



## On the Vineyard

DEDICATED TO THE SUCCESS OF ONTARIO'S GRAPE GROWERS

### 2012 Icewine Pricing One-Year Agreement

Late Harvest and Icewine juice prices were negotiated separately from the Class 5-10f prices to provide an opportunity to negotiate a new structure. Final Agreement for 2012 Late Harvest and Icewine Pricing has been reached between the GGO and processors as follows:

#### **Icewine and Late Harvest**

**Grapes** – The minimum price paid for all grapes left on the vine to be used for icewine is 125% of the price based upon normal harvest at the appropriate sugar level determined by samples taken at regular harvest time.

#### **Hybrid Icewine Juice –**

\$9.05 per litre at 35 Brix  
 \$11.99 per litre at 36 Brix  
 \$14.03 per litre at 37 Brix  
 \$16.06 per litre at 38 Brix  
 \$17.17 per litre at 39 Brix  
 \$18.10 per litre at 40 Brix  
 \$19.21 per litre at 41 Brix  
 \$20.11 per litre at 42 Brix

#### **Vinifera Icewine Juice –**

\$19.00 per litre at 35 Brix  
 \$20.50 per litre at 36 Brix  
 \$23.00 per litre at 37 Brix  
 \$26.00 per litre at 38 Brix  
 \$29.00 per litre at 39 Brix  
 \$30.00 per litre at 40 Brix  
 \$31.00 per litre at 41 Brix

**Late Harvest Juice at 26 Brix**  
 - \$4.58 per litre

The revised Brix schedules preserve value for the higher Brix icewine juice while recognizing a reduced value for the lower Brix icewine juice. The Brix schedules will be circulated as soon as they are received from the auditor.

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### 2012 Celebrity Luncheon

The GGO, in partnership with Meridian Credit Union and the Friends of the Greenbelt Foundation, are thrilled that **Red Green** will be speaking at this year's Celebrity Luncheon. Steve Smith is the creator and lead actor of The Red Green Show, nominated for 27 Gemini Awards and one of the longest running Canadian television comedy series.



**Club Roma in St Catharines on  
 Wednesday, September 19th  
 beginning at 11:30 a.m.**

**For tickets, please see enclosed order form or purchase online at:  
[www.niagarawinefestival.com](http://www.niagarawinefestival.com)**



## Traceability Foundations Initiative (TFI)

The Grape Growers of Ontario has initiated a \$585,000 project under the Traceability Foundations Initiative (TFI), a joint Federal-Provincial program providing cost-share funding to support voluntary, industry-led information networks that will enhance agri-food traceability. The grant will allow the GGO, over the 18 months of the project, to consolidate and update the current GGO database systems.

A unified and centralized database system will provide a more efficient analysis and reporting. The single integrated system will allow easier grower access to data (a single login), updated mapping, and additional modules for sustainability and farm management practices.

This project is expected to provide the following benefits:

### **Traceability** - *critical to maintaining consumer confidence*

- Efficient and improved traceability of grape and wine data to reduce food safety emergency response time;
- Quicker access to accurate and reliable data – *From the vine to the bottle.*

### **Sustainability** - *to improve the industry's competitive advantage*

- Reduce data duplication to improve reliability for farm

management decisions;

- Consistent user experience for increased user adoption of sustainable best practices.

### **Growth** - *support continued growth through innovation*

- Expanded, robust reporting capabilities to support analysis, insights and right-time decision making for industry growth;
- Scalability to adapt as business needs evolve to sustain growth.

### **Accessibility** - *Improved access to information important to vineyard management and traceability*

- Real-time data accessibility to consolidated grape production information;
- Expanded search capacity to get data when you need it, where you need it.

## Traceability Foundations Initiative



## Domestic Vine Certification Program -(CAAP)

The Grape Growers of Ontario is pleased to announce the approval of \$216,000 from the Canadian Agricultural Adaptation Program (CAAP) for a "Domestic Vine Certification Program".

