

Oregon Wine Advisory Board Research Progress Report

1997 - 1998

Evaluation of Merlot Clones and Performance of Sangiovese, Tempranino, Syrah, and Viognier in Southern Oregon

David Sugar
Southern Oregon Research and Extension Center
Oregon State University

Budwood is being gathered for February propagation and June 1998 planting of the trials approved in 1997. The Merlot clones included in the trial will be the following:

Identification	Source	Origin
Merlot #1	Grower	Inglenook, CA
Merlot #3	Grower	Inglenook, CA
Merlot #6	Grower	Monte Rosso, CA
Merlot #8	1 FPMS	Argentina
Merlot #9	FPMS	Italy Rauscedo 3
Merlot #11	FPMS	Conegliano, Italy
Merlot # 12	FPMS	Conegliano, Italy
Merlot #14 (348)	FPMS	Gironde, France
Merlot # 181	Grower	Gironde, France

It is anticipated that at least one additional clone (Merlot 347) will be added when it becomes available in 1999. All clones are being propagated on 101-14 rootstock. Plots will be located in 5 vineyards from Ashland to the Applegate Valley. Each vineyard will have 20 vines of each clone, planted as four randomly arrayed replicate groups of five vines each.

The variety trial will also be propagated on 10 1- 14, and plantings will be arranged in the same manner as the Merlot clonal trial. The following varieties will be included:

Variety	Source

Tempranillo #2	Grower
Syrah #1	SOREC
Sangiovese #2	SOREC
Viognier #1	SOREC

Tempranillo has been included in place of Cabernet Franc, which was listed in the original proposal, in the interest of more rapidly expanding our experience with Tempranillo. Tempranillo #2 will be used based on observations that clone #2 is less prone to inflorescence necrosis, which has been common in clone # 1.