



# University of Nevada, Reno Experimental Vineyard and Winery

UNIVERSITY  
OF NEVADA  
• Reno

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## Inaugural Edition of the UNR Viticultural Program E-Newsletter!

Greetings to all of the pioneering individuals who are at the forefront of the Nevada Grape Growing industry, and welcome to the inaugural edition of the University of Nevada Viticultural Newsletter. This electronic newsletter will be sent out to all interested individuals on a quarterly basis, detailing things such as upcoming tastings, workshops, recent publications, as well as any interesting news regarding Nevada Viticulture in general. In addition, each edition will feature a wine created at the University of Nevada Experimental Winery. This feature will describe the wine, and growing conditions. To supplement the feature, information will be given reporting the performance of the corresponding cultivar of *Vitis vinifera*.

## Outstanding Fall Harvest!

The 2005 Harvest at the Valley Road Experimental Vineyard has been by far the most abundant to date. Nearly 100% of our established vines bore fruit, yielding enough grapes from its 1.2 acres to create nearly 125 cases of wine. The heavy crop load did nothing to detract from the quality of the wines, several of which are already very impressive despite their young age. The 2005 Valley Road vintage will be made available for tasting at the next scheduled event.



2005 Chardonnay harvested at Valley Road Field Station

## Scheduled Events:

**March 10<sup>th</sup>- CABNR Friends and Alumni Wine Tasting**

**Friday, April 14<sup>th</sup> - Spring Wine Tasting**

**Saturday April 22<sup>nd</sup> – Grape Growing Workshop**

**Saturday May 13<sup>th</sup> – Wine Making Workshop**

**Friday, June 16<sup>th</sup> – Summer Wine Tasting and BBQ**

**Saturday July 1<sup>st</sup> – Valley Road Vineyard and Experimental Winery Tour**

**Saturday July 29<sup>th</sup> – Wine Tasting Workshop**

**\*Cost of Workshops is \$100.00**

**\*Requested Donation for Tastings is \$25.00 per person**

**Vineyard Tour is free of charge**

**Please Reserve your spaces as soon as possible. All workshops and tastings will only be held if sufficient interest exists, and are subject to cancellation.**

**Place your private business advertisement here! Call 784-4225 for details**

## Featured Wine: 2005 Merlot



Our inaugural featured wine is what we consider the best we have created to date. The 2005 Valley Road merlot yielded a beautifully dark and complex wine ripe with jam, plum, currant, and berry aromas. Unfortunately due to the young age of our merlot at Valley Road, we were only able to harvest enough grapes to create one case!

If this trend of quality continues with our Merlot, expect Nevada grown merlot to be a big winner in the future.

**Harvest Date: 10-6-05**  
**Brix: 22**  
**Titrateable Acidity: 6.0**



### Vine Tips:

**Protect the little ones by burying them!**

Establishing your newly planted vines is the biggest challenge to a Nevada grower. Every little bit of protection you can afford them from the cold increases their chances for survival. Washington Vineyards routinely bury their vines before the onset of the coldest months of the year to insulate them. We are currently experimenting with this technique at our Northern test vineyard.

## Valley Road Experimental Vineyard and Winery is applying for a sales license!

We have been given approval from University administration to seek a state license allowing us to raise money through the sales of our wines! Many of our supporters have inquired as to the purchase prices of our wines, and we reluctantly informed them that our license permitted experimental use only. Hopefully that will change in the near future, and you may purchase 100% Nevada grown varietal wines which will go towards supporting University of Nevada viticultural research programs!

### **Preliminary Economic Analysis on Nevada Viticulture is very good!**

A Master's student in the Department of Resource Economics has recently submitted his thesis describing the profitability of growing wine grapes in Nevada! Link to the following for details:

[www.ag.unr.edu/cramer/nevadawinegraps.html](http://www.ag.unr.edu/cramer/nevadawinegraps.html)

### **Wine is bottled poetry**

**-Robert Louis Stevenson**

### **Private Viticultural Consulting Services now available!**

Jason Evans, the Valley Road Vineyard Field Manager, has recently begun an independent consultation service committed to aiding Nevada growers possessed of the ambition to begin either a personal or commercial vineyard. Supporters of the UNR Viticultural program will receive first priority and a discounted rate for these services. Please visit [www.nevadavines.com](http://www.nevadavines.com) for more information.