

In the *vineyard*



Update from Your Board Chair

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Classified Ads



January 2025



Update from your Board Chair



Happy New Year!

As we welcome in a new growing season, your Board of Directors and Growers' Committee are looking forward to a healthy and productive 2025.

For further information on any items shared in our newsletters or weekly updates, please call the Board Office at 905-688-0990 or email info@grapegrowersofontario.com.

77th Annual General Meeting

The 2025 Grape Growers of Ontario's Annual General Meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 2nd at Club Roma in St. Catharines. Registration opens at 6:30 pm. Additional details on the AGM and district meetings will be provided in the next newsletter and through upcoming eblasts.

Applications for the Growing Future Opportunities Initiative replant program for growers will close January 31, 2025

As of December 27, 2024, 91% of the Growing Future Opportunities Initiative Wine Grape funding had been allocated. The deadline for applications has now been moved up to **January 31, 2025**.

The funding is intended to help grape growers re-plant their vineyards with varieties that will improve quality, production, and marketability. For program details and how to apply, please visit the initiative webpage [HERE](#).

Eligible grape growers are encouraged to apply as soon as possible before the deadline at the end of the month.

2025 Sustainability Certification

The 2025 Sustainability Certification survey is now open. Please note that to maintain your certification, you must submit a survey and have it audited every year. In year 1, an on-site audit is required whereas in year 2 and 3 only a desktop audit is required. In year 4 of your certification, an onsite audit will be required to restart the 3-year audit cycle. If certification is not obtained for a year or more, the audit cycle will restart with an onsite audit if certification is sought again.

Intake will remain open until March 31, 2025.

If you have any questions about the survey or program, please contact Keara White at 289-929-7384 or kwhite@grapegrowersofontario.com.



Industry Updates

2024-25 Bud Hardiness and Survivability Testing

The Grape Growers of Ontario have once again contracted Ryan Brewster of Brewster Consulting Services to sample and assess bud hardiness levels and bud survivability throughout the 2024-25 winter season for Niagara and Lake Erie North Shore regions.

Results of the first round of 2024 bud hardiness testing and bud survivability assessments are now available on www.egrape.ca. Growers can log into the eGrape database with their username and password and find the results under the 'Bud Hardiness' section in the 'Overview' menu. Should you require your username and password for eGrape, please contact Keara White at kwhite@grapegrowersofontario.com or 289-929-7384.

It is to be noted that the hardiness ratings and survivability assessments are site specific estimates only and the information provided is for general guidance. Any decisions made within your vineyard should be based on your own information and site conditions.

Registration open for agricultural media training: March 27 or April 4, 2025

Farm & Food Care will offer two day-long agricultural media training sessions on Tuesday, March 27 or April 4, 2025 in Guelph.

Designed specifically for Ontario agriculture by experienced Ontario agriculture communication specialists, this engaging, full-day workshop uses real-world scenarios relevant to participants' specific agricultural sectors to teach practical strategies for effective media and public communication. Participants will gain the tools and hands-on experience needed to confidently handle interviews and public speaking engagements, from crafting key messages to mastering interview techniques. Participants will benefit from two realistic interview simulations, preparing them for real-world scenarios.

The cost is \$400 per person (FFCO member rate) or \$500 per person (non-member rate) and includes coffee breaks, lunch and workshop materials.

This program is designed for board members and staff of farm organizations and agribusinesses, as well as primary producers who engage with the public through farm tours, municipal council meetings, or other events.

To register, email info@farmfoodcare.org and indicate which date you would prefer.

Is your farm transition-ready? How to get into that planning headspace

Without knowing anything about your operation or family situation; farm business specialists will tell you that your farm is in transition - it's unavoidable. Markets change, technology changes, and you're changing too. The only constant in farming and life is change.

Recognizing that you, your family and farm business are on a moving train is the first, and sometimes hardest step in the farm transition process. Things are happening, whether you acknowledge it or not. But being aware of your farm's evolution puts you in control.

