

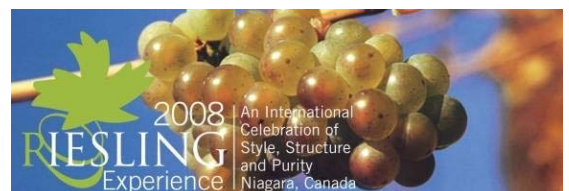
The 13th Annual New Vintage Festival will take place June 14-22, 2008. Dozens of Niagara's most celebrated winemakers will be on hand, along with a host of chefs who will present fabulous dishes selected to compliment the wine. Wine tours and tastings will also take place. The annual TD Bank Financial Group "New Vintage Grille" will be held on Saturday, June 21, 2008 at the Niagara Culinary Institute in Niagara-on-the-Lake from 6-9:30 p.m.

For more information about the event, please visit: www.niagaranewvintagefestival.com.

The 2008 Riesling Experience

The 2008 Riesling Experience - *An International Celebration of Style, Structure and Purity* will take place July 17, 2008 from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. at Brock University (Walker Complex).

Oliver Humbrecht, the first Master of Wine in France and producer from Alsace, will be the keynote speaker giving a tutored tasting of four of his top wines. Wines from Germany, Finger Lakes and Ontario will be showcased. For more information about the event, please visit: www.rieslingexperience.com.



Festival Epicure: a Celebration of Food, Wine and Music

Festival Epicure was created 14 years



ago and has grown over the years from a few hundred visitors in 1995 to over 25,000 in 2007. It will be held in Windsor, Ontario at the Riverfront Festival Plaza (across from Casino Windsor) on July 4-6, 2008.

The event showcases Windsor's restaurant and hospitality industry, its regional wine industry and the best music the Windsor/Michigan region has to offer. The event is also a fundraiser for the Kidney Foundation of Canada. For more information about the event, please visit: www.festivalepicure.com.

| For Sale | Contact | Telephone |
|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7 foot steel posts. Good condition. Best offer. | Anton | (905) 643-2423 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Braun grape hoe, upright and swing arm. \$2,000 or best offer. | William | (905) 328-3125 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 20TPH Ometto crusher destemmer. Great working condition, new motors and bearings. | Bernie bgorski@colchesterridge.com | (519) 981-4571 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The following varieties of grapes are available: Cabernet Franc, Chambourcin, Concord, Gewurztraminer, Merlot, Niagara, Pinot Gris, Pinot Noir, Riesling and Vidal. | Julie at the GGO Office | (905) 688-0990 X228 |
| Wanted | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Looking for a summer job in a vineyard in Ontario. | Fabrice | (647) 341-7323 |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wanted to rent white and red French hybrids in the Lincoln/St. Catharines area. | | (905) 984-4029 |

Uncorked: Grape & Wine Industry Conference & Tradeshow 2008

Uncorked will be held on May 27-28, 2008 at Niagara College, in Niagara-on-the-Lake. This year's theme is: **Vision, Vintage & Technology, Embracing the Future of Grape & Wine.** The sold out trade show will host sixty exhibitors specializing in viticulture and oenological products and services. For more information on the event, please visit www.uncorked.info.

The Viticulture Keynote Speaker will be Mr. Jerry Lohr from J. Lohr Winery who will be discussing: *The Future of Grape Growing.* Confirmed topics include: Managing Berry Moth; Options for Controlling Grape Powdery Mildew; Creating Flavour in the Vineyard; Improving Wine Grape Production with Rootstocks/Soil Management and Climate Change & Water Management (panel discussion).



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