

NEWS & UPDATES

BC Grapegrowers' Association

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BCGA Viticulturist of the Year Award Recipient Over the Moon

Presented by Cohort Wholesale

Congratulations to Andrew Moon, of Tinhorn Creek Vineyards.

The award was presented on August 3, as part of our Grower Day events. Thank you to Kirk Seggie and to Sandra and Ken Oldfield for sharing their kind words for Andrew, and adding to the significance of the award.

Read more [here](#).



BCGA / BCWGC Grower Day a Resounding Success

Thank you to everyone who came out to our Grower Day/AGM. It was our most well-attended event yet. The theme of Replant and Renewal was well-received.

Thank you to our guest speakers and panelists that shared their time and knowledge throughout the day:

Dr. Sudarsana Poojari, Brock University

Devin Methven, Andrew Peller Limited

Ross Wise, CGCN, Black Hills Estate Winery

Geoff McIntyre, MNP Financial

Lewys Bevan, Production Insurance

Dr. Tom Forge, SuRDC

Lisa Wambold, Terralink

German Barahona, Southern Irrigation

Rhonda Milikin, Researcher

Liam Elsworth, Cascadia Consulting

Jonathan Snoek, Cascadia Consulting

Thank you to all our sponsors, a valuable part of the grape growing community:

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★ **MNP**

★ **Okanagan Vineclusive**

★ **Upper Canada Growers/Plocher Vines**

★ **Vinotech Canada**

★ **Vintality**

★ **Vitis-Import**

We also want to thank the very many of you who donated a bottle (or two– or three!) of your finest for the networking social that concluded the event.

Did you attend? We need your feedback, please share it here: <https://forms.gle/kk56Y6QghFneesgd6> We will use your comments to improve our future events.



Grower Day attendees were able to catch up with one another between sessions.

Ruth King of SWBC was everywhere—helping with registration, organization, and speaking, too!



Attendees were able to gain valuable industry insight from a variety of speakers and panels.

Don't forget to tell us what you'd like to see for next year's event. Click [here](#) and share your insight now.



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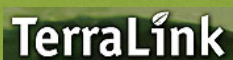


BRITISH COLUMBIA
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Pinot Pursuits

We had a great turn out for our Pinot Tailgate, thanks to everyone who came and engaged with questions and their own experiences.

A huge thank you to David Kozuki, a great host and very candid about all aspects of his vineyard and business.



Thank you to TerraLink Horticulture for sponsoring the event.

Watch for the next BCGA tailgate – Winterizing your Vineyard – planned for later this fall.



David Kozuki shares some of his insight on the finer points of pinot grapegrowing.



In The Vineyard With Sue

Of Birds and Botrytis: Challenges in the Vineyard

by Sue De Charmoy

The 2023 grape growing season here in the Okanagan may be remembered for all the wrong reasons. What a season it is turning out to be.

As we wait for harvest the top-of-mind considerations include the potential for Botrytis bunch rot or sour rot development. Hotter, drier conditions tend to favour sour rot development in areas prone to develop it, while cooler, wetter condition favour Botrytis. If you have existing powdery mildew infections on the fruit (who doesn't this year), or your fruit got sunburned – I measured a 38C Day in mid-August, - you are at risk for end-of-season rots – stay vigilant.

Another contributing factor to the development of these two diseases are insect and bird damage to those ripening grapes. We have a notable lack of yellow jackets this year; however, we do not have a lack of birds. Dry seasons tend to see more birds in the vineyards as less berries are available in the forests.



So which bird control is best? A brief synopsis (the full read [here](#)) of what I found:

Netting remains the most effective bird control, one can expect 90 – 100% control because it keeps the birds out. Birds cannot adapt to physical exclusion like they can to behaviour-based deterrents (noises and visual threats). The downsides to netting are the cost and the time/cost of application and removal each season. To be successful:

- ✦ Use netting with holes 3/4 inch wide or smaller so that birds cannot sneak through it.
- ✦ Invest in a net applicator implement (e.g. Netter Getter or similar) for

applying and removing nets. They drastically decrease labor costs and fatigue.

- ✦ Do not stretch out the net. For high cordon trellised vines, just drape the net loosely over the vines, as pulling it tightly stretches and expands the holes, making it easier for birds to peck through them. Keeping it loose actually protects better.
- ✦ Remove all jewellery and don't wear shirts with buttons – the nets will get caught!

Sound-based deterrents (probably not as popular with your neighbour) and visual deterrents:

Some growers prefer to use “behaviour-based” sound deterrents, such as propane scare cannons, and speakers that play predator calls and bird distress calls. Controlled vineyard trials have found that these work well, but not quite as well as netting. They are designed to trigger fear responses in the birds, which works better for some species

than others (quail seem immune).

They remain effective for anywhere from 1 to 6 weeks, until the birds realize they present no real threat. They also work best in areas with moderate or smaller bird populations. Kites and other visual scare devices have not been shown to be as effective (disclaimer: we use a kite and enjoy reasonable success).