Click [HERE](#) for more information from Farm Credit Canada.

OFA Company and Regional Directory

OFA has released an updated directory. Click [HERE](#) for the directory.

CGCN Update

Clean Vines FAQ

With the need to replant many vineyards in Ontario and across the majority of Canada's main grape growing regions, it is more important than ever to ensure that vineyards are being replaced with certified clean, virus-tested plant material. CGCN-RCCV has developed an information sheet to answer some frequently asked questions about clean vines and certification programs that is meant to help educate and empower growers to make informed decisions when purchasing and/or planting clean grapevines. This document was developed in collaboration with the British Columbia Wine Grape Council, the Grape Growers of Ontario, le Conseil des vins du Québec, and the Grape Growers' Association of Nova Scotia.

Click [HERE](#) to view and download the Clean Vines FAQ.

Webinar: Recovery From Climate-Related Events

Join us on **Wednesday, January 22nd at 1:00pm Eastern** as we explore the topic of Recovery From Climate-Related Events! With various vineyard replanting initiatives underway across Canada as a result of unpredictable and harsh weather events, this timely webinar will help attendees understand the complexities of the climate's effect on the vineyard, as well as plan for recovery in the short- and long-term.

We are pleased to welcome Dr. Gregory Jones, Oregon-based environmental scientist with a specialty in the interactions between climate and wine, and Dr. Elizabeth Wolkovich, Associate Professor in Forest and Conservation Sciences and Canada Research Chair at the University of British Columbia.

Click [HERE](#) to register for this webinar.

Funding for Discounted Virus Testing is Fully Utilized

For the second year in a row, funding for discounted virus testing services via CGCN-RCCV's AgriAssurance project, "Clean Plant Network for Grapevines," has been fully realized!

CGCN-RCCV's certification programs are designed to provide Canadian nurseries with a domestic certified clean source of high-quality, sustainable grapevine material to proudly sell to growers. Nurseries that are members of CGCN-RCCV Certification or Verification programming have access to up to **50% discounts on virus testing services**.

Diagnostic Method	Full price	CGCN-RCCV participant price	Viruses
HTS (40-vine sample)	\$700	\$350	25+ viruses of concern
PCR (5-vine leaf sample)	\$76	\$38	Leafroll-1 & 3, Red blotch, Tomato ringspot
PCR (2-vine cane sample)	\$80	\$40	Leafroll-1 & 3, Red blotch, Tomato ringspot

Please note, prices are subject to change and do not include taxes or associated travel expenses.

CGCN Update Continued

INQUIRE EARLY FOR NEXT YEAR (starting April 1st, 2025) if you are a nursery interested in getting your plants virus-tested before propagation, or you are a grower/winery interested in getting some of your vines tested and then custom propagated. Please [contact us](#) for more information!

Availability of CGCN-RCCV Vines

The following 6 nurseries are the only facilities authorized to sell CGCN-RCCV vines. Please click the nursery names below to contact them directly for more information or to order their available products.

1. [AgriForest Bio-Technologies](#), BC
2. [Canadian Fruit Tree Nursery](#), ON
3. [Upper Canada Growers](#), ON
4. [Viticulture A&M](#), QC
5. [Vitis Vines](#), NS
6. [Vitis Import](#), QC (eligible to sell CGCN-RCCV Verified vines until Summer 2025)

Canadian Grapevine Certification Network **CGCN - RCCV** Réseau canadien de certification de la vigne



Worried about
**Powdery
Mildew?**
Get Gatten!

Gatten® fungicide

Gatten® acts on multiple stages of powdery mildew development, delivering both preventative and post-infection control.



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**Next program
starting soon!**



Foundations in Viticulture (Online)

WHEN? February 24 to April 11 (7 Weeks)

WHO? Winery and Vineyard owners; winemakers and production staff; seasonal or full-time vineyard employees; winery non-production staff; or wine enthusiasts seeking a formal foundation in grape growing.



