



Vine Lines

Stephen J. Vasquez, Viticulture Farm Advisor

October 2007 Issue

- National Registry for Grape Cultivars and Clones
- New Lab Methods Speed Testing of Fumigant Emissions
- Reducing Agricultural Crime on Your Property
- Local Meetings and Events
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National Registry for Grape Cultivars and Clones

The National Grape Registry (NGR) provides a user-friendly, single-site access to information on virtually all grape material in the United States. In the past, it has been difficult to access information on availability and status for many grape varieties. Growers, researchers and allied industry have expressed interest in locating distinctive grape cultivars or clones without duplicating efforts by other parties who have already paid to import unique plant material into the country. Development of a NGR was identified as one of the highest priorities of public and private institutions, including the National Clean Planting Stock Program.

Foundation Plant Services (FPS) and the National Clonal Germplasm Repository (NCGR)

in Davis, California received a two-year grant from the Viticulture Consortium to develop the NGR. Currently, cultivar information is being collected, assembled and organized on the new NGR website. The initial development of information and web site is expected to take two years.

NGR web site visitors will find facts relating to the identity and origin of each grape, their varieties or clones and appropriate uses. Confusion over a grape cultivar, its name and the synonyms associated with it should be easier to identify with the NGR web site being a good first stop for information. The NGR will contain a complete list of synonyms and naming discrepancies for the varieties available in the United States. Information on disease-

testing (methods, dates, and cleanup procedures used) and identity verification will fill a much-needed gap in existing databases. Sources for grapes described in the NGR will include the National Plant Germplasm System, Davis, California and Geneva, New York, the FPS collection, the Pacific Northwest Grape Program, and other university or nursery collections wishing to be included.

Viticulture experts will provide guidance on database content and structure, but grower input will be critical in order to have a completed cultivar definition for the grape industry and users of the NGR web site. Workshops to obtain clientele input will occur regularly during development and after the website is active. An

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2008 San Joaquin Valley Grape Symposium Wednesday, January 9, 2007

ONLINE REGISTRATION

Pay with Visa or MasterCard at <http://ucanr.org/sjvgrapesymposium>

For more details visit our website at:

http://cefresno.ucdavis.edu/Viticulture/2008_San_Joaquin_Valley_Grape_Symposium.htm

NGR Website

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important element of the NGR is to develop a plan for regular updates in order to maintain accuracy and completeness. The NGR can be accessed at the following web address: <http://ngr.ucdavis.edu/index.cfm>. Once at the NGR homepage, interested parties can click on *Commercial Nurseries*, *Public Grape Collections*, or *Varieties* to locate the most current information on cultivars of interest.

Commercial Nurseries

The commercial nurseries found on the NGR web site sell grape plant material for wine, table, juice, jelly, raisin, and rootstock purposes. You will see that the listed nursery sources are generally equipped to handle large orders (hundreds or thousands of vines) on a wholesale basis to growers or other commercial interests. Many nurseries require the purchase of a minimum number of vines. Please be advised that many commercial nurseries welcome the exploration of their websites but do not sell finished plants to the general public. Information for the retail purchase of grapevine materials may be obtained through local retail nursery outlets.

The *Commercial Nurseries* page contains links with contact information for each source of grapevine material. You can see all the nurseries located within a particular state by clicking on the state abbreviation found after the name of any individual nursery located in that state. You can access a particular nursery by either clicking on the first initial of the name of the desired nursery or by clicking on the actual name of the source.

At the link for each source, information can be found on how to contact the nursery and order plant material and a description of other products offered.

Public Grape Collections

There are several collections in the United States which provide grape plant material to the public. Collections found on this page are associated with the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) and/or three Experiment Station universities located in California, Missouri and Washington State.

The USDA has two large grape collections located in Geneva, New York and Davis, California. Plant material is provided to researchers and commercial horticulturists from both locations. The Geneva location operates in conjunction with Cornell University and specializes in grapes which thrive in colder climates. The Davis repository has a climate which allows for a large collection of grape material from all over the world. Both sites contain material from nearby breeding programs at Cornell University and the University of California-Davis, respectively. The plant lists available at both public sites include grapes which are commercially useful at the present time, as well as species and breeder material which might be of interest to researchers, breeders and academic programs.

