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Phylloxera and Grape Industry Board of South Australia

AUTUMN 2013

Newsletter

FARM GATE BIOSECURITY HYGIENE

The Board encourages growers to ensure that cost effective ways of reducing risk from pests and disease in the vineyards are maintained.

Here are some simple steps to consider implementing:

1) Control visitor access by having all visitors report to the site office on arrival and sign the visitors' register. Always know where all visitors are, it is good OH&S practice as well!

2) Control vehicle access, provide parking and do not allow unauthorized vehicles into the vineyard;

3) Provide footbaths for cleaning, especially for visitors to your vineyard such as GLO's, winemakers and other growers;

4) Always check with machinery and contractors if they have cleaned their machinery since the last job and where they have been before they start work in your vineyard;

5) Ensure all labour is aware of Biosecurity practices eg vehicles, equipment, clean boots and clothes;

6) Ensure that you **only** purchase certified planting material; and

7) Remember it is **your** vineyard and if you are unsure about anything, it is free to ask questions. It is better to be safe than sorry!

If you would like further information and to discuss options then contact the Board on 08 8362 0488 or admin@phylloxera.com.au

Farm gate biosecurity hygiene

Strategic plan 2009 - 2014

2013 McLaren Vale ground truthing

Phylloxera sampling research

Rootstock trials

Notice board

STRATEGIC PLAN 2009 - 2014

The Board has entered the final year of its current strategic plan.

The four strategies are:

Strategy 1 - Research, Development and Extension

Fund research, development and extension programs to ensure the ongoing efficacy, relevance and benefits of practices to the wine and grape industry.

Stategy 2 - Communication

Develop a comprehensive plan which enhances the communication of the Board's activities across all sectors and in all aspects of the wine industry.

Strategy 3 - National Approach

Build on a national approach to achieve a consistency in the containment and possible eradication of phylloxera and other pests and diseases.

Strategy 4 - Governance and Risk Management

Establish and maintain a clear and effective Board Governance framework.

The KPI's for the Board for 2013 include a focus on:

1. Phylloxera sampling research and rootstock performance research;
2. Further development of the online vineyard register;
3. Establish a sustainable national governance system for the management of the national protocol;
4. Promote the importance of farm gate biosecurity hygiene; and
5. Strengthen the review of biosecurity risks through the application of the ISO 31000 Australian Standard in Risk Assessment.

RISK ASSESSMENT UPDATE

In March 2013, Minister Gail Gago endorsed the Board's actions with respect to the **10 VERY HIGH and HIGH** risks identifed in the Risk Assessment process conducted in 2012. Over the next 2 years, as part of its strategic plan, the Board will be developing policies and procedures to mitigate the risks presented in these 10 points.

From the KPI's listed above, points 3,4 and 5 are focussing on addressing these risks.

2013 McLAREN VALE GROUND TRUTHING

Field Inspections were undertaken in McLaren Vale during January this year by PGIBSA staff.

Sites of specific interest were identified from an analysis of aerial imagery flown in late January 2011, with a total of 7 sites warranting further investigation.

Imagery for this region was last flown in 2007. This historic data has been invaluable in the analysis whereby sites are able to be determined at a much higher level of sensitivity to change. The benefit of this comparative analysis between the years, is to provide greater efficiency in planning the sites for inspection.

No phylloxera was detected at the sites inspected. Symptoms of diminished vine vigour were caused by water logging, soil composition and nematodes.

PHYLLOXERA SAMPLING RESEARCH

The Phylloxera Board, in collaboration with SARDI, University of Adelaide, DPI-Vic and DPI-NSW, has received funding from the Plant Biosecurity CRC and GWRDC to develop sampling strategies for sensitive, accurate and cost effective detection of Phylloxera.

Project sites include vineyards in the Yarra Valley, King Valley and Rutherglen that are independently inspected and validated to have Phylloxera present. This project builds on work conducted by Dr Kevin Powell (DPI-Vic) and Dr Alan McKay (SARDI) in 2003 which successfully identified DNA markers for Phylloxera in soil samples.