Just 25 spots available to ensure the best possible learning experience.

MEET YOUR INSTRUCTOR—Ryan Brewster, owner of Brewster Consulting, with over 20 years of experience consulting for the grape growing industry.

WHAT? CCOVI's Foundations in Viticulture provides:

- An overview of viticulture and its practical application in the vineyard
- Study the intersecting elements of site, grapevine and grower, and how it impacts grape quality.
- No previous grape growing experience needed!
- Asynchronous delivery; work at your own pace.
- Weekly live sessions with your instructor to review content, address questions and the opportunity to network with peers in the program from across Canada!

Contact for more info.: ccovi@brocku.ca

For more information visit: [LINK](#)

OGWRI Update

OGWRI 2025 RESEARCH PRIORITIES

OGWRI's board and technical committee agreed upon revised research priorities for 2025. Under the market research category, "Consumer science (consumption and purchasing trends)," was added. The remainder of the priorities are unchanged. Visit [OGWRI's website](#) to view the complete list.

ONTARIO RESEARCH FUND – RESEARCH EXCELLENCE

CCOVI recently announced a [\\$2-million funding boost from the Ontario Research Fund \(ORF\)](#) for their project titled: Viticulture Innovation and Next-generation Oenology (VINO) Solutions: Strengthening Ontario's Grape and Wine Sector for Climate Resilience, Innovation Excellence and Global Economic Leadership. OGWRI is providing approx. \$1.25M to CCOVI's ORF project, in addition to other partner contributions, to leverage \$2M from ORF-RE.

MVIP

- MVIP projects for FY 2024-25 will end on February 28th, 2025. Stay tuned to [OGWRI's website](#) for research updates.
- OGWRI is working with OMAFA to negotiate a new MVIP agreement up to 2029.

OGWRI SUPPORTS THE ONTARIO FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CONVENTION 2025

OGWRI has confirmed financial support of afternoon grape sessions at OFVC 2025 on February 19th and 20th. The Wednesday afternoon sessions will focus on the Clean Plant Program and crop protection, and Control measures for SLF and black rot. The Thursday afternoon educational sessions will focus on Ontario rootstocks, vineyard nutrition, new technologies, and under vine cover crops.



GANG UP ON DISEASE.

With three modes of action, it's the perfect ally for conventional chemistry.

Why wouldn't you give yourself an unfair advantage against powdery mildew and botrytis? Serifel® is a highly effective fungicide that just happens to be biological. It complements chemistry-based solutions with three modes of action, to form a protective shield against disease. Learn more at agsolutions.ca/horticulture or follow us on twitter @BASFAGSolutions.

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Fungicide

BASF
We create chemistry

Always read and follow label directions.

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THE FARMER WELLNESS INITIATIVE

FREE, UNLIMITED COUNSELLING

FARMER
WELLNESS
INITIATIVE

Agriculture
Wellness
Ontario

FARMERWELLNESSINITIATIVE.CA

The Farmer Wellness Initiative provides Ontario farms with mental health support by offering free unlimited counselling for farmers, farm workers and their families, specific to the unique challenges that can be experienced by the agricultural community.

1-866-267-6255

How it Works:

Step 1 – When you call the line, you'll go through a brief intake process. You'll be asked your name, where you live and why you're calling. (Note: if you're in crisis, you'll be directed to immediate support.)

Step 2 – Within a week, you'll be connected to a counsellor that you can see on an ongoing basis by phone, video, or in person (based on availability). The mental health professionals who provide counselling are ag-informed to best serve the community.

Step 3 – Engage in counselling for as long as you need. Sessions are free and unlimited. Finding the right counsellor is important. If you'd like to be matched with someone new, you can call the line back and be matched with someone who may be a better fit – no questions asked.

What you need to know:

ELIGIBILITY



Ontario-based farmers, farm workers and their families (spouses, partners, children, dependents). This includes family members involved in the operation of the farm. Note: callers must be 16 years or older. Youth between the ages of 12-15 may utilize the service with parental consent.

