

Riverland Wine Industry Development Council Inc.

Riverland developing Downy Mildew Action Plan

The Downy Mildew Action Plan is being developed by a working party stemming from the RWIDC's Riverland Viticultural Technical Group (VTG).

In the 1992-93 season, there were a series of weather fronts from September to late January that brought significant frontal rainfall, triggering a major national downy mildew epidemic. The rain events were forecast on daily basis by the Bureau of Meteorology however there was no formal CropWatch service at the time.

The subsequent nation-wide heavy demand for fungicides on many different crops led to critical shortages of important mildewicides. Supplies of mancozeb, copper oxychloride, copper oxide, metalaxyl and phosphorous acid fell to critically low levels and the Riverland wine grape crop was threatened. New supplies of the fungicides did not arrive for another three weeks and many growers were anxious about the quality of their grapes. Crop failure was averted at the eleventh hour by the emergency importation of phosphorus acid. This importation was achieved in only four days but it required the direct intervention of the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT), the Minister Mr. Gareth Evans, and one particularly cooperative importer with a supportive bank. The imported product was then rushed through customs and then processed and packaged to arrive in the Riverland still warm from processing six days after the initial contact was made to the DFAT.

Extension of information about downy mildew, how best to manage the epidemic and the correct use of the various fungicide products was done through local village meetings. These were pre-advertised and held at various locations across the Riverland and were very successful. At the time

(12 years ago) many growers knew something of the conditions that favoured downy mildew but most needed training in the finer points that had greater influence in determining the optimum control strategy for each vineyard. If the various fungicide products had not been made available so quickly, a substantial portion of the Riverland (and national) crop would have been lost.

Since 1992-93, winegrape plantings in the Riverland and nationally have increased significantly, with approximately 20,000 hectares under vines in the Riverland. In 2005, there are a number of growers and service providers who have not even seen the disease and do not know what it looks like.

Phosacid is no longer available for downy mildew control. Ridomil (metalaxyl) is estimated to be three times the cost of phosacid (\$110/ha). It is sourced from the United States although lesser stocks are available in Australia. Some quality assurance plans have strict limits on the use of out-of-date chemicals – thus further reducing the effective stockpile of fungicides available to the grapegrower. From a statistical perspective, the Riverland is long overdue for a severe downy mildew epidemic season; traditionally downy mildew outbreaks have occurred approximately every nine seasons, however the last major event was 12 years ago. With significantly increased plantings, the economic and social effects of a downy mildew epidemic season without timely access to chemicals and extension information would be enormous.

The VTG see the need to be prepared for season 2005-06 in bringing the best downy mildew strategies to bear for our growers to be able to use optimum controls for their vineyards.

The core output of this project is a Downy Mildew Action Plan (regional model) that may be applied to winegrape regions anywhere in Australia.

The main outcomes of the plan need to be:

1. Informed growers (understanding best course of action), and
2. Chemicals (easy access to appropriate applications)

In achieving this aim, we foresee the involvement of both a local and a national action committee to ensure best operation of appropriate protocols and procedures.

For more information, please contact Julie Sippo on ph 8582 2952



Charting a course into grape and wine production

With the myriad of career options available to students these days, it is often difficult to pinpoint a clear pathway. Schools are helping students by offering a range vocational education and training, giving their students a far clearer feel for some of the alternative employment directions available.

Here is a brief summary chart of some of the more common education to career pathways for people wishing to enter the winegrape or wine industry. Readers should note that there are alternatives pathways into these roles, and there are plenty of other roles within the industry in fields such as finance, logistics, occupational health and safety, marketing, to name just a few, that are not covered in this production-focussed chart.

Those considering underpinning their careers in the winegrape and wine industry through education may also benefit from visiting the internet sites of some of South Australia's and Australia's leading educational institutions. A good starting point is the Cooperative Research Centre's site at <http://www.crcv.com.au/education/resources>.

Thanks to the staff of TAFE South Australia for their assistance in the preparation of this chart. Please note that this chart is for guidance only, while courses and qualifications are subject to change.

