Vineyard longevity – maintaining the asset

By Mardi Longbottom President, Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology

his year's ASVO Mildura seminar will be held from 22-23 July and will present new and innovative ways to overcome the challenges of economic and production longevity in vineyards. The program has been expanded from previous years with several networking events included in the registration. The technical side covers economic longevity, the management of biotic and abiotic threats, and innovation and adaptation for longevity. These will be presented by leaders from both industry and research. A highlight of the presentations will be ASVO's international guest Dr Kendra Baumgartner, from the United States Department of Agriculture. Baumgartner will expand on the highly acclaimed presentation she gave at the grapevine trunk disease symposium in 2014, which provided insights into the economic impact of trunk disease

in the US. A second international speaker is also expected at the Mildura seminar, with confirmation to be announced in the coming weeks.

The preliminary seminar program and details can be viewed online at http://asvomildura.wordpress.com/

The ASVO is keen to facilitate further industry interaction with Baumgartner during her visit. If your region is interested in speaking with her, please contact Chris Waters at asvo@asvo. com.au

One of the important roles of the ASVO is its work in the development of best practice recommendations (BPR) for the Australian wine show system. In 2004 it published recommendations for wine shows that were developed by an industry-based ASVO Wine Show Committee, to act as guidelines for Australian wine shows to assist them in achieving their objectives of improving and promoting the



A decade later, the ASVO and the broader wine industry are undertaking a review to update these recommendations, as well as considering issues that were not addressed in the last review. The ASVO has established an industry-based wine show technical advisory group (TAG) with members drawn from the wider industry to review, revise and update the BPRs. Dr Tony Jordan is chairing the TAG and is joined by ASVO director Dr Anthony Robinson as secretary. Both Jordan and Robinson bring considerable experience in the Australian wine show system and, along with the TAG members, have made significant progress with the review. The final document is expected to be complete in November and available on the ASVO website. WV.

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