All information received through counselling sessions is confidential and in accordance with the Personal Health Information Protection Act (2004).

PRIVACY



COST



Free! There is no cost for this service, and the number of sessions is unlimited.

ACCESSIBILITY

Operated by TELUS Health, you can call 1-866-267-6255, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Available in both English and French.

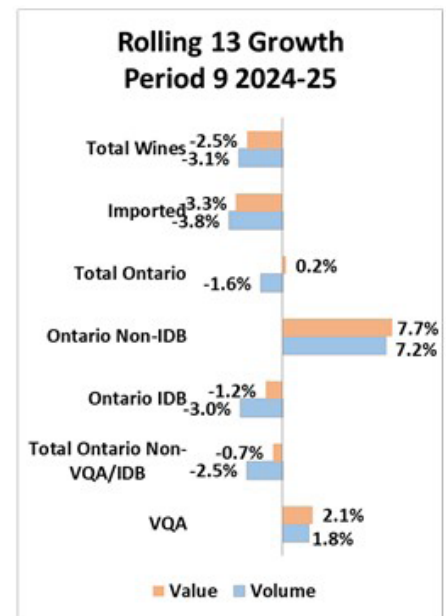
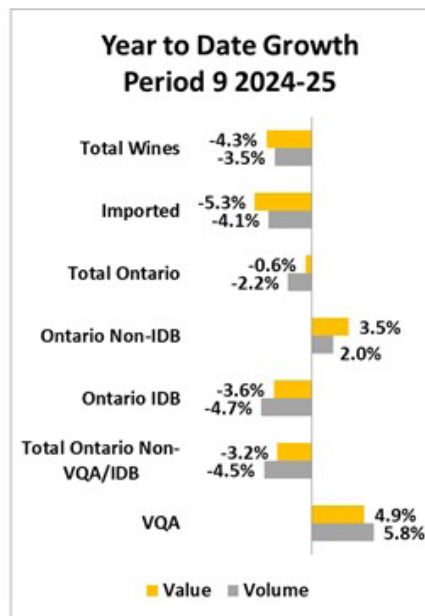
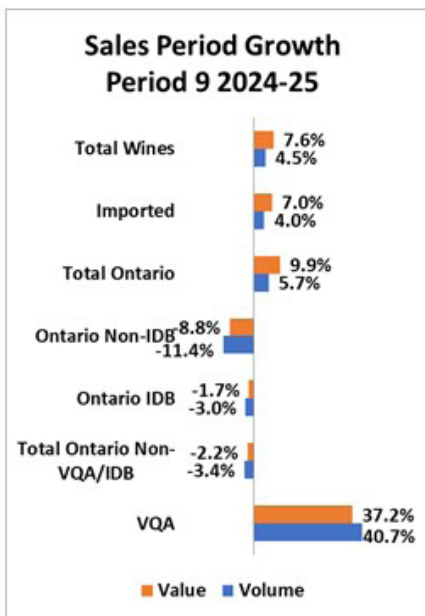


