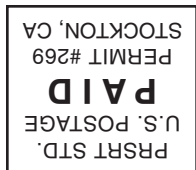


If it does stay wet this year, Phomopsis and powdery mildew sprays of wettable sulfur after bud break can be very effective, although there are many new materials and captan is still available. Check the UC IPM guidelines and talk with your PCA or give me a call. Wettable sulfur after budbreak can be a very effective and inexpensive choice for doubling up on an early start to powdery mildew control. The addition of copper is a little less definitive as a help, except with Downy mildew and maybe a little for Botrytis shoot blight. Whatever the material of choice ends up being, a good powdery mildew program includes: some sulfur (dust or wettable), rotation of materials between years, and complete coverage, are each important. I shouldn't mention the five letter word of frost, but what little evidence exists for copper as a frost protectant is just that. If timing is perfect and coverage perfect and it is a very mild frost event there might be some benefit, most of which is peace of mind. The only trial we did ("way back in the 90's) in San Joaquin County by "fortunate" accident showed no effect of copper against a frost on a Grenache plot.

Remember to stay on the look out for the presence of Vine

Mealy bug (VMB), which is continuing to spread throughout the state and in scattered locations around San Joaquin County. The over wintering crawlers tend to be small and not active until after budbreak, but if you find vines with heavy amounts of black sooty mold, check those vines very closely and mark them. Look in any cracks crevices and loose bark and even down into the soil on large roots. Also note if there is a high amount of ant activity fairly early. Talk with your PCA or check www.ipm.ucdavis or www.vine-mealybug.uckac . And of course don't forget about the Glassy Winged Sharp Shooter (GWSS), and now the Light Brown Apple Moth (LBAM), for now only reported in Contra Costa County.

Just a reminder from last year, for some general information two new web sites may be worth checking out if you have some free time; the Integrated Viticulture web site at U.C. Davis www.iv.ucdavis.edu or for grape variety descriptions and a national nursery listing there is the National Grape Registry at www.ngr.ucdavis.edu . There seems to be more to think about than ever, but it looks like 2008 may be a little better, even considering it is an election year. Good luck in 2008.



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED





The LODI RULES program grows significantly in 2007 and certified wines enter the marketplace

Tempranillo

Our Catalan roots have fueled our dream for producing Spanish varietal wines from our own vineyards. Our Tempranillo is certified for sustainable winegrowing practices. Use its Iberian counterpart in the Ribera Del Duero, this wine displays luscious aromas of blackberries, cranberry and hints of coffee and cocoa. These Tempranillo grapes are grown on our volcanic, clay loam soils in the Jahant Appellation of Lodi. Production: 350 cases.

Produced & Bottled by Boldsch Vineyards, Novato, CA
www.boldschvineyards.com
209.334.4338

GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1) ACCORDING TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, WOMEN SHOULD NOT CONSUME ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF BIRTH DEFECTS. (2) CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE A CAR OR OPERATE MACHINERY, AND MAY CAUSE HEALTH PROBLEMS.

LODI RULES CERTIFIED

SAUVIGNON BLANC

LangeTwins is Ranch and Bedford Large - identical twin brothers, generational winegrape, and vines of distinction. LangeTwins is two families, two generations working together to grow high quality winegrapes... for great wines are grown, not made.

LangeTwins is Lodi - California's best kept secret and the only wine region that bears resemblance!

The best wines are an expression of family, dedication and the Lodi Sauvignon Blanc is a class of its own.

Crisp, bright acidity complements wonderful citrus and honey-chew mellow aromas and flavors to create a balanced, refreshing wine.

GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1) ACCORDING TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, WOMEN SHOULD NOT DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF BIRTH DEFECTS. (2) CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE A CAR OR OPERATE MACHINERY, AND MAY CAUSE HEALTH PROBLEMS.

ALC. BY VOL. CONTAINS SULFITES

LANGE TWINS
Vined and bottled by LangeTwins Win Estates, Acampo CA 95220
www.langetwins.com

LODI RULES CERTIFIED

**MOHR-FRY RANCH
OLD VINE ZINFANDEL**
2006 • LODI APPELLATION

Our Mohr-Fry Ranch Old Vine Zinfandel comes from a head-pruned vineyard planted in 1944 in the heart of the Lodi Appellation. It was one of the first "certified" vineyards under the Lodi Rules for Sustainable Winegrowing.

The Lodi Rules takes a comprehensive approach to address the overall health of the vineyard and ecosystem. The wine is a big ripe chewy Zin with rich raspberry and spicy blackberry flavors finishing with a delicious mouth-coating texture.

www.stamansvine.com
PRODUCED AND BOTTLED BY STAMANT WINERY, WOODBRIDGE, CALIFORNIA • (209) 367-0646

GOVERNMENT WARNING: (1) ACCORDING TO THE SURGEON GENERAL, WOMEN SHOULD NOT DRINK ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES DURING PREGNANCY BECAUSE OF THE RISK OF BIRTH DEFECTS. (2) CONSUMPTION OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGES IMPAIRS YOUR ABILITY TO DRIVE A CAR OR OPERATE MACHINERY, AND MAY CAUSE HEALTH PROBLEMS.