The public programs associated with the major public universities (Foundation Plant Services at UC Davis, the Missouri Grape Importation and Certification Program at M.S.U.- Mountain Grove, and the Northwest Grape Foundation Ser-

vice at Washington State University) are focused on providing clean stock to grape growers. Plant material obtained from all three sources are the subject of testing and research designed to detect and prevent viruses and other grape plant pathogens. The plant lists available at these public sites include plant material of commercial interest to growers throughout the United States.

You can access each public site by clicking on the name of the public site of interest. There you will find contact information and a list of the varieties available at the site.

Varieties

You can access information for all grape varieties available in the United States through this site. Each grape variety is profiled by origin, identity, and characteristics. A detailed list of synonyms is provided, allowing you to clarify your search for the grape you want. References to source information for the data allow you to explore your grape variety of interest in further detail, should you wish to do that. To locate a particular wine, juice, table or raisin grape variety or grape rootstock, click on the first letter of the variety name or on the entire name for additional information.

Many grape growers, wine makers, and researchers want to increase the diversity of grape varieties used for wine, food, juices and raisins. They seek new or unique grape material for both established and emerging wine regions. Questions as to whether a variety or clone is suitable for a certain area and whether there

Reducing Agricultural Crime on Your Property

These days agriculture is big business—for thieves. Metal in the form of copper wire or stakes are the most common thefts taking place throughout the San Joaquin Valley. Although, the pilfering of plants, produce, or other ag related property is not uncommon during the summer. Thieves cost farmers thousands of dollars in repair and replacement of equipment and upgraded security. Often times, agricultural thefts occur to support a drug habit and growers should be vigilant for “meth” labs or dumps near their property. These activities should be reported promptly to local law enforcement agencies along with any stolen or vandalized property. Here are few tips to help reduce crime and vandalism on your property.

- Register with the Sheriff’s Office for your Owner-Applied Number (OAN). This number is engraved on your equipment in a hidden spot with metal punches or brands and inventoried. The information is fed into a computer. When stolen equipment is recovered, the rightful owner can be notified by looking up OAN registered property.
- Each night lock equipment inside a barn, shed or fenced property that is well lit preferably near an occupied house.
- Remove rotors, distributor caps or batteries from motorized equipment left outside for long periods of time.
- Keep storage areas neat and well-organized to keep inven-

tory of equipment and discourage potential thieves. Inventory of property can be documented by making a list and photographing or video taping high-value property.

- Only stockpile chemicals that are going to be used shortly after delivery. Lock up remaining chemicals at a storage facility known to your local law enforcement agency.
- Install audible alarms on barns, sheds and chemical shed doors or windows.
- Make sure all fences and gates are in good condition and secured with heavy duty locks.
- Do not leave tools or other equipment in the back of a pickup truck. Locked toolboxes are a deterrent to thieves.
- Secure gas pumps, gas tanks, storage bins and grain elevators with strong locks, sturdy padlocks with hardened steel hasps, or dead bolts with a one-inch throw.
- Make a note of any suspicious vehicle or person that you notice and send the information to local law enforcement agencies.
- Hire private security to monitor property in low traffic areas or locations with high value equipment or commodities.
- Have a telephone list with contact information for local law enforcement agencies. Access to contact information should be easy so a response

by local law enforcement agencies is quick. Time between the occurrence of theft and it being reported can make the difference in thieves being caught and property recovered.

For more information contact your local Sheriff’s Department.



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NGR Website

Continued from page 2

is clean plant material locally are frequently asked. The NGR web site provides a central clearing house for information on all grapes in the United States, which had been missing until now.

For more information or to have questions answered regarding the NGR web site, you may contact the website coordinator, Nancy Sweet: (530) 752-8646 or nlsweet@ucdavis.edu.

