



## Grape IPM Update

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[Note: I am very glad to be writing this first issue of the Vermont Grape IPM Update. It has been a roller coaster of a winter in terms of whether there would be sufficient funding for the Vermont Grape IPM Program this year. All federal USDA IPM funding was eliminated on October 1, 2008 and then on January 7, 2009, all in-state extension operating funds to the UVM College of Agriculture's extension programs were rescinded by the state extension central office -- at that point, I did not have any base extension funds to return a phone call or buy a postage stamp !! We had been very fortunate to receive an EPA Pesticide Environmental Stewardship grant in 2008 which was scheduled to start in 2009 but it was somewhat dependent on having the funds that were eliminated. The good news is that I recently have been able to obtain a number of other grants to help fund this year's Grape IPM Program including a Specialty Crop grant from the Vermont Agency of Agriculture and a USDA Extension grant. In addition, funds from the USDA Risk Management program are helping to support the program. Thanks go out to these supporters of this year's Vermont Grape IPM Program !! ]

### **Survey of the Vermont Cold Climate Winegrape Industry -- Coming Soon**

In the very near future, we will be sending out a survey to get a "snapshot" of the cold climate winegrape industry in Vermont. It is very important that everyone who is involved in the industry participate in the survey so that the size of the industry at this point in time can be documented and so that we will be able to track its expansion over time. The survey is also important to document the pest management practices currently being used in vineyards and to determine areas to focus IPM educational efforts. The survey is part of the EPA grant that we received which has as a goal to increase adoption of ecologically-based IPM and reduce pesticide risks in cold climate winegrape production.

### **2009 New York and Pennsylvania Guideline for Grapes**

This is an excellent source of information. It is on the web at the following location: <http://ipmguidelines.org/grapes/>. A "hard copy" can be purchased through the Pest Management Education Program at Cornell University at 607/255-7278.

## The Vermont Grape and Wine Council

Are you aware that there is a very active Vermont Grape and Wine Council ? Check out their website at: <http://www.vermontgrapeandwinecouncil.com/>

*That is all for now ...*

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