



Riverland Wine Industry Development Council Inc.

RIVERLAND WINE THIRSTY WORK IN A DRY LANDSCAPE

Accompanying this addition of the newsletter is an audio CD. To listen to the CD simply place it in your CD player and press play. The material has been produced so that the best listening experience can be gained by playing the CD through in its entirety - individual tracks can also be selected if time is a constraint. The beauty of this form of media is that you can take it with you and listen to it 'on the go' in your car or tractor; or simply place it in your computer and listen to while you catch up on the paperwork.

There is a range of content contained on the CD and all of the interviews relate in some way to the drought, how the Riverland is managing and what challenges and opportunities lay ahead.

There are contributions from local producers and thanks must go to Sheridan Alm, Brian Caddy, Eric Semmler and Bruce Hampel; their willingness to share underlies a great strength of our industry and communities. Their practical and strategic experiences are indicative of the capability, resourcefulness and resilience found amongst the wine industry of the Riverland.

The experiences of our producers are complemented by inputs from scientists and industry leaders. Combined the interviews bring to the fore a richness of knowledge to assist with strengthening our understanding of the Riverland wine industry, its endeavours through drought and the challenges beyond.

So what can you expect to hear?

If you're a little sceptical about climate change then the lead off interview by Dr. Peter Hayman will offer some insight into climate change and/or variability, its influence on the drought and what the future may hold.

Brian Caddy tells of his experience with irrigation and how he arrived at a process that can only be described as 'precision irrigation'.

'Poly' what? Polyacrylamides; is the science as complex as the name suggests. Shane Phillips debunks some of the myths and explains how polyacrylamide can be incorporated into an integrated irrigation management system.

From oversupply to drought, Bruce Hampel talks about his experience in managing the change. It's a process that requires a little help but support is hard to come by if you don't have a plan to show...8 budgets in how many years Bruce?

Bruce, like many of the rest of us, knows too well the difficulties that exist in an oversupplied market...enter Stephen Strachan, CEO of the Winemakers' Federation of Australia – a confronting message indeed. Managing an industry in a state of flux is no mean feat.

Sheridan Alm a local horticulturalist with family holdings in Moorook confronts the issue of succession. What lies ahead for the next generation?

Nigel Blieschke, Manager of the Yalumba Nursery and Eric Semmler, Proprietor of 919 Wines offer perspective on the opportunity for alternate varieties. Will climate change influence the varieties we grow or will adaptation in our management of existing varieties be the answer?

The agricultural economy around the world is changing...can we do more for less? Peter Magarey (SARDI – Loxton) talks of the potential to become more strategic in our battle with powdery mildew. The cost of control at a regional level is quite significant. Targeting the inoculum, changing our attitudes to tolerance (incidence vs. severity), looking at disease progression over two years and focusing on well timed sprays could reap enormous reward.



Amongst the uncertainty we can be assured that change is happening. Riverland wine has provided much of the drive behind the success of the Australian wine phenomena, yet the region still suffers from some commonly held misconceptions. The challenge for the region is to recognise the contribution it makes to the Australian wine industry. We have a background of innovation to which our productivity gains and competitiveness stand as testimony. 'A wrap for Riverland wine' looks at the drivers of uncertainty and addresses the challenges that face industry development.

Can one person make a difference?

YES. After listening to the all the interviews we would ask that you take the time to fill out the survey that you'll find accompanying the CD in this issue of the newsletter. The information that you provide to us will offer us insight to your needs as we seek to develop a range of communication strategies to effectively disseminate information that is valuable to the function of your business.



Riverland Wine Industry Development Council Inc.

2007-08 RWIDC Councillors

Ms Roseanne Healy (Chairman)
Mr Bill Moularadellis (Deputy Chairman)
Mr John Angove (Treasurer)
Ms Keryn Gorman
Mr Paul Kassebaum
Mr Chris Grigoriou
Mr Glen Arnold
Mr Mike Mason

RWIDC is comprised of an equal representation of winegrape grower and winery representatives.

Staff:

Mr Cameron Hills
(Executive Officer)

Mr Tim Smythe
(Industry Development Officer)

This newsletter was produced by the Riverland Wine Industry Development Council Incorporated. The views expressed by contributors do not necessarily reflect those of the Council.

