



The Grapeleaf

Madera County

MAY 2003

In this issue:

**MEETING
ANNOUNCEMENTS
AND EVENTS
IN THE AREA**

**NO JUNE GRAPE
GROWER/PCA
MEETING**

**June 18 - 20, 2003
American Society of
Enology & Viticulture
Annual Meeting**

**Thursday, July 10, 2003
Powdery Mildew
Field Day**

**Thursday, July 17, 2003
Grape Harvest Safety**

**MARK YOUR
CALENDAR!**

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MADERA GRAPE GROWER/PCA MONTHLY MEETING

The Grape Grower/PCA meeting for March will be held on **Wednesday, May 21, 2003** (third Wednesday of each month). Everyone is invited to attend whether or not you are a Madera county resident. One-half hour of PCA credit has been requested.

WHERE: *The Old School House
23505 Avenue 14
Madera, CA (northeast corner of Avenue 14 and
Road 23½)*

DATE: *Wednesday, May 21, 2003 (third Wednesday of
the month)*

TIME: *12:00 noon -1:00 p.m.*

Lunch will be available at noon with the meeting starting immediately after serving Petrucci's lunch a cost of \$8.50. If you don't want the lunch you are still invited to come and participate in the meeting. **Please call 675-7879 Ext. 201 if you are planning to attend so we can get a preliminary lunch count.**

TOPIC: *"Grapevine Powdery Mildew" - one-half hour*
SPEAKER: *George Leavitt, Farm Advisor, Madera County*

TOPIC: *"Grapevine Nutrition" - one-half hour*
SPEAKER: *Steve Vasquez, Farm Advisor, Fresno County*

Sincerely,

George Leavitt
Farm Advisor



For special assistance regarding our programs, please contact us.

Powdery Mildew - It's Coming!!!

The Powdery Mildew model has begun and will be 100 by Friday, May 9th

This spring has been very unusual in that favorable temperatures for mildew have been very low, but that will change this week as forecasted temperatures will be optimal for powdery mildew growth and development through May 15th. Growers who have been able to avoid applying any materials for mildew control should plan on treating early in the week and reapplying treatments of sulfur within 6-7 days. Those growers planning on using any systemic materials this season might want to consider making at least one application in the near future. 1998 was similar to this year and what happened was that mildew literally exploded due to favorable temperatures following a very cool, wet spring. **It appears this year might be similar.** The amount of disease which occurs depends on weather favorable for its development. Under highly favorable conditions the asexual cycle can go from spore to producing spores in as little as 5 days. While this cycle can be very devastating, it can also be very easily controlled.

Powdery mildew is very dependant on temperature and careful monitoring of the temperature can determine when control measures are necessary. **Using the Powdery Mildew index is the best way to save money and materials in controlling this annual disease in vineyards.** In heavy pressure seasons the grower may apply more material, but will gain better control. **The real advantage of this index will be during periods of low pressure when spray intervals can be safely lengthened thereby saving growers time and money as well as reducing chemical applications.** The key to using this index is careful monitoring of the temperature in the vineyard.

Sources of information: There are several sources, both private and public, which

are available to find out what the **mildew index** is near your location. One source of information is readily available through Sun-Maid (897-6225), can be accessed by phone and is available to the public. Anyone can call to receive updated information about vineyard pests and disease and hear a recorded message. This recorded message will give general data over the area where the Fresno/Madera mildew recording machines are located.

The best way to access all the stations is on the internet at: <http://www.ipm.ucdavis.edu/>. Scroll down to "Weather Data and Products" and click on it. Select "Stations in Networks" and with the down arrow select PestCast Fresno-Madera Grape and then click on Submit. A new page comes up showing 9 different stations. **Caruthers, Del Rey, Easton, Firebaugh/Aliso** (Madera County 6 miles west of Firebaugh) **Kerman, Kingsburg, Layton and Sand Ranch are functional and working. Ripperdan** should be on-line by 12 May. Clicking on description will give the information on the location of the station. Use the back button at the top of your browser page to return back to the list of stations. Find the station nearest to you and click on Daily (not hourly) for the station you want. Another page will appear with that station shown. You then need to enter a time frame - Right now start with April 15, 2003 until present. Just below the date is **Select Daily Data Variables** - The All Variables is automatically selected. Click on the "All Variables" option to **deselect** it and then select or click on "Temperature Threshold Hours". Scroll to the bottom of the page and click on "Retrieve Data". Three columns appear for temperatures under 32 F, 70-85 F, and >95 F. Use these numbers to add up the mildew index for the station you have selected. **Any Questions? Call Me...559-675-7879 Extension 206.**

Visit us on the web at
<http://cemadera.ucdavis.edu>

POWDERY MILDEW DISEASE INDEX

The Grape Powdery Mildew Disease Index is calculated by adding 20 each time there are least 6 continuous hours during the day when temperatures are between 70 and 85⁰ F. If there are less than 6 hours or if the maximum temperature in the canopy that day is greater than 95⁰ F , then 10 is subtracted from the index. The disease index never exceeds 100 or goes below 0.

Example:

Day 1	7 hours between 70 & 85		20
2	6 hours		40
3	6 hours	Model started here - 3 consecutive days	60***

4	5 hours	Cool-Wet conditions	50
5	5 ½ hours	came - hence we do	40
6	5 hours	not spray until	30
7	4 hours	favorable weather	20
8	3 hours	occurs once again.	10
9	5 hours		0
10	7 hours		20
11	6 ½ hours		40
12	8 hours	Spray or dust here	60***
13	6 hours		80
14	5 ½ hours	Why? Model started -	70
15	7 hours	Mildew weather	90
16	8 hours	forecasted to be good	100
17	5 hours	for at least two weeks	90
18	4 hours		80
19	5 hours		70
20	6 hours		90
21	7 hours		100
22	9 hours, max temp 98 ⁰ F		90
23	8 hours		100
24	7 hours		100
25	8 hours		100
26	9 hours		100

*** Warning level - possible start of mildew.

When disease risk index is 0, spray interval is doubled.

When it is 10- 30, spray interval is lengthened.

At 40-50 the interval is normal

When the index is 60 or more, spray interval is short.

A short interval for dust is 7 days. A longer interval is 10 days. Never go more than 3 weeks.

MEETING ANNOUNCEMENTS AND EVENTS IN THE AREA:

June 18 - 20, 2003 - American Society of Enology and Viticulture Annual Meeting - Reno, Nevada - for more information go to www.asev.org.

Thursday, July 10, 2003 - Powdery Mildew Field Day - Joe Lilles Farm - Avenue 13 west of Cottonwood Creek. 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Sessions will be held every ½ hour.

Thursday, July 17, 2003 - Grape Harvest Safety Training - Madera Fairgrounds. Training will held in English and Spanish. More information to come.

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