CONTAINS SULFITES 750 ML

LODI RULES CERTIFIED

Wine labels displaying the Lodi Rules certification logo.

Participation in the Lodi Rules for Sustainable Winegrowing certification program (Lodi Rules) grew significantly in 2007 with the numbers of growers, vineyards and wineries all increasing. Ninety three vineyards, totaling 7,680 acres received Lodi Rules sustainable certification in 2007, up from 44 vineyards and 5,400 acres in 2006. The number of growers in the program increased from 12 to 18. More than a dozen wines from five different wineries, either the 2005 or 2006 vintage, were bottled in 2007 and labeled with the Lodi Rules logo. Perhaps the biggest news of 2007 was Michael-David Winery deciding to offer a \$50 per ton bonus to growers for any certified winegrapes.

There are other economic benefits for participating in the program. Pan Pacific Underwriters will give Lodi Rules growers a 10% reduction on their insurance premiums. Lodi Rules growers applying to Natural Resources Conservation Service's (NRCS) Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) for funds to make improvements on their farms are given a higher ranking in the selection process. And finally, certification fees are tax deductible as a business expense.

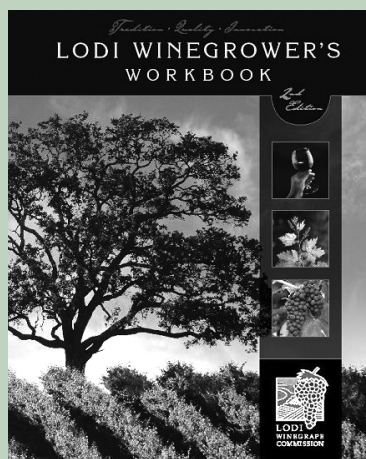
Lodi Rules, California's first third party-certified sustainable winegrowing program, began in 2005. We believe growers following the Lodi Rules will produce higher quality winegrapes that result in wines more reflective of the unique qualities of the Lodi region. We also believe certification will add value to Lodi winegrapes and wine. The Lodi Rules farming standards go beyond just integrated pest management to promote practices that enhance biodiversity in vineyards and on the farm, as well as promoting healthy soil and clean water. The sustainable vision created under the program helps family members and employees share in the goals for the farm and promotes job satisfaction because everyone realizes they contribute to producing quality winegrapes no matter their role in the process.

The Lodi Rules is a voluntary certification program with two components; farming practices and the environmental impact of any pesticides used. To attain certification for a vineyard a grower must achieve a minimum number of farming practice points, based on what is done in the vineyard, and not exceed a threshold of environmental impact points for all the pesticides used in the vineyard during the entire year. Protected Harvest is the third party certifier and handles all grower enrollments, vineyard audits and awarding of certificates (www.protectedharvest.org).

Wine must contain 85% or more certified grapes to be able to bear the Lodi Rules logo. It can appear on the label, be put on the bottle as a sticker, appear on a necker or shelf-talker, or on the box. Wineries can also use information about the program in their marketing. More and more consumers are showing interest in



LODI WINEGROWER'S WORKBOOK 2ND EDITION IS OUT!



After almost two years of very hard work by a 20 member committee of Lodi growers, vineyard and pest management consultants, University scientists and farm advisor, a wildlife biologist, and Lodi-Woodbridge Winegrape Commission staff the second edition of the Lodi Winegrower's Workbook has been completed and printed. The highlights of the new workbook are:

- More than 200 pages of new content
- 275 color photos
- Two new chapters
- Many chapters greatly expanded
- 45 new sustainable issues addressed as well as the 105 from the 1st edition
- New format – spiral bound

Over the next 18 months or so Cliff Ohmart, LWC Research Director, will be organizing small workshops throughout the district at growers houses and shops where attendees will be given a copy of the workbook and they all will fill it out together. If you are interested in attending one of these works sooner rather than later please call Cliff at (209) 367-4727 for a location of a workshop near you.

Growers who are not members of the Lodi-Woodbridge Winegrape Commission can purchase the Lodi Winegrower's Workbook 2nd Edition. For more information call the Commission office at (209) 367-4727.

buying 'green', particularly with the huge focus on climate change. Moreover, more and more retailers and restaurants are looking for food and beverages produced sustainably. Lodi Rules wines are in a perfect position to take advantage of these developments.

It is not too late to sign up for the Lodi Rules program for 2008. In fact the timing is perfect. If you have any questions please call Cliff Ohmart, Lodi Rules program Director, at (209) 367-4727. For a detailed explanation of the program, how it was developed, and the farming practices required to achieve certification, please visit www.lodirules.com or call Cliff any time. Many growers are currently working with Cliff in preparation of applying for the program for the first time in 2008. For the program to be successful, which is adding value to Lodi winegrapes and wine, we need to have as many growers and wineries as possible participating.

