



Grape Growers of ONTARIO

Newsletter - Volume 11 - December 2009

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

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

On October 13th, 2009 the Government of Ontario announced its plan for the grape and wine industry in Ontario. The Government charged the Grapes for Processing Industry Advisory Committee (GPIAC) to develop sustainable pricing options and improve quality standards for the grape and wine industry. Under the auspices of the Farm Products Marketing Commission (FPMC) consultation hearings were held in Niagara, Picton, and Leamington to receive comments on the options presented.

On December 17th, 2009 Farm Products Marketing Commission Chair, Mr. G. Kamenz, provided preliminary observations from the consultations to the members of GPIAC. Most importantly Mr. Kamenz emphasized the overwhelming support the GGO received throughout the consultation sessions. He also noted that there were numerous submissions sent to the Commission that will be reviewed over the next few months.

Following a brief discussion on various models that might be considered it was agreed that further discussion will continue at a GPIAC meeting to be held on January 6th, 2010. Your Board of Directors will continue to provide regular updates as information becomes available from the GPIAC discussions, and be assured we will continue to advocate for growth and sustainability for our growers.

On behalf of myself and your Board of Directors I want to personally thank you so many of you who took the time write or appear at the consultation sessions, and to offer your ideas and support for your association.

Best wishes for a safe and healthy holiday season, **Bill George, Chair**



Phil and Lorna Tregunno at the Mount Everest Base Camp with a bottle of Niagara Ice Wine—December 2009

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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)

GRAPE GROWERS OF ONTARIO BOTTLE STICKERS



The Board of Directors of the Grape Growers of Ontario are pleased to present bottle stickers that have been developed and printed for bottles of wines that are made with 100% Ontario grapes. These stickers are available to processors at no cost by calling the Board office at (905) 688-0990.

2009 GRAPE CRUSH

* All 2009 Crush information is up-to-date as of December 9, 2009.

	2009 Crush*		2008 Crush		2007 Crush	
	Tonnes	Value (\$)	Tonnes	Value (\$)	Tonnes	Value (\$)
<i>Wine</i>	43,645	\$53,278,637	55,578	\$74,586,339	52,229	\$73,381,323
<i>Jam/Juice</i>	232	\$106,798	2,601	\$1,087,296	3,755	\$1,259,466
<i>Home wine</i>	520	\$543,357	234	\$263,748	331	\$294,987
Total	44,397	\$53,928,792	58,413	\$75,937,383	56,315	\$74,935,776

WINE EDUCATION COURSES

Cool Climate Oenology & Viticulture Institute - Brock University
COURSES for the enthusiast as well as those interested in advanced wine education.

GO TO:
www.brocku.ca/ccovi/
 'Continuing Education'
TO REGISTER ON-LINE

Introduction to the Wines of Ontario (OEVI 0N02)

A special interest course focused on the wines of Ontario: how they are grown and made. Become familiar with VQA wines and the viticultural areas in which they are grown. Upon successful completion students will receive the *Wine Council of Ontario Certification*. Fee includes text book, wines and glassware.

Starting Monday, January 11, 2010 7 p.m. (9 weeks)

Registration Fee: \$250



Wine Appreciation II – Explore the Wine Regions of the World (OEVI 0N03)

Designed to deepen and refine your winetasting skills as well as to explore the major wine regions of the world. Relax as you discover wines from historic Old World regions as well as the emerging New World wine regions.

Wine Appreciation II DOES NOT include an examination.

Starting Wednesday, January 13, 2010 7 p.m. (12 weeks)

Registration Fee: \$325

WSET®

The most highly respected and transferable wine certification available anywhere. Whether you're in the trade or a wine enthusiast the WSET® systematic approach to winetasting has a course for you.



Brock University

Levels 1 – 3

Check the website for dates and availability of courses www.brocku.ca/ccovi

AGRICORP UPDATE:

Renewing Production Insurance (PI) for grapes

It's renewal time again for your grapes. You should have received your renewal package outlining your coverage options and deposit amount for 2010. Be sure to review your responsibilities and coverage shown on your Renewal Notice. You will be automatically renewed at last year's coverage, unless you contact us by **December 20, 2009** to cancel or change your coverage.

Changes to your 2010 Contract of Insurance

Insured perils for grapes now include all lady beetles.