The best thing you can do to improve success with sound makers and visual deterrents is to move them around once a week. Change their location and time intervals frequently before the birds become accustomed to them. The biggest mistake

growers make is to keep them stationary.

Bird Control Lasers are beginning to emerge in some grape-growing regions and are sparking growers' interest. They emit lasers throughout the vineyard to scare birds without harming any wildlife. Birds see the approaching laser beam as a predator and take flight to seek safety when the laser beam passes by.



**BRITISH COLUMBIA
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Monthly R&D Series

Every Third Thursday

A great opportunity for industry to get involved with the BCWGC R&D Committee, meet the researchers and bring your questions to the table. Participate in an informal virtual discussion on research priorities that support BC enology and viticulture.

September 21, 2023 - Dr. Sepideh Adabi, Kwantlen Polytechnic University - Cutting the Threat: Sustainable Cutworm Management through Biological Control Tools - Climbing cutworms damage grape buds, reduce yields, and impact wine quality. Full-field sprays are used to mitigate patchy damage, but the risks of pesticide resistance or registration loss are present. Unfortunately, currently, there are no registered bioinsecticides available for organic

vineyards in BC to control cutworms. Since 2016, the Institute for Sustainable Horticulture (ISH) at Kwantlen Polytechnic University (KPU), in partnership with AAFC, has studied native entomopathogens, specifically *Beauveria bassiana* isolates. Other biological control agents, including entomopathogenic nematodes, baculoviruses, *Metarhizium*, and parasitoid wasps (*Trichogramma*) have also been investigated. By incorporating biocontrol tools with diverse modes of action and targeting different life stages of the host, sustainable cutworm population management is achieved, reducing pesticide usage and combating resistance. The project's data and results will expedite the development of effective microbial bioinsecticides for controlling cutworms and addressing existing gaps, while also providing support to growers in managing cutworm populations in a sustainable manner. The presentation will provide an overview of these outcomes.

[Click Here to Register](#) | [Download the Outlook Calendar Link](#)

OH NO! You missed an R&D presentation?
Access the BCWGC archive and
view past speakers here:
<https://bcwgc.org/index.php/videos>

Wildfire Safety for Workers

The current wildfire situation in British Columbia is changing rapidly. Employers are responsible for ensuring that temporary foreign workers are safe and supported during emergencies. Below is information to help guide employers facing the possibility of evacuation alerts and/or orders.

Communicate with Your Workers

Remember to provide regular information as situations evolve; help workers prepare to be evacuated, and understand what will happen if they need to be relocated. If possible, have a local, English-speaking person stay with workers to assist them during an emergency.

Move to a Safe Location

If you can, keep all workers together and move them to a safe location, such as a packing house, hotel, or other building that can safely accommodate workers. Ensure that there are spaces to sleep and that meals can be provided.

Note: Emergency housing does not require a housing inspection to be completed.

Register with Local Emergency Operations Centre

If you cannot provide alternate accommodations, follow emergency directions for local evacuation centres (for the Kelowna area: [Central Okanagan Emergency Operations Centre](#)). Ensure someone local who can communicate with workers remains with them in the evacuation centre to help keep them safe and informed.



What to Pack?

In their [grab-and-go bag](#) workers should take care to include the following:

- passport,
- work permit, and
- employer contact information.

Notify the Consulate or Liaison Service

If evacuating, employers with SAWP workers must notify the appropriate consulate or liaison service as soon as possible advising them of the farm name, names of workers being evacuated, and location where the workers are located.

- Jamaican Liaison Service 250-869-6288
- Barbados Liaison Service
1-416-464-4439/416-464-2997
- Eastern Caribbean States Liaison Service
1-416-523-4662
- Mexico Consulate Vancouver 1-778-668-1242
or proteccionvan@sre.gob.mx

Be sure to provide updates to the Consulate/Liaison Service as things change. Note that some support offices may also be under evacuation notice.

Notify WALI

Please also notify WALI (via rens@walicanada.ca or vmoreno@walicanada.ca) if workers are evacuated or if you require more information.

Other information and support:

- [BC Fruit Growers Association](#) has put together more information.
- [BC Wildfire Service](#) has up-to-date information on active fires across the Province.

[Click here for more WALI updates and resources](#)

Honouring the 2023 BCGA Viticulturist of the Year

Words spoken at the presentation of the award by John Bayley, BCGA president:

“Andrew is an import from Australia. He began his career in farming and was introduced to viticulture when his employer planted 200 acres of wine grapes. Andrew was thrown in at the deep end, learning every detail of vineyard development from the ground up. He caught the bug and invested in a viticulture diploma from the University of Melbourne. His experience gave him the starting point to move up in the ranks in several wineries across Australia. In 2009, Tinhorn Creek recognized his value and headhunted him; he moved to BC and hasn't looked back.

“At Tinhorn Creek, Andrew is responsible for 200 acres of vineyard. His love and dedication is clear in his healthy, well-balanced vines. His increasing use of organic principles and moving away from reliance on herbicides has paid off in this very difficult growing year; the judges were really impressed with vine health and vigour. Peller has been a supporter of Sustainable Winegrowing BC since its inception and Andrew is working towards certification with the company.

