

NEWS RELEASE

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The Australian Wine
Research Institute

Survey to delve into Australian grape and wine production practices

A major survey of practices in the Australian grape and wine industry is being launched today by the Australian Wine Research Institute.

The survey seeks to determine how common a range of different production practices are across the industry, with results to be used to inform grape and wine research, development and extension activities. It will pose questions on areas including pruning, spraying, harvesting, fermentation, stabilisation, and packaging.

This is the first time a comprehensive survey of grape and wine production practices has been conducted in Australia. It is intended that the survey will be repeated in five years' time to allow adoption trends to be captured. All survey data submitted will be treated with strict confidentiality.

Survey project leader, Dr Simon Nordestgaard said "At present it is difficult to know how many Australian grapegrowers are using new mechanical pruning equipment or harvester-based grape sorting, or how many winemakers are using techniques like flotation or wild ferments. There's also a lack of data on how common stuck ferments are or the relative importance of different pests and diseases across different regions."

"This type of knowledge would be highly valuable when designing research and extension projects. The survey will provide valuable practical information to ensure Australian R&D continues to be relevant to current practices."

Australian grape and wine producers are asked to complete the survey online at www.winesurvey.com.au.

Survey participants will receive information from the overall survey, allowing them to compare their practices with regional and national trends. They will also go into the draw to win a trip to attend the Vinitech-Sifel vineyard and winery equipment exhibition in Bordeaux in late November 2016. (See www.winesurvey.com.au for terms and conditions.)

For more information, contact Ella Robinson, Communication Manager, AWRI on 08 8313 6600, ella.robinson@awri.com.au.

The Australian Wine Research Institute is the Australian grape and wine industry's own research organisation. It supports a sustainable and successful grape and wine industry through world class research, practical solutions and knowledge transfer. Website: www.awri.com.au.