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## October 2008 Newsletter

### ***BIG VICTORY FOR SPECIALTY CROPS***

In an unprecedented event, the U.S. specialty crop industry scored a big victory when Congress passed a landmark farm bill that for the first time addresses the industry's diverse needs. Specialty crops are defined as fruits and vegetables, tree nuts, dried fruits, and horticulture and nursery crops including floriculture.

"Specialty crop producers made it clear they don't want a cash subsidy, but they would like additional support to address market promotion, sanitary and phytosanitary issues, nutrition, and targeted research." said Agriculture Secretary Mike Johanns.

"This bill reflects the tremendous contributions specialty crops make to U.S. agriculture and the health of all Americans," said FFVA President Mike Stuart, who serves as a co-chair of the Specialty Crop Farm Bill Alliance, a group of more than 120 organizations representing growers of fruits, vegetables, dried fruit, tree nuts, nursery plants and other products. The alliance has worked for almost three years to broaden the scope and efficiency of U.S. agricultural public policy by including these crops in the 2008 Farm Bill.

The farm bill provides aide to specialty crops in a wide array of components including trade, nutrition, conservation, rural development, energy and research.

The research component of the bill, deemed the Specialty Crop Research Initiative (SCRI), was established to solve critical industry issues through research and extension activities. The

Administration proposes investing \$100 million in annual mandatory spending to create a new Specialty Crop Research Initiative that will address:

- conducting fundamental research in plant breeding, genetics and genomics to improve crop characteristics such as product appearance, environmental responses and tolerances, nutrient management and pest and disease management, as well as safety, quality, yield, taste and shelf life;
- optimizing production by developing more technologically efficient and effective application of water, nutrients and pesticides to reduce energy use and improve production efficiency;
- developing new innovations and technology to enhance mechanization, thus reducing reliance on labor; and
- improving production efficiency, productivity and profitability over the long term

This first round of funding, estimated at \$28,400,000, was awarded in September. Another call for proposals is scheduled for January. Numerous researchers and extension faculty are engaging these opportunities to propel the industries forward.

Click here for more information on the [Specialty Crop Initiative in the Farm Bill](#)

## **WSGS ANNUAL MEETING**

The WSGS will be held on November 20-21 at the Nazarene Church in Grandview. The [WSGS website](#) has a registration form for attendees. Trade Show participants can also download a reservation form.

Come join us for this stellar program packed with talks ranging from economics to pest management on both wine and juice grapes. As always there will be opportunities for networking, poster sessions, trade show and door prizes!

### **November 20<sup>th</sup> Topics:**

#### **Industry leaders look to the future**

"The Future's So Bright, I Gotta Wear Shades" – Panel Discussion on Research, Economics, Vision and National Perspective

#### **2008 grape crop economics**

"New Grape Forecast – New Forecaster"

#### **Technology Economic Assessment Model**

"What Moves the Needle: Using TEAM to Assess Economic Impacts of Technology Adoption"

#### **Nitrogen management and grape quality**

"What N management and White Wine Have In Common"

#### **Federal, state & local issues**

"What Politics Can and Can't Do For Viticulture" – Panel Discussion

### **November 21<sup>st</sup> Topics:**

#### **\*Leaf roll virus . . . is the answer blowing in the wind?**

Guest Speaker: Vaughn Walton, OSU-Extension Horticultural Entomologist

"What We Do and Don't Know About How Leaf Roll Moves From Vineyard to Vineyard"

#### **\*Follow-up on leaf roll**

"Has Research Identified the Root of the Problem?"

#### **Exit strategies for an aging industry**

"Or, Why I Am Considering Becoming a Snowbird"

#### **\*Asian lady beetle update**

"The continuing story of MALB"

#### **\*Sensory technology for pest control**

"Autonomous sprayers for targeted pest control"

#### **\*Get the latest on grape insect control**

"What's Up With Doug?"

#### **\*As our vines age, we can expect to see diseases unheard of in these parts....**

"Grape Diseases: Potential New Visitors & Management Challenges"

#### **\*Saving time, money and energy on pest control**

"The **WHEN** Is As Important As The **WHAT**" – Panel Discussion

\*Indicates Pest Control Credits

## **WSGS HAS A NEW WEBSITE**

Thanks to the expertise of Dr. Mercy Olmstead, WSU Extension Viticulturists and WSGS Board Member, we have an updated website.

The website includes a calendar of events, as well as information on the annual meeting and scholarship program.

