



Gleanings

Hill Country

Vineyard Update

December 2007

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TOPICS INCLUDE:

- 1.) Pest Management Workshop
- 2.) Nova Changes to Rally
- 3.) Vineyard Survey
- 4.) *Botrytisphaeria* Update
- 5.) Announcements

First, I would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our Hill Country grape growers a blessed holiday season and a productive 2008. **Be Safe and Happy!**

Hill Country Pest Management Workshop

Please Save the Date

Tuesday Feb. 12, 2008 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Penny Adams and Jim Kamas will be presenting a timely program on **Insect Control, Disease Control and Weed Control with a *Hands-On* Herbicide Calibration Demo**. The event will be held in our offices. Please join us for this primer to the 2008 vineyard season, where we will discuss products, rates and application strategies to help you get a head- start on the inoculum, weed seeds and insect eggs from the dreaded 2007 season!

“An ounce of protection is worth a pound of cure” – Ben Franklin

NOVA Changes To Rally

Dow AgroScience has consolidated some labels and in turn will no longer carry the trade name product **Nova**. They are converting over to **Rally 40WSP**. Rally contains the same active ingredient with the same concentration as Nova. This simply **constitutes a label change** standardizing trade names east and west of the Rockies. As Nova was previously sold in Texas, Rally will be packaged in 4x5oz pva/bag (water soluble bags.) Pricing is not expected to change.

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Vineyard Survey

All growers should have received a request for help in completing our **Hill Country Vineyard Survey**. This information includes current varieties grown, rootstocks, clones, your ratings of successes or failures of these combinations and more. Results will provide useful guidelines for future plantings in our area by current and prospective growers. Your participation is requested and a deadline of January 1, 2008 has been set in order to assimilate results and release findings by the **Hill Country Vineyard Pest Management Workshop in February 2008**.

If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact me.

Botryosphaeria Update

As previously noted here, confirmed cases of **Bot Canker** have recently been diagnosed in the Hill Country with the help of Dr. Doug Gubler's Plant Pathology Lab at U.C.Davis. What is **Bot Canker**? It is one in a group of trunk diseases caused by fungal pathogens that invade through pruning wounds. Symptoms include slow decline and dieback of woody tissues by interruption of xylem conductivity and toxin production. Usually thought of as saprophytes or secondary colonizers, recent findings confirm virulent strains of *Botryosphaeria spp.* It is important to **NOT prune now** any dying/dead cordons, spurs or trunks, but wait until at least budbreak in order to reduce infection period and further spread. Watch for more updates here.

Comments or Suggestions

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any comments or suggestions for this newsletter at my contact information listed at the top of this newsletter.

Announcements, etc.

Pruning Events Planned

A **Pruning Primer** on Thursday January 10, 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. will be held in our offices at 95 Frederick Rd, Fredericksburg, Texas. This review of the **principals of pruning** is for those who need a little more information about pruning prior to actually using those pruning shears!

Pruning Workshops

Several workshops will be held throughout our region in January. When finalization of locations is confirmed I will e-mail everyone.

Notice

This publication may contain pesticide recommendations. Changes in pesticide regulations occur constantly and human errors are possible. Questions concerning the legality and/or registration status for pesticide use should be directed to the appropriate Extension Agent / Specialist or state regulatory agency. Read the label before applying any pesticide. The Texas A&M University System and its employees assume no responsibility for the effectiveness or results of any chemical pesticide usage. No endorsements of products are made nor implied.

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