“He really understands the intricacies of grape vines and farming, it is reflected in his ability to balance growing quality grapes with business priorities. He grows grapes for all three tiers, and is able to hit top quality for each tier, all within his budget.



John Bayley, BCGA president, speaking on the Viticulturist of the Year award

“Everyone who attended our irrigation tailgate in May would recognize his passion for irrigation. It is also reflected in his vineyards and the new technology that he seeks out and implements.

“With 30 years of growing under his belt, Andrew has faced every growing challenge imaginable. He is at a point in his career that he is comfortable with his knowledge and is willing to share. He has hosted workshops on various topics with the BCGA, SWBC and the Ministry of Ag Extension group.

“In recognition of the value that Andrew gives to the wine industry, his award includes a bursary sponsored by Cohort of up to \$2000 to attend a viticulture conference or educational event. And he is invited to be part of the award judging committee for 2024.

“It gives me pride to say that 2023 marks the 5th anniversary of the award. It has been really well-received by the industry and the recognition is growing. Winemakers, winery owners and growers are nominating their colleagues, not only with in their own companies, but neighbours and

competitors as well. It is a great show of collaboration and industry pride when a winemaker nominates a grower from a competing winery, as they recognize the hard work and love the grower is putting into their vineyard.

“It is our experience that nominees take nomination seriously and engage with the judging committee. We can see that they have thought through the criteria and are prepared with a well organized tour of the vineyard and talking points for all of the 7 categories:

- vineyard management,
- environmental stewardship,
- equipment,
- human resources,
- interview with nominee,
- peer perception, and
- innovation

“I also want to recognize the work of the judging committee. The committee is made up of representatives from the BCGA, the Ministry of Ag and Food, and the award winner from the previous year. This year, the committee was Troy Osborne from Arterra Wines, Lindsay Hainstock from the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, and and the 2022 award winner, David Kozuki from Golden Retreat Vineyards. They volunteered two long days to fit in all the judging, traveling to Abbotsford one day and traveling from East Kelowna to Osoyoos on another. Thank you to them for their time and for their professional approach to judging.

“This year, they took on the challenge of assessing growers in a very challenging growing year. All of the growers in the Okanagan were working hard to recuperate winter damaged vines and keep powdery mildew at bay.

“The judges had to pick a winner from a great list of candidates with a wide variety of experience and responsibility, but the same love for viticulture:

- Patrick Blandin, Cannon Estates Winery,
- Kyle Temple, Mirabel Vineyards,
- Colleen Ingram, Earlco,
- Ray Gill, Sebastian Farms,
- Andrew Moon, Tinhorn Creek Vineyards

“The Viticulturist of the Year is to recognize those in our industry who strive to grow the very best wine grapes. These are the people who are responsible for each bunch that comes off the vines during harvest and whose decisions directly guide the daily operations of the vineyard.



“Growers tend to work independently and their expertise goes unrecognized from day to day. One of the joys of this award is that we engage with the gems working behind deer fences and out of the public eye. Growers can show off their knowledge, the details of their operations, the dedication to their craft, and we give it public recognition.

“We want the award to inspire growers to set a high bar for quality viticulture in BC. Our growing catalogue of winners showcases that

there are many ways to achieve outstanding quality:

- Karnail Singh Sidhu, owner and head viticulturist at Kalala Organic Winery
- Hans Buchler of Park Hill Vineyard, an independent grower in Oliver
- Heidi Lorch of Heidi's Peak Vineyard, an independent grower in OK Falls
- David Kozuki of Golden Retreat Vineyard, an independent grower in Summerland

“Congratulations to this year’s recipient, Andrew Moon.”

Sandra and Ken Oldfield had many warm words for the Viticulturist of the Year Award recipient, Andrew Moon. They originally recruited Moon for Tinhorn Creek.



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Heat Stress Exposure Control Planning

by Ron Macc, NCSO

AgSafe Regional Safety Consultant, Kootenay-Boundary/South Okanagan Region

AgSafe



High temperatures. Heat domes. Heat waves. Smoke.

Worker and employer awareness of heat stress related injury and illness, and how to implement controls and measures to reduce risk and exposure, has become a necessity.

Part 7 of the British Columbia Occupational Health and Safety Regulation provides guidance for compliance and exposure control.

Search WorkSafeBC for Regulations 7.26 – 7.32 and Guideline 7.29 for awareness of legislated responsibilities. At its core the Regulation requires a Risk Assessment and development of an Exposure Control Plan.

Resources, tools and templates are provided which allow employers and their joint Health and Safety Committees to develop an effective plan for both outdoor agricultural heat stress exposure, as well as for certain indoor environments.

Exposure Control Plans must include an approach for monitoring temperature, humidity and other factors in the workplace. Measuring equipment is required for effective monitoring.

Engineering controls such as A/C, cooling and heat shielding can be introduced. Administrative controls (work/rest cycles) and proper PPE are effective controls as well.

