

Indiana Viticulture Research and Extension Priorities
from the
Indiana Wine Grape Council
2009/10

Research Priorities:

1. Cultivar evaluation with emphasis on adaptation to Indiana conditions, focusing on cold hardiness, disease resistance, and fruit/wine quality.
2. Improve Quality of Indiana Wine Grapes
 - a. Develop better methods to define fruit quality (color, sugar/acid balance, soluble solids, aroma development, etc.). Develop methods to sample and determine fruit quality in the vineyard in order to determine the optimum timing of harvest.
 - b. Evaluate the effects of specific vineyard practices including training systems and canopy management practices on improving fruit quality of wine grape cultivars.
 - c. Determine the importance of optimizing crop load in wine grape cultivars in order to maximize fruit and wine quality.
 - d. Evaluate flavor and aroma compounds of important varieties in Indiana as influenced by cultural practices and the environment.
3. Develop a GIS / GPS map of wine grape-producing regions of Indiana. Develop the data necessary to create a map that realistically identifies the viticultural potential of different sites. Use this information as an educational tool to:
 - a. Aid potential land purchasers/grape growers in understanding the strengths/limitations of the sites in which they are interested.
 - b. Help growers match varieties to sites.
 - c. Aid city and county planners in understanding the potential vineyard acreage in their region as they plan for urban development.
4. Develop efficient and sustainable production systems for Indiana vineyards with emphasis on training systems, canopy management, nutrition/fertilization, rootstock evaluation, and effect of vineyard cultural practices on cold acclimation and hardiness of grapevines.
5. Develop integrated pest management strategies that enable producers to manage pests in a cost effective, environmentally sound, sustainable manner.
 - a. Develop new methods to manage the Multi-Colored Asian Lady Beetle in vineyards and wineries. Develop an effective “warning system”, scouting protocols, and management strategies for MALB.
 - b. Develop methods to control cluster rots, especially those associated with Phomopsis and summer rot complex.
6. Develop viticultural practices that address issues in production of new varieties such as Traminette, Corot noir, Noiret, Marquette, Frontenac, etc.

Extension Priorities:

1. Continue development of regional publications and web sites
2. Continue organizing grape growing and winemaking workshops and symposia to help growers and winemakers review both fundamental and advanced topics in viticulture and enology.
3. Work one-on-one with growers and winemakers to help them improve their operations.