Riverland Wine Industry Development Council Inc.

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Change of Details?

The database used to distribute the Riverland Wine Industry Development Council's newsletter is kindly managed by arrangement with the Phylloxera and Grape Industry Board of South Australia. Should you wish to change your contact details or remove yourself from their database, please get in touch with the PGIBSA at:
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WINE INDUSTRY IRRIGATION DROUGHT PROGRAM

The Australian Government's Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) Irrigation Industries Workshop Program – Wine Industry Project aims to deliver key drought information to that part of the Australian wine industry which resides within the Murray-Darling Basin system. DAFF requested that the Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation (GWRDC) be responsible for administering this funding for the benefit of the Australian wine industry.

The aim of this drought program is to equip wine grape growers within the Murray Darling Basin with the necessary knowledge and tools to help survive the 2008/09 season and enhance their capacity to tackle future challenges.

The first stage of this program was rolled out in October 2007, where a simple water purchase and budgeting tool, which assisted with the calculation of possible results from purchasing water, given scenarios for grape prices and crop yields expected by individual growers, was rolled out in both the Murray Darling and Riverland wine grape growing regions. A number of people attended these training workshops in the use of the tool including company GLOs. These trainers are available to train and assist growers. In this way, it is hoped that a network of providers can help growers use the tool to help them make often daunting decisions regarding the financial impact of purchasing water.

Planning for the second stage of this program is nearing completion. The project team is proposing to deliver key technical and business information to winegrowers within the Murray Darling Basin, which will assist growers in making informed choices about key business, water management and other vineyard management practices they might utilise in both the short and longer-term to help operate viably and sustainably. The program aims to deliver 11 key information modules across the Murray Darling Basin on a needs basis. These modules include:

1. Post-Harvest Care of Vines (irrigation, nutrition and salinity management);
2. Managing the conversion to drip irrigation and sub-surface drip irrigation in vineyards (pitfalls and post-conversion scheduling techniques);

3. Sustainable salinity management on your vineyard;
4. Insights into varietal and rootstock differences in water use;
5. Insights into the relationships between yield and water in wine grapes;
6. Water allocation scenarios in key regions within the Murray Darling Basin for the 2008/09 season and beyond;
7. Regional case studies (practical 'how did I manage this season');
8. How water allocation decisions are made within the Murray Darling Basin;
9. Regional adaptation and delivery of the Water Purchase and Budget Tool;
10. Painting the picture - what to look out for your business;
11. Understanding how vines cope with periods of hot weather and extended drought conditions.

This program also aims to promote the provision of information on government funding and services available to wine industry growers seeking to take account of these aspects in their farm business planning scenarios.

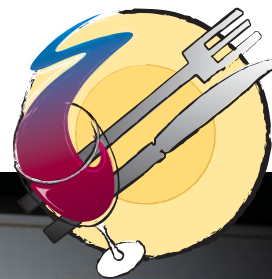
If you would like to know more about when these drought modules are likely to be delivered within the Riverland region for this coming season, please do not hesitate to contact the GWRDC.

GWRDC

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RIVERLAND RENAISSANCE



The Riverland comes alive during October with a celebration of wine, food, and The River Murray. The 'Riverland Renaissance' brings these elements together and celebrates the region's way of life, and invites people from other areas to share in this festivity across a two week period.

The Riverland Wine Industry Development Council is pleased to once again support the **Riverland Wine and Food Festival**; to be hosted on Saturday the 18th of October on the Berri riverfront.

The Festival boasts a magnificent ambience where thousands of patrons gather by the river to relish a day featuring lively entertainment, quality food and wine, enjoyed with friends and family.

30 Riverland wine and food businesses gather on one location offering meals prepared from regional produce and Riverland wine. The Riverland Wine and Food Festival brings together the Riverland's wineries and dining venues in a celebratory environment. The event features an array of food styles that go to recognise the numerous cultural influences in the region.

Just a few of the other Riverland Renaissance activities will include;

Riverland Wine Show Public Tasting and Presentation Dinner, Saturday 11th October: free Public tasting from 4.30, Presentation Dinner from 7.00, \$80.

The Public Tasting is an outstanding opportunity for locals and visitors to sample the quality wines entered in the 2008 Riverland Wine Show including medal and trophy winners.