Employers must train workers on how to recognize and promptly report the signs and symptoms of heat stress.

WorkSafeBC Booklet “Preventing Heat Stress at Work” published in July 2023 is a comprehensive guiding document available to download or print from the WorkSafeBC website. The booklet

contains a template for developing your own Exposure Control Plan. AgSafe will assist. As a primary resource for addressing development of an Exposure Control Plan and worker awareness training programs we urge review of the booklet.

Resources:

- ♦ B.C. Occupational Health and Safety Regulation
- ♦ WorkSafeBC booklet BK30 “Preventing Heat Stress at Work”
- ♦ AgSafeBC website resources:
 - Risk Assessment Tools
 - Heat Stress posters
 - Consultation in developing an Exposure Control Plan

Heat Stress in Agriculture

Factors Leading to Heat Stress

- ☀ High temperature
- ☀ Direct sun or heat
- ☀ High humidity
- ☀ Limited air movement
- ☀ Physical exertion
- ☀ Poor physical condition
- ☀ Some medication
- ☀ Workload
- ☀ Clothing
- ☀ Medical conditions
- ☀ Dehydration
- ☀ Low heat tolerance

Types of Heat Stress

- ☀ Heat faint
- ☀ Heat Rash
- ☀ Heat Cramps
- ☀ Heat Exhaustion
- ☀ Heat Stroke

Heat disorders can be a very serious medical emergency

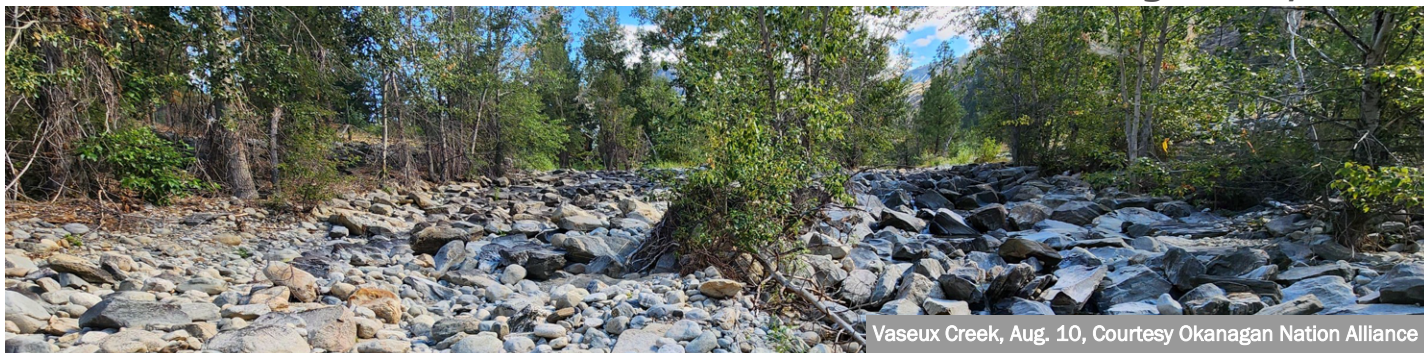


Preventing Heat Stress

- ☀ Know signs and symptoms
- ☀ Acclimatize
- ☀ Work in coolest part of day
- ☀ Do not work alone
- ☀ Wear a hat
- ☀ Block out direct sun or other heat sources
- ☀ Drink water frequently
- ☀ Take rest breaks out of the heat
- ☀ No big meals, caffeine, or alcohol
- ☀ Wear light coloured, loose, fitting clothing

OKANAGAN DROUGHT BULLETIN #2023-4

August 17, 2023



OKANAGAN REGION IN DROUGHT LEVEL 5

Lack of rain, low streamflows, high water temperatures that can be lethal to fish, and sustained warm weather have prompted the Government of B.C. to move the Okanagan to Drought Level 5, where adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are almost certain.

Many important fish-bearing streams in the Okanagan are flowing at historical lows and several are completely dry. The forecast is for continued hot and dry weather in August, so it is unlikely that conditions will improve without drastic conservation measures.

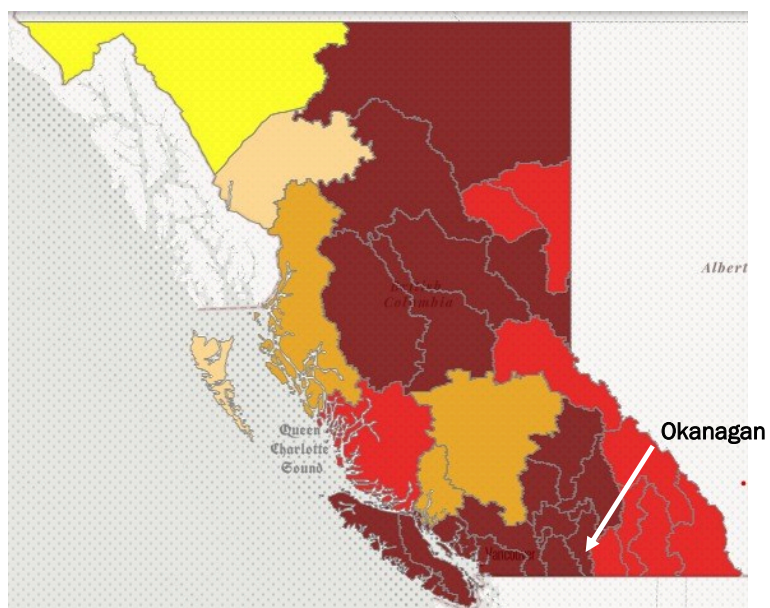
The B.C. Government is working with water licensees to ensure they reduce use, and is taking enforcement action where needed to protect the most sensitive areas. Water purveyors with upstream storage should closely follow their release schedule requirements to avoid low flows downstream. Flows in some streams can change rapidly during hot, dry conditions.

