

Oregon Winegrape Acreage Survey
by Stanley D. Miles*

1981 Survey

In the summer of 1981, the Viticulture Survey Committee of the Table Wine Research Advisory Board wrote a letter to the Extension Service asking for help in making a survey to determine the acreages, by variety, of winegrapes in Oregon. A survey form was developed and mailing lists of grape growers were acquired. In November, 1981 the survey form was mailed to those on the mailing lists. In January, 1982, a follow-up request was sent to those that had not responded. In addition, personal contacts were made to gather acreage data from non-respondents.

While we know that not all grape growers responded to the survey, it is thought that data in this report includes 80 percent or more of Oregon's winegrape acres. Anyone reading this who was not included or knows of other vineyards is encouraged to send us names and addresses.

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Table I
Acres of Oregon Winegrapes

Variety	acres		Total
	Bearing	Nonbearing	
Pinot Noir	241.1	162.7	403.8
White Riesling	176.7	89.4	266.1
Chardonnay	151.9	120.5	272.4
Cabernet Sauvignon	40.0	23.4	63.4
Gewurztraminer	42.5	51.8	94.3
Gamay Beaujolais	13.8	4.6	18.4
Merlot	7.3	3.0	10.3
Sauvignon Blanc	8.3	3.6	11.9
Muller Thurgau	2.2	14.3	16.5
Zinfandel	1.2	---	1.2
Pinot Gris	1.7	27.0	28.7
Miscellaneous Red	1.1	6.5	7.6
Miscellaneous White	17.7	6.7	24.4
Other 1/	12.6	5.9	18.5
Total acres	718.1	519.4	1,237.5

1/ Varieties not specified.

Table II
Size of Vineyard Operations
Oregon

Size of acres	Bearing		Nonbearing		All	
	total vineyards	total acres	total vineyards	total acres	total vineyards	total acres
0 - 5.0	43	93.1	59	154.3	52	122.8
5.1 - 10.0	14	117.4	17	125.9	23	179.0
10.1 - 15.0	8	97.6	11	143.0	14	175.3
15.1 - 20.0	5	84.3	1	19.0	10	177.8
20.1 - 25.0	5	110.6	2	41.7	6	132.1
25.1 - 30.0	2	57.1	---	---	7	197.2
30.1 & over	3	158.0	1	35.5	5	254.8
Total	80	718.1	91	519.4	117	1,239.0*

*Some totals may not be the same due to rounding.

Number of Respondents

There were 80 grape growers reporting bearing vineyards and 91 reporting nonbearing vineyards. Most of those with bearing acres reported some nonbearing acres but many with nonbearing acres appeared to be just getting into the business.

Vineyard operations in Oregon are quite small. Of the 80 reporting bearing acreages only 3 operations had 30 or more acres. Fifty-seven or 71 percent of the 80 operations had 10 acres or less.

Of the 91 operations reporting nonbearing acres, almost all (87) had 15 acres or less. In most cases, however, these grapegrowers also have bearing vineyards.

