



photo by Brent Isenberger

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What's Happening This Summer?

Pre-Vintage Seminar
July 12 & 13, 2011 9 am—5 pm
2311 Food Sciences Building, Iowa State University, Ames, IA 50011



Day 1: Sparkling Wine

With Larry Mawby, Michael Jones and Sigrid Gersten-Briand

- basic key steps of sparkling wine production
- 3 techniques; traditional, tank fermentation, carbonation
- Tastings throughout

♦ Attendees may wish to bring a base wine sample for panel comments on sparkling wine potential



Day 2: Fermentation Practices

With Sigrid Gersten-Briand and Michael Jones

- Yeast selection monitoring fermentation problem fermentations
- co-inoculation with yeast and malolactic bacteria for simultaneous fermentation

Cost (lunch included):

Day 1 only	\$75
Day 2 only	\$40
2-day discount	\$95

Registration by July 8 required

Sign up now at www.extension.iastate.edu/Wine/Events.htm

Space is limited to 25

Sponsored by -
Midwest Grape & Wine Industry Institute
Iowa State University, Extension

Details and a registration form can be found at:
<http://www.extension.iastate.edu/Wine/Events.htm>

2011 IWGA Member Directory

The Iowa Wine Growers Association is creating a 2011 IWGA Membership Directory as an added value to your association membership.

The directory will list the contact information for all current IWGA members. As an additional benefit of the 2011 IWGA Membership Directory, we would like to list the variety of grapes a vineyard grows and has available for purchase. A listing of varieties each vineyard has available will provide them another means to market their grapes, and a single source for wineries to look at when purchasing grapes.

If your vineyard would like to include varietal information in the 2011 IWGA Membership Directory, please email Joan O'Brien (joano@agribiz.org) by July 8, 2011, the variety of grapes your vineyard grows and has available for purchase.

If you have any questions, please call the IWGA office at 515.262.8323.

IOWA WINE GROWERS ASSOCIATION

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Iowa Wine and Beer App Now Available for Download



After many months of hard work our Iowa Wine and Beer App is now available for downloading. You can link to the Apple App store through our website – www.iowawineandbeer.com. You'll find the link on the right hand side. I'm also pleased to tell you that we are getting a lot of great response from the media.

Third Annual All-Horticulture Field Day to be held July 19, 2011

You are invited to the third annual All-Horticulture field day to be held at the Horticulture Research Station on July 19, 2011. This opportunity will showcase research projects being conducted at the station in all areas of horticulture. Concurrent sessions will allow you to learn more about specific areas of horticulture and to network with others in the "growing" horticulture industry.

Special areas of interest will highlight ornamental plant trials, tips on summer gardening favorites, lawn and turf management, urban tree development, landscape design and installation, organic horticulture, and GAP certifications.

Registration is \$30.00 for full day attendance. Look for further details and registration information to be coming out soon via e-mail and on the All-Horticulture Field Day website at:

www.hort.iastate.edu/news/docs/2ndAllHortFieldDay.pdf

Registration form will be attached to June 2011 Newsletter

Topics to include

Ornamental Plant Trials: From its inception, the ISU Horticulture Research Station has been an important venue for the evaluation of woody plants. It's an ideal site for long-term testing of new landscape trees and shrubs under rather challenging soil and climatic conditions. Data on the survival and overall performance of promising new trees and shrubs are being gathered here as part of a broader, regional effort—The NC-7 Regional Ornamental Plant Trials.

Turfgrass Research Plots: This field day stop will help you easily identify lawn grasses and their problems.

Floral Provision Trials: This multi-year trial is assessing the impact of strips of perennial flowers on attracting pollinators to muskmelon and butternut squash, and gauging the impact of flower strips on marketable yield of these two crops.

Strawberries: With cultivator trial research and field testing a warning system for anthracnose fruit rot; you will surely elevate your knowledge of this popular summertime fruit.