Water conservation is everyone's responsibility. People and businesses in affected areas should reduce water use wherever possible and observe all watering restrictions set by their water utility. We need to work together to make sure there is enough water for fish, agriculture, and fighting wildfires.

Please note, local water restrictions (**stages**) are set using different indicators than provincial drought **levels** and federal drought **ratings**. (Learn more at <https://www.obwb.ca/drought-classification-systems-used-in-b.c./>). Whether a community moves to a higher restriction stage depends on several factors, including customer demand, infrastructure capacity, and local water supply conditions (e.g. reservoir storage), which can vary across the region.

Provincial drought level map on August 17, 2023

Source: [BC Drought Information Portal](#)



British Columbia is experiencing severe drought levels and unprecedented drought conditions across the province. More than half of the province is in Level 5 drought, with an additional almost 30% of the province in Level 4.

Level	Conditions	Impacts
0	Non-Drought	There is sufficient water to meet socio-economic and ecosystem needs
1	Dry	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are rare
2	Very Dry	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are unlikely
3	Severely Dry	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are possible
4	Extremely Dry	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are likely
5	Exceptionally Dry	Adverse impacts to socio-economic or ecosystem values are almost certain

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Spiny Invasive Plants Problematic in Vineyards

Translated Information Aims to Raise Further Awareness

By Lisa Scott, Okanagan-Similkameen Invasive Species Society (OASISS)

Vineyard managers in the Okanagan and Similkameen Valleys are all too familiar with two spiny and unwanted invaders: puncturevine and longspine sandbur. The Okanagan-Similkameen Invasive Species Society (OASISS) has recently translated an information sheet on these invasive plants into French, Spanish and Punjabi, in the hope

that a wider group of the agricultural sector will better understand the issue and how to reduce the spread of these plants. The translated sheets are available here: <https://www.oasiss.ca/agriculturalists>





Puncturevine typically infests soils where little to nothing else is growing. The long, mat-forming stems spread outwards like an octopus, reaching lengths of up to 3 metres in all directions. Tiny yellow flowers turn into spiky seedpods that readily hitch a ride on an unwary shoe, hoof, paw or tire. The tack-like spines are capable of puncturing a bicycle or wheelbarrow tire.



Stems of longspine sandbur have a flat appearance with plants commonly growing half a metre tall. Seed spikes form during the summer, supporting 10-30 pea-sized burs. The sharp, spiny burs are a readily identifiable feature of this plant. The stiff spines can puncture and injure human skin and can cause ulcers in the mouths of grazing animals. Sandbur has the potential to spread extremely rapidly because the seeds cling to any passing object and hold on until being knocked off. Like puncturevine, it prefers sandy soils and does not normally invade a healthy stand of perennial grasses or other thick vegetation.

Both species are summer annuals that thrive in semi-arid conditions. The first plants typically germinate during late May to early June. New plants emerge throughout the summer and into the fall.

PREVENTION IS KEY

- ✦ Monitor your property regularly throughout the growing season to watch for these species.
- ✦ Reduce the amount of bare ground and minimize soil disturbances
- ✦ Plant competitive, desirable plants to reduce opportunities for the establishment of puncturevine and sandbur by decreasing resources available to the weeds.
- ✦ Develop clear protocols for cleaning vehicles, machinery and footwear. This is especially important if you borrow equipment from an infested vineyard, or have contractors or staff who travel between vineyards.
- ✦ Place bins, equipment and supplies in areas free of invasive plants.
- ✦ Clearly mark out locations for parking vehicles and machinery. Areas heavily infested with invasive plants should be considered “out of bounds” until measures are taken to remove or otherwise destroy the plants.
- ✦ Educate contractors and staff. Ensure everyone clearly understands the importance of taking steps to prevent the movement of invasive plant on the vineyard.