The project has also been successful in gaining funding for a PhD student who will be focussing on biometrics with a particular interest in biosecurity.

The National Vine Biosecurity Committee has agreed to act as an independent advisory group for the project and review the findings as they become available.

ROOTSTOCK TRIALS

The Board has 4 rootstock trial sites in 3 regions to learn more about the yield and quality performance of different clones on rootstocks in different regions.

Under the *Phylloxera and Grape Industry Act (1995),* the Board is charged with the responsibility to undertake research into rootstocks as rootstocks provide an insurance policy if there was ever an outbreak of Phylloxera in South Australia. The trial sites are located at:

1. Clare Valley, a trial site of Riesling on a range of clones and rootstocks, including Boerner, established in 2006;
2. Adelaide Hills, a trial site of Chardonnay on a range of clones and rootstocks, including Boerner, established at the Lenswood Research Centre in 2006;
3. Adelaide Hills, a trial site at Woodland Ridge consisting of a range of Sauvignon Blanc clones and a number of rootstocks, established in 2009; and
4. Coonawarra, a trial site of Cabernet Sauvignon of CW44 clone and 9 rootstocks, incorporating the most recent rootstocks which were developed at Merbein, established in 2010.

All of the rootstock trials were harvested by the first week of March 2013 with:

- Harvest weights (kg/vine), pH, TA and Brix (sugar) levels collected from each of the 68 clone-rootstock combinations across Clare (Riesling), Adelaide Hills (Sauvignon Blanc and Chardonnay) and Nuriootpa (Shiraz).
- For the first time in three years, the Lenswood Chardonnay site delivered clean fruit and has been made into a single wine by a small Adelaide Hills winemaker. We are looking forward to sampling the end result.

The 2013 results will be posted on the Boards' website www.phylloxera.com.au by September 2013.

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Disclaimer: While the board has made every effort to ensure the accuracy of the information contained in this newsletter, it accepts no liability for the use of the information and any consequences arising from doing so.

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VINEYARD LOCATION BROWSER

The board is currently developing an online Vineyard Location Browser (VLB).

It is envisaged that this will be a free-based mapping tool for stakeholders, whom can use this tool to view parcel holdings and get information about planting details, currently held in the Boards' database.

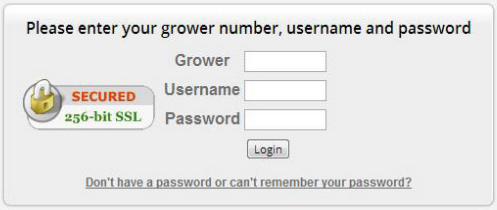
VINEYARD REGISTER ONLINE

The online Grower Kiosk is progressing well and is in testing phase. It is planned to be available to all grapegrowers by December 2013.

2012 vineyard register statistics

82 ha	is the total number of vines removed since 30 April 2012
659 ha	of vines have been planted, top-worked or grafted in 2012
3,488	is the total number of growers listed in the Board's database
21%	is the total number of vines that are planted to rootstocks

GROWER KIOSK



The Australian grape and wine sector's premier technical event for winemakers, grapegrowers and other industry professionals, owned and planned by the industry for the industry. **International experts** will cover all aspects of grape and wine production from the vineyard to consumers. **Forty-four viticulture, winemaking and business workshops.**

10% discount for ASVO members, Australian Grape Research and Wine Grapes Levy payers.

WineTech – Australian Wine Industry Trade Exhibition – a 'must-visit' for the latest technology and services to support your business.

Further details at www.awitc.com.au

KEEP IT CLEAN — HEAT IT!

For all heat shed treatment bookings, please contact Mark Dinham during business hours on 08 8762 0666 or email Mark at gyrobuilt@tpg.com.au

If you are considering becoming an registered user, please contact Alan Nankivell, CEO on 08 8362 0488 or by email at alann@phylloxera.com.au