New Lab Methods Speed Testing of Fumigant Emissions

A simpler, quicker way to track pesticide emissions from agricultural fields has been devised by Agricultural Research Service (ARS) scientists. Using low-cost laboratory tests and mathematical models, research leader Scott Yates and colleagues at the U.S. Salinity Laboratory in Riverside, Calif., are able to evaluate—and even predict—fumigant emissions.

With a ban looming on methyl bromide, a pre-plant soil fumigant widely used by fruit and vegetable growers, Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regulators are evaluating various emissions-lowering fumigation alternatives. Each potential methyl bromide replacement will require its own set of regulations, based on findings from complex field studies.

According to Yates, such studies can take up to a year to complete, cost hundreds of thousands of dollars and, in the process, bring research teams in contact with toxic chemicals. Since a variety of factors must be considered in each EPA evaluation, such as variations in soil and environmental conditions, as many as 60 costly, long-term field experiments may be necessary.

Yates' team has shown that lab tests can yield some of the same results as those painstakingly obtained from outdoor field studies. To collect their data, the ARS scientists designed elaborate soil columns and soil cell equipment with which to observe pesticide movement through soil. They combine data collected this way with numerous mathematically driven models.

These laboratory studies are ideally suited for helping pinpoint information such as the total fraction of a given fumigant that ends up leaving the soil after it's applied. This measurement, known as "cumulative emissions," is one of the EPA's critical data requirements for obtaining approval for soil fumigants.

Yates is quick to acknowledge that field studies will always be needed to tie lab-based findings to real-world agricultural landscapes. That's because laboratory methods cannot provide certain emissions data that are linked to prevailing weather conditions, agricultural practices and other factors.

For more information please visit: <http://www.ars.usda.gov/is/AR/archive/oct07/air1007.htm>

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Vine Lines Now On-line!

In an effort to disseminate information to grape growers and allied industry faster, *Vine Lines* is now available on-line. Interested parties can sign up for the e-version at the following link: <http://ucanr.org/vinelines>

Once signed up, subscribers will be notified via e-mail that the newsletter is available. An archive of past issues of *Vine Lines* can be found at the same link.

Calendar of Events

Local Meetings and Events

San Joaquin Valley Grape Symposium

January 9, 2008

7:00 a.m. — 1:30 p.m.

C.P.D.E.S. Hall

172 W. Jefferson Avenue

Easton, California

Register at: <http://ucanr.org/sjvgrapesymposium>

(See insert for details)

U.C. Davis University Extension Meetings

(800) 752-0881

Establishing the Small Vineyard

October 27, 2007

9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

198 Young Hall, East Quad

Davis, CA

Instructor: Donna Hirschfeld and Ed Weber

Section: 072VIT210

Public Relations for Small Wineries

November 2, 2007

9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

Da Vinci Building, 1632 Da Vinci Ct.

Davis, CA.

Instructor: Rusty Eddy

Section: 072VIT204

Current Issues in Vineyard Health

November 14, 2007

9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

Da Vinci Building, 1632 Da Vinci Ct.

Davis, CA

Instructor: Deborah Golino

Section: 072VIT201

Introduction to Wine Analysis for Professional Winemakers and Winery Lab Workers

December 8, 2007

8:00 a.m. — 6:00 p.m.

123 Enology Building, California Avenue

Davis, CA

Instructor: Michael Ramsey

Section: 072VIT205

Publications from the University of California

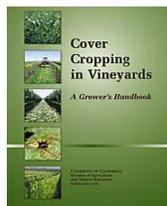


Weeds of California and other Western States, 2007

ANR Publication 3488

Price - \$100.00 + tax and shipping

This easy-to-use guide is the most comprehensive guide available on weeds in the Western United States. Package includes a CD of all of the photographs from the book.



Cover Cropping in Vineyards, 1998

ANR Publication 3338

Price - \$20.00 + tax and shipping

This guide details technical and theoretical information on how cover crops affect vineyards and promote ecological stability.

Order Form

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