CONTROL OPTIONS

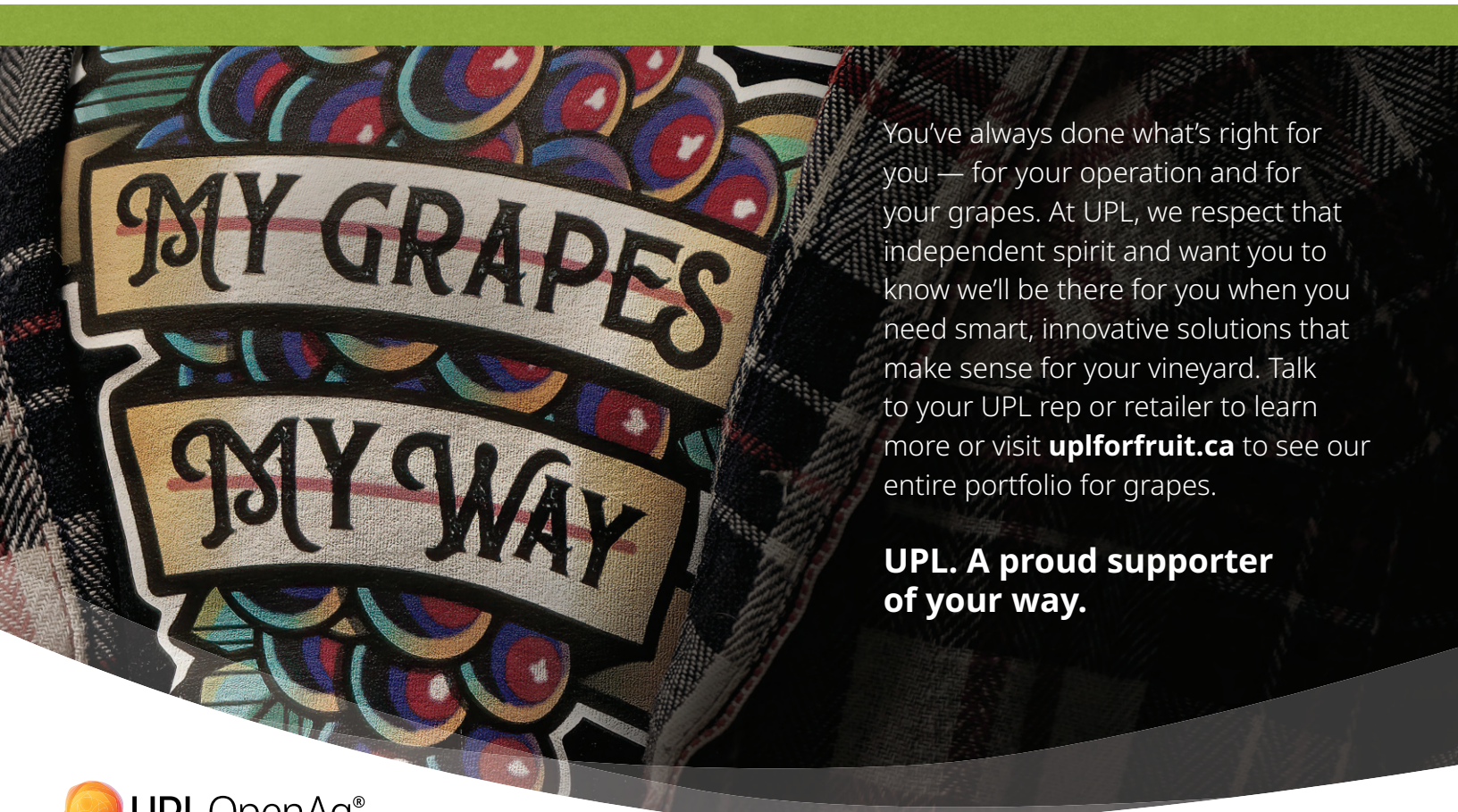
- ✦ Remove plants before they produce seeds (i.e. before or at the flowering stage) and continue to do so over several years.

- ♦ Control small outbreaks by hand removal or by hoeing.
- ♦ Shallow tilling (about 2.5 cm deep) of seedlings or small plants can be effective in larger areas. Deeper tilling is not recommended since this may bury seeds and they may be able to germinate for several years afterwards.
- ♦ Mowing is not an effective method of control, particularly for puncturevine which grows low to the ground.
- ♦ Mulches applied prior to germination or when plants are small can effectively suppress outbreaks but they need to be at least 7-8 cm thick.

Chemical control is also an option. Glyphosate products are currently the main herbicide used to

treat these invaders; however, application of a non-selective, non-residual herbicide means infestations must be re-treated multiple times during the growing season and there is a loss of competitive vegetation on treated sites. Research has indicated that the pre-emergent herbicide Chateau provides season-long suppression of puncturevine. Post-emergent herbicides can only be applied in non-cropland sites. For further information on the selection and application of chemicals to protect your crop, contact AgriService BC at 1-888-221-7141 or email AgriServiceBC@gov.bc.ca

For further information on invasive species impacting agriculture in the Okanagan-Similkameen region go to our website, Okanagan Invasive Species Online: www.oiso.ca



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Nominations Open for the 2024 Excellence in Agriculture Leadership Award

Honour and celebrate the remarkable producers who have exemplified personal values, performance, and achievement in B.C.'s farm community.