Table III
Oregon Winegrape Acreage
Bearing
1981

Variety \ County		1981											Total	
		Benton	Clackamas	Douglas	Jackson	Josephine	Lane	Linn	Marion	Polk	Washington	Yamhill		Other counties
Pinot Noir		2.1	.5	15.4	2.8	7.5	1.0	17.5	13.5	6.8	51.2	121.8	1.0	241.1
White Riesling		4.2	.5	32.3	.8	2.0	4.0	4.3	6.5	2.2	54.2	64.9	.8	176.7
Chardonnay		1.4	.3	8.9	14.2	.2	5.0	.3	6.0	2.8	28.3	84.5	-	151.9
Cabernet Sauv		1.4	-	11.3	20.1	1.2	3.5	.3	-	-	-	2.2	-	40.0
Gewurztraminer		.5	-	9.7	2.0	3.0	3.5	.7	-	-	14.5	8.6	-	42.5
Gamay Beaujolais		-	-	2.5	3.2	1.0	-	-	3.0	.8	-	3.3	-	13.8
Merlot		-	-	-	3.5	.5	-	-	-	-	-	3.3	-	7.3
Sauvignon Blanc		-	-	5.0	.6	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.7	-	8.3
Muller Thurgau		-	-	-	-	-	-	.2	-	-	.7	1.3	-	2.2
Zinfandel		-	-	1.2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.2
Pinot Gris		-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	.7	-	1.7
Miscellaneous Red		-	-	-	-	-	.1	-	-	-	-	1.0	-	1.1
Miscellaneous White		.1	.2	5.0	.7	-	1.2	.5	-	2.0	5.6	2.4	-	17.7
Other ^{1/}		1.3	5.0	-	3.0	-	-	-	-	-	1.0	1.3	1.0	12.6
Total		11.0	6.5	91.3	50.9	15.4	18.3	23.8	29.0	14.6	157.5	297.0	2.8	718.1

^{1/} No specific description given.

Table IV
Oregon Winegrape Acreage
Nonbearing
1981

1981														
Variety	County													Total
	Benton	Clackamas	Douglas	Jackson	Josephine	Lane	Linn	Marion	Morrow	Polk	Washington	Yamhill	Other Counties	
Pinot Noir	5.1	3.1	12.0	2.0	15.4	13.5	4.0	5.5	-	19.1	41.3	41.7	-	162.7
White Riesling	7.6	1.3	10.5	-	3.0	19.9	.5	5.0	1.5	.7	9.4	30.0	-	89.4
Chardonnay	1.0	2.0	13.0	2.9	7.3	4.5	3.0	4.7	-	16.8	26.6	38.7	-	120.5
Cabernet Sauv	3.8	-	.1	.7	1.8	4.0	6.0	.5	1.5	1.5	1.5	.7	.5	23.4
Gewurztraminer	1.0	-	5.6	1.2	6.6	12.4	7.5	1.5	1.4	7.0	7.5	.1	-	51.8
Gamay Beaujolais	-	2.0	-	-	1.8	-	-	-	-	-	.5	.3	-	4.6
Merlot	.5	-	-	.4	.3	-	-	-	1.3	-	-	.5	-	3.0
Sauvignon Blanc	-	-	-	1.2	-	-	-	.3	1.5	-	-	.6	-	3.6
Muller Thurgau	-	-	-	-	2.0	-	-	.5	-	-	1.0	10.8	-	14.3
Zinfandel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pinot Gris	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	27.0	-	27.0
Miscellaneous Red	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6.5	-	6.5
Miscellaneous White	.1	.2	-	-	2.0	.2	-	.1	1.3	.5	.5	1.8	-	6.7
Other ^{1/}	.5	1.3	.3	.8	-	-	-	-	-	-	.3	2.5	1.0	5.9
Total	19.6	9.9	41.5	9.2	40.2	54.5	21.0	18.1	8.5	45.6	88.6	161.2	1.5	519.4

1/ No specific description given.