Come along and sample the best wines from the region.

The Riverland Wine Show's Presentation Dinner will be celebrating the trophy winners and announcing the 2008 JMA Riverland Winemaker of the Year.

The dinner will feature award-winning wines from the 2008 Riverland Wine Show matched to a gourmet five course meal featuring local produce.

The evening will be complemented by tasteful entertainment and is truly the highlight of the Riverland social calendar.

So why not get a group of friends together and indulge the senses in the best the Riverland has to offer?



Riverland Renaissance receives commendation award at the SA Great Regional Awards collected by RWIDC's Cameron Hills.

Pranzo, Sunday 5th October from noon, \$65. Featuring Rosemarie Quartet, a passion-filled Italian stage band.

Pranzo is an open-air event sheltered by a marquee in Heppner Park with a clear view of the Murray River.

Rows of tables covered with white linen tablecloths where you can socialise and enjoy a long lunch of some of the region's finest food, prepared by renowned Salt and Pepper Catering.

Bush Opera at Akuna, Monday 6th October from 1pm, \$120

William Snell began Bel Canto Opera Company in 1998. Since then it has built an enviable reputation for staging highly professional performances including three major operas in South Australia and many concerts.

Bel Canto Opera Company will perform a collection of arias, duets and ensembles from the famous operas and a collection of favourite songs from the great musicals. With four talented singers and pianist this group has won acclaim for its performances including the recent Bush Opera performance at Wilpena Pound

Ruston's Rose Garden: An evening with Peter Goers, Saturday 11th October, \$42.50

Tomorrow's generation will take on and challenge the thinking of today's leaders – who will win?

Join Peter Goers, ABC commentator and funny man, for an evening of fun and entertainment.

Origin Lakeside Jazz, Saturday 11th October from 6.30pm, \$55

Featuring Adelaide City Jazzmen, a four-piece Dixieland Jazzband with trumpet, saxophone, tuba and banjo.

A casual evening offering fabulous food and wine at the Lake Bonney Yacht Club overlooking beautiful Lake Bonney.

The bejewelled Club interior sets the mood to host the Jazzy evening, showcasing a spectacular art display on the Lake foreshore under lights.

Nippy's Chefs of the Murray, Thursday 16th October from 6.30pm, River's Edge Restaurant, \$115

Featuring Cabaret and Classical singer Catherine Campbell at one of the Riverland's finest restaurants, River's Edge is positioned on the waterfront.



The Renaissance premier dinner will showcase Riverland produce through a seven-course menu developed and prepared by Peter Jarmer, of the acclaimed Jarmer's Restaurant.

The full program is being released in August. www.riverlandwineandfood.org

CROPWATCH SURVEY



The recently conducted CropWatch survey has further highlighted the value of the service. For example, 99% of respondents either agreed or strongly agreed that CropWatch acts as a timely reminder and complements their existing decision making process.

Do you agree with the following statement 'CropWatch acts as a timely reminder and complements my existing decision making process?'

Strongly Agree		43	47%
Agree		48	52%
Disagree		0	0%
Strongly Disagree		1	1%
Other (please specify)		0	0%
TOTAL		92	100%



Endorsements of this nature carry right the way through the survey with 98% of respondents noting that CropWatch is at the least, often useful to their business.

How useful is CropWatch to your winegrape growing business?

Rarely Useful		0	0%
Sometimes Useful		0	0%
Often Useful		28	30%
Very Useful		63	69%
Other (please specify)		1	1%
TOTAL		92	100%







The survey provided much more than just a glowing endorsement. The data collected gave an insight into how respondents had coped with a restricted water resource. Water trade was clearly a big ticket item, with 90% of responses indicating that water had been purchased.

Have you had to purchase water for your vineyard(s) this season?

Yes		83	90%
No		7	8%
Other (please specify)		2	2%
TOTAL		92	100%

The qualitative data showed that the average reported water use was approximately 5.5ML/ha. Of the methods used to improve water use efficiency, the use of soil moisture monitoring equipment to better schedule irrigation came out on top with 64% indicating they had employed the practice.