EarthKind Hydrangea Trial: EarthKind is an innovative new program that addresses environmental landscape practices. This stop will highlight northern EarthKind Hydrangea trials. These plantings are part of the nationwide trialing program of hydrangea cultivars being evaluated for their suitability for inclusion in EarthKind landscapes.

High Tunnels: High tunnels extend the growing season and produce greater quality fruits and vegetables. See both fruits and vegetables growing in different sized high tunnels.

Mulch: Plastic mulch is a great tool to control weeds, maintain soil moisture, and decrease fertilizer leaching, among other advantages. Unfortunately, polyethylene plastic mulch must be re-

moved from the field each year and sent to the landfill for disposal, which increases cost. Photodegradable mulch has been on the market for several years and decomposes as sunlight hits the exposed mulch, eliminating the need to pull up and remove it at the end of the year. However, the sides of the plastic buried under the soil are not exposed to sunlight and do not break down. Recently, biodegradable and oxo-degradable mulches have been developed that break down into carbon dioxide, water, and biomass, therefore eliminating the need to remove it at the end of the season. Bio-degradable mulches showed promise in a 2010 trial at the Muscatine Island Research Farm and warrant further investigation. The project has been expanded for 2011 to include a trial at the Horticulture Research Station and will include oxo-degradable mulches as well.

Horticulture Enterprise Management: A horticulture enterprise class modeled after the Ag450 class.

Organic and Conventional Production: In this 3-year experiment, funded by the CERES Foundation, we are examining effects of cover crops, tillage and plastic mulch on organic and conventional lettuce, broccoli, corn and soybeans. In the first year, organic vegetable yields relying on compost fertilization equaled conventional yields. Economic outcomes are also under evaluation, given the premium price for organic crops.

Featured Landscape Plants: Join Brent Gustafson, Midwest Groundcovers and Ann Marie VanDerZanden, ISU to learn more about the Midwest Solutions concept and how it can be incorporated into your landscape. They will have a number of the plants used in Midwest Solutions available so you can see the color, texture and plant form combinations.

Grape Cultivar Trial: In conjunction with the Northeast Regional Research project NE 1020 "Multi-state Evaluation of Wine Grape Cultivars and Clones," Iowa State University established a cold hardy wine grape cultivar trial in 2008 at the ISU Horticulture Research Station and Tabor Home Vineyards and Winery near Baldwin, IA.

GAP Certification: The GAP's stop will include some basic ideas in "Good Agricultural Practices." General rules, that apply to all produce crops, from pre-plant to consumer. Topics will include soil amendments, water safety, harvest and post harvest handling, and keeping good records. A demonstration on how to clean a few different produce items will give some different considerations for different types of produce to attendees.

To see a full list of agenda items please visit:

www.extension.iastate.edu/boone/news/Hort+Day.htm

Travel to Michigan with the Iowa Wine Growers Association

The Iowa Wine Growers Association is organizing a trip to tour Michigan's vineyards and wineries. Michigan has 14,600 acres of vineyards making it the fourth largest grape-growing state, and Michigan's 80 commercial wineries produce more than 1 million gallons of wine annually, making the State 13th in wine production.

The IWGA tour of Michigan's vineyards and wineries will be held July 26-28, 2011. The tour fee for IWGA members is \$60/person. The non-member fee for the tour is \$85/person. The fee covers transportation costs and admission into MSU's Viticulture Field Day.

The registration fee does not cover meals or room and board. IWGA has asked the Days Inn located in Benton Harbor, Michigan (1598 Mall Dr) to set aside rooms at a reduced rate for tour participants. The reduced room rate ranges from \$70-80/night (plus tax) depending on bed size. Participants will need to reserve a hotel room for two nights. **In order to reserve a room at the reduced room rate, participants must call the Days Inn Benton Harbor at 269.925.1880 by July 5, 2011.**

Below is a tentative agenda for the tour of Michigan's vineyard and wineries. There is limited space on the tour bus, so make your reservations today!