To claim any costs you incur to remove and replant any trees or vines damaged by an insured peril, you must provide Agricorp with copies of your receipts. For more details, please refer to the Claim Payments section of the Apple Tree and Grape Vine Rider Production Insurance Document included in your renewal package or on agricorp.com.

Paying your premium

Your non-refundable premium deposit is due **December 20, 2009**. The balance of your premium is due **May 1, 2010**.

You can pay your premium using one of the following methods:

Internet or telephone banking

Mail your cheque, payable to Agricorp Insurance Fund, to:

**Agricorp,
Box 3660, Station Central,
Guelph, Ontario, N1H 8M4**

Not currently enrolled in PI?

If this is your first time applying, contact Agricorp at **1-888-247-4999** by **December 20, 2009**.

An Agricorp representative will visit you to review your coverage and claim price options and help you complete your application.

For each fruit crop you are insuring, you must insure 100 percent of your acres. All of your peaches and nectarines must be insured under one contract.

Follow good farm management practices and report crop damage immediately.

Meet all deadlines in the 2010 Production Insurance Deadlines for Grapes table on the following page.

For more information on insuring your grapes, please refer to the Plan Overview for Tree Fruit and Grape Production and the Contract of Insurance on www.agricorp.com.

AGRICORP UPDATE CONT'D:

2010 Production Insurance deadlines for grapes	
Action Required	Deadline
Last day to cancel your 2010 insurance contract	December 20, 2009
Apply for coverage or change your coverage selection	
Pay your premium deposit (non-refundable)	
Declare assignment of indemnity	
Pay balance of your premium	May 1, 2010

2010 grape coverage levels and premium rates

Grape Categories	Customer Premium Rates by Coverage Level			
	85%	80%	75%	70%
Labrusca	4.51%	3.98%	3.54%	3.18%
French Hybrids	4.28%	3.82%	3.40%	3.06%
Vinifera	8.55%	6.90%	6.14%	5.52%

2010 claim prices**Claim Prices**

Grape claim prices for each variety can be found in the 2010 Grape Production Insurance Claim Prices Production Insurance Document posted on www.agricorp.com.

Grape Vine Rider

To be eligible for the grape vine rider, you have insured your grapes for a minimum of two years. Your coverage is based on the number of healthy vines at least two years old in your inventory.

The following claim prices represent the cost of removal and replanting and are available with a deductible of 12.5 percent:

Labrusca:	\$13.07/vine
French Hybrids	\$12.93/vine
Vinifera	\$11.75/vine

Agricorp will require copies of the receipts for work done to remove and replant any trees or vines. If a tenant is in a tree or vine claim, he/she will require written permission from the landlord to remove and replant any dead trees or vines. For more details, please refer to the Apple Tree and Grape Vine Riders Production Insurance Document.

2009 AgriStability fees due December 31

If you have not paid your 2009 AgriStability fee yet, you have until December 31. If we do not receive your fee by the deadline, you will not be eligible for a benefit.

AgriStability interim payments available

If you are in financial distress, you can receive half of your estimated AgriStability benefit on a priority basis before your year-end. You can get applications on our website or by contacting us.

New to AgriStability?

To sign up for 2010 AgriStability, send your completed 2010 New Participant Form to Agricornp by April 30, 2010. New Participant Forms are available on our website or by contacting Agricornp.

AgriStability Deadlines	
Action	Deadline
Last day to pay your 2009 fee with a late penalty	December 31, 2009
Last day to apply for a 2009 interim payment	
Last day to submit your 2010 New Participant Form	April 30, 2010
Last day to pay your 2010 fee without a late penalty	

Complete OVTP removals as soon as possible

Many producers have recently applied to the Orchards and Vineyards Transition Program (OVTP) as a result of unexpected market conditions and poor weather over the past year. If your OVTP application has been accepted, try to complete your tree and vine removal as soon as possible and no later than the deadline shown in your acceptance letter. The sooner you complete your removal, the sooner you can receive your funds.

Agricornp is currently calling producers to confirm their removal deadline and warn them if their application is close to expiring. If you are not planning to complete your removal by the deadline, you should inform Agricornp right away. To ensure that as many producers as possible get access to funding, funds from expired or withdrawn applications will go to other producers who do plan to remove their trees or vines before November 2010.

Interested growers should continue to submit applications this fall to stay in the queue for funding. If your application is accepted after November 30, 2009, you must complete your removal and contact Agricornp before November 30, 2010. Agricornp will then arrange to obtain your Statement of Final Removal before issuing your payment.