Wine Sales - Period 9

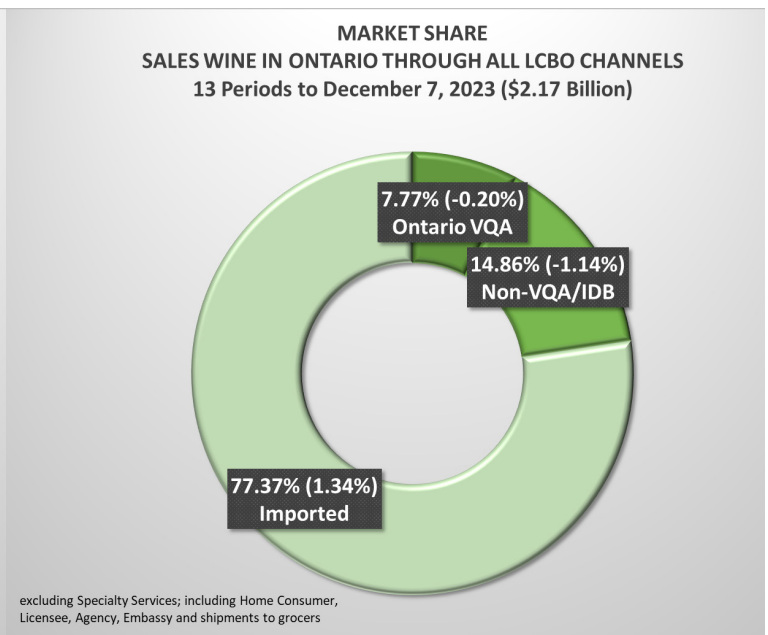
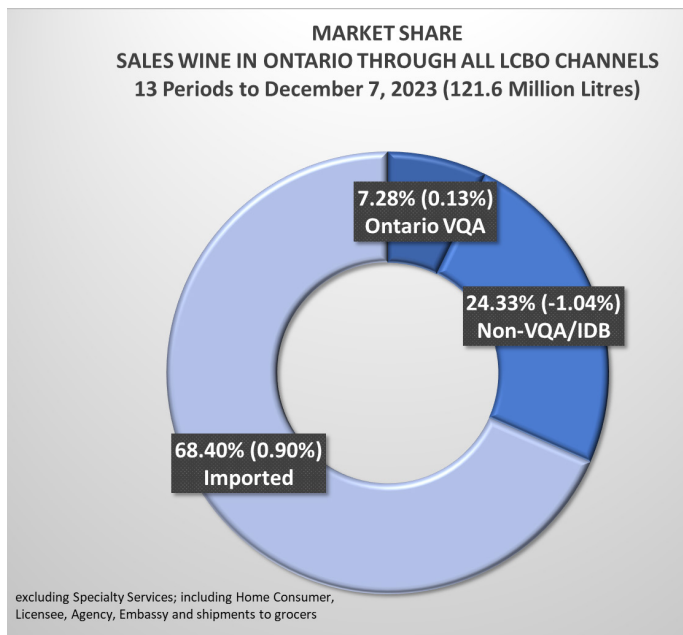
All sales statistics that follow are for the 13 Periods ending December 7, 2024, unless noted and reflect sales through ALL LCBO channels excluding Specialty Services; including Home Consumer, Licensee, Agency, Embassy and shipments to Grocers and Convenience. All data excludes flavoured wines and ciders.

Highlights:

- VQA wine sales overall are up 1.8% for rolling 13 periods (litres)
- VQA wine sales are down at the LCBO stores (-9.0% litres)
- VQA wine sales in grocery are increasing (+19.4% litres)
- Sales to Convenience grew by 140,590 litres
- Ontario Non-VQA is declining (-2.5%)
- Ontario non-IDB (100% Ontario) is increasing (7.2%)
- Ontario IDB is down (-3.0%)



Market Share (LCBO, Vintages, Grocery)



Get hooked on rapid disease control.*

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We create chemistry



*Actual technology may not be exactly as shown.

Experience a new level of control with our unique binding action.

Talk about technology you'll get attached to quickly. Cevya[®] fungicide uses exclusive binding activity to control biotypes that may be resistant to other fungicides, including Group 3-tolerant strains. This hook-like action delivers fast and continuous control of key diseases in blueberries, grapes, apples, pears, stone fruits, potatoes and vegetables. Visit agsolutions.ca/horticulture to find out what it can do for you.



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 **FOLPAN[®] 80 WDG**

Make a FOLPAN[®] Plan!

Simplified management of key diseases in grapes.

- Multi-site mode of action fungicide for use in apples, grapes and other fruit & vegetable crops
- Can be combined with many commonly used insecticides and fungicides
- 24-hour re-entry and short pre-harvest intervals



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ONTARIO FRUIT AND VEGETABLE CONVENTION

FEBRUARY 19-20, 2025
NIAGARA FALLS CONVENTION CENTRE



JOIN US

Join us for Breakfast at OFVC!