Please call the IWGA office at 515.262.8323 with any questions you may have.

Tuesday, July 26, 2011

8:00 a.m. Leave Summerset Winery (15101 Fairfax; Indianola, IA 50125) – Travel 197 miles
 11:30 a.m. Arrive at Lavender Crest Winery (5401 US Hwy 6; Colona, IL 61241; www.lavendercrest.com/)
 1:30 p.m. Leave Lavender Crest Winery – Travel 224 miles
 5:30 p.m. Arrive at Round Barn Winery/Distillery/Brewery (10983 Hills Road; Baroda, MI 49010; www.roundbarnwinery.com/)
 7:30 p.m. Leave Round Barn Winery/Distillery/Brewery – Travel 15 miles
 8:00 p.m. Arrive at Days Inn (1598 Mall Dr.; Benton Harbor, MI 49022; <http://daysinnmi.com/>)

Wednesday, July 27, 2011

8:30 a.m. Leave Days Inn Benton Harbor – Travel 4 miles
 9:30 a.m. Arrive at SW Michigan Horticulture Research Farm (1791 Hillandale Rd; Benton Harbor, MI 49022; www.agbioresearch.msu.edu/swmrec/)
 7:30 p.m. Leave SW Michigan Horticulture Research Farm - Travel 4miles
 8:30 p.m. Arrive at Days Inn (1598 Mall Dr.; Benton Harbor, MI 49022)

Thursday, July 28, 2011

8:30 a.m. Leave Days Inn Benton Harbor – Travel 10 miles
 9:00 a.m. Arrive at Arrowhead Vineyards (7707 Lincoln Ave.; Baroda, MI 49101; www.avgrapes.com/)
 10:30 a.m. Leave Arrowhead Vineyards – Travel 48 miles
 11:30 a.m. Arrive at Anderson Winery (430 East U.S. 6; Valpariaso, IN 46383; www.andersonswinery.com/)
 1:00 p.m. Leave Anderson Winery – Travel 382 miles
 8:30 p.m. Arrive at Summerset Winery (15101 Fairfax; Indianola, IA 50125)

Registration form will be attached to June 2011 Newsletter

Free Grape Exchange Online

Wineries—post the grapes you are looking for. Vineyards—get inside knowledge about what your consumer is wanting.

Do you have grapes you would like to sell, or are you looking for a specific variety of grape to purchase? The Iowa Wine Growers Association's online Grape Exchange is the forum to announce what you have or what you are looking for.

The online Grape Exchange provides wineries the opportunity to post the varieties of grapes they are looking for, thus giving vineyards two valuable benefits. Vineyards will now have inside knowledge as to what type of grapes their consumer is looking to purchase and the ability to post the varieties they have for sale.

There is no charge to post to the Grape Exchange, you will only need to register as a user on the IWGA website (www.iowawinegrowers.org). Once you have confirmed your registration and log in you will see the instructions on how to post free Grape Exchange ads in the user menu.



Iowa's Invaders Continue March on History

By: Cindy Hadish/SourceMedia Group

A Japanese beetle eats vegetation along one of the trails at Indian Creek Nature Center on Tuesday, July 5, 2005, in southeast Cedar Rapids. The voracious eaters are invading everywhere. Cedar Ridge Vineyards is prepared for battle. The Swisher grape orchard, like others across Iowa, is among favorite targets of Japanese beetles that emerge in July, or even sooner. "It's a problem every year," said Luke French, Cedar Ridge sales manager. "As soon as you see one, you see a million of them."



A Japanese beetle eats vegetation along one of the trails at Indian Creek Nature Center on Tuesday, July 5, 2005, in southeast Cedar Rapids. The voracious eaters are invading everywhere. The copper-winged Japanese beetles are one of several foreign pests to invade the state in recent years.