Did you use any of the following to try and improve your water use efficiency this year? (select more than one if relevant)

Converted all or part of your vineyard to drip irrigation		43	47%
Used soil moisture monitoring to better schedule irrigations		58	64%
Concentrated on irrigating the active root-zone (top 30-40cm)		52	57%
Used polyacrylamides		18	20%
Identified blocks on more vigorous rootstocks (Ramsey, Ruggeri) and managed them better		20	22%
No		3	3%
Other (please specify)		6	7%








As for the pest and disease control profiles, 55% indicated that they employed regular cover sprays throughout the season for both powdery and downy mildew. The results also showed that for downy mildew over 40% withheld spraying and relied on information from CropWatch.

Which of the following best represents your approach to downy mildew control

Apply cover sprays on a regular basis throughout the growing season		51	55%
Apply controls but only when CropWatch forecasts a downy mildew event		28	30%
Wait for confirmation of a downy mildew infection and then act		9	10%
Other (please specify)		4	4%
TOTAL		92	100%

What do you think is the best approach to powdery mildew control?




Maintain cover sprays at two week intervals from just after budburst until as close to harvest as is reasonably practical		51	55%
Spray at 2, 4 and 6 weeks after budburst and then according to monitoring thereafter		36	39%
Try to target inoculum levels and spray based on the results of monitoring		1	1%
Depends on the disease pressure in any given season		2	2%
Other (please specify)		2	2%
TOTAL		92	100%

There is great opportunity for enhancements to be made in strategic pest and disease control. Huge improvements have been made but science has the ability to assist further. Achievements that can be made here will also reduce our environmental footprint. The CropWatch Team has run some desk-top simulations to gain a better appreciation of the full costs of spraying at a regional level. With some baseline assumptions made for the region (200m rows, single row spray machine, labour costs at \$22/hr and 21,000ha) the results were quite revealing. A single wettable sulphur spray for powdery mildew was over \$1,000,000 (\$49/ha), a copper spray for downy mildew was approximately \$1,200,000 (\$59/ha) and a metalaxyl based spray would come in at over \$3,500,000 (\$167/ha).

Whilst CropWatch can play a role in limiting the direct cost to winegrape growers **the real power of the information it provides resides in crop protection.** For example, if the region, in a given season, had the potential to grow a 350,000t crop its value would be in the vicinity of \$160m (\$450/t). If a series of weather events were to lead to a downy mildew epidemic during flowering, crop loss could very easily amount to 40% or \$64m. **If good information and decision making was to limit or mitigate this potential loss it would pay for itself many times over!**





Continuing on from the theme of pest, disease and vine health the CropWatch delved into the reported incidence of Restricted Spring Growth (RSG) for season 07/08. The survey, by cross referencing some of the answers, was able to gauge that of the respondents who had indicated they observed RSG, 48% had applied irrigation during winter, 8% had irrigated their early bursting white varieties and 34% had not irrigated. For those who indicated they had not observed RSG there was a much stronger correlation with winter irrigation - 70% indicated they had irrigated, 7% targeted the early bursting white varieties and the remainder applied no irrigation. The survey did not gather enough specific data about varieties, temperatures and timing of irrigation events to allow for any conclusive remarks. It is likely that a percentage of the irrigation was directed to the germination of a cover crop. Nonetheless the data offers a valuable insight into reported practices.

Did you observe restricted spring growth (RSG) in any vineyard(s) that you managed this season?

Yes		58	64%
No		32	35%
I don't know what RSG is		1	1%
Other (please specify)		0	0%
TOTAL		92	100%

Of the remaining data collected it was obvious that succession remains a big issue. The survey did not go into detail about the dynamics within individual viticulture businesses but the numbers do suggest that the industry needs to target young participants. At all levels there is an increasing recognition that young industry members need to be encourage and assisted with their development; enabling continuity of existence and future leadership.

Which age bracket do you belong to?

18 to 35 years		8	9%
36 to 45 years		13	14%
46 to 55 years		32	35%
56 years+		39	42%
TOTAL		92	100%

Thank you to all the CropWatch Riverland recipients that participated in the survey. The email and fax service will continue to operate and a subscription form for the coming season is contained within this issue of the newsletter. CropWatch is aware that more can be done to capture the full value of the weather data (in particular evapotranspiration for irrigation scheduling) it collects and will continue to pursue development opportunities that will enable the mechanisms to be built.