Common Career Pathways into the Winegrape and Wine Industry – Production

Secondary Education from Year 10	Winery Worker <i>New Apprenticeships</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Certificate I & II in Food Processing (Wine) Competency based streams exist for a variety of roles including; winegrape growing, cellar operations, wine specific laboratory functions, bottling and packaging, warehousing and cellar door sales. - Certificate I , II & III in Horticulture Competency based training package which includes viticulture <i>Other training of value:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certificate as a Boiler Attendant • Licence for Forklift Operation (winegrape growing, cellar operations, warehousing). A motor vehicle driver's license may be required by employers. • Confined Space Training (cellar operations) • Chemcert (winegrape growing) • Operation and maintenance of chainsaws
	Laboratory Worker <i>New Apprenticeships (Laboratory Operations)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Certificate II in Sampling & Measurement
	Food Processing Worker <i>New Apprenticeships (Food Processing)</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Certificate I to V in Food Processing Competency based streams for processing or packaging workers
Secondary Education from Year 11	Viticulturalist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Certificate IV in Horticulture - Certificate III in Rural Business - Diploma of Rural Business Management
	Laboratory Technician <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Certificate Level III in Laboratory Skills - Certificate IV in Laboratory Techniques - Diploma of Laboratory Technology
	Food Processing Technician <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Certificate III in Food Processing (Wine) - Certificate IV and V in Food Processing - Certificate IV in Food Technology
Tertiary Education Following successful completion of SACE Stages 1 and 2 (Year 11 and 12). Bachelor-level graduates may pursue post-graduate levels of study, such as Graduate Diplomas, Graduate Certificates, Masters, and prospectively Doctorates.	Viticulturalist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diploma of Viticulture Management - Bachelor of Agricultural Science (Viticulture) - Bachelor of Applied Science
	Agricultural Technical Officer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diploma of Horticulture - Diploma of Irrigation - Bachelor of Agricultural Science
	Agricultural Scientist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bachelor of Science - Bachelor of Agricultural Science
	Winemaker / Oenologist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bachelor of Science - Bachelor of Oenology
	Food Technologist <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Bachelor of Food Technology and Management - Bachelor of Applied Science (Food Science and Nutrition)
	Food Processing Technician <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Diploma of Food Technology - Diploma of Food Processing - Diploma of Wine & Food

Government leaves brandy producers exposed

The Australian government has left local brandy producers exposed to the prospect of a flood of cheap, low-quality, subsidised French bulk brandy hitting our shores by its recent decision to discontinue the countervailing duty on bulk brandy from France. It is widely accepted that these subsidies from the European Union to French distillers are in place to help drain their wine lake.

This withdrawal of support leaves the \$108 million Australian brandy industry, much of it centred in the Riverland, vulnerable to further market erosion from imported bulk brandy from France.

“While the overall bulk brandy market declined by less than one percent over the last five years, imports of bulk brandy increased by approximately 35 percent” noted the Australian Customs Service.

Previously, when exporting its brandy into Australia, the French were required to meet a floor-level non-injurious price which was deemed to be fair and competitive with the non subsidised Australian brandies. That floor level has now been removed, and European Union subsidised French bulk brandy may be imported into Australia at any cost.

The French bulk brandy industry receives market subsidies of in excess of one dollar per litre from the European Union, and

then exports its product into markets where local industries do not receive government subsidies, such as Australia.

In its considerations, the Australian Customs Service acknowledged that the Australian brandy industry was suffering from declining profitability if not financial losses. It also acknowledged that the French bulk brandy industry enjoyed the benefit of increasing European Union subsidy – and furthermore, that there was no apparent expectation that this European government support was to discontinue.

The Australian Customs Service believes that heavy discounting and lack of market development by Australian brandy producers has been the principle reason for the declining levels of profitability in the Australian industry, and not the importation of bulk brandy from France.

Market development and advertising however costs money, and at a time where the industry is suffering from excess grapes, excess wine, and excess brandy, it is especially challenging for the Australian brandy industry to go head-to-head with the French bulk brandy industry that receives generous and increasing government subsidies for producing its brandy.

Australian brandy producers must now wait with a degree of trepidation to see what effect the removal of the countervailing protections on French bulk brandy will have on the Australian market. In the meantime, the local industry will prepare itself for another round of inquiry with the Australian Customs Service, as subsidised bottled French brandy is put ‘under the microscope’ later this year.



