



Extension – connecting with grape and wine producers



Extension at the AWRI

The full value of the AWRI's research and development is only realised when outcomes are effectively implemented in industry. For this to occur, both extension and support for adoption are required. The AWRI's extension programs aim to raise awareness and facilitate uptake of research outcomes. Extension activities are conducted through a wide range of face-to-face and online mechanisms, summarised below.

Roadshow program

The AWRI roadshow program regularly communicates the latest research and practical applications directly to grape and wine producers across Australia's wine regions.

- Seminars deliver grape and wine research outcomes, with topics selected by the

region.

- Workshops deliver practical winemaking and viticultural advice on a topical issue. Workshops include tastings, demonstrations and diagnostic tests.
- Around 25 Australian regions are visited each year.

AWRI helpdesk

The AWRI helpdesk provides a one-on-one advice service to Australia's grapegrowers and winemakers who pay the *Winegrapes* and/or *Grape Research* levies. Advice is available on winemaking, viticulture, regulatory and health-related issues from experienced winemakers, viticulturists and scientists. More than 1,900 queries are dealt with each year, and around 200 winemaking investigations are conducted.



Australian Wine Industry Technical Conference

- Held every three years in conjunction with the Australian Society of Viticulture and Oenology, the AWITC is the wine industry's key technical event.
- The program includes: 10 plenary sessions, 2 'Fresh Research' sessions, a student forum, 'In the wine light', an extensive program of workshops and a technical poster display.
- The AWITC is staged in association with the Australian Wine Industry Trade Exhibition, the wine industry's premier trade exhibition.
- The 16th AWITC in Adelaide in July 2016 will also feature the Winemakers' Federation of Australia *Outlook Conference* and the McWilliam's Wines Maurice O'Shea Award dinner.
- Proceedings are edited and published following each conference.

Research to Practice[®]

The Research to Practice (RtP) training model provides practical, themed, user-pays training sessions on topics including:

- Alternative varieties
- Integrated Pest Management in changing viticultural environments
- Managing grapevine nutrition in a changing environment
- Sustainable viticulture – a comparison of organic, biodynamic and conventional practices
- Winery wastewater management

Advanced Wine Assessment Course[®] and other tasting courses

- The AWAC is an intensive four-day course designed for participants with considerable formal wine tasting experience. It aims to prepare potential new wine show judges and develop the sensory analysis capabilities and the vocabulary of Australian wine industry personnel at an elite level.
- The course has a unique format – with over 40 hours of content, 12 wine show judges involved and 320 wines assessed. Over 1,000 participants have completed the course since it was first presented.
- Themed one-day tasting courses and mini AWAC courses are also staged regularly.

AWRI website: www.awri.com.au

- Extensive collection of grape and wine scientific information and resources
- Online tools for agrochemicals, maximum residue limits, permitted additives, export requirements, etc.
- Self-diagnosis section for wine production issues
- Winemaking calculators
- Fact sheets
- Online information packs on a range of viticulture and winemaking topics
- Grape and wine search portal

AWRI library

The John Fornachon Memorial Library provides library services to Australian grape



and wine producers:

- Collection of more than 82,940 books, technical articles, proceedings, theses etc.
- 1,800 requests received annually
- eBooks collection
- Mobile version of the library catalogue

Communication with stakeholders

- *AWRI eNews*, a bi-monthly newsletter, is sent to over 2,900 email addresses
- *AWRI eBulletins* provide alerts on topical issues and agrochemical update
- Press releases are distributed as required

University lecture and teaching responsibilities

- Approximately 30 lectures, covering viticulture, wine, health and regulatory subjects are delivered annually

Conference and other external presentations

- More than 300 external presentations are given by AWRI staff each year

Media interviews

- Approximately 70 media interviews are conducted each year, for general and wine trade media in Australia and overseas

Publications

- More than 80 papers published in peer-reviewed and trade publications each year

- Regular contributions in the *Wine and Viticulture Journal* – ‘AWRI report’ and ‘Alternative varieties’
- Regular contribution in the *Australian & New Zealand Grapegrower and Winemaker* – ‘Ask the AWRI’
- Six issues of *Technical Review* produced and distributed each year
- *Annual Report*
- *Agrochemicals registered for use in Australian viticulture* (‘Dog book’) updated and distributed annually and available electronically on the AWRI website

Mobile apps (iOS and Android)

- Agrochemical search
- Winemaking calculators

Webinars

- More than 20 webinars presented annually by AWRI staff and external presenters from industry and other research organisations.

Contact

For further information, please contact:

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