As of November 16, 2009, Agricornp has received more than 1,200 applications to the program and verified 10,177 acres for a total of almost \$16.5 million in funding.

Contact Agricornp

Phone: 1-888-247-4999 (Mon to Fri, 7 to 5)

contact@agricorp.com

www.agricorp.com



An agency of the Government of Ontario
Un organisme du gouvernement de l'Ontario

Canada

Growing | Cultivons
Forward | l'avenir

 Ontario



Information for grape and tender fruit growers has now been moved to a new Weather INnovations Incorporated (WIN) website - www.vineandtreefruitinnovations.com. The new website now provides growers and industry with all of the data previously found at www.weatherinnovations.com. WIN is pleased to offer the same information, plus more maps, tools and information on this new website. Previous and new users of the data provided on WIN's website will be able to log in and access additional data and features as well as save their preferences for quicker access on subsequent visits. Sample maps are available for products that will be available for the 2010 growing season.

The current sponsors of www.vineandtreefruitinnovations.com are the Grape Growers of Ontario, OMAFRA and Ontario Tender Fruit Producers. WIN thanks these sponsors for their assistance in providing tools and resources to the industry. Please contact WIN to explore additional sponsorship opportunities to serve the grape and tender fruit sector. Contact WIN at 519-352-5334 ext 223 or email inichols@weatherinnovations.com.

Maps of the 3 grape growing appellations - Niagara, Prince Edward County and Lake Erie North Shore appear on the home page. Select an appellation and link to an enlarged map of the appellation or to the sub-appellations (Niagara). Terroir background information is provided for each appellation and sub-appellation, with thanks to VQA Ontario.

Home page

Login

Industry news

New reports

Upcoming events

Link to Lake Erie North Shore, Prince Edward County and Niagara maps

One of the website's new features is the "Vine and Tree Fruit INnovations User Manual". Here, users are able to view a list of the weather data, maps, tools, reports, etc. available either without or with a login. Documentation and sample maps provide explanations for the tools, instruments, etc.

Home About Us Resources Sign In

Welcome to Weather INnovations Incorporated's new website for grape and tender fruit producers and industry!

www.vineandtreefruitinnovations.com now provides growers and industry with all of the data previously found at www.weatherinnovations.com. Previous and new users of the data provided on WIN's website will be able to log in and access additional data and features.

Weather INnovations Incorporated has cooperated with the Grape Growers of Ontario since 2003, to provide a system of weather stations distributed throughout the Niagara wine appellations. The stations in the network have been steadily updated since that time, providing near real time data for an increasing number of programs. Appellations in Prince Edward County and Lake Erie North Shore are now represented in this expanding network. Over the past several years, WIN has collaborated with the Grape Growers of Ontario, Vintners Quality Alliance (VQA) and a number of other individuals and organizations, in order to provide services to the Ontario grape and fruit industries in the province.

The map below outlines the 3 appellations represented by grape growers. Click the desired appellation, then click (the sub-appellation, if necessary) the station location. Additional features are available for login users. Check out [What is available without a login](#) [What are the additional features for those with a login](#)

Are you interested in weather monitoring, irrigation scheduling or wind machine management in your vineyard?
Phone Wayne Heinen 289-241-6299

"According to the Grapevine"

Helpful Links

Industry News

Irrigation Advisory

Reports

Research

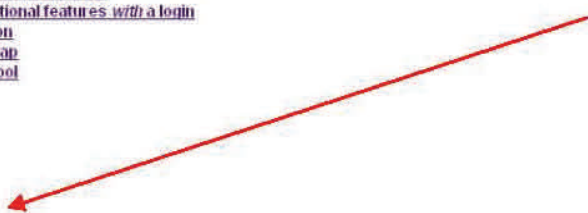
User Manual

Vine & Tree Fruit INnovations User Manual

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- [Disease Pressure Map](#)
- [Disease Pressure Tool](#)
- [ET Map](#)
- [Forecast Data](#)
- [GDD Map](#)
- [GDD Tool](#)
- [Historical Data](#)
- [My Favourites Tool](#)
- [Overnight Low Map](#)
- [Rain Map](#)
- [Research Products](#)
- [Weather Station Information](#)
- [Sensor Descriptions](#)

Login users will want to check out the ***new*** "Overnight Low Map".