Kick off the Ontario Fruit & Vegetable Conference with us over breakfast as we introduce two exciting New products to the Gowan Canada lineup!



UPDATED ROOM #'s

Gowan CANADA

Date: February 19th, 2025
Breakfast: 8:30 am - 9:30 am
Presentation: 9:15 am - 9:45 am
Location: Niagara Falls Convention Centre,
6815 Stanley Ave, Room 221,222

What's on the Menu?

- Learn about the new **EcoSwing® Botanical Fungicide** and **Mettle® 125 ME**
- Hear firsthand how these products can support your crop protection needs
- Enjoy a delicious breakfast and connect with industry peers

Attend for your chance to win a *Tempest Weather Station!*



*Must be in attendance at the time of the draw to win

LIMITED SEATING PLEASE RSVP



SCAN ME

RSVP by EOD Monday, January 13th, 2025 for your spot today and start the OFVC with Gowan Canada!



Classified Ads

For Sale

New BKT 380 85R28 Tire

New BKT 380 85R28 Tire. \$750. Please contact Josh @ 437-488-5769

28,800 Litre Tanker

28,800 tanker available for sale. 14,400 litres each compartment. \$15,000.00. Email roland@kingscourtestatewinery.ca

Stainless Steel Ice Wine Press

90 ton Weberlane Ice wine Press..like new..comes with two 1 ton baskets..4 available. Email atlantisniagara@gmail.com

Neutral 228L French Oak Barrels

Very high quality used French Oak 228L barriques available. Variety of coopers, 10 to 12 years old. All have been meticulously stored when not being used for wine with complete fill of KMS/Citric water solution. Steamed & Ozoned before each fill and hot water pressure washed after emptying. Priced - \$300 per barrel. Please email Alex if interested abaines@hiddenbench.com

Turbomist Model 30P Sprayer

Turbomist Sprayer Model 30P 1500L Tank size Excellent condition, well maintained and stored indoors. Cleaned after each application and winterized yearly. Used on small acreage vineyard, looking to downsize. Located in Niagara on the Lake email emflorio@outlook.com for more information.

Freightliner M2 Business Class Tandem Axel Flatbed Truck

2011 Freightliner M2 tandem axel 26 foot Flatbed Truck for Sale. 10 Speed Transmission. Excellent shape, We are just not using it as much anymore than we expected as we have purchased trailers to fill in the gaps. Call Aaron 905-328-0064 if you'd like to see it.

All Types of Vineyard Equipment

We are going through a Clean up and we have tons of equipment big and small. If you're looking for something ask me and I will let you know. Just want stuff gone that we are not using anymore. Phone Number (905)-328-0064

Collapsible Stackable Storage Cages

I have eleven U-Line H-1732 collapsible storage cages for sale. Asking \$200 each. I'm located in the Ottawa area. Can help arrange delivery. 48x40x42.5" model. Email sean@smallponybarrelworks.com for more information.

Willmes Pneumatic 1500 Press

In excellent condition. Rebuilt motor and Invertek Circuit Drive installed to accommodate to a winery that runs on single phase. Does not require 3 phase power. Comes with Press pan for juice. Asking \$15'000 price is firm. Please email morgan@16milecellar.com for more information.

Steel Posts

Steel Posts available. 50'x7' and 20'x8' \$3 each. Call Bob at 905-563-5193

Braun Grape Hoes

2 double sided grapehoes for sale. One has horizontal and vertical uprights for independent height control so you can adjust to the terrain. A comfort control joystick. \$18,000 The other one is only horizontal adjustment. Have multiple attachments for the grapes hoes as well as extra parts.\$12,000 Call Aaron 905-328-0064

Used Large Hole Icewine Netting

I have several rolls of used icewine netting. 12' wide. approximately 1200 feet on each tube. large hole netting, suitable for machine harvest. Priced to move. Steve 905-329-7646