Who is Eligible?

The Leadership Award is open to agricultural producers that are operating a farm or a person that represents a farm organization in BC. This includes owner-operators of farms; managers of cooperative partnerships and corporate farms; part or full-time farmers in any field of agricultural production.

Nomination Form

Each nomination package must include the following items:

- A completed copy of the Nomination Form, which you can download above.
- An outline describing how the candidate meets the criteria for the award (300 words or less). Not more than five supporting documents. These can include letters of support, testimonials or documented information.
- Not more than five supporting documents. These can include letters of support, testimonials, or documented information.

Please submit your complete nomination package by September 15, 2023.



Beneficial Management Practices Program

The Beneficial Management Practices Program (BMP) is an on-farm cost-share incentive program to assist farm and ranch operations to mitigate some of the risks identified in their associated Environmental Farm Plan (EFP).

The BMP program is accepting applications in the following categories:

- **Plans & Designs Projects** | Application Window: July 23, 2023, and ongoing until fully funded.
- **Biodiversity Projects** | Application Window: August 24 to September 7, 2023 at 4:30 PM PST.

- **Soil Carbon Projects** | Application Window: August 24 to September 7, 2023 at 4:30 PM PST.
- **Nutrient & Waste Management Projects** | Application Window: August 24 to September 7, 2023 at 4:30 PM PST.

Upcoming BMP application windows:

- **Energy & Fuel Efficiency Projects** | Application Window: September 21 to October 5, 2023 at 4:30 PM PST.

*If you're a producer impacted by wildfires and are unable to apply for an intake, please contact efpbmp@iafbc.ca for assistance.

[Learn more](#)

[Sign up for the newsletter](#)

Attention:



&



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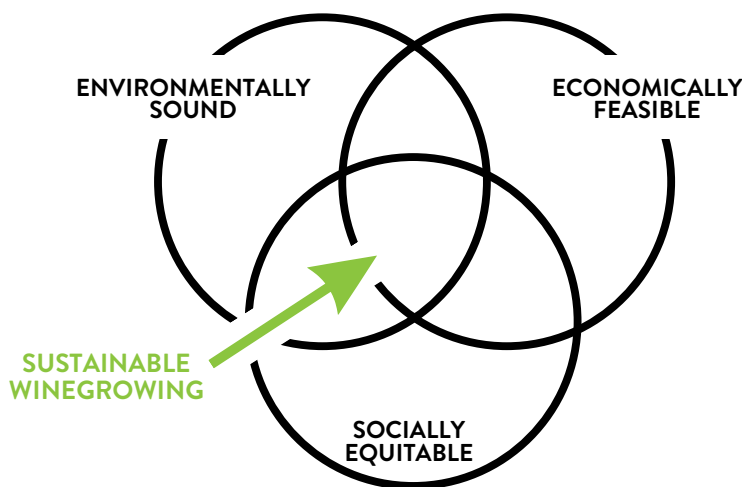
Base fees for **BOTH**
Vineyard and Winery
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offer ends

AUG. 31, 2023

BECOME AN SWBC WINERY MEMBER

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grapegrowers.bc.ca

Extended Deadline for the Extreme Weather Preparedness for Agriculture program



Ministry of
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and Food

In order to provide producers with more time and flexibility to complete their

applications and projects, the current application intake for the Extreme Weather Preparedness for Agriculture (EWP) program is extended until all funds for this fiscal year have been committed (note: this means, unlike last year, a second intake of EWP will **not** be available for this fiscal year.) We encourage you to apply at your earliest convenience to secure funding for your extreme weather project.

Receipt of Applications: Applications will be accepted and processed on a continuous basis until funds run out.

Application Review and Decision: Program applications will be reviewed and processed on a first come, first served basis until all program funds have been committed. Decision letters are issued between 3-6 weeks after applying for the program, so the sooner you apply for the program, the earlier you will receive a decision letter.

Completion of Projects: All projects must be completed by the deadline outlined on the funding Project Approval Letter. All invoices and proofs of payment, Project Reimbursement Form, and Project Summary Reports (if required in the Project Approval Letter), must be submitted on or before **January 15th, 2024** to be eligible for the program reimbursement.

How to apply:

- Please visit the [program website](#) to submit your application online.
- To apply, review the project stream you are interested in and select the “Apply Now” button or scan QR code of each program stream to access the application.
- Accessing the online application form requires a Basic BCeID. If you do not already have a Basic BCeID, you will need to register for one at <https://www.bceid.ca/>.

What is new this year: BC licensed Apiculture, Aquaculture and Federally licensed Cannabis or Hemp Producers will now be able to apply for funding through the program.

New project categories added for 2023 include:

- Exterior sprinkler protection for critical infrastructure
- Flood resilient Apiary Overwintering & Equipment Storage
- Improved barn and indoor aquaculture cooling systems
- Cooling Systems for Outdoor Aquaculture Operations

A new **Innovation Project** option is also available this year where applicants can propose new project concepts for consideration.