Congratulations to the five winners of the Riverland Wine Polo shirts. Gordon Gregory, Judy Payne, Stephen Pyers, Peter Szabo and Lynne Seymour will now be draped in fine splendour... don't be jealous, further opportunities will arise!



Who is SAMRIC and what does it do?

The South Australian Murray Darling Basin Resource Information Centre (SAMRIC) provides the coordination, facilitation, delivery, and brokerage of spatial projects that support regional monitoring, capacity building and decision making within the South Australian Murray Darling Basin.

SAMRIC can provide many services including; mapping, data management, application design, custom GIS tools, web design, general advice on spatial information and help desk support. SAMRIC uses the latest GIS software and has access to up-to-date information including the most recent aerial photography imagery.

2008 Aerial Imagery Available

In March of this year the River Murray corridor was flown and the aerial imagery is now available for purchase. Over 8,000 square kilometres of 50cm (half a metre resolution) imagery is available. This information is useful for many things such as, identifying cropping patterns, planning and development and irrigation design and maintenance.

Prices	A1 Poster Size	\$60+GST laminated
		\$45+GST un-laminated
	A3 Size	\$35+GST laminated
		\$30+GST un-laminated

For further information on how SAMRIC may assist your business please contact SAMRIC on 8580 8555 or call into the office at 6 Kay Ave Berri.



THANKS KEVIN... WELCOME ON BOARD ANDREW!

The December 2007 meeting of the Riverland Viticulture Technical Group (RVTG) marked the end of an era. The inaugural Chairman, Kevin Pfeiffer OAM, stepped down from the position, leaving a strong legacy of leadership. The following is an extract from a speech delivered by Industry Development Officer, Tim Smythe, at a Grape and Wine Research and Development Corporation forum held on the 13th of March 2008. The speech recognised Kevin's input and introduced the new Chairman, Andrew Weeks:

"The RVTG set out in its infancy back in 2002 to become leaders and the forum quickly became an opportunity for all facets of viticulture to come together and discuss matters pertinent to regional industry development. Representation on the group came from the scientific community, wineries and Grapegrowers.

From its inception the RVTG sought to develop a 'flight plan', a priorities setting sub-committee was formed and the priorities matrix was developed. This was a crucial first step as it laid the foundation for identifying knowledge gaps within the regional industry. Over the course of the next several years, in trying to identify the scope of the many issues raised, it became clear that an enormous wealth of science existed; the question became how do we best access this information and extend it to our grower base?

In the mist of all of this, the industry was changing; oversupply was very quickly followed by drought. The RVTG battled on, responding to the needs of the community with technical contributions to the great mothballing debate, practical workshops for drought and various other seminars directed at information flow and management of the restricted water resource.

Combined with activities of Riverland Wine Industry Development Council - CropWatch and the annual technical seminar held in conjunction with the Riverland Wine Show Committee (Some Like it Hot) - an extensive communication network began to evolve. Issues from the Matrix were slowly being addressed, albeit by stealth – it's amazing how much can be done without even realising it...

Relentless in the pursuit of seeking outcomes for the regional industry the RVTG was involved with changes to the Riverlink wine grape planning process. Again, the Group recognised the need for a stronger feedback mechanism and a focus on regional R&D outcomes. The principles of Riverlink could not be argued with, they were indeed noble, but the function needed an adjustment. Of most concern; the RVTG sought an elevation of activity in local research through regional institutions that delivered so much yet there were concerns of lagging momentum. R&D capacity quickly became a major issue...

At the helm through most of this time was Kevin Pfeiffer. To Kevin we owe a debt of gratitude, his leadership was critical in the formative years of the Group. The RVTG now finds itself in a strong position but not without challenges, the industry is delicately poised, directions to 2025 and the GWRDC 5 year plan have been released. It appears timely, particularly with a new Chairman taking the lead, that the RVTG reviews its activities, goals and aims. With this in mind I introduce Andrew Weeks; a recently graduated 'Future Leader' and now the new Chairman of the RVTG."

Taking over from Kevin will be no mean feat. Andrew, however, is no stranger to the Group; having been a grower representative since formation in 2002. After years of contributing to regional industry debate and development, Andrew's efforts were recognised when a position in the Future Leaders Program was offered. The Program, run by the national industry bodies, identified individuals from within the Australian wine industry, with exceptional leadership skills and offered advanced training and networking opportunities. With this background Andrew was the obvious choice to assume Chairmanship of the RVTG.