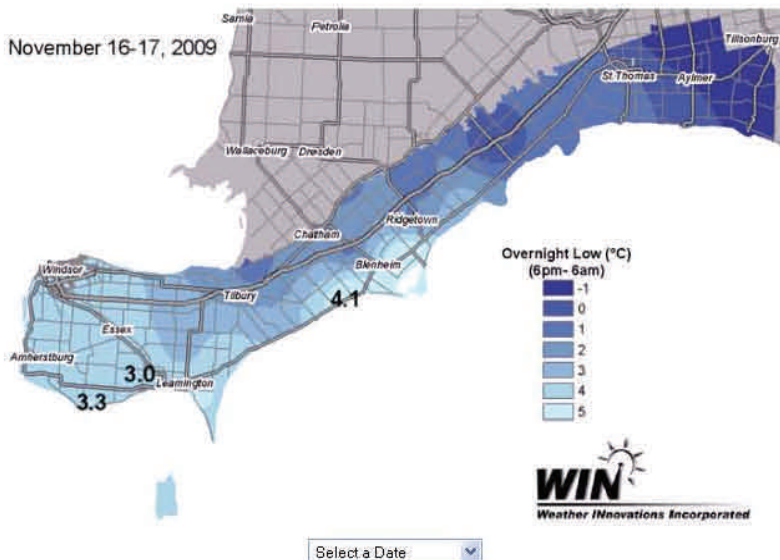
"The overnight low map provides a quick "at-a-glance" feature to answer the ever-popular question of "how cold did it get last night?". This tool also enables the user to compare their own conditions against previous days and surrounding stations. The map is generated, by using data collected from other sources in addition to the weather stations labelled within the selected zones, to improve precision. Since "daily data" is stored between midnight and midnight, the overnight low is often distorted, as it can stretch across two calendar days; and yet one overnight period. Consequently, WIN has defined the overnight low for this particular product as the minimum temperature that occurs between 6:00PM → 6:00AM.

A user can click on an overnight low value to yield a table of overnight lows. Alternatively, the data can be viewed as a graph by selecting the "Graph this Data" feature located beneath the table.

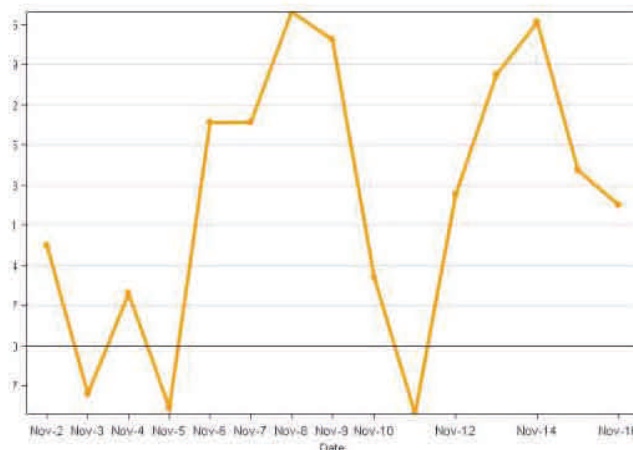
The Overnight Low map runs from September 15 to May 31."

Lake Erie North Shore - Overnight Low

- Historical Data
- Forecast Data
- Disease Pressure
- GDD
- ET
- Rain
- Overnight Low



Overnight Low Minimum Temperature Data for Cedar Springs



Anyone interested in WIN weather monitoring services, please contact Wayne Heinen, WIN Operations (Niagara or PEC) 289-241-6338 or Ian Nichols (Lake Erie North Shore) 519-352-5334.

NIAGARA COLLEGE RECEIVES A ROYAL VISITOR

His Royal Highness The Prince of Wales visited Niagara College new Wine Visitor + Education Centre at the Niagara-on-the-Lake Campus as part of the Royal Couple's Canadian tour on November 5, 2009.

His Royal Highness was given a tour of Niagara College's new Wine Visitor + Education Centre and the College's teaching vineyards. During his tour, Prince Charles observed a number of demonstrations in the wine-making process and in viticulture research by College students, faculty, staff and notable alumni. Following the tour at an industry reception, His Royal Highness unveiled a plaque commemorating his visit during the Centre's opening.

