



Grape Meeting Update

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Two major grape symposiums/conferences have been scheduled in the region that you may be interested in attending:

***The Second Symposium on Northern Climate Viticulture -- 2009 VitiNord November 9, 10, 11, 2009 at the Hotel des Seigneurs, St-Hyacinthe, Quebec.**

This symposium is being organized by the International Association for Northern Viticulture.

The home page of the symposium is at: <http://www.vitinord.org/Homes/index/language:eng> .
The program is at: <http://www.vitinord.org/pages/programmation>

Registration allows for individual day or 3-day registrations. The following information is directly from their website (<http://www.vitinord.org/pages/objectifs>) which gives you an overview of the intent of the symposium:

“Event Objectives

- Share cold climate viti- and vini-culture knowledge, techniques and experiences and integrating new production practices
- Bring together researchers, grape breeders/hybridizers, grape growers, winemakers and consultants from cold climate regions to share viticultural knowledge across international boundaries
- Increase awareness and visibility for cold climate wines and provide education about their unique aspects

Description

The program design takes into account the overall situation of cold climate viticulture throughout the world. The variety of topics presented during this symposium is designed to promote exchanges and forge lasting ties among participants.

The topics to be discussed this year will focus on:

- Research and development, from the both viticulture and winemaking domains
- Positioning and commercialization of wines
- Developing international ties
- Encouraging cooperation, assistance and technology transfer.

During the three day symposium participants can attend several activities including lectures, wine tastings, exhibitions, and network with partners from across the world.

Impact

Nearly 400 people are expected from numerous countries including Canada, United States of America, Estonia, Latvia, Russia, Ukraine, Poland, Sweden, Denmark and Norway.”

***2009 New England Vegetable & Fruit Conference
December 15, 16, 17, 2009 at the Radisson Hotel, Manchester, NH**

The conference homepage is at: <http://www.newenglandvfc.org/> . On Dec. 17, there will be a viticulture session in the morning and in the afternoon. Speakers and topics can be viewed at: http://www.newenglandvfc.org/thursday_dec_17.html

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P.S. There may be some confusion about a “planning” meeting of University researchers and extension specialists and grape/wine industry personnel from the Northeast and Upper Midwest that will be taking place in Burlington on Nov. 12. This meeting is not a formal extension-type “workshop” per se but a gathering of University people who had written a grant during the past year and received some funding to try to plan and coordinate efforts in research and extension on cold climate viticulture in the Northeast and Upper Midwest. Representatives of cold climate grape industry organizations from these two areas of the country were invited to attend the meeting to discuss their research and extension needs and priorities. Based on the research and extension needs identified in this meeting (and another one which will occur this winter in MN), the University personnel will begin to write grants to obtain funds to try to address the industry's needs/priorities. The Vermont grape and wine industry will be represented. There have been some questions as to whether this is an extension-type educational event similar to VitiNord or the New England Conference and it is not -- it is just a “planning” meeting as described above.

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