**Want a Real Estate agent
with **REAL** local knowledge?**

For more information please contact your local Elders branch.
Barmera 8588 3177, Berri 8582 1777, Loxton 8584 7253, Renmark 8586 5424, Waikerie 8541 3862.



© Elders 2014

Succession planning needed for the Riverland Wine industry

The recent 'Regional Profile' survey of Riverland winegrape growers has highlighted a disturbing trend – most producers have no succession planning in place for their vineyard businesses.

There are critical times in the life of the business and the family when succession issues becomes increasingly important, such as when a son or daughter returns home to work in the family business or when either generation has concerns about future security.

The succession planning facilitator's role is to establish a communication structure and an action plan to address the central issues raised by the family members. The aim of the facilitation process may be to resolve a single issue, such as the purchase or sale of a farm, or it may be to resolve a number of specific issues, such as retirement planning for the older generation, the gradual transfer of management control, estate planning fairness for off-farm children, or the establishment of an education fund for farm children.

The aim of the process may even be the development of a comprehensive succession plan for the full transfer of management control and asset ownership from one generation to the next.

However succession planning is not limited to family businesses alone. There is also concern at the lack of people "coming through the ranks" and taking leadership roles in industry and community boards and committees. It is hoped that this project will also address these concerns too, and develop a strategy for succession planning of industry decision making boards.

Succession planning can have many personal, family and financial benefits, including:

- identification and resolution of specific issues
- increased financial security for each generation
- increased personal motivation and family co-operation
- improved business and personal communications
- opportunity for the family business to realise its potential and profitability, and
- direction and clarity of goals

This project aims to deliver small group workshops across the Riverland, tailored to meet the needs of winegrape growers and covering:

- Introduction to succession planning (including case studies)
- Needs analysis and group discussion
- Managing family relationships
- Managing stress
- Managing community and industry involvement
- Managing support networks
- Financial management including cost of production and benchmarking.
- Negotiating with financiers
- Services available to winegrape producers

Workshops will be run at Loxton, Cobdogla, Berri, Renmark and Waikerie during April and May 2005. To register your interest, or for more information, contact Julie Sippo ph 8582 2952.

Berry Sensory Assessment

On the 3rd of February, thirty Riverland grapegrowers and winemakers participated in the RWIDC Berry Sensory Assessment (BSA) workshop, presented by Dr Erika Winter. Many in the region will recall Erika's engaging presentation at Some Like it Hot 2.

BSA encompasses an examination of fresh winegrape berries according to standardised questions judging the stalks, skins, pulp and seeds separately using the hands, eyes, ears and mouth.

The table below outlines the twenty descriptors used in BSA

	PULP	SKIN	SEED
Visual, tactile and consistency assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Softness • Detachment of pulp from the skin and seeds • Juiciness 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colour • Stalk removal • Disintegration 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Colour • Crushability
Mouthfeel, aroma and taste assessment	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sweetness • Acidity • Herbaceous aromas • Fruity aromas 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Acidity • Herbaceous aromas • Fruity aromas • Tannic intensity • Tannic astringency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Flavours • Tannic intensity • Tannic astringency

BSA is complementary to, and cannot take the place of objective measures of:

- Sugar concentration
- Acidity
- Colour
- Vineyard assessment

BSA can be used to:

- Cultivate a common language across the industry
- Aid in assessing optimum harvest date
- Detect deviations from what is expected of a site
- Detect correlations between vineyard variation or changed management practices and berry descriptors
- Judge the suitability for a winestyle
- Create a numerical database of berry sensorial profiles

Feedback from the workshop has been very positive, with a number of participants reporting back their experiences of in-field assessments. A limited number of copies of the manual "Winegrape Berry Sensory Assessment in Australia" are still available from the RWIDC at a reduced price of \$30. Contact Julie Sippo ph 8582 2952 to purchase a copy.



Drip irrigation maintenance workshops available

The Improving Irrigation Efficiency Project is pleased to announce the development of a much needed Drip Irrigation Maintenance Workshop, to be presented to irrigators after harvest.

Irrigation systems are an integral part of any agricultural or landscape development. Therefore, as our need for sustainable and productive land increases, it is important that irrigation systems are not only designed for maximum production but are also maintained to deliver maximum operation and application efficiency.

System failure at a critical point in crop production can result in reduced yields or even loss of an entire crop.