The project is a national, 2-year initiative that will develop a framework for a Canadian grapevine certification program and includes collaborators from provincial grapevine grower groups, grapevine nurseries, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) scientists, wineries, and Canadian Food Inspection Agency (CFIA).

The key objectives of the project are to provide plant material of high phytosanitary status to Ontario and other Canadian grape growing regions while establishing a certification system to ensure quality levels are maintained and tracked.

The project will enhance the virus and disease testing and

elimination program and Nuclear (Generation 1) level repository facilities at a national level.



The project will also address the regulatory structure and establishment of regional Elite (Generation 2) and Foundation (Generation 3) mother blocks of vines for the production of certified (Generation 4) plants.

A domestic vine certification program will ensure growers have access to high quality vines that surpass current import/export standards, reducing the risk of introducing foreign invasive plant viruses and diseases into Canada, the spread of other horticultural and economically detrimental viruses and diseases, and dependence on imported vines.

CAAP is funded by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada and administered by the Agricultural Adaptation Council.

## OVIP Industry Support Component (ISC) Update

The ISC Component of the OVIP program, funded through the Ontario government's 2009 Industry Strategy, is to assist the sector as a whole with access to additional technologies and capacities to help improve grape production in the vineyard. There are several approved ISC projects currently underway as follows:

### Third Party Testing

The third party testing pilot initiated during the 2011 harvest will continue with Brock University in 2012, using lessons learned and input from industry, to help advance this program. The GGO is developing, reviewing and consulting on improving the current sampling and brix testing protocols to allow the industry to institute a standardized process for sampling brix and Volatile Acid as part of ongoing improvements to quality assessment.

### Inversion Towers

The GGO is currently working with Weather Innovations Network (WIN) to install 12 Inversion Towers across Ontario's Designated Viticulture Areas (DVAs) to provide growers with more comprehensive temperature inversion data.

Temperature inversions, created when warm air rests on cool air at very low wind speed (usually below 7km/hr.) usually occur during the night and can cause debilitating injury to a vineyard. Detecting the correct inversion layer gives growers more information to manage wind machines efficiently.

### Sustainability Winemaking in Ontario Module/ Viticulture Component

Environmentally and economically sustainable value chains are important to the long-term viability of agri-food industries. A certified sustainability program, similar to those in other countries, can help to improve production practices, quality, and provide a marketing opportunity to consumers demanding environmentally responsible production practices.

A secure on-line Sustainability Data Collection Module is being developed to facilitate participation by growers to document, monitor and track their sustainable production practices.

### Vine Certification

This project is a national initiative to develop a domestic grapevine nursery certification program and supplements the project funding received through the CAAP program (see page 2).

### Weather Information

The Weather Innovations Network open-access climate monitoring platform has been developed to monitor and provide analysis of the micro climatic zones within each appellation and sub-appellation. This data is critical to support research initiatives related to winter hardiness, and assists growers and wineries in cultivar selection within the climate zones.

### Spray Drift Workshops

The GGO, together with OMAFRA, held 4 sprayer tune-up workshops in Niagara, Prince Edward County and Lake Erie North Shore. Dr. Jason Deveau, OMAFRA's Application Technology Specialist, delivered the workshops to assist growers in improving effectiveness of pesticide application, optimize spray output to match target pests, and potentially reduce drift, run-off and overall pesticide load. Grower evaluations have been positive with indications that participants have learned ways to ultimately reduce their pesticide bills.

### Chardonnay Education Sessions

The quality and unique attributes of Ontario Chardonnay were showcased through a workshop held during the International Cool Climate Chardonnay Celebration (i4c) on Friday, July 20<sup>th</sup>. Ontario Chardonnay was compared and contrasted against other cool climate Chardonnay growing regions.

### Online Grower Training

Online training webinars on the Grape Tracker recordkeeping system were held throughout June with more expected to be scheduled for this fall.