Check it out at [www.grapesociety.org](http://www.grapesociety.org)

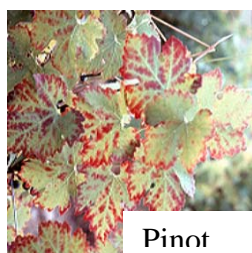
## **A TALE OF TWO PESTS**

Now is the time to admire the beautiful colors of the vineyard...WAIT! If you are noticing bronzed leaves or bright red leaves, be aware that you may have a problem.



Mid to late summer growers may notice bronze colored leaves.

This can be indicative of rust mite populations that exceed 100+ mites per leaf. This can cause "short shoot syndrome". Treatment occurs in the spring when the mites are present on the vines. Contact Tora Brooks (509-786-9244) if you notice a problem.



Pinot

In red grape varieties, red leaves with green veins are indicative of grape leaf roll virus. The disease can delay ripening, cut yields as much as 50 percent and have a major impact on fruit quality. The only way to confirm the presence of the virus is through laboratory testing currently available at the WSU-IAREC ELISA lab (509-786-9382).

## ***WHAT'S HAPPENING AT WSU?!***

### ***New Director of Viticulture and Enology***

Dr. Thomas Henick-Kling has accepted the position as the first full-time director of the Washington State University Viticulture and Enology Program.

He is currently based in Australia where since 1997 he has been Professor and Director of the National Wine and Grape Industry Centre at Charles Sturt University. He has a PhD from University of Adelaide and an MS from Oregon State University, food science. Between 1987 and 2007 Thomas was assistant, associate, and then full professor at Cornell University. He held appoints at Cornell in research and extension.

Dr. Henick-Kling should start in early spring.

### ***Interview for Department Chair of Horticulture and Landscape Architecture***

Industry stakeholders will have a chance to interact with this candidate on October 16 from 1:15-2:00 at WSU-IAREC.

The Department Chair oversees and mentors all horticultural related faculty (including viticulture researchers). Proper management and support from this position, always researchers to be more successful.

Everyone is encouraged to attend and provide feedback.

### ***WSU has a new winery!***

Congratulations to Drs. Kerry Ringer and Jim Harbertson, both located at WSU IAREC, for the opening of a new research winery. The \$250,000 production facility has the capability of producing 5,000 gallons of wine annually.

Local wine makers need not worry about the competition! This wine is produced to answer pertinent research questions facing the industry such as the affects of filtration and various viticultural techniques on wine quality. Most of the wine will be thrown away.

By opening of this facility, WSU is better equipped to address the research needs of Washington's premium wine industry.

### ***Want updates on the latest research...***

Join us for the WSU Grape Fieldman's Breakfast on the first Thursday of the month at The Barn in Prosser. Breakfast starts 7:15am, followed by a round table discussion, and a speaker.

The breakfast is a meeting place for growers, consultants, industry, and university faculty to share experiences and gain knowledge. We start early and end early to get you back in the vineyard.

Contact Gwen Hoheisel if you would like to be placed on the mailing list for reminders or have any special needs. 509-786-5609 or ghoheisel@wsu.edu

*2007 topics and some to come in 2008.....*

Cold hardiness

Pests, pesticides, and their efficacy

Disease management

Grape viruses

Irrigation updates and annual water supply

Automated crop monitoring and yield estimation

Nutrient management: a 3 part series

New WSU concord research block & studies

Computer management tools for growers

### ***Voice of the Vine***

Voice of the Vine is a bimonthly update emailed to subscribers. In a succinct format, it quickly highlights the latest research and activities. To subscribe go to <http://wine.wsu.edu/vinevoice/>

### ***Passing of a colleague and friend***

Many in the long time Prosser residents and tree fruit growers may remember Naná Simone. She passed away Thursday, 25 September 2008 as a result of an ATV accident while working on one of her favorite projects, the construction of the Sage Hills Trail system, just west of Wenatchee.



In 1991, Naná moved to Prosser, Washington and began her career as an independent pest management consultant, again as an apprentice and, subsequently, through her business, Simone IPM Consulting. Within a few years, she was monitoring and providing pest management recommendations on 3,000 acres from Wapato to Wallula. Most recently she was working with WSU on the Pest Management Transition Project.

Contributions of time and resources may be made to the Chelan-Douglas Land Trust (PO Box 4461, Wenatchee, WA 98807) and the Nature Conservancy of California (4245 North Fairfax Drive, Suite 100, Arlington, VA 22203-1606). In addition, a memorial will be established to honor Naná's legacy of education within the tree fruit industry (Washington Apple Education Foundation, 2900 Euclid Avenue, Wenatchee, WA 98801).

### **EMAILS NEEDED!!**

There are many stray members that will not get this newsletter or other important information because....

