

Oregon Wine Advisory Board Research Progress Report

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Continued Development of the Northwest Berry & Grape InfoNet

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The Northwest Berry & Grape InfoNet (NBGI) went online December 29, 1995, and since that time it has become an important information and communications resource for the winegrape industry of the Northwest. It was accessed more than 14,000 times during its first year, and it is routinely used by grape growers, winemakers, researchers and extension educators in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. The Northwest Berry & Grape InfoNet can be accessed by clicking [here](#).

The organizational structure of the Northwest Berry & Grape InfoNet (NBGI) was established to include sections on crop production recommendations, research reports, newsletters, crop and market reports, libraries, organizations, government, weather, and communications. Each major section contains numerous links to information, some residing on the NBGI server, and some residing on other computers around the world. Links to external computer sites are carefully selected to only include credible sources, primarily universities and government agencies. Each section is regularly reviewed and updated with additional information.

The NBGI has updated and expanded many of its features and now contains more than 800 links to different pieces of information. A brief summary of the new and updated features is provided below:

Crop Recommendations. This section has been greatly expanded with articles on grape production such as managing phylloxera, recommendations on disease, insect, and weed management, and major new sections on IPM and sustainable agriculture.

Production and Market Reports. The Oregon Vineyard Report and Oregon Winery Report from the Oregon Agricultural Statistics Office are available as links to the OAAS webpage. Similar links are provided to the Washington, Idaho, and California Agricultural Statistics Services. Wine sales statistics are available through a link to U.S. WineStats, and considerable information on worldwide wine statistics and trade reports are available through several links in the International Trade section.

Research. Many new links have been added to Departments, Research and Extension Centers, and Experiment stations in the U.S. Overseas links include the Swiss Federal Research Station at %denswil, the Horticulture and Food Research Institute of New Zealand, the Institut Jules Guyot in France, the CSIRO Grapevine Server in Australia, and the Nietvoorbij Institute for Viticulture & Oenology in South Africa. The Journal section includes links to several viticulture and enology journals that publish abstracts or an index of recent journals.

Libraries and Resources. This section consists of links to online libraries that have considerable

holdings of agricultural documents. It also has links to online periodicals that cover grape and wine topics, and a list of agricultural Internet resources to assist the user in conducting information searches.

Newsletters. The newsletter feature contains nine different newsletters, including the Willamette Valley Winegrape News and Oregon Viticulture News. Growers could follow the development of the 1996 crop by accessing the online version of the Oregon Winegrape Maturity Report.

Newsgroups. The regional grape and wine discussion group (nwgrape-mg) has increased the number of participants to more than 50, and is being utilized by industry as a communications tool. The mailgroup is also used by OSU Extension to send notices of meetings and timely information on grape production or pest management. Two new international e-mail discussion groups were established: Viticulture-mg and Enology-mg; each with more than 100 current subscribers, including members in nine foreign countries.

Government. New links include the BATF, the Federal Register, FedWorld, and WineLaw, a division of the Wine Institute.

Upcoming Events. This section serves as a calendar of events for regional and national meetings of interest.

E-mail Directory. E-mail addresses for OSU Extension faculty and links to e-mail directories for Washington State University and University of Idaho faculty members.

Weather. Links are now provided to the latest radar and satellite images, 5-day forecasts, 6-10 day forecasts, and historical weather data for Oregon, Washington, and Idaho. National and international weather reports are also available.

The Northwest Berry & Grape InfoNet is a dynamic information and communications resource that is frequently updated and expanded. Future additions to the NBGI include a search engine for the entire webpage and a searchable database of WAB research reports.