### Speaker Program

Growers will be able to listen and learn new concepts and technology from experts from around the world speaking at various conferences.

### IPM Workshop

GGO together with OMAFRA will host an integrated pest management day. The objective is to have an IPM specialist deliver the workshop to assist growers in spray rotation, new products and pest identification.

### Effects of Post-harvest Abscisic Acid Applications (ABA) on Grapevine Cold Hardiness

A follow up to last winter's ABA research through CCOVI is planned for the fall of 2012 to determine the impact of ABA applications on grapevine cold hardiness throughout dormancy and any impacts during the growing season and at harvest in terms of vine performance, fruit maturity and fruit composition.

### Winter Injury Bud Sampling

Winter Injury Bud Sampling was conducted by Ker Crop Management Services during the spring of 2012 to assess the level of winter damage as part of the database being collected for management of winter injury.

### Resource Development

Combating disease, increasing winter hardiness and even drought resistance are a few of the issues Ontario growers are facing in today's climate. Access to information developed in other grape growing regions can provide a valuable resource to develop management techniques and technology for Ontario growers.

The GGO attended an industry conference in July to obtain resource information on work that is being done by researchers from Washington and BC on a variety of topics, including cold hardiness and GIS technology in competing grape growing areas.

## OVIP Producer Support Component (PSC)

Year 2 of the Ontario Vineyard Improvement Program (OVIP) Producer Support Component is well underway. Growers who have been approved for funding under Intake 2 may submit claims as soon as the vineyard improvements have been completed.

Should you no longer wish to participate in Intake 2 of the OVIP Program or you will no longer be able to complete all the work identified in your Offer to Proceed budget and wish to reduce the amount of funding required for this Intake, please contact OMAFRA as soon as possible via email at [ovip@ontario.ca](mailto:ovip@ontario.ca) or phone at 1-888-588-4111 to notify them of any changes to your project.

The eligibility list for the OVIP program will be updated prior to Intake Three (3) which is expected to launch in December 2012. The Intake Three launch date will be communicated to growers as soon as it is announced by OMAFRA. Please contact the GGO if you have any suggestions for potential eligible improvements to this component of the program.

For any questions or more information about the OVIP, please contact Nick Lemieux at 905-688-0990 ext. 228 or [nlemieux@grapegrowersofontario.com](mailto:nlemieux@grapegrowersofontario.com).



**Classified** -full listings are found at <http://www.grapegrowersofontario.com/buy-or-sell>

<b>For Sale</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
• 44,000 ft. x 39" Gyntek bird netting. 3 years old.	Colin	905 341-3939
• 400—1.22 bushel grape harvest containers. Excellent shape. \$6 each	Martin	905 468-7028
• 6 yr. old French oak barrels. Well maintained, emptied in July/Aug, gamajeted and ozonated. Price \$90 on reds and \$120 on whites. COD +HST. Min order 5 barrels	JL	905 468-1806 x 222 <a href="mailto:winemaking@stratuswines.com">winemaking@stratuswines.com</a>
<b>Wanted</b>	<b>Contact</b>	<b>Telephone</b>
• GB sprayer for parts	Phil	519-443-8787 <a href="mailto:vnefv@brant.net">vnefv@brant.net</a>
• Used one tonne insulated grape bins	Ed	905 329-3606
• Press, 3-5 tonnes	John	416 884-7633

To place an ad (including job postings), please contact  
 Gillian McWilliams at 905-688-0990 x224 or  
[gillian@grapegrowersofontario.com](mailto:gillian@grapegrowersofontario.com)

**Grapes for Sale?**  
**Please call Nick Lemieux at**  
**905-688-0990 x228**

### GGO Services

- Grape Pricing & Promotion
- Grape Research
- Grape Inspection
- Government Lobbying
- Government Policies & Regulations
- Farm Labour Legislation & Program
- Nutrient Management
- Crop Insurance Requirements
- Business Risk Management