We wish Andrew well and thank him for the enthusiasm he has shown to the role. The RVTG is currently in a strategic development phase and realises that a constructive regional response is required for the many issues that now confront the industry. Finding opportunity where others see none; this remains the challenge.

GROWSMART BUILDING TOWARDS A STRONG FUTURE

Peter Haynes of GrowSmart provides an encouraging report on the progress made in helping secondary school students pursue their interest in horticultural sciences:

GrowSmart has been very successful in establishing links between Industry, University and Schools.

It has a 5 step approach:

1. Presentation to Students

I have visited schools and given a power point presentation to:

- Year 9 & 10 students in all of the High Schools and Area Schools in the Riverland and Mallee areas as part of advertising a science camp related to the sheep industry that was held in June. This activity was funded by the sheep CRC and was a valuable activity to "practice" procedures for the horticulture aspect of the program.
- Year 11 & 12 senior science classes to advertise the year 11 & 12 science camp related to the horticulture industry which was held in December.

The power point presentation was designed to show students the cutting edge science and career opportunities in the horticulture and other agricultural industries and to advertise the camps.

2. Organisation of Student Science Camps

On the two camps students observed some of the cutting edge science being used in local horticultural / agricultural enterprises and worked with university and industry people to observe the scientific research related to the horticulture and other primary industries.

For both camps, part was held in the Riverland and Mallee areas and the other part was held in Adelaide. Between the two we stayed overnight at Yookamurra Wild Life Sanctuary, which was extremely convenient as it gave the students an interesting activity to do at night and the environmental aspect of the place fitted in with the scientific theme of the camp.

In Adelaide we stayed at the Marion Holiday Park which was also convenient for the access to Flinders University and the Australian Science and Maths School.

Both camps were very successful and showed that the concept of the camp being held in two parts works. With the successes this year we anticipate getting more candidates next year for both camps.

The two camps were:

- 3-day Camp for 23 year 9 & 10 students on 19th to 21st June which focused on the Science underpinning the sheep industry.
- 5-day Camp for 10 year 11 & 12 students on 11th to 15th December.



RWIDC's Tim Smythe delivers advice to GrowSmart students.

3. Sponsored Industry Placement Program

A five day sponsored industry placement program was organized during weeks 2 & 3 of January 2007. Students spent five days working with scientists in their work places.

This occurred in business work places in the Riverland and research organizations such as the Loxton Research Centre and Flinders University. There were 9 students who successfully completed this aspect of the program.

The students completed a two page written report and gave a 3 minute oral report to about 60 people at a formal presentation held at the McCormick Environmental Centre. The audience included parents, teachers, industry sponsors, university representatives and members of local government. This was a very successful event and we gained a lot of very positive feedback. The students did an excellent job.

4. Teacher Professional Development Session

A two day teacher professional development session for teachers was organized in December.

This activity involved tours of horticulture businesses, a presentation and practical activity organised by Dr Kathy Schuller, a Flinders University lecturer, as well as a look at resources produced by our partners in the program from Western Australia and Tasmania.

5. CD ROM Teaching Resource

Preparation of a CD ROM teaching resource was organized by employing a Science Teacher (John Brodie – retired teacher from Renmark high School) to write the material and then using Blue Sky Interactive to produce the CD ROM.

All of the material has been written for the CD but due to unforeseen health issues the final production has been delayed. We anticipate it will be in schools by the beginning of June.

This CD is related to the science and career pathways in the citrus industry and in future years we will target other horticulture industries.

OTHER ASPECTS OF THE PROGRAM WORTHY OF MENTION

There will be a meeting of representatives from the Tasmanian and Western Australian groups and the GrowSmart program to plan the activities for 2007 so that we can work together to streamline and share activities and resources.

I am running another year 9 & 10 science camp related to the sheep industry again this year in May. This camp is funded by the sheep CRC.