Not only is an irrigation system a tool for optimum crop production, it also becomes a valuable asset to the grower and must be maintained and serviced in the same manner as any other piece of machinery or equipment used by irrigators.

The workshop outlines preventative as well as remedial maintenance, with common principles for all irrigation systems. It is a step-by-step guide for total system care comprehensively covering system chlorination and flushing, which when carried out on a regular basis should result in years of trouble free service from your irrigation system.

The driving force behind the development of this workshop was a general lack of knowledge about system maintenance and a range of broader field observations.

For registrations of interest, contact Noel Johnston at the River Murray Catchment Water Management Board on ph. 8582 4477 or 0429 443 582



Blockages due to inadequate maintenance

Wine & Food Festival extended

The Riverland Wine and Food Festival will be extended across four days, and will retain the ever-popular feature event day on Saturday, promising great wine, great food, and great music.

Beginning on Thursday the 13th of October, the 'Chef of the Murray' dinner will be held on the Berri riverbank. Executive chef, Andrew Fielke, will lead a team to deliver a feast featuring local foods complemented by Riverland wines.

Friday the 14th will see a new innovation in the form of 'Market Day', where local growers and food producers will put on a showcase of their goods. The day will be supported by other activities including river cruises, winery tours, and food and wine matching classes that are planned to take place around the region.

The Festival will 'kick on' in great style on Saturday the 15th of October with the traditional feature event. The Management Committee is lining up some great live entertainment to support the exciting atmosphere. As always, local restaurants will provide the crowds with a memorable gourmet experience created from the region's produce, while the Riverland's wineries will provide visitors with their selections. River cruises again will be running through the day. Later in the evening, leading hotels in the region will offer gourmet platters as visitors listen to live bands.

Sunday the 16th of October will see many wineries put on special functions and events such as gourmet barbecues, an Italian theme lunch, and meet-the-winemaker sessions. Breakfasts and brunches will be offered through the district, and for those wishing to soak up some of the Riverland's spectacular nature, the wetlands boardwalk will be open.

To find out more about the Riverland Wine and Food Festival, visit the new website at www.riverlandwineandfood.org. The website includes the program of the Festival's activities, a list of exhibitors, sponsors, accommodation options, as well as some photographs from the 2004 event.



The Wine & Food Festival's new website

Profit from Advice that Works

RURAL SOLUTIONS SA

Rural Solutions SA has the information and expertise to help increase profitability and sustainability within the wine industry.

Specialist consultants can deliver a broad range of services that include:

- REMS™ environmental management system.
- Food safety assurance.
- SaltSmart® salinity management system.
- Soil and plant testing.
- Analytical and diagnostic services.
- Best management practices training.

For more information on how you can profit from good advice phone Michy Kris on 1300 364 322



Government of South Australia
Primary Industries and Resources SA



Grapevine Nutrition: Post Harvest Nitrogen

There are two distinct schools of thought on post-harvest nitrogen application:

Some research has demonstrated a significant uptake of nutrient into the storage sections of the vine following post-harvest fertiliser applications. It is from the storage organs of the vine that the nutrients are used for the initial part of next season's growth. In warm regions such as the Riverland, where good growing conditions occur for a few months after harvest, there is probably a significant flush of root growth and potential for nutrient uptake and storage¹.

The Viticulture team at CCW suggest that nitrogen application after harvest "needs a rethink" in the Riverland. A recent compilation of their grower data indicated that most petiole results are showing considerably higher than desirable levels of both total nitrogen and nitrate nitrogen. They suggest that in most cases the vines are too vigorous, do not need extra foliage and the new cane growth does not mature properly. They also note the danger of frost and powdery mildew damage to new growth².

Think about what you are trying to achieve with each variety and patch. You may decide that nitrogen applications are necessary to compensate for poor vine vigour resulting from pest or disease attack, e.g. nematodes, or other debilitating factors such as spray drift damage. Perhaps the best course of action is to use a combined approach to decision making. A visual assessment of vines, looking at vigour, leaf colour and disease susceptibility should be used in conjunction with historical petiole analysis and grape quality data.

Consultation with your winery is always advisable when considering nitrogen applications.

To find out more about grapevine nutrition, register for the RWIDC Nutrition seminar and workshops coming soon. Contact Julie Sippo ph 8582 2952 for more information.