**WE HAVE NO EMAIL FOR THEM!**

If you know of a lonely sole, longing to come back to the Grape Society, please loan them your newsletter so they can contact Deb Heintz (509-786-7888) and update their email!

### **DATES TO REMEMBER AND THINGS TO LOOK FORWARD TO:**

- |         |  |
|---------|--|
| Nov 1   | WA Ag & Forestry Education Foundation Gala, for more information call 509-926-9113 or visit <a href="http://www.agforestry.com">www.agforestry.com</a> |
| Nov 6   | Grape Fieldman's Breakfast at The Barn in Prosser – Gary Ballard   |
| Dec 1-3 | WA State Horticultural Association annual meeting. For more information call 509-573-9858 or visit <a href="http://www.wahort.org">www.wahort.org</a>  |

## **2008 GROWER OF THE YEAR NOMINATIONS**

Each year an outstanding grower is awarded with the **LLOYD H. PORTER GROWER AWARD**. This award recognizes grape growers who have succeeded in the following areas:

- ◆ Shown five or more years of quality grape production.
- ◆ Followed established or innovative practices on at least ten or more acres of grapes.
- ◆ Contributed to the advancement of the Washington grape industry through significant service.

Past Recipients of the Lloyd H. Porter Grower of the Year Award:

1991	Jim Herold	2000	Lonner Conner
1992	Gladys Murchland	2001	Bill den Hoed
1993	Fredrick Kilian	2002	Marvin Vining
1994	Theodore D. Clapp	2003	Jerry Czebotar
1995	Lynn Burns	2004	Keith Oliver
1996	Vernon Brown	2005	Don Golladay
1997	John Mohr	2006	Art den Hoed
1998	Mike Sauer	2007	Albert Don
1999	Dion Bros.		

**Please email your nomination to:**  
[deb@grapesociety.org](mailto:deb@grapesociety.org) by October 15<sup>th</sup>.

### *Washington State Grape Society*

*President* – Jack Watson  
*Vice President* – Dennis Pleasant  
*Treasurer* – Gary Ballard  
*Executive Secretary* – Debbi Heintz  
*Newsletter Editor* – Gwen-Alyn Hoheisel  
*Board of Directors:*  
 Vernon Brown  
 Heath Cleveringa  
 Arthur den Hoed  
 Keith Oliver  
 Mercy Olmstead  
 Russell Smithyman

**DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE WHO ISN'T A MEMBER? PASS THIS ON!**

**WASHINGTON STATE GRAPE SOCIETY ACTIVITIES:**

- ⇒ Organizes annual Grape Seminar and Trade Show
- ⇒ Posts annual Proceedings on Grape Society web page
- ⇒ Provides a "Member Only" area where Proceedings, Newsletter and other vital information will be available for our members. Website address is: [www.grapesociety.org](http://www.grapesociety.org) or Email: [deb@grapesociety.com](mailto:deb@grapesociety.com).
- ⇒ Publishes Grapevine Notes Newsletter
- ⇒ Participates in the Northwest Minor Crops Field Symposium to help education EPA officials on chemical usage in grapes.
- ⇒ Provides representation on WSDA Plant Improvement Committee.
- ⇒ Provides free subscription to Good Fruit Grower magazine
- ⇒ Serves as a unified voice on important issues
- ⇒ Sponsors annual pruning strategies and demonstrations
- ⇒ Supports legislative activities
- ⇒ Awards annual Memorial Scholarship
- ⇒ Recognizes outstanding Grower of the Year with the Lloyd H. Porter Award
- ⇒ Recognizes outstanding contributions to the grape industry with the Walter J. Clore Award

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

President . . . . . Jack Watson  
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 Executive Secretary . . . . . Debbi Heintz

**WASHINGTON STATE GRAPE SOCIETY  
 MEMBERSHIP REGISTRATION FORM**  
**Renewal Date from : November 1, 2007 to October 31, 2008**

**Please complete this form and return with your payment to: Washington State Grape Society, P. O. Box 267, Grandview, WA 98930**

Specify: \_\_\_\_\_ \$ 35 Annual Membership  
 \_\_\_\_\_ \$350 Life Membership(Ten Years)

PLEASE NOTE: Membership Fee is paid for you if you are a Milne Fruit or Smucker's Grower.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_  
 (please print)

Company: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Street City State Zip

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

**Please print clearly** – your email address will be kept confidential and is required for entry into the Members Only page of the website. One address per paid membership, please.

As an *existing* Member, you are entitled to a Good Fruit Grower subscription. If you have not been receiving, please check here . Are you a NEW member of the Grape Society?