Iowa is also on the alert for emerald ash borer, gypsy moths and the brown marmorated stink bug. Gypsy moths were imported to Boston in 1869 to provide silk for the textile industry, but foreign pests often arrive accidentally on the coasts in shipping containers, eventually making their way to the Midwest. "I have this sense that the number of invasive insects is increasing," said Donald Lewis, Iowa State University entomologist. "But we have had several (other) very devastating problems in our history."

Lewis pointed to the European corn borer that arrived in Iowa cornfields in the 1940s and, though not an insect, Dutch elm disease that nearly wiped out the state's elm trees beginning in the 1950s. Both caused considerable financial damage, he said. Insecticides were able to control corn borers by the 1970s, and genetically modified corn makes the European corn borer "no longer an issue for modern farmers," Lewis said. Similarly, elm trees were developed that are resistant to Dutch elm disease. Arborists encourage planting a variety of trees to avoid the same type of devastation to the urban landscape. Farmers and gardeners are learning to cope with the more recent invaders. French noted that Cedar Ridge controls Japanese beetles in its vineyards with Sevin, an insecticide widely used in gardens and landscapes.

An adult emerald ash borer is shown in this photo released by Michigan State University. Iowans who bought firewood from Taylors Wood Products Inc. through the hardware chain Menards are asked to burn the wood soon according to the Iowa Department of Agriculture. The firewood bundles found in Iowa contained wood pieces that had not been debarked, meaning they were not compliant with a federal quarantine aimed at stopping the spread of the borer, according to the Iowa State University Extension's Web site. (AP Photo/Michigan State University, File)



Organic approaches use milky spore in the soil to treat beetles in the grub stage, or chickens, which eat both grubs and adult Japanese beetles. Some people have luck with Japanese beetle traps. Others say the traps lure more beetles into the yard.

Japanese beetles don't just consume grape vines, but target 300 or so plants including raspberries, roses and linden trees. The beetles skeletonize plants, leaving lace-like holes in the leaves. Iowa's first infestation was recorded in 1994. Japanese beetles are now in at least 52 Iowa counties, particularly in the eastern half, Lewis said.

Emerald ash borer, detected last year in Allamakee County in northeastern Iowa, is much less limited in scope so far, but coping strategies are also under way.

Campers are asked to purchase firewood locally and burn it where they buy it, as the borers are often spread through transported wood.

Stingless wasps, a natural enemy, may eventually be released in Iowa. The wasps use emerald ash borer eggs and larvae as hosts, which are consumed by the wasps' offspring. Iowa is using pheromones to control a population of gypsy moths that threaten the state's trees. Unlike the emerald ash borer, which targets only ash, gypsy moths feed on 300 types of trees, including its favorite — oak — Iowa's state tree.

This Thursday, April 14, 2011 file photo shows a brown marmorated stink bug at a Penn State research station in Biglerville, Pa. The bug is causing millions of dollars in damages to crops in the mid-Atlantic region and may be just getting started. It's now been spotted in 33 states, including every one east of the Mississippi River and as far west as California. (AP Photo/Matt Rourke, File)



Pheromone flakes are being used in northeastern Iowa, where most moths have been trapped. The scent overwhelms adult male moths so they cannot find a female during mating season. According to the Iowa Department of Natural Resources, of the 26 million trees that line city streets in Iowa, 5.5 million are preferred hosts for the gypsy moth. That would cost nearly \$3 billion to remove if they died as a result of not controlling the moth.

Lewis and other experts say a forthcoming invader, the brown marmorated stink bug, could be even more devastating. One sighting in Cedar Rapids of a dead stink bug has so far been an isolated report. According to ISU, the brown marmorated stink bug feeds on sap from a long list of plants, including fruits, vegetables, field crops and shade trees. In addition to plant damage, adult bugs migrate into homes to overwinter in the fall. East Coast homeowners describe the invasion as worse than box elder bugs and lady beetles, combined.

The bug was first identified in 2001 in Pennsylvania, likely from Asian shipping containers. Like other stink bugs, the brown marmorated stink bug has a shield-shaped body. Adults are about 5/8-inch long with a mottled brownish gray color. "Marmorated" means marbled, a description of the mottled color on the back. "They stink as the name would imply," Lewis said. "There's a lot of them and they're hard to get rid of."