¹ Viticulture: Research to Practice© 2003 Grapevine Nutrition. CRCV Technologies Pty Ltd

² Burne, P (2005) pers. comm.

2005 Some Like it Hot Seminar

On the 13th October 2005 the Riverland will be the hottest spot in the Australian wine industry as industry representatives from across the region and beyond gather for the annual technical seminar 'Some Like it Hot'.

With a focus on 'up to the minute' information and new technology, speakers at Some Like it Hot are preparing to present on issues such as: supply and demand, water management, environmental management and irrigation technology.

Wine grape growers, winemakers and technical staff in warm climate regions cannot afford to miss this event. For more information on the seminar or to obtain a copy of the proceedings from Some Like it Hot II held in 2004 please contact Emily White on phone (08) 8582 2952 or email emily.white@riverlandwine.org.au

Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology – upcoming seminars



Australian Society
of VITICULTURE AND
OENOLOGY INC.

Transforming Flowers to Fruit

'Flowers to fruit' is the subject of this year's ASVO Viticulture seminar. Improving our understanding of flower formation remains a pursuit of considerable economic importance as well as one that holds keen interest for both grape growers and winemakers. Against this background, a group of invited speakers will address a wide range of topics including: the role of nutrition, the effects of water stress, managing pests and disease and implications for wine quality. The seminar will conclude with practical advice for ameliorating poor fruit set.

'Transforming flowers to fruit' will be held at the Mildura Arts Centre, 199 Cureton Ave, Mildura, Victoria, on Friday, 29 July 2005.

Oenology Seminar – Advances in tannin and tannin management

Please be advised the ASVO will be holding an oenology seminar on advances in tannin and tannin management on Thursday, 6 October 2005 (the day before the Adelaide Wine Show) at the Adelaide Convention Centre, North Terrace, Adelaide.

A registration brochure and program for this seminar will be available in July/August 2005

Further information can be obtained from the ASVO Secretariat
Phone 61 8 8303 6607, Fax 61 8 8303 6803,
Email admin@asvo.com.au, Website www.asvo.com.au

Riverland wine and food on show

Earlier in the year the RWIDC secured the opportunity to promote Riverland wine at the annual Australian Federation of Travel Agents (AFTA)/ Advertiser Holiday Expo dinner held at the Hyatt Hotel on the 5th of February.

Representing the region, RWIDC Marketing and Promotions Officer Emily White spoke to the dinner guests on Riverland and its wine, food and tourism industries. The majority of the audience were unaware the Riverland is the largest wine grape producing region in Australia and Ms White took this opportunity to present an array of production and sales statistics to the audience.

Delegates at the dinner were treated to a specially selected menu featuring Riverland produce, matched with Riverland wines, with many of the guests commenting on the quality and diversity of wine styles available from the region.

Hosting the AFTA/Advertiser Holiday Expo dinner is an example of the RWIDC's ongoing pursuit of opportunities to promote Riverland wine.



*Inset: Phillip Styles (AFTA expo organiser), Phil Hoffman (SAIC board chairman) and Emily White (RWIDC) at AFTA Riverland wine dinner.
Main: Guests enjoying Riverland wine and food at AFTA dinner.*

Promoting our region



The Riverland is preparing to brand the region as the home of Australia's most popular wine, and you are invited to join in the campaign!

If you are a Riverland wine grape grower, winemaker, employed in the wine industry or have an interest in the Riverland, then you can assist in promoting the region.

Why promote the Riverland wine brand? To invest in the future of the Riverland wine industry. By creating and promoting a regional brand we are adding value and equity to the region which in turn increases the value the consumer places on our products translating into a higher value premium for the region's wine grapes.

Through promotion we will encourage consumers to choose our wines, and entice visitors to our region.

It doesn't matter if you are a large or small player in the Riverland wine industry, we can all play a part in promoting our region. For a regional campaign to succeed it is important that all stakeholders take ownership of the regional brand and apply it in a consistent and comprehensive manner.

Through this newsletter and the website we will provide you with some exciting tools to promote your region.

STEP ONE – Driving the message home

The first step is easy, in this newsletter you will find a bumper sticker that can be placed on your work or family vehicle. Now, every time you drive somewhere you are promoting your region!

One lucky driver who is spotted with the sticker on their car will win a carton of Riverland wine or a basket of local produce (subject to age verification).