The Royal Visit is the lead event celebrating the opening of the \$3.6 million Wine Visitor + Education Centre, a unique state-of-the-art industry centre set in the College's teaching vineyards. The Centre will showcase and promote the Ontario and Canadian wine industry, provide wine tourism information services, and feature academic and wine industry programming. The Wine Visitor + Education Centre is part of an unprecedented \$90 million campus redevelopment plan that includes major projects at Niagara College's Welland and Niagara-on-the-Lake Campuses.

"The visit by Prince Charles shines a spotlight on our new Wine Visitor + Education Centre, which has been developed in response to the feedback and needs of the Canadian wine industry and serves as a model for responsive, industry-linked applied education. Our graduates enter the workforce with real-world industry learning and experience," said Dan Patterson, President of Niagara College. "The new facility will also serve as a living laboratory for Niagara College's leading cluster of wine, culinary and hospitality and tourism students. The graduates from these top-rated programs are in high demand across Canada, and throughout the world."



(Above) Prince Charles being introduced to GGO Chairman Bill George Jr.

(Left) Dr. Dan Patterson, Prince Charles and Mr. Jim Bradley

The Grape Growers of Ontario Welcome the Federal Government's Investment in Research for the Ontario Grape and Wine Industry

St. Catharines, ON (December 16, 2009): The Grape Growers of Ontario welcome the announcement made today at Brock University by St. Catharines MP Rick Dykstra that their application for federal funding through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Developing Innovative Agri-Products (DIAP) initiative under the *Growing Canadian Agri-Innovations* program has been approved. Dykstra said \$1.45 million, or 75 per cent of the money, will come from the federal Developing Innovative Agri-Products program, which supports industry-led science and technology projects that help make Canada's agriculture sector more innovative and competitive. The remaining money will come from industry.

The application, entitled "Harvesting Innovation for Growth and Sustainability of the Canadian Grape and Wine Industry," covers three key activities to bring vital resourcing to this agricultural sector: gaining research expertise in strategic areas of oenology and viticulture, developing outreach services for the industry to assist in the implementation and transfer of new technology and innovations, and securing operating funds to address key industry priorities.

"With the federal government's investment in the Canadian grape and wine industry through this DIAP application and our partnership with Brock University's Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute, the Ontario grape and wine industry will continue to be an economic driver in agri-innovation not only for the benefit in Ontario, but also for this sector across Canada," says Matthias Oppenlaender, Co-Chair of the Grape Growers of Ontario Board of Directors and Chair of Ontario Grape and Wine Research Inc.

Debbie Zimmerman, CEO of the Grape Growers of Ontario, says: "We are pleased with the Federal Government's announcement to invest in the Ontario grape and wine industry through Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Developing Innovative Agri-Products initiative. We look forward to working with all industry partners to ensure prosperous and sustainable growth within the grape and wine sector."

The Grape Growers of Ontario is the official organization that represents over 484 actively producing grape growers of 15,000 acres in the province's four viticulture areas: Niagara Peninsula, Pelee Island, Lake Erie North Shore and Prince Edward County.

Did You Know....

According to a recent survey broadcast on CBC, farming is one of the top three most respected professions in Canada??

CCOVI Open House

On Tuesday, December 1, 2009 more than 50 people visited Inniskillin Hall at Brock University to see why CCOVI is so much more than a “science” institute.

The Open House was the latest in a year-long lineup of events being held to celebrate CCOVI’s landmark achievements over the last decade.




Debbie Inglis, Director of CCOVI, explained the changes that have been taking place at the facility. “We started as an institute grounded in the sciences,” she said, “but with our recent expansion across all faculties within the university, we are continuing to build our research team to effectively tackle priority issues for our industry across the entire grape and wine value chain.”

During the event, Inglis and Liette Vasseur, Brock’s Vice President Research, recognized nine newly appointed CCOVI Fellows and Professional Affiliates. Vasseur said the research activities taking place at CCOVI “are to be celebrated, since they are recognized not only in Canada but around the world, and they demonstrate the growth and strength of research at Brock.”

Jeffrey Stuart, fellow
Maxim Voronov, fellow
Vincenzo De Luca, fellow
Dirk De Clercq, fellow
Wendy McFadden-Smith, professional affiliate

George Van der Merwe, fellow
Daryl Somers, professional affiliate
Don Cyr, fellow
Peter Roberts, fellow

University President Jack Lightstone presented an original oil painting depicting a bottle of Inniskillin Vidal Icewine. The canvas was commissioned by Canadian business legend Gerald Schwartz and donated to his friend, wine mogul Donald Ziraldo, who in turn donated it to CCOVI. “We are proud to have the painting on display at Brock, at CCOVI”, said Lightstone. “It symbolizes the research excellence that CCOVI produces to support a growing and expanding industry.”