This article can be found at: <http://thegazette.com/2011/06/15/iowa%E2%80%99s-invaders-continue-march-on-history/>.

55 Acres of Land for Sale

55 acres of land, 1 mile south of scenic hwy 3 in Greeley, Iowa is for sale. Beautiful rolling hills, great location for a vineyard! Just 1 mile south of scenic hwy 3; includes a 6,000 sq. ft. state of the art high quality building for a winery. This land is surrounded with timber and great soil for grapes. Existing clover crop with no pesticides for the past six years, there is an area for a potential (double) pond.

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR AN APPOINTMENT TO VISIT - CALL MARY at 319.350.8561

USDA Invites Applications for Value Added Producer Grant to Assist Farmers

Investing In Rural America Essential to Job Creation and Business Growth

WASHINGTON, June 28, 2011 – Deputy Agriculture Secretary Kathleen Merrigan today announced that applications are being accepted for grants to provide economic assistance to independent producers, farmer and rancher cooperatives and agricultural producer groups through the Value-Added Producer Grant Program.

"By creating value-added products, farmers and ranchers can expand economic opportunities, create jobs and keep wealth in rural communities," Merrigan said. "These funding opportunities will promote business expansion and entrepreneurship by helping local businesses get access to capital, technical assistance and new markets for their products and services."

For example, in Caroline County, Md., Richard and Wenfei Uva owners of Seaberry Farm received a Value-Added Producer Grant to expand their processing capacity to produce beach plum jams and jellies, juice, and puree for retail and wholesale markets. The Beach plum, *Prunus maritima*, is a native fruiting shrub that grows in coastal sand dunes from southern Maine to Maryland. Seaberry Farm planted three acres of Beach plum in 2006 and will double the acreage in 2011.

Located in Oxnard, Calif., San Miguel Produce is owned by Roy Nishimori and Jan Berk, independent producers of organic and conventional cooking greens. In 2009, they received a Value-Added Producer Grant for socially disadvantaged farmers and ranchers. With this grant, San Miguel Produce has been able to expand markets for their "Cut 'n Clean Green" products and increase revenues.

Application deadline is August 29, 2011. For further details about eligibility rules and application procedures, see the June 28, 2011, Federal Register. Value-Added Producer Grants may be used for feasibility studies or business plans, working capital for marketing value-added agricultural products and for farm-based renewable energy projects. Eligible applicants include independent producers, farmer and rancher cooperatives, and agricultural producer groups. Value-added products are created when a producer increases the consumer value of an agricultural com-

modity in the production or processing stage. To see a video featuring Deputy Secretary Merrigan discussing the VAPG program.

In June, the President signed an Executive Order establishing the first WHRC chaired by Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack. To better coordinate Federal programs and maximize the impact of Federal investment, the White House Rural Council will work throughout government to create policies to promote economic prosperity and a high quality of life in our rural communities.

Since taking office, President Obama's Administration has taken significant steps to improve the lives of rural Americans and has provided broad support for rural communities. The Obama Administration has set goals of modernizing infrastructure by providing broadband access to 10 million Americans, expanding educational opportunities for students in rural areas, and providing affordable health care. In the long term, these unparalleled rural investments will help ensure that America's rural communities are repopulating, self-sustaining, and thriving economically.

USDA, through its Rural Development mission area, administers and manages housing, business and community infrastructure and facility programs through a national network of state and local offices. Rural Development has an existing portfolio of more than \$150 billion in loans and loan guarantees. These programs are designed to improve the economic stability of rural communities, businesses, residents, farmers and ranchers and improve the quality of life in rural America.

Contact: Dane Henshall (202) 260-0996

Visit <http://www.rurdev.usda.gov> for additional information about the agency's programs or to locate the USDA Rural Development office nearest you.