What is the next step? In coming newsletters we will give you more insight into how you can promote the Riverland. Keep a look out for Promoting your region Step 2 in the next newsletter.

Vintage Transport Update

In November 2003 the Australian Transport Council approved new model national Compliance and Enforcement Legislation to be implemented progressively in each State and Territory of Australia.

The laws will create a consistent approach to compliance and enforcement of heavy vehicles (exceeding 4.5t) seeking to improve outcomes for road safety, infrastructure and the environment. Significant aspects of the model national laws are:

- a 'chain of responsibility' scheme extending liability for road law offences to all parties who by their actions, inactions or demands exercise control or influence over conduct which affects compliance with road transport laws;
- uniform and expanded enforcement powers (eg search and entry);
- uniform evidentiary laws and consistent liability for offences to ensure nationally consistent enforcement and prosecution of offences;
- increased penalties and an expanded range of sanctions in line with OHSW and environmental protection legislation;
- specific provisions dealing with mass, dimension and load restraint of vehicles and loads.

The aim of the new laws is to ensure that legal liability is imposed on all those in the chain who have responsibility for tasks.

Transport SA held a number of briefing meetings with wineries, harvesters and grape carriers prior to vintage in relation to their responsibilities. Ted Gilbert, Senior Compliance Officer for Transport SA at Berri, said that he has been "very happy with the cooperation" of the wine industry, and reported that while some fines have been issued, grape spills are down on previous years.

For more information on 'chain of responsibility' legislation contact Transport SA, Berri office 8582 5339

Anchor your vineyard trellis end assemblies cheaply and effectively



IS THIS YOU? Do you struggle with logs like these on the left? See them last a few years and do it all over again? Then have problems with use and disposal of treated timber?

OR

IS THIS YOU? Do you risk having the problem at right? **In our opinion, screw anchors are not the solution.** This particular vineyard is replacing screw anchors with our Platipus anchor based system.



Forget the above! We've got a better way!

In most vineyard soils the Platipus anchor shown at right, will achieve a **load of around one tonne** and have an **effective life of at least 30 years**. We calculate that, compared to timber anchoring systems, for every 100 Ha this system **could save you** –

- ✓ **About \$1.1 Million**, in current \$ values, over the trellis' life
- ✓ **About \$35,000** on initial installation.

We calculate real annual end assembly anchoring cost per 100Ha, in current \$ values, over whole of trellis life as:

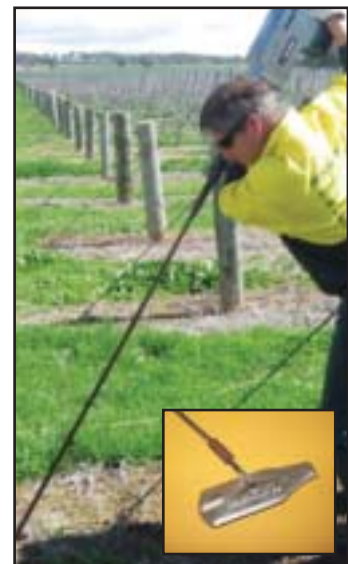
- Our system **\$2,000 per annum**
- Most alternative timber systems **\$37,000 per annum**

PLUS these other advantages

- ✓ Repairing broken anchor wires is much easier and cheaper.
- ✓ The system can be configured and installed to be "set and forget"
- ✓ The anchors are small, easy to transport and install.
- ✓ The system avoids OH&S problems associated with cutting, trimming and positioning timber posts
- ✓ The system is environmentally friendly.

To obtain prices and more information about the anchor system, contact **Greg Foley**:
Mobile **0401 060 170**; Telephone **02 9750 7899**; Fax **02 9750 2304**; Email gregf@scme.com.au

Airmartech Australia (AMT) Pty Ltd - Sole Australian Distributors of **PLATIPUS** ground anchoring systems. Visit our website at <http://www.airmartech.com.au>



Dates released for 33rd Annual Riverland Wine Show

The Riverland Wine Show, one of Australia's largest regional wine shows will be held during Riverland Wine Week (week commencing 10th October 2005). The Riverland Wine Show Society would like to advise exhibitors and interested person of the following important dates:



Judge David Mavor at 2004 wine show

DATE	EVENT	VENUE
18th April	Riverland Wine Show AGM	Berri Resort Hotel
27th June	Release of wine show entry forms	
22nd July	Deadline for return of entry forms	
29th July	Wine show entry labels sent to exhibitors	
30th September	Delivery deadline for wine show exhibits	Berri Estates Winery
10th-11th October	Wine Show Judging	Berri Resort Hotel
13th October	Some Like it Hot Technical Seminar	Chaffey Theatre Renmark
13th October	Some Like it Hot Tasting	Berri Resort Hotel
14th October	Public & Exhibitors Tasting	Berri Resort Hotel
14th October	Presentation dinner	Berri Resort Hotel

Over 600 entries are expected from the Riverland, MIA, Sunraysia and Swan Hill/Rutherglen regions of Australia. Competition is likely to be fierce as exhibitors vie for the top trophies including:

Winery Supplies Trophy for the best wine in show, won by De Bortoli in 2004 for their Noble One and Hahns Haulage Trophy for

On Farm Trials wanted

RWIDC is a partner with Cooperative Research Centre for Viticulture (CRCV) project "On-Farm Trials". The project aim is to facilitate on-farm trial testing and validating of technologies and management strategies. The project will enable growers to test and validate research outcomes on their own properties as well as bringing in expertise that gives them a greater understanding of the variability that occurs in their vineyard. Once the trials are established, demonstrations and grower field walks will be held throughout the season to compare treatments or cultural practices.

A number of proposed projects will be submitted to the Viticultural Technical Group to prioritise trial establishment in 2005-2006. Some options are:

- Precision viticulture: Using EM38 soils information to manage variability
- Deep drainage monitoring
- Establishment of saltbush as a cover crop
- Pruning for canopy balance
- Management of spray drift damaged chardonnay vines
- Snail control
- Bunchrot management

Do you have an idea for a trial? If you would like to submit a trial idea, or you would like to host a trial in 2005-2006, please contact Julie Sippo ph 8582 2952.

most successful exhibitor, won by Hardy Wine Company in 2004.

For further information on the Riverland wine show go to: <http://www.riverlandwine.com.au/wineshow.htm> or contact the Secretary Emily White on phone (08) 8582 2952 or email emily.white@riverlandwine.org.au

Financial advice, counselling and other help available to growers

The Agriculture Advancing Australia (AAA) Farm Help program provides assistance to farmers experiencing financial difficulties while they take steps to improve their long-term financial prospects.

The Farm Help 'Advice and Training' grant helps producers to access information and training to help them improve their financial situation. The grant may cover professional advice on a range of issues, for example:

Financial advisers

- farm analysis
- benchmarking
- retirement/financial planning
- taxation implications
- budgeting
- refinancing
- property valuation/redevelopment options

Vocational guidance advisers

- off farm career advice
- recognition of your current skills and knowledge

Legal Advisers

- succession planning
- marriage settlement
- business structure options
- family law
- estate planning

Marriage, family and personal advisers

- counselling for personal or financial situations (such as grief, stress, relationship and financial counselling)

For further information and eligibility criteria visit www.daff.gov.au/farmhelp or call the Centrelink farmer Freecall Line 1800 050 585 (a foreign language service is available by calling 13 1202).



**Riverland
Wine Industry
Development
Council Inc.**

This newsletter was produced by the Riverland Wine Industry Development Council Incorporated. The views expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Council.

Editor: **Cameron Hills**

Riverland Wine Industry Development Council Inc.

PO Box 520, Berri SA 5343

Ph **08 8582 2952** • Fax **08 8582 3309**

Email wine@riverlandwine.net.au

Web www.riverlandwine.net.au

Printed by J. C. Irving & Co. Pty Ltd - 08 8582 1266

2004-05 RWIDC Councillors

Mr. John Angove (Chair)
Mr. Draz Baric (Vice-Chair)
Mr. Richard Dolan
Ms. Keryn Gorman
Mr. Paul Kassebaum
Mr. Bill Moularadellis
Mr. Kevin Pfeiffer
Mr. Michael Roy (Treasurer)

Staff:

Mr. Cameron Hills (Executive Officer)
Ms. Julie Sippo (Industry Development Officer)
Ms. Emily White (Marketing and Promotions Officer)