**THE GREAT WINTER FUN
AGRI-FOOD
Ski Day**

10th Annual Agri-Food Ski Day

February 18, 2010 • Osler Bluff, Collingwood

For Additional Information or to Register visit www.agri-foodskiday.ca

NOMINATE A GREENBELT GROWER/PRODUCER FOR THE FRIEND OF THE GREENBELT AWARD 2010

Do you know a grower/producer in the Greenbelt who deserves to be recognized for their leadership, innovation and sustainable farming practices? If you do, now is the time to nominate them for the Friend of the Greenbelt Award and help us recognize and celebrate growers/producers in the Greenbelt. To enter for a chance to win, applicants must, by January 18th, 2010 email a completed form (available at www.greenbelt.ca) to nomination-at-greenbelt.ca or fax to 416.960.0030 or mail the completed form to:

**Attention: Greenbelt Growers/Producers Nomination Committee
Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation
68 Scollard Street, Suite 201
Toronto, Ontario M5R 1G2**

You can download copies of this form as well as the Official Nomination Rules (including information on the nomination process, the review process and the timeline) at www.greenbelt.ca or contact us at (416) 960-0001 or nomination-at-greenbelt.ca for more information.



Possibility grows here.

ATTENTION GREENBELT GROWERS/PRODUCERS - SIGN UP NOW FOR THE GREENBELT FARMERS' ONLINE MARKET

The Greenbelt Farmers' Online Market makes it easy for Greenbelt farmers to connect to consumers and institutions by providing information about their farm – what they grow and when they grow it. Users searching the Marketplace to buy food for their families are directed to pick-your-owns and on-farm markets and corporate/ institution/ wholesalers/ and food service purchasers are directed to farms who wholesale their products.

If you're a grower/producer in Ontario's Greenbelt region, the *Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation* along with the Ontario Culinary Tourism Alliance and the Greater Toronto Area Agriculture Committee (GTAAAC) are asking you to add your farm profile to the Greenbelt Farmers' Online Market found at www.greenbeltfresh.ca.

Creating a farm profile is free and simple. Visit www.greenbeltfresh.ca and click on "Attention: Growers and Producers" to access the online data sheet. If you would like to fill out a paper form instead simply contact the *Greenbelt Foundation* at www.greenbelt.ca or call us at 416.960.0001.

For Sale	Contact	Telephone
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vineyard sprayer, 500 gallon tank with tandem wheels and air assist, rebuilt pump and regulator not used yet, all new plumbing and extra set of nozzles. Asking \$4,000. 	Ed	(905) 329-3606
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Second hand barrels, very good condition, mainly reds, 6 to 8 years old, \$75. 	JL	(905) 468-1806
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 130-acre grape farm, all planted, East-West Line, NOTL. Send offers to the attention of the GGO Office, PO Box 100, Vineland Station, ON L0R 2E0. 		

ONTARIO HOSTELRY INSTITUTE TOP 30 UNDER 30

The Top 30 Under 30 is an annual recognition program that celebrates the hospitality and foodservice industry's top 30 young professionals in all sectors. To nominate a deserving individual from Ontario's Grape and Wine industry or for more information, please visit www.theohi.ca.

The Grape Growers of Ontario congratulate Fielding Estate Winery for being named in the 2009 Canadian Wine Awards Top 10 List of Best Wineries in Canada!

Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention

February 24 & 25, Brock University, St. Catharines, ON

The Ontario Fruit and Vegetable Convention, Canada's premier horticultural event, brings growers together from across Ontario, Canada and the United States to learn, discover and network.

For more information or to register please see the OFVC insert or visit www.ofvc.ca

Season's Greetings

The Board of Directors and staff of the GGO extend our best wishes to you and your family for a joyous and peaceful holiday season and a healthy, happy and prosperous New Year.



Looking for Grapes?

Please call Julie Dixon at 905-688-0990 x228 or visit www.grapegrowersofontario.com

To place an ad, please contact Sylvana Lagrotteria at 905-688-0990 x231 or slagrotteria@grapeandtenderfruitontario.com