Note: Funding will be allocated on a first come, first served basis for all eligible completed applications. There is no guarantee that you will receive funding after you have completed an application to this Program.

For any questions or application support, please email Extreme.Weather.Preparedness@gov.bc.ca.
Phone: 1 888-221-7141

**WE'RE
HAVING A**

FIELD DAY!

**September 16
2023
9 am – 3 pm**

Summerland Research
and Development Centre
4200 BC-97, Summerland, BC

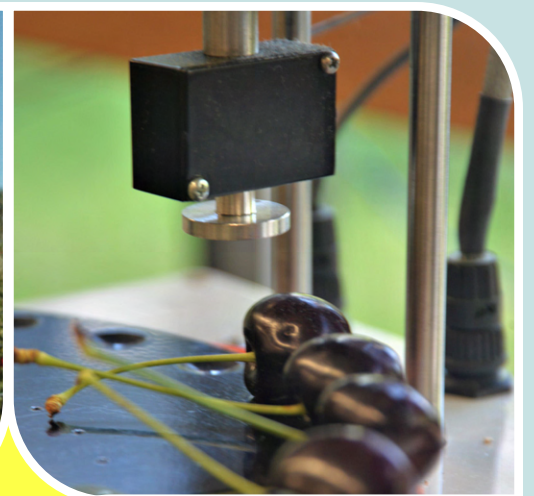
**JOIN US
FOR GUIDED**

TOURS

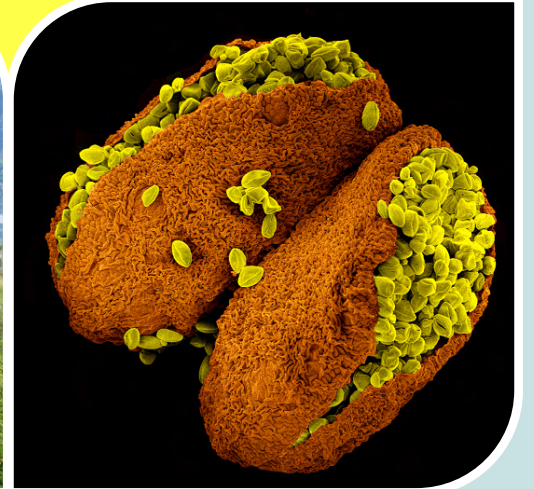
**INFORMATIVE
BOOTHs**

**AND AN
OPEN HOUSE**

- ➔ **LEARN ABOUT
GENOMICS**
- ➔ **EXPLORE
SOIL FAUNA**
- ➔ **and how to**
- ➔ **TRAIN YOUR
FRUIT TREES**



- ➔ **DISCOVER HOW
PLANTS DEFEND
THEMSELVES**
- ➔ **SEE CLOSE UP
WITH INCREDIBLE
MICROSCOPE
IMAGES**
- ➔ **and**
- ➔ **MUCH MORE!**



Agriculture and
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Taking Care of Business

with Community Futures

Learn how Taking Care of Business can unlock a wealth of resources – and funding – to help your organization to grow and thrive.



We provide professional support for small businesses in rural areas across BC. Signing up is quick and easy. Our team will work with you one-one-one to apply for funding and to connect you with our many services and resources.

Workshops

Get unlimited professional workshops for business growth.

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Be reimbursed for up to \$5000.00 for training that will help your business grow and be more profitable.

Peer Mentoring Groups

We connect business owners to share tips and strategies, and to help each other solve common business growth challenges.

Coaching & Consulting Services

Meet one-on-one with specialized consultants and coaches. Our experts are ready to help you navigate rural business challenges and learn new strategies and skills.

Connect with your local Program Ambassador:
Denise Blashko: dblashko@takingcareofbusiness.biz
Jennifer Vincent: jvincent@takingcareofbusiness.biz
250-493-2566 • takingcareofbusiness.biz

Grape Hardiness Reports and Growing Degree Day Updates

*Update from Brad Estergaard
Viticulture Research Technician*

Summerland Research and Development Centre (SuRDC) Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada / Government of Canada

Our Grape Hardiness Reports and Growing Degree Day updates can now be accessed online at:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1Vrwoz7hB4camw4fQHmk7_7ZaEGwLgV1R

SuRDC Wine Grape Research newsletters can be accessed at:

<https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1NBg5f6qXfyfzM82ZeKgR-364foVJ7VJ8>

Wine Growers British Columbia Annual General Meeting

Wednesday, September 6, 2023

10:00 AM to 11:00 AM

Join us for an overview of the WGBC's most recent fiscal year and election of new Board Directors. We are thrilled to have Honourable Pam Alexis, Minister of Agriculture and Food attending to open the Annual General Meeting.

REGISTER NOW



Save Time This Harvest Season

Make BC Fruit Works Work For You

**Let BC Fruit Works Find The
Branch Hands You Need.**

Learn More:
www.bcfruitworks.com



Watch your inbox for more exciting updates soon. Thank you for being a member!



BRITISH COLUMBIA
GRAPEGROWERS'
ASSOCIATION