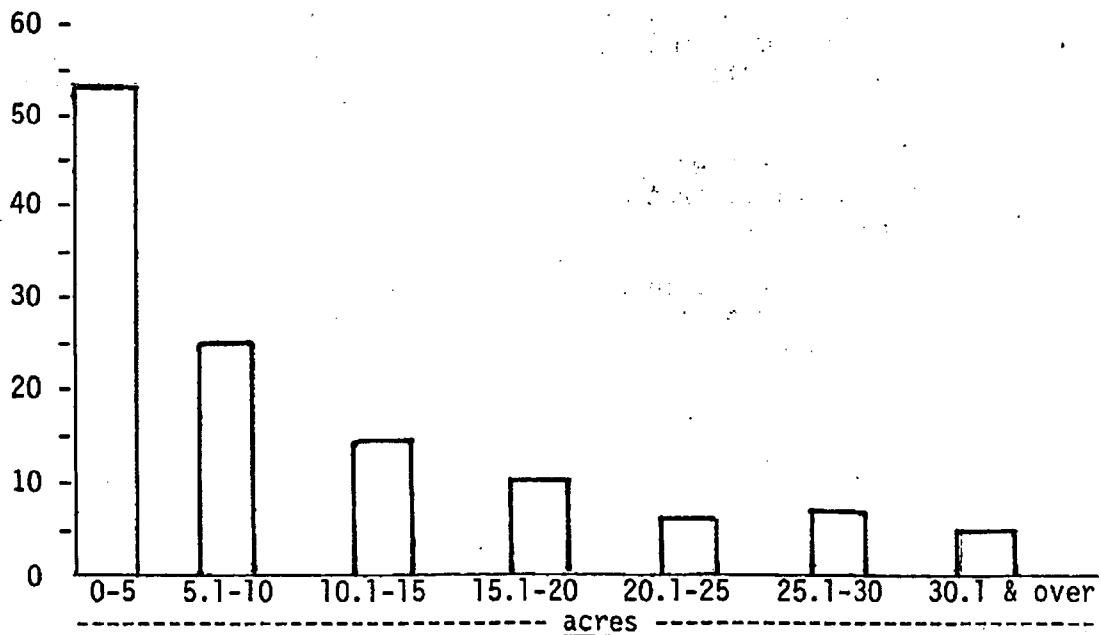
Table V

Oregon
Total Grape Acreage

Size of Acreage County	Number of Vineyards 1981												Total farms	Total acres
	Benton	Clackamas	Douglas	Jackson	Josephine	Lane	Linn	Marion	Polk	Washington	Yamhill	Other Counties		
--- acres ---														
0 - 5.0	4	9	6	3	7	2	-	1	4	9	4	3	52	122.8
5.1 - 10.0	-	-	2	1	2	5	-	2	1	2	8	-	23	179.0
10.1 - 15.0	-	-	2	-	1	-	1	1	-	4	5	-	14	175.3
15.1 - 20.0	1	-	1	1	1	-	-	1	-	3	2	-	10	177.8
20.1 - 25.0	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	4	-	6	132.1
25.1 - 30.0	-	-	2	1	-	1	1	-	-	-	2	-	7	197.2
30.1 & over	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	3	-	5	254.8
Total	5	9	13	6	11	8	2	5	6	21	28	3	117	1,239.0

Size Distribution
1981

Number of
Vineyards



Acres Reported

Survey respondents reported 718 acres of bearing vineyards. Pinot Noir was the primary variety grown with 241 acres. The three main varieties were Pinot Noir, White Riesling, and Chardonnay with a combined acreage of 570 acres or almost 80 percent of the total.

There were 519 nonbearing vineyard acres reported. The same three varieties (as reported above) were dominant. Over 70 percent of the nonbearing acres were in these three varieties: Pinot Noir, White Riesling, and Chardonnay. Yamhill County growers reported more grape acres, both bearing and nonbearing, than any other county. Washington County was second; in fact, between the two counties, they had 455 acres or 63 percent of the bearing acreage and about half of the nonbearing acres.

Table VI
Winegrape Yields & Prices
1981

Variety	Average Yield	Prices Reported in \$/ton		
		Weighted Average	High	Low
Pinot Noir	1.41	573	800	361
White Riesling	2.33	592	900	280
Chardonnay	1.65	726	930	600
Gewurtztraminer	1.87	668	800	540
Cabernet Sauvignon	2.31	612	700	500

Prices & Yields

While the acreages by variety were quite complete on the survey forms, the yield and price data was not complete. We did, however, tabulate yield and price information from the forms that provided this data. The above table summarizes this information.

In reviewing this, remember the data was not complete and no standards were used as to quality. Sugar content of course affects price, and bunch rot and/or materials other than grapes (M.O.G.) affect both price and yield.