Semi-Automatic Wine Labeler

Selling semi-automatic wine labeler that was inherited when the winery was purchased. Listed for \$250 but open to offers. jay@quaidu-vin.com

Braun Grape Hoe

2019 Double side unit, central 3pt frame w/ hydraulic width adjustment, hydraulic rotary tiller attachment, finger roller weeder attachment. \$17,000.00 cornerfieldwineco@gmail.com

Classified Ads

For Sale

Red and White Barrels

Used great condition wine barrels for sale in NOTL Mostly Damsy, Mercury, Seguin Moreau and Aquitane So2 burned every month when empty and kept at 80% humidity always. 15 white, 15 red still for sale \$200 for Red barrels \$225 for white barrels Have a 4 ameri-can oak used for red for \$150 Email Dean at deanstoyka@stratuswines.com

Composted cattle manure

Composted cattle manure for sale, delivered. Organic compliant sources, i.e., Ecocert, available. Please call/text 905-988-3288

Sentia Hand-Held Wine Analyzer

The Sentia analyzer measures free SO₂, malic acid, glucose, fructose, acetic acid and titratable acidity in the winery. With a rich touch-screen display and long battery life, the Sentia system makes it easy for you to achieve rapid test results wherever and whenever you need. emily@twosistersvineyards.com

Wanted

Steel Tanks

Steel Tanks 2000L or 3000L with legs. Please email Lorrie at lorrie.maw@gmail.com

Used Pre Pruner

Wanted used pre pruner smaller basket would be better but open to any size. quinton13qj@gmail.com

Vibrating Sorting Table

Looking for a vibrating sorting table for next season. roy.mathieu@hotmail.ca

10 to 15hl Closed Tank Pneumatic Press

Looking for closed tank pneumatic press for next season. Ideally, 10 to 15hl. roy.mathieu@hotmail.ca

200mL/250mL Icewine/Dessert Wine Glass

Looking to purchase a small amount of 200mL or 250mL dessert wine glass (400-500 bottles). Preferably in cases. Cork or BVS finish, can work. If this is something you have inventory of, please connect to discuss. jay@quaiduvin.com

Jobs

Vineyard Manager

Lighthall Vineyards is a 60-acre estate vineyard and winery located in Prince Edward County, Ontario. We are currently seeking a highly motivated and dedicated Vineyard foreman to lead our crew on our estate vineyard. jobs@lighthallvineyards.com

Grapes and Vines

Riesling Ice Wine 2024 For Sale

1130 L of Riesling VQA ice wine juice 2024 available from the Four Miles Creek sub-appellation, Stored in St. David Cold Storage with SO₂ and enzymes. Juice will be 41 brix. Call Jackson at 905-599-1682.

2023 Bulk Wine For Sale

We have 5,600 litres of 2023 Meritage (Cab Sauv, Cab Franc, Merlot blend) and 3,900 litres 2023 Chardonnay, some aged in new barrels. Please call (587)437-1846 if interested. Prices are negotiable.

Baco Noir 2024 Finished Wine For Sale

10'000L Of Baco Noir for sale. Finished dry, malo-lactic fermentation completed. Contact Marc Pistor 905 380-7846

Bulk Red Wine Wanted

Looking to purchase 3,000L of red in bulk. james@josephsestatewines.com

To place classified ads in the newsletter and online, visit grapegrowersofontario.com, or contact the Board Office at info@grapegrowersofontario.com or 905-688-0990 ext 224



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St. Catharines, ON
L2R 6P9

Tel: (905) 688-0990
Fax: (905) 688-3211

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GGO Services

Grape Pricing
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Chemical Registration
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Business Risk Management and
Disaster Risk Programing
Agricultural Policy
Framework Bridge Funding
Offshore Farm Labour Program
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Grape Standards
Grape Inspection
Grape Research
Grape Industry Promotion
Government Lobbying
Land Use Issues
Nutrient Management
Market Research
Liaise with Industry and Other
Farm Organizations

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