

# Oregon Wine Advisory Board Research Progress Report

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## Survey of Techniques to Control Bird Damage

A survey of costs of various techniques to control bird damages to grapes will be conducted this fall by Oregon State University in a project funded by the Oregon Wine Advisory Board. Costs of equipment, materials, labor, maintenance and interest on loans will be compiled for a variety of control techniques (including netting and frightening devices. Use of mesurol had been planned but will be omitted as this repellent has not been reregistered for use this fall). Average cost per technique will be compiled and compared to provide a range of control method costs. Other factors (acreage, grape variety, age of vineyard) will be included to provide as broad a coverage of typical costs as possible. Later in the fall, a subsample of 20 vineyards per control technique will be sampled by technicians from Oregon State University to provide estimates of damage levels associated with each control technique.

Participants in the survey will be selected at random from a list of grape growers in Oregon. If you are selected for participation in the survey, you will receive a questionnaire with instructions for completing it. If you return the questionnaire, you will be placed in a pool of other respondents from which the samples of growers for evaluation of damage will be drawn. If selected for this additional sample, you will receive written information concerning when the technician will come out and what will be done. The technique is simple, requires no sacrifice of grapes, and requires only a half hour or so.

The survey will provide costs of various controls and associated damage levels to grapes. This valuable information will be made available to any interested Oregon grape grower through Oregon State University and the Oregon Wine Advisory Board.