

# *Ohio Grape-Wine Electronic Newsletter*

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## **Content:**

Temperature logger workshop announcement

Events

-Deadline to register is today for the Industry Research Strategic Planning Session

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# OSU Extension and OARDC to Conduct Winter Temperature Research with Ohio Grape Producers

*By David Marrison Ashtabula County Extension*

OSU Extension and the Ashtabula Research Station of the Ohio Agricultural Research and Development Center (OARDC) are pleased to announce they will be conducting a training session on using temperature loggers to track winter temperatures in vineyards. This meeting will be held at the OARDC Ashtabula Research Station located at 2625 State Route 84 (South Ridge Road) in Kingsville, Ohio on Monday, **November 24 from 3:00 to 4:30 p.m.**

For the past three years, thirteen producers in northeast Ohio have been tracking their winter temperatures using 38 Optic Stoway temperature loggers. Temperature loggers have been placed in the best and worst location in vineyards collecting winter temperature data at 10 minute intervals. The data collected can help the cooperating farms make management decisions for their vineyard operations based on the depth and duration of sub zero temperatures. These could include: trellis design and management, new varietal selection, and adoption of technology. The collective temperature data summarized from the sites is helping researchers develop better procedures for managing vineyards affected by cold temperatures and in identifying sites suitable for grape production.

This workshop will show how the sensors are currently being used and allow additional growers to participate in this industry research project. Instruction will be provided on how to install temperature loggers in vineyards and how the data is collected and analyzed using a weather data program. Producers are encouraged to attend to learn more about the sensors and to determine if this project is something their business would like to participate.

Growers will have the opportunity to participate in a group purchase of the temperature data loggers. The temperature logger recommended for use are the HOBO Pro v2 loggers (\$129 each) accompanied by the HOBO Pro Software (\$99). An optional optic shuttle (\$219) can be purchased to use for easy temperature download. Producers who already have temperature sensors can participate using their current temperature loggers.

This research is being conducted as a result of a research grant from the Ohio Grape Industries Committee. There is no fee to attend this workshop. Grape producers interested in attending this meeting should call the Ashtabula County Extension office at 440-576-9008 to register. More information about this program can also be received by contacting David Marrison ([marrison.2@osu.edu](mailto:marrison.2@osu.edu)) at the Ashtabula County Extension office (440-576-9008) or Greg Johns ([johns.1@osu.edu](mailto:johns.1@osu.edu)) at the OARDC Ashtabula Research Station at 440-224-0273.

## Upcoming Events:

- 1) The Ohio Grape & Wine Conference will be held on 16-17 February at the Shisler Conference Center at OARDC in Wooster, OH. Marketing will focus on customer service with nationally renowned speakers. Rick Sigel, a Certified Speaking Professional, and seasoned retailer of 25 years, will discuss customer service from a global perspective. Veronica Barclay, is VP and General Manager of Barclay & Browning Wines, will discuss customer service from a tasting room/winery perspective. Marketing will also feature an industry panel to discuss how to be properly prepared for a festival/special event. Due to multiple requests by attendees in the previous conference on basic and advanced grape growing, these topics will be the focus of viticulture sessions. Featured speakers include Dr. Tony Wolf, Professor of Viticulture at Virginia Tech University, and Mark Chien, winegrape Extension Educator from Penn State University. Featured speakers in enology will include Dr. Christian Butzke, Professor of Enology at Purdue University and Ellie Butz, Enologist, Vintage Winery Consultants. More information will be forthcoming. Please mark your calendar!
- 2) November 19, 2008 – Industry Research Strategic Planning Session – 1 p.m.-4 p.m. at OARDC, Shisler, Center, in, Wooster  
The Ohio Grape Industries Committee (OGIC) is focusing on the future and looking for new ways to help vineyards and wineries develop and grow their business. In our efforts to provide the best support we can for this important segment of Ohio's economy, we are inviting you and other key industry contributors to participate in a grape and wine research strategic planning session. This session will help OGIC and OARDC assess the industries' research priorities for Ohio's grape and wine industry. Your input and ideas will provide critical assistance as we work together to grow our research programs and enhance our organization's efforts. We really need to hear from you, the stakeholders, as to the direction of our research programs for the upcoming years. Your participation is vital to the program's success.

I realize that participating in this important discussion adds duties to your already busy work schedule. If you are unable to attend, I would encourage you to send a representative who will have suggestions and a vision for the grape and wine research plan. Also, if you know of others who should receive notification of this discussion, please feel free to pass this e-mail along. I hope you will find the time to participate - your input is important to this program and will benefit a number of Ohio vineyards and wineries. Please RSVP by contacting Christy Eckstein at (614) 728-6438 or [ceckstein@agri.ohio.gov](mailto:ceckstein@agri.ohio.gov) no later than November 14, 2008.

If you have any questions or concerns with any of OGIC's programs, always feel free to contact me.