We are at present contacting other schools and industries in the Barossa Valley, Adelaide Plains, Murraylands and Mid North to extend the program. Flinders University has also received some seeding funding to also help extend the program from a national program called PICSE (Primary Industry Centre for Science Education). The University plans to employ another Science Education Officer so they can extend the program to other schools in the Metropolitan area. This national program is endeavouring to get Universities from each state to join the program with the intention of being able to gain Federal funding to help keep the program going in future years.

Teacher associates. We have used three teacher associates (students from Flinders University) who have worked with our program. Two interacted with our students during the two camps and the other one produced a CD ROM information CD about horticulture, the environment and tourism in the Riverland area. This is still being edited.

We have our Website up and running <http://www.growsmart.com.au/>. Check the "News and events" section to read about the Camps, Teacher T&D, Industry Placement Scholarships and the Presentation Night. Click on the appropriate link.

I have applied to present a workshop at the annual SA Science Teachers Association Conference in April where I will talk about the 5 stages of the program and show participants the power point presentation I deliver to students to show them the science I am talking about.

The Riverland Wine Industry Development Program has been pleased to support this worth initiative by taking up sponsorship on behalf of Riverland winemakers and winegrape growers.

SOME LIKE IT HOT GETS HOTTER

The very latest information on wine industry trends, water and an insight into strategies drought affected growers are using to survive will be the focus of the sixth annual Some Like It Hot seminar in Renmark later this year.

Some Like it Hot is the Riverland's premier wine industry seminar and advanced tasting event, and the organisers are pleased to again offer a compelling program to address practical issues for winegrape growers and winemakers.

The largest winegrape producing region in the nation is enduring its most testing time ever, and the Some Like it Hot seminar will bring a series of important presentations aiming to assist those involved make informed decisions about the future.

This is the sixth year of Some Like it Hot, and it will continue the tradition of delivering invaluable insight into the industry's state of affairs for:

- winegrape growers
- winemakers
- consultants
- suppliers
- scientists
- wine brokers
- other groups with an interest in the wellbeing of the Riverland wine industry.

The seminar will be held on November 6 at the Chaffey Theatre in Renmark.

SEMINAR

Guest speakers for Some Like It Hot seminar include:

Prof. Mike Young will re-visit the region and give us the latest update how water policy is being implementing across the Murray Darling Basin, and propose some benefits from 're-thinking' how Australia handles its water allocation. Prof Young continues to press for urgent action to save the River and he will give us an up-to-date analysis of the water crisis.



Mr. Lawrie Stanford of the Australian Wine and Brandy Corporation has become a regular presenter to the seminar, and will again provide an insight on key statistical indicators that act as useful pointers to the recent past and immediate future of Australian wine's market performance. He is both an interesting and entertaining speaker and is regarded as the industry's foremost authority in his area of expertise.

Ms. Amy Russell of the Winemakers' Federation of Australia will be able to give us an improved understanding of the industry's direction in terms of its environmental credentials and its impact on winegrape growers and winemakers. Assessing the carbon footprint of the wine industry is her prime domain and she will give an easy-to-understand explanation of how growers and wineries tackle this emerging global issue and become a darker shade of green without detracting from their bottom line.

Moorook grower **Ms. Sheridan Alm** will share her experiences during these difficult times and give an insight as to how her family have structured their business and set a course for future operations.

The team at **Irrigated Crop Management Services**; ICMS, will outline some of the approaches towards best practice drip irrigation following their review of different drip systems through the Riverland, and will extend practical guidance stemming from this local assessment.

ADVANCED TASTING

We are pleased to announce that Melbourne based wine writer Max Allen (The Australian, Australian Gourmet Traveller, Decanter, and more), will lead the Some Like it Hot tutored tasting; 'Back to the future' with an emphasis on biodynamic wines.

Some Like it Hot has been fortunate to provide a range of nationally and internationally recognised wine writers, and Max will continue this proud tradition by engaging attendees with some interesting examples of bio-dynamic wine, and examine whether the Riverland is well poised to develop this niche further.



HOW TO BOOK A SEAT?

The Some Like it Hot seminar is an initiative of the Riverland Wine Show and managed through a partnership with the Riverland Wine Industry Development Council.

On line registrations will take place from August, with an early-bird rate of \$35 for the Seminar, although growers will also be sent 'hard copy' registration forms.

Tickets to the tasting will remain at \$85 per person.

Growers and winemakers will be sent further details in August.