The yields appear to be quite low. Things affecting this might be the particular year, many of the vineyards may be young and not in full production, yield may in fact be low and this is a problem, or a combination of the things mentioned.

Vineyard Respondents

Benton County

Alpine Vineyards
Mary's Peak Vineyard
McClain's Vineyard
Natural High Farms
Spielhof Vineyards

Clackamas County

Big Fir Winery
Joplin, Carl & Olga
Kellar's Cellar
Ladd Hill Vineyard
Milliren, Steve
Needy Vineyards
North Willamette
Experiment Station
Pinot Submarine
Walman, Don
Wasson, Jim

Douglas County

Anderson Vineyard
Ber-Mar Vineyards
Doerner, Douglas
Elkton Vineyards
Gates' Elgarose Vinery
Henry Vineyard
Hillcrest Vineyard
Red Hill Vineyard, Feren
Red Hill Vineyard, Howell
Sims Vineyard
South Umpqua Vineyard
Vinedo Vineyard
Vinorch Vineyard

Jackson County

Dunbar Orchards
Evans Valley Vineyard
Gebhard Orchards
Hummingbird Hill Vineyard
Layne Vineyard
Ousterhout, John
Valley View Vineyard

Josephine County

Dively, Edna Milar
Feehely's Foothill Farm, Inc.
Ferrell, Don
Gerber, Ted
Great Oak Vineyard
Helen's Vineyard
Lakeshore Vineyard
Oregon Caves Winery
Pair-A-Dice Vineyard
Rockydale Vineyards
Siskiyou Vineyards Company

Lane County

Forgeron Vineyards
Hinman Farms
McIntire, Pauline
McKenzie River Vineyard
Peaceful Valley Vineyard
Schalvichris Vineyards
Smith, David
Wipper, Florian
Wright, W. A.

Linn County

Markheim Vineyards
Meadow's Vineyard

Marion County

Porter's Vineyard
Silver Falls Vineyard
Skyline Vineyard
Sunnyside Vineyards
Wahl Vineyard

Polk County

Ashford, Jason
Bethel Heights Vineyard
Cooper Hollow Vineyard
Feltz, James H.
Glenn Creek Vineyard
Spring Valley Vineyard

Vineyard Respondents -- Page 2

Washington County

Choban, Paul
Christensen, Mel
Cotes des Coulombe Vineyard
Dion Vineyard
Five Mountains Vineyard
Heesacker Vineyards
Ladd Hill Vineyard
Laurel Hill Vineyard
Leyden Vineyards
Mt. Cooper Vineyard
Mulhausen Vineyards
Old Pumpkin Ridge
Perrault Vineyard
Reuter Hill Vineyard
Ritter, Milton
Shafer Vineyards
Sunset Vineyards
Tualatin Vineyard
Van Shepen Vineyards
Windhill Vineyards
Wirtz Vineyards

Other Counties

Crippen Family Orchard - Hood River
Bangsund Vineyards - Wasco
La Casa de vin Vineyard - Morrow
McNesney Vineyard - Morrow

Yamhill County

Adams Vineyard
Adelsheim Vineyards
Amity Vineyards
Cambus Bellus Vineyard
Cattrall, Bill
Chardonnay Oaks Vineyard
Chateau Benoit
Chehalem Vineyards
Dundee Hills' Vineyard
Durant Vineyards
Elk Cove Vinery
Eola Hills Vineyard
Erath Vineyards
Eyrie Vineyards
Hyland Vineyards, Inc.
Jensen, Fred
Kirschwold Vineyard
Knudsen Vineyards
Marval Vineyards
McDaniel Vineyards
Red Hills Vineyard
Rich, John
Saucy Vineyards
Sokol Blosser Vineyard
Stewart, John
Stonehedge Vineyard
Teppola, Mark W.
Wynate Vineyards