Feeling Lucky?

PARTICIPATE IN A UC DAVIS ON-LINE SURVEY ON POWDERY MILDEW MANAGEMENT AND YOU MAY WIN SOME MONEY

University of California Davis Professors Doug Gubler and Travis Lybbert are studying how California grape growers manage powdery mildew. They have designed an online survey for growers that will help them better understand the factors that influence how different growers manage this disease. This survey will ultimately help to improve disease forecast models so they are more useful and effective for all of us. Once completed the results of the study will be shared with us.

Participants in the survey will be randomly selected to receive cash payments ranging from \$50 to \$250. The survey should take 15-30 minutes to complete. To participate in the survey go to the following web link: <http://tlybbert.ucdavis.edu/>

INTERESTED IN JOINING LWWC'S RESEARCH COMMITTEE?

There are now two vacancies on the Lodi-Woodbridge Winegrape Commission Research Committee. The committee oversees LWWC's research grant projects as well as help plan grower meetings and other activities. If you are interested in serving on the committee or have any questions about serving, please call Cliff as soon as possible. (209) 367-4727

TOPICS:	Vine Nutrients
2008 Rains	Spring Disease
Frost	Web sites to check
Weeds	VMB/GWSS/LBAM

The 2008 year seems to be starting out somewhat normal with regard to rain and temperatures, at least compared to 2007 with its very dry and very cold January. Last year rainfall total at this time was 4.9 inches. Currently we are about 11.3 inches and rising, depending on location with in the District. Soil moisture is definitely good and except for the blockbuster storm in late December, rain events have been well spread and moderate to allow good infiltration into soil profiles. That probably means no extremely dry conditions such as last year. And although it hasn't been exceptionally mild, it has not been cold like last year, when there were 25 days in a row of minimum temperatures below 32° F. Unless the rain stops completely, there won't be the need or benefit of a mid winter irrigation as last year. The Fall weather was dry enough and temperatures low enough this year that weed pressure is below average, but more than last year. Now is a good time to make a note of weed species that have germinated. A yearly assessment can provide a baseline to monitor any shift in weed species and to consider herbicide choice or timings to manage any potential resistance development. For more information on weeds you can get lots of information at the web site www.wric.ucdavis.edu or at www.ipm.ucdavis.edu

Chill hours (below 45°F) have been good and though grapes don't require much more than 200 or 400 total (depending on variety and conditions) chill hours accumulation to make for a uniform and strong budbreak. There were 513 hours for November/December this year compared to an average of 452 over the last 12 years, with probably some more to come. You may hear talk of quality chilling

hours and chill portions; they are useful, but more important for orchard crops. Grapes are like a good spouse: tolerant and forgiving of normal stresses and not too demanding.

Dry soil conditions last year seemed to intensify potassium problems. With vine nutrients in mind, it may be good to invest in some potassium, but watch the nitrogen this year especially if the crop looks average and early shoot growth is strong. Vines should bounce back this year, but if it has been a while and the budget allows, an application of potassium anytime between now and the first few irrigation sets can help stay ahead of vine demands for the long run. Petiole samples at bloom are not perfect, but can provide some guideline to potassium needs along with micronutrients. For both potassium and nitrogen, you can often get close enough by estimating vine needs on a percentage of last years crop and compare that to the potential crop load this year. Remember to check irrigation wells for water nitrate levels if that hasn't ever been done to adjust for any nitrogen applied with irrigation water. Also don't "rush" the nitrogen application before bloom unless you are using a slow release fertilizers, compost or manures.

Powdery mildew hasn't been too much of a problem in the last couple of years, but continued vigilance is required each year. Recently, it has been suggested that a late dormant lime sulfur spray is a total waste of time and money. In some respects that might have some validity, as

we don't tend to see a lot of cleistothecia (overwintering spores of the sexual stage) in this area compared to the coastal areas. But under the right conditions there can be some cleistothecia in any given year. Additionally, lime sulfur is not good for Lodi Rules growers. Generally a good application (early and complete coverage) of wettable sulfur or one of the systemics (budget allowing) is just as good, if not better than lime sulfur. What lime sulfur can provide at sufficient high gallons per acre is some added protection in problem sites or susceptible varieties and also provide some efficacy against Esca or measles caused by *Phaeoacromonium* and *Phaeomoniella* in addition to powdery mildew.

Good vine training after planting, not stressing young vines and avoiding large pruning wounds are currently the most effective strategies in dealing with the less aggressive but still threatening Vine Decline organisms, which are trunk canker "cousins" of *Eutypa Dieback* and Bot Canker. From budbreak until late May is a good time to be on the lookout for *Eutypa* affected shoots or for dead spurs most probably from Bot canker (*Botryosphaeria* spp). Although foliar symptoms are different they both cause the pie shaped cankers in older wood. Mark those vines and begin to think about a re-training strategy and or pruning later in the dormant season. If you have specific questions check www.ipm.ucdavis.edu for IPM Guidelines or give me a call.